

## **Abstract**

This thesis presents an analysis of the history and current state of state official immunity in international criminal law. First, I define the most relevant legal concepts. These include: (a) individual criminal responsibility; (b) international criminal law; (c) criminal jurisdiction; (d) the distinction between state immunity, diplomatic immunity, and immunity of state senior state officials; (e) immunity *ratione personae* and immunity *ratione materiae*; and (f) state officials.

Given the distinctions between national and international fora, different sets of legal issues concerning immunity arise before them. I thus deal with the two types of immunity separately. In so doing, I present and analyze specific court decisions supporting or rejecting immunity. I argue that the case law and doctrine indicate that a number of conceptual questions remain unresolved.