

HR 2050

Universal Jurisdiction Rejection Act of 2003

Congress: 108 (2003–2005, Ended)

Chamber: House

Policy Area: International Affairs

Introduced: May 9, 2003

Current Status: Referred to the House Committee on International Relations.

Latest Action: Referred to the House Committee on International Relations. (May 9, 2003)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/108th-congress/house-bill/2050>

Sponsor

Name: Rep. Ackerman, Gary L. [D-NY-5]

Party: Democratic • **State:** NY • **Chamber:** House

Cosponsors (2 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Rep. Wexler, Robert [D-FL-19]	D · FL		May 9, 2003
Rep. Sherman, Brad [D-CA-27]	D · CA		May 19, 2003

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Foreign Affairs Committee	House	Referred To	May 9, 2003

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

International Affairs

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Universal Jurisdiction Rejection Act of 2003 - Declares that it is the policy of the United States to reject any foreign government's claim of universal jurisdiction and to refuse to assist any such government pursuing an investigation or prosecution under a universal jurisdiction act. Defines "universal jurisdiction act" as a statute of a foreign country that authorizes the investigation, prosecution, and punishment of genocide and other crimes that were not committed by or against citizens of such country, did not occur on the territory of such country, and are otherwise prosecutable by tribunals established by the United Nations Security Council.

Prohibits Federal, State and local government agencies, including any courts, from providing assistance to any investigation or prosecution by a foreign government under a universal jurisdiction act. Directs the Federal Government to exercise its rights under mutual legal assistance treaties to deny assistance to any investigation or prosecution under a universal jurisdiction act. Prohibits foreign agents from pursuing any investigation or prosecution under a universal jurisdiction act in the United States.

Directs the President to ensure implementation of procedures to prevent the transfer directly or indirectly of classified national security information to foreign governments that is relevant to any investigation or prosecution under a universal jurisdiction act. Allows the President to waive certain prohibitions under this Act.

Authorizes the President to use all means, including legal assistance, but not financial incentives, to secure the release of U.S. citizens and citizens of allies of the United States who are being detained or imprisoned by an investigation or prosecution under a universal jurisdiction act.

Actions Timeline

- **May 9, 2003:** Introduced in House
- **May 9, 2003:** Referred to the House Committee on International Relations.

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