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The Diplomacy of Universal Jurisdiction: The Political Branches and the Transnational Prosecution of International Crimes

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Applying a theoretical framework based on the incentives and disincentives for political branches to exercise universal jurisdiction to prosecute core international crimes, this article undertakes a global survey of contemporary universal jurisdiction cases and qualitative case studies of five states to analyze the current state of universal jurisdiction, predict its likely future evolution, and suggest a starting point for a realistic normative assessment of universal jurisdiction and for the institutional design of the universal jurisdiction regime.

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