

Crimea's Responsibility to Protect and Self Determination under Article 2 of the UN Charter

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Abstract

The annexation of the Crimean Peninsula has sparked the debate on state sovereignty in the context of international law. This research aims to establish what the legal consequences of Russia's annexation are and the measures which have been taken by the international communities. The research also discusses the Kosovo independence to discuss whether it can be used to solve the crisis in Crimea. International law has outlined some of the rules that are meant to govern the relationship between states. Russia is a signatory to the Budapest Memorandum on Security Assurances alongside other countries such as the United States, Ukraine and the United Kingdom. The memorandum had all the signatories swear to uphold the territorial integrity of Ukraine includes Crimea. The Russian constitution stipulates that any acquisition of new federal subjects must be done with the consent of the affected state. The annexation of the Crimean Peninsula appears clearly to contravene these provisions.

Keywords: Annexation of the Crimea, Responsibility to protect, Tatars, Kosovo, Budapest Memorandum, Article 2 of the UN Charter