

JASTA questions entire system of international law

Now the USA is dealing with terrorism. JASTA, in fact, gives the US the right to accuse anyone in the world, including sovereign states, of supporting terrorism and, therefore, judge the accused under US laws, bring down a sentence and impose sanctions accordingly. It does not matter whether it goes about Saudi Arabia, the 9/11 attacks, or any other country, which, in the opinion of US prosecutors, media intelligence and other US agencies is involved in actions that cause damage to the USA, its citizens and corporations.

Congress voted for this law almost unanimously. JASTA acts as a conductor of the principle of [US exceptionalism](#) in the world. One can say that America has found a platform for unity with itself - the ideology and practice of not only global leadership or even reign, but also [exceptionalism](#). In this new capacity, the United States is keen to play the role of a global legislator.

Why, did Obama veto the JASTA law that seemingly served as a perfect practical expression of his beliefs and feelings?

When trying to persuade congressmen and senators not to adopt the law, Obama pointed out a possibility that JASTA standards could be used against the United States by citizens of other countries that had suffered from the actions of the American army, security services and so on.

Undoubtedly, the Afghans, the Syrians, the Yemenis, the Libyans, the Iraqis, as well as citizens of many other countries around the world have reasonable grounds to sue America, and the Americans know it. However, they already have protection mechanisms.

Thus, the US does not recognize the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Court (ICC), reasonably believing that this body will be able to prosecute American military men who were accused of committing crimes in other countries. Moreover, there is a law that enables the United States to disembarass its citizens detained by provisions of the ICC. The regulations of the law can be extended to ensure similar protection to the Americans judged in other countries.

Therefore, Obama's concerns look somewhat exaggerated. America will never recognize even a theoretical possibility for the responsibility of American citizens to foreign states and their courts.

After the presidential veto, the JASTA text was amended to give the US Supreme Court the right to give the government 180 days to resolve the above-mentioned problems. In other words, there are still opportunities left for extra-judicial and political decisions. As a result, JASTA becomes an additional tool for Washington to control US allies. They can either act like Washington's good boys or answer for their actions in a courtroom.

Finally, one should pay close attention to more important implications of the JASTA law. If US citizens have the right to appeal to US courts to file lawsuits against foreign governments, and citizens of other countries may seek protection in their courts against actions, it means that such actions may be taken by anyone against anyone. This aspect questions the entire system of international law. JASTA, in fact, creates conditions for the start of a legal war of all against all in global scale. This is chaos that the USA creates in a hope to be able to manipulate it afterwards.

