

**7. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE SUPPRESSION AND PUNISHMENT OF  
THE CRIME OF APARTHEID**

*New York, 30 November 1973*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 18 July 1976, in accordance with article XV(1).

**REGISTRATION:** 18 July 1976, No. 14861.

**STATUS:** Signatories: 31. Parties: 109.

**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1015, p. 243.

*Note:* The Convention was opened for signature at New York on 30 November 1973.

<i>Participant<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan.....		6 Jul 1983 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		11 Jul 1978 a
Algeria .....	23 Jan 1974	26 May 1982	Ecuador.....	12 Mar 1975	12 May 1975
Antigua and Barbuda.....		7 Oct 1982 a	Egypt.....		13 Jun 1977 a
Argentina .....	6 Jun 1975	7 Nov 1985	El Salvador .....		30 Nov 1979 a
Armenia .....		23 Jun 1993 a	Estonia .....		21 Oct 1991 a
Azerbaijan.....		16 Aug 1996 a	Ethiopia.....		19 Sep 1978 a
Bahamas.....		31 Mar 1981 a	Gabon.....		29 Feb 1980 a
Bahrain.....		27 Mar 1990 a	Gambia.....		29 Dec 1978 a
Bangladesh.....		5 Feb 1985 a	Georgia .....		21 Mar 2005 a
Barbados .....		7 Feb 1979 a	Ghana.....		1 Aug 1978 a
Belarus .....	4 Mar 1974	2 Dec 1975	Guatemala.....		15 Jun 2005 a
Benin.....	7 Oct 1974	30 Dec 1974	Guinea.....	1 Mar 1974	3 Mar 1975
Bolivia (Plurinational State of).....		6 Oct 1983 a	Guyana.....		30 Sep 1977 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>2</sup> .....		1 Sep 1993 d	Haiti .....		19 Dec 1977 a
Bulgaria .....	27 Jun 1974	18 Jul 1974	Honduras.....		29 Apr 2005 a
Burkina Faso.....	3 Feb 1976	24 Oct 1978	Hungary .....	26 Apr 1974	20 Jun 1974
Burundi .....		12 Jul 1978 a	India .....		22 Sep 1977 a
Cabo Verde.....		12 Jun 1979 a	Iran (Islamic Republic of).....		17 Apr 1985 a
Cambodia <sup>3</sup> .....		28 Jul 1981 a	Iraq.....	1 Jul 1975	9 Jul 1975
Cameroon.....		1 Nov 1976 a	Jamaica .....	30 Mar 1976	18 Feb 1977
Central African Republic .....		8 May 1981 a	Jordan.....	5 Jun 1974	1 Jul 1992
Chad.....	23 Oct 1974	23 Oct 1974	Kenya.....	2 Oct 1974	
China.....		18 Apr 1983 a	Kuwait .....		23 Feb 1977 a
Colombia .....		23 May 1988 a	Kyrgyzstan.....		5 Sep 1997 a
Congo.....		5 Oct 1983 a	Lao People's Democratic Republic .....		5 Oct 1981 a
Costa Rica.....		15 Oct 1986 a	Latvia.....		14 Apr 1992 a
Croatia <sup>2</sup> .....		12 Oct 1992 d	Lesotho .....		4 Nov 1983 a
Cuba.....		1 Feb 1977 a	Liberia.....		5 Nov 1976 a
Czech Republic <sup>4</sup> .....		22 Feb 1993 d			

<i>Participant<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant<sup>1</sup></i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Libya.....		8 Jul 1976 a	Senegal.....		18 Feb 1977 a
Madagascar.....		26 May 1977 a	Serbia <sup>2</sup> .....		12 Mar 2001 d
Maldives.....		24 Apr 1984 a	Seychelles.....		13 Feb 1978 a
Mali.....		19 Aug 1977 a	Slovakia <sup>4</sup> .....		28 May 1993 d
Mauritania.....		13 Dec 1988 a	Slovenia <sup>2</sup> .....		6 Jul 1992 d
Mexico.....		4 Mar 1980 a	Somalia.....	2 Aug 1974	28 Jan 1975
Mongolia.....	17 May 1974	8 Aug 1975	Sri Lanka.....		18 Feb 1982 a
Montenegro <sup>5</sup> .....		23 Oct 2006 d	St. Vincent and the Grenadines.....		9 Nov 1981 a
Mozambique.....		18 Apr 1983 a	State of Palestine.....		2 Apr 2014 a
Namibia <sup>6</sup> .....		11 Nov 1982 a	Sudan.....	10 Oct 1974	21 Mar 1977
Nepal.....		12 Jul 1977 a	Suriname.....		3 Jun 1980 a
Nicaragua.....		28 Mar 1980 a	Syrian Arab Republic....	17 Jan 1974	18 Jun 1976
Niger.....		28 Jun 1978 a	Togo.....		24 May 1984 a
Nigeria.....	26 Jun 1974	31 Mar 1977	Trinidad and Tobago.....	7 Apr 1975	26 Oct 1979
North Macedonia <sup>2</sup> .....		18 Jan 1994 d	Tunisia.....		21 Jan 1977 a
Oman.....	3 Apr 1974	22 Aug 1991	Uganda.....	11 Mar 1975	10 Jun 1986
Pakistan.....		27 Feb 1986 a	Ukraine.....	20 Feb 1974	10 Nov 1975
Panama.....	7 May 1976	16 Mar 1977	United Arab Emirates....	9 Sep 1975	15 Oct 1975
Paraguay.....		2 Dec 2005 a	United Republic of Tanzania.....		11 Jun 1976 a
Peru.....		1 Nov 1978 a	Uruguay.....		19 Apr 2012 a
Philippines.....	2 May 1974	26 Jan 1978	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of).....		28 Jan 1983 a
Poland.....	7 Jun 1974	15 Mar 1976	Viet Nam.....		9 Jun 1981 a
Qatar.....	18 Mar 1975	19 Mar 1975	Yemen <sup>7</sup> .....		17 Aug 1987 a
Republic of Moldova.....		28 Oct 2005 a	Zambia.....		14 Feb 1983 a
Romania.....	6 Sep 1974	15 Aug 1978	Zimbabwe.....		13 May 1991 a
Russian Federation.....	12 Feb 1974	26 Nov 1975			
Rwanda.....	15 Oct 1974	23 Jan 1981			
Sao Tome and Principe..		5 Oct 1979 a			

***Declarations and Reservations***  
***(Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations and reservations were made upon ratification, accession or succession.)***

**ARGENTINA**

It is the understanding of the Argentine Republic that article XII of the Convention should be interpreted to mean that its express consent shall be required in order for any dispute to which it is a party and which has not been settled by negotiation to be brought before the International Court of Justice.

**BAHRAIN<sup>8</sup>**

**EGYPT<sup>9</sup>**

**INDIA**

"The Government of the Republic of India accede to the said Convention with effect from 17 August 1977."

**IRAQ**

Ratification by the Republic of Iraq of the above Convention shall in no way imply recognition of Israel, or be conducive to the establishment of such relations therewith as may be provided for in the Convention.

**KUWAIT<sup>10</sup>**

"It is understood that the Accession of the State of Kuwait [...] does not mean in any way recognition of Israel by the State of Kuwait."

**MOZAMBIQUE**

The People's Republic of Mozambique interprets article 12 of the Convention as to mean that the submission of any dispute concerning the interpretation and application of the Convention to the International

Court of Justice shall be at the previous consent and request of all the parties to the dispute.

#### NEPAL

"The Constitution of Nepal contains provisions for the protection of individual rights, including the right to freedom of speech and expression, the right to form unions and associations not motivated by party politics and the right to freedom of professing his/her own religion; and nothing in the Convention shall be deemed to require or to authorize legislation or other action by Nepal incompatible with the provisions of the Constitution of Nepal.

"His Majesty's Government interprets article 4 of the said Convention as requiring a Party to the Convention to adopt further legislative measures in the fields covered by sub-paragraphs (a) and (b) of that article only insofar as His Majesty's Government may consider, with due regard to the principles embodied in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, that some legislative addition to, or variation of, existing law and practice in those fields is necessary for the attainment of the end specified in the earlier part of article 4.

"His Majesty's Government does not consider itself bound by the provision of article 12 of the Convention under which any dispute between two or more States Parties with respect to the interpretation or application of the Convention is, at the request of any of the parties to

the dispute, to be referred to the International Court of Justice for decision."

#### REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Until the full establishment of the territorial integrity of the Republic of Moldova, the provisions of the Convention will be applied only on the territory effectively controlled by the authorities of the Republic of Moldova.

#### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

"The ratification of the United Arab Emirates to this Convention shall in no way amount to recognition of nor the establishment of any treaty relations with Israel."

#### VENEZUELA (BOLIVARIAN REPUBLIC OF)

With a reservation excluding the provisions of article XII of the Convention.

#### YEMEN<sup>7,10</sup>

The accession of the Government of the Yemen Arab Republic to this Convention shall in no way imply recognition of Israel or the establishment of such relations therewith as may be provided for in the Convention.

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#### Notes:

<sup>1</sup> The German Democratic Republic had signed and ratified the Convention on 2 May 1974 and 12 August 1974 (See [C.N.216.1974.TREATIES-9](#)), respectively. See also note 2 under "Germany" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>2</sup> The former Yugoslavia had signed and ratified the Convention on 17 December 1974 and 1 July 1975, respectively. See also note 1 under "Bosnia and Herzegovina", "Croatia", "former Yugoslavia", "Slovenia", "The Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and "Yugoslavia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>3</sup> The Secretary-General received, on 10 September 1981 from the Government of Viet Nam, the following objection with regard to the accession of Democratic Kampuchea:

"The accession to the above-mentioned international Convention on behalf of the so-called 'Government of Kampuchea' by the genocidal clique of Pol Pot-Ieng Sary-Khieu Samphan, which was overthrown on 7 January 1979 by the Kampuchean people, is completely illegal and has no legal value. Only the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, which is actually in power in Kampuchea, is empowered to represent the Kampuchea people and to sign and accede to international agreements and conventions.

As a party to that Convention, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam is of the opinion that the accession of the so-called 'Government of Democratic Kampuchea' constitutes not only a gross violation of the standards of law and international morality, but also one of the most cynical affronts to the three million Kampuchean people who are the victims of the most despicable crime of contemporary history, committed by the Pol Pot régime which is spurned by the whole of mankind."

Thereafter, similar communications objecting to the signature by Democratic Kampuchea were received by the Secretary-General on 14 September 1981 from the Government of the German Democratic Republic, on 12 November 1981 from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on 19 November 1981 from the Government of the Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic, on 3 December 1981 from the Government of Hungary, on 5 January 1982 from the Government of Bulgaria, on 13 January 1982 from the Government of Mongolia, and on 17 May 1982 from the Government of Czechoslovakia.

<sup>4</sup> Czechoslovakia had signed and ratified the Convention on 29 August 1975 and 25 March 1976, respectively. See also note 1 under "Czech Republic" and note 1 under "Slovakia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>5</sup> See note 1 under "Montenegro" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>6</sup> See note 1 under "Namibia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>7</sup> Democratic Yemen had signed the Convention on 31 July 1974 (See, [C.N.203.1974.TREATIES-8](#) of 19 August 1974). See also note 1 under "Yemen" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>8</sup> On 8 July 2021, the Government of Bahrain notified the Secretary-General of its withdrawal of the following reservation made upon accession:

"The accession by the State of Bahrain to the said Convention shall in no way constitute recognition of Israel or be a cause for the establishment of any relations of any kind therewith."

<sup>9</sup> Upon accession, the Government of Egypt had formulated a declaration concerning Israel. For the text of the declaration, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1045, p. 397. In this regard, the Secretary-General received, on 30 August 1977, a declaration from the Government of Israel identical in essence, *mutatis mutandis*, as the one made with regard to the accession by Kuwait (see note 9).

Subsequently, in a notification received on 18 January 1980, the Government of Egypt informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the declaration. The notification indicates 25 January 1980 as the effective date of the withdrawal.

<sup>10</sup> The Secretary-General received, on 12 May 1977 from the Government of Israel, the following communication:

"The instrument deposited by the Government of Kuwait contains a statement of a political character in respect to Israel. In the view of the Government of Israel, this is not the proper place for making such political pronouncements, which are, moreover, in flagrant contradiction to the principles, objects and purposes of the Organization. That pronouncement by the Government of Kuwait cannot in any way affect whatever obligations are binding upon Kuwait under general international law or under particular treaties. The Government of Israel will, insofar as concerns the substance of the matter, adopt towards the Government of Kuwait an attitude of complete reciprocity."

A communication identical in essence, *mutatis mutandis*, was received by the Secretary-General from the Government of Israel, on 15 December 1987, in respect of the declaration made upon accession by Yemen.

