

Summaries of the multilateral treaties deposited with other depositaries

Convention for the Suppression of Unlawful Acts against the Safety of Maritime Navigation, Rome, 10 March 1988

The Convention applies to the offences of direct involvement or complicity in the intentional and unlawful threatened, attempted or actual endangerment of the safe navigation of a ship by the commission of any of the following acts: seizure of or exercise of control over a ship by any form of intimidation; violence against a person on board a ship; destruction of a ship or the causing of damage to a ship or to its cargo; placement on a ship of a device or substance which is likely to destroy or cause damage to that ship or its cargo; destruction of, serious damaging of, or interference with maritime navigational facilities; knowing communication of false information; injury to or murder of any person in connection with any of the preceding acts. The Convention applies to ships navigating or scheduled to navigate into, through or from waters beyond the outer limit of the territorial sea of a single State, or the lateral limits of its territorial sea with adjacent States, or when the alleged offender is found in the territory of a State Party.

The Convention does not apply to warships, ships owned or operated by a State when being used as a naval auxiliary or for customs or police purposes or ships that have been withdrawn from navigation or laid up.

The offences referred to in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences and States-parties have obligations to establish their jurisdiction over the offences described, make the offences punishable by appropriate penalties, take alleged offenders into custody, prosecute or extradite alleged offenders, cooperate in preventative measures, and exchange information and evidence needed in related criminal proceedings.

(*) Summary courtesy of ICAO