

Piracy is one of the oldest known illegal activities, and its very existence endangers the international arena due to its lawless nature and ruthless methods. Today's piracy, particularly prominent in Africa and Asia, has contemporary political and social implications, and is viewed as a new threat to international order. The aim of this thesis is to present piracy as both local and regional issues, and an international problem, and to observe how these two separate perspectives come together. It analyses how modern-day piracy operates, where it thrives, and what are its geopolitical impacts. It also provides a valuable addition to current views on the state of global affairs and geopolitics; by examining international legislative and interventions created to tackle piracy, and by showing that their effectiveness is insufficient. The text argues that the role of states, their sovereignty, and their lack of it are closely connected to piracy, and that the international arena, and contemporary efforts of nations and international organisations to confront piracy are mainly driven by power struggles. It is concluded that piracy is a result of continuous global tensions, thus allowing this crime to exist and expand.