

PORT STATE = Country of the port receiving the vessel

Offence zones	International conventions	Description
Territorial waters and EEZ		If the offence occurs in the territorial waters or the EEZ of the port State, the port State acts as a coastal State. If the offence occurs in the territorial waters or the EEZ of another State, the port State acts on request of the coastal State, within the limits of the international conventions (see below, high seas art 218 UNCLOS).
High seas	Art 5 & 6 MARPOL Art 219 UNCLOS	A port State can take administrative measures to prevent a vessel in one of its ports or offshore terminals from leaving if it has broken international regulations and standards which apply to its navigation, and if it threatens to affect the marine environment. Inspection can lead to temporarily arresting a vessel and the inspection report can be conveyed to any State that may need it. For vessels from countries not party to the UNCLOS Convention, a port State must take the actions set out in the MARPOL 73/78 Convention.
	Art 4 MARPOL Art 218 UNCLOS	A port State can take legal action against an offence which occurs in the inland waters, the territorial sea or the EEZ of another State if it has polluted or is likely to pollute the State's own inland waters, territorial sea or EEZ and can render an account to the flag State.
	Art 218 UNCLOS	In the case of a discharge offence which takes place in the jurisdiction of another State, the port State can begin proceedings and/or suspend them: - upon request from the coastal State - upon request from the flag State (no matter where the offence occurs) - upon request from another State affected or threatened by the offence - if the offence has led to or may lead to pollution in the State's own territorial sea or its EEZ.
	Art 228 UNCLOS	The proceedings begun by the port State are suspended if the flag State takes legal action itself (with a few exceptions) within six months.