



# War Crimes Act 1991

## 1991 CHAPTER 13

### 1 Jurisdiction over certain war crimes.

- (1) Subject to the provisions of this section, proceedings for murder, manslaughter or culpable homicide may be brought against a person in the United Kingdom irrespective of his nationality at the time of the alleged offence if that offence—
  - (a) was committed during the period beginning with 1st September 1939 and ending with 5th June 1945 in a place which at the time was part of Germany or under German occupation; and
  - (b) constituted a violation of the laws and customs of war.
- (2) No proceedings shall by virtue of this section be brought against any person unless he was on 8th March 1990, or has subsequently become, a British citizen or resident in the United Kingdom, the Isle of Man or any of the Channel Islands.
- (3) No proceedings shall by virtue of this section be brought in England and Wales or in Northern Ireland except by or with the consent of the Attorney General or, as the case may be, the Attorney General for Northern Ireland.
- [<sup>F1</sup>(4) The Schedule to this Act provides a procedure for use instead of committal proceedings where a person is charged in [<sup>F2</sup>England, Wales or] Northern Ireland with an offence to which this section applies.]

#### Textual Amendments

- F1** S. 1(4) repealed (N.I.) (4.7.1996) by 1996 c. 25, ss. 46(1), 80, Sch. 5 (as substituted by 1996 c. 25, s. 79(4), Sch. 4 paras. 19(1), 36) (with s. 78(1))
- F2** Words in s. 1(4) repealed (E.W.) (4.7.1996) by 1996 c. 25, ss. 44, 46(1)(a), 80, Sch. 5 para. 2 (with s. 78(1))

#### Commencement Information

- I1** S. 1 partly in force; s. 1(1)-(3) in force at 9.5.1991, s. 1(4) not in force at Royal Assent see s. 3(4)

**Changes to legislation:**

There are currently no known outstanding effects for the War Crimes Act 1991, Section 1.