The Jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice Under the Pact of Bogotá

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The American Treaty on Pacific Settlement (The Pact of Bogotá) is a regional treaty of judicial settlement of international disputes, which was adopted in 1948 by the Ninth International Conference of American States. While this Pact had not been used by any contracting party before the International Court of Justice (ICJ) until 1986, several cases have recently been submitted to the ICJ under the Pact of Bogotá. However, because of some unclear terms of the Pact, the doctrines about the jurisdiction of the ICJ under the pact are inconsistent.

Accordingly, after the overview of the content of the Pact of Bogotá, this paper focuses on the interpretation of the Pact by the ICJ and some residual problems about the Pact. In conclusion, it can be said that the ICJ recognizes its jurisdiction extensively as much as possible when it interprets the Pact of Bogotá.