

Summaries of the multilateral treaties deposited with other depositaries

Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Seizure of Aircraft, The Hague, 16 December 1970 (*)

The Convention defines the act of unlawful seizure of aircraft, and the Contracting States have undertaken to make such an offence punishable by severe penalties. Under the provisions of The Hague Convention a State is obliged, whether or not it is the State of registration, to take such measures as may be necessary to establish its jurisdiction over the offence in the case where the alleged offender is present in its territory and it does not extradite him. If there is no extradition treaty between the States concerned and the offender is in the territory of a Contracting State and that State refuses to extradite the offender, then it must submit the case to its competent authorities for the purpose of prosecution under its criminal law.

The Convention requires any Contracting State in which the aircraft or its passengers or crew are present to facilitate the continuation of the journey of the passengers and crew as soon as possible and to return the aircraft and its cargo to the persons lawfully entitled to possession without delay.

(*) Summary courtesy of ICAO