



THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN

AND NORTHERN IRELAND

IN THE YEAR 1974

THE SEVENTY-FOURTH YEAR OF HER MAJESTY QUEEN ELIZABETH THE SECOND

BY APPOINTMENT TO HER MAJESTY

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Chair

The United Kingdom considers the term “universal jurisdiction” to refer to national jurisdiction established over a crime irrespective of the location of the alleged crime, the nationality

obvious advantages in securing the evidence and witnesses necessary for a successful prosecution. Consequently, there is only a small number of offences for which the courts in the United Kingdom can exercise jurisdiction where there is no

apparent link to the United Kingdom. We have provided a non-exhaustive list of these offences to the Office of Legal Affairs.

along with more detail on our position.

The United Kingdom has previously referred to, and the International Law Commission has previously acknowledged, the lack of international consensus about the nature, scope and application of universal jurisdiction. This lack of consensus

Given the issues faced by States in respect of universal jurisdiction, and the diversity of views on its scope and application, the United Kingdom continues to doubt whether, this is a topic which would be best addressed by the International Law Commission.

Thank you.