

16. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON FREEDOM OF TRANSIT

Barcelona, 20 April 1921

**ENTRY INTO FORCE
REGISTRATION:
TEXT:**

31 October 1922, in accordance with article 6.
8 October 1921, No. 171.¹
League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, [vol.7, p.11](#).

Ratifications or definitive accessions

Albania	(October 8th, 1921)	Germany	(April 9th, 1924 a)
Austria	(November 15th, 1923)	Greece	(February 18th, 1924)
Belgium	(May 16th, 1927)	Hungary	(May 18th, 1928 a)
British Empire ² , including Newfoundland	(August 2nd, 1922)	Iran	(January 29th, 1931)
Subject to the declaration inserted in the Procès-verbal of the meeting of April 19th, 1921, as to the British Dominions which have not been represented at the Barcelona Conference.		Iraq	(March 1st, 1930 a)
<i>Federated Malay States: Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang</i>	(August 22nd, 1923 a)	Italy	(August 5th, 1922)
<i>Non-Federated Malay States: Brunei, Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan and Trengganu</i>	(August 22nd, 1923 a)	Japan	(February 20th, 1924)
<i>Palestine</i>	(January 28th, 1924 a)	Latvia	(September 29th, 1923)
New Zealand	(August 2nd, 1922)	Luxembourg	(March 19th, 1930)
India	(August 2nd, 1922)	The Netherlands ⁴ (including the Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curacao)	(April 17th, 1924)
Bulgaria	(July 11th, 1922)	Norway	(September 4th, 1923)
Chile	(March 19th, 1928)	Poland	(October 8th, 1924)
Czechoslovakia ³	(October 29th, 1923)	Romania	(September 5th, 1923)
Denmark	(November 13th, 1922)	Spain	(December 17th, 1929)
Estonia	(June 6th, 1925)	Sweden	(January 19th, 1925)
Finland	(January 29th, 1923)	Switzerland	(July 14th, 1924)
France	(September 19th, 1924)	Thailand	(November 29, 1922 a)
<i>Syria and Lebanon</i>	(February 7th, 1929 a)	Turkey	(June 27th, 1933 a)
		Yugoslavia (former) ⁵	(May 7th, 1930)

Signatures or accessions not yet perfected by ratification

Bolivia	Panama
China ⁶	Peru (a)
Ethiopia (a)	Portugal
Guatemala	Uruguay
Lithuania	

Actions subsequent to the assumption of depositary functions by the Secretary-General of the United Nations

<i>Participant^{2,7}</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant^{2,7}</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Antigua and Barbuda.....	25 Oct 1988 d	Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 a
Armenia.....	24 May 2013 a	Malta.....	13 May 1966 d
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	1 Sep 1993 d	Mauritius.....	18 Jul 1969 d
Cambodia.....	12 Apr 1971 d	Nepal.....	22 Aug 1966 a
Croatia.....	3 Aug 1992 d	Nigeria.....	3 Nov 1967 a
Czech Republic ³	9 Feb 1996 d	Rwanda.....	10 Feb 1965 d
Eswatini.....	24 Nov 1969 a	Slovakia ³	28 May 1993 d
Fiji.....	15 Mar 1972 d	Slovenia.....	6 Jul 1992 d
Georgia.....	2 Jun 1999 a	St. Vincent and the Grenadines.....	5 Sep 2001 d
Lao People's Democratic Republic.....	24 Nov 1956 d	Zimbabwe.....	1 Dec 1998 d
Lesotho.....	23 Oct 1973 d		

Notes:

¹ League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol.7, p.11.

² Subsequently, the Secretary-General received, on 6 and 10 June 1999, communications concerning the status of Hong Kong from China and the United Kingdom (see also note 2 under “China” and note 2 under “United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland” regarding Hong Kong in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume). Upon resuming the exercise of sovereignty over Hong Kong, China notified the Secretary-General that the Convention will also apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

The notification made by the Government of China also contained the following reservation:

The Government of the People's Republic of China also declares that it has reservation to Article 13 of the [said Convention and Statute].

³ See note 1 under “Czech Republic” and note 1 under “Slovakia” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume

⁴ See note 1 under “Netherlands” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

⁵ See note 1 under “former Yugoslavia” and in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

⁶ See note 1 under “China” and in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

⁷ In a letter addressed to the Secretary-General on 3 September 1968, the President of the Republic of Malawi, referring to the Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit, done at Barcelona on 20 April 1921, stated the following:

"As I mentioned in my previous letter to you of the 24th November 1964, concerning Malawi's inherited treaty obligations, my Government regards all multilateral treaties validly applied to the former Nyasaland, including this Convention and Statute, as remaining in force on a reciprocal basis as between Malawi and any other party to the treaty, pending our notification to the depositary of the treaty confirming Malawi's succession, acceding in her own right, or terminating all legal connection therewith.

"On behalf of the Government of Malawi, I would now inform you, as depositary for this Convention and Statute, that my Government considers that as from this date any legal obligations and rights which may have devolved upon Malawi from the previous ratification by the United Kingdom are terminated. Accordingly, Malawi considers herself to have no further legal connection with the Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit, signed at Barcelona on 20th April 1921. The Government of Malawi wishes, however, to reserve the right to accede to this Convention and Statute at a later date should this become necessary."

