

Jeffrey Liang (Huefeng) v. People of the Philippines:
Rethinking the Immunities of International
Organizations

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The case of *Jeffrey Liang (Huefeng) v. People of the Philippines* (323 SCRA 692 (2000)) has raised questions on statutory and customary grants of immunity to diplomatic personnel and international organizations. Generally, immunity renders inviolable the person or place from local jurisdiction. The Article revisits the general purpose behind the grant of state, diplomatic, and consular immunity.

The discussion on the immunities of international organizations examines the general concept and rationale for the privilege, the extent and limitations of the grant, similarities and differences with other kinds of immunities, and a survey of Supreme Court decisions on the recognition of the grant of immunity and the principles applied thereto. Ultimately, discussions on the question of immunity results in a quandary with the Executive Branch, from the proper party to determine the propriety of immunity claim to the political question problem.