



Consular Relations Act 1968

1968 CHAPTER 18

5 Jurisdiction over offences committed on board ship.

- (1) Her Majesty may by Order in Council make provision for securing that, where an offence is alleged to have been committed on board any ship by the master or a member of the crew and the ship belongs to a State specified in the Order, proceedings for the offence instituted otherwise than at the request or with the consent of a consular officer of that State are not entertained by any court in the United Kingdom, unless—
- (a) the offence is alleged to have been committed by or against a person who is a citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies or is otherwise comprised in the definition of “national of the receiving State” in section 1(2) of this Act, or against a person other than the master or a member of the crew; or
 - (b) the offence is one involving the tranquillity or safety of a port, or the law relating to safety of life at sea, public health, oil pollution, wireless telegraphy, immigration or customs or is of any other description specified in the Order; or
 - (c) the offence is one comprised in the definition of “grave crime” in section 1(2) of this Act.

[^{F1}(1A) In subsection (1)(b) of this section the expression “the law relating to customs”, to the extent that it refers to the law relating to duties on goods, refers to the law relating to duties (whether of customs or excise) for the time being chargeable on goods imported into the United Kingdom.]

- (2) For the purposes of this section, an offence which affects the property of any person shall be deemed to have been committed against him.
- (3) For the purposes of this section, any document purporting to be signed by or on behalf of a consular officer and stating that he has requested or consented to the institution of any proceedings shall be sufficient proof of that fact unless the contrary is shown.

Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 5(1A) inserted by [Customs and Excise Management Act 1979 \(c. 2, SIF 40:1\)](#), s. 177(1), [Sch. 4 para. 7](#)

Changes to legislation:

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the Consular Relations Act 1968, Section 5.