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§ 261. Policy as to settlement of disputes and disarmament

It is declared to be the policy of the United States to adjust and settle its international disputes through mediation or arbitration, to the end that war may be honorably avoided. It looks with apprehension and disfavor upon a general increase of armament throughout the world, but it realizes that no single nation can disarm, and that without a common agreement upon the subject every considerable power must maintain a relative standing in military strength.

(Aug. 29, 1916, ch. 417, 39 Stat. 618.)

SHORT TITLE OF 1977 AMENDMENT

Section 1 of Pub. L. 95-118, as added by Pub. L. 97-35, title XIII, §1361(a), Aug. 13, 1981, 95 Stat. 745, provided that: “This Act [enacting sections 262c, 262d, 262e to 262g-3, 282i, 284n, 285s, 285t, 286e-1f, and 290-10 of this title, repealing sections 283y, 284m, and 290g-9 of this title, and enacting provisions set out as notes under 262c and 282i of this title] may be cited as the ‘International Financial Institutions Act.’”

§ 262. President’s participation in international congresses restricted

The Executive shall not extend or accept any invitation to participate in any international congress, conference, or like event, without first having specific authority of law to do so.

(Mar. 4, 1913, ch. 149, 37 Stat. 913.)

§ 262-1. Restriction relating to United States accession to any new international criminal tribunal

(a) Prohibition

The United States shall not become a party to any new international criminal tribunal, nor give legal effect to the jurisdiction of such a tribunal over any matter described in subsection (b) of this section, except pursuant to—

- (1) a treaty made under Article II, section 2, clause 2 of the Constitution of the United States on or after October 21, 1998; or
- (2) any statute enacted by Congress on or after October 21, 1998.

(b) Jurisdiction described

The jurisdiction described in this section is jurisdiction over—

- (1) persons found, property located, or acts or omissions committed, within the territory of the United States; or
- (2) nationals of the United States, wherever found.