

**20. CONVENTION AND STATUTE ON THE INTERNATIONAL RÉGIME OF MARITIME  
PORTS**

*Geneva, 9 December 1923*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE  
REGISTRATION:  
TEXT:**

26 July 1926, in accordance with article 6.  
2 December 1926, No. 1379.<sup>1</sup>  
League of Nations, *Treaty Series*,  
../doc/Publication/UNTS/LON/Volume%2058/v58.pdf .

***Ratifications or definitive accessions***

Austria	(January 20th, 1927 a)	<i>Protectorate, (c) Cameroons under British Mandate], Palestine (excluding Trans-Jordan), St. Helena, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Seychelles, Sierra Leone (Colony and Protectorate), Somaliland, Straits Settlements, Tanganyika Territory, Tonga, Trans-Jordan, Trinidad and Tobago, Zanzibar</i>
Belgium	(May 16th, 1927)  Does not apply to the Belgian Congo or to the territory of Ruanda-Urundi under Belgian mandate, without prejudice to the right of ratification at a subsequent date on behalf of either or both of these territories.  With regard to Article 12 of the Statute, the Belgian Government declares that legislation exists in Belgium on the transport of emigrants, and that this legislation, whilst it does not distinguish between flags and consequently does not affect the principle of equality of treatment of flags, imposes special obligations on all vessels engaged in the transport of emigrants.	(September 22nd, 1925 a)  <i>Malta</i>  (November 7th, 1925 a)
British Empire <sup>2</sup>	(August 29th, 1924)  This ratification shall not be deemed to apply in the case of the Dominion of Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Dominion of New Zealand, the Union of South Africa or the Irish Free State (or any territories under their authority) or in the case of India, and that, in pursuance of the power reserved in Article 9 of this Convention, it shall not be deemed to apply in the case of any of the Colonies, Possessions or Protectorates or of the territories in respect of which His Britannic Majesty has accepted a mandate; without prejudice, however, to the right of subsequent ratification or accession on behalf of any or all those Dominions, Colonies, Possessions, Protectorates or Territories.	Australia  (June 29th, 1925 a)  Does not apply in the case of Papua, Norfolk Island and the mandated territories of Nauru and New Guinea.  New Zealand  (April 1st, 1925)  Including the mandated territory of Western Samoa.  India  (April 1st, 1925)  Czechoslovakia <sup>3</sup>  (July 10th, 1931)  With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.  Denmark  (April 27th, 1926)  Excluding Greenland, the maritime ports of which are subject to a separate regime.  Estonia  (November 4th, 1931)  The Estonian Government reserves the right regarding emigration provided for in Article 12 of the Statute.
<i>Newfoundland</i>	(April 23rd, 1925 a)	
<i>Southern Rhodesia</i>	(April 23rd, 1925 a)	
<i>Bahamas, Barbados, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, British Solomon Islands Protectorate, Brunei, Ceylon, Cyprus, Falkland Islands and Dependencies, Fiji, Gambia (Colony and Protectorate), Gibraltar, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Gold Coast, Grenada, Hong-Kong, Jamaica (excluding Turks and Caicos Islands and Cayman Islands), Kenya (Colony and Protectorate), Leeward Islands (Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Christopher-Nevis, Virgin Islands), Malay States [(a) Federated Malay States: Perak, Selangor, Negri Sembilan and Pahang; (b) Non-Federated Malay States: Johore, Kedah, Perlis, Kelantan, Trengganu], Mauritius, Nigeria [(a) Colony, (b)</i>		France  (August 2nd, 1932)  Shall have the power, in conformity with Article 8 of the Statute, of suspending the benefit of equality of treatment as regards the mercantile marine of a State which, under the provisions of Article 12, paragraph 1, has itself departed from equality of treatment in favour of its own marine.  Does not include any of the Protectorates, Colonies, Overseas Possessions or Territories under the sovereignty or authority of the French Republic.

Germany

(May 1st, 1928)

In conformity with Article 12 of the Statute on the International Regime of Maritime Ports, the German Government declares that it reserves the right of limiting the transport of emigrants, in accordance with the provisions of its own legislation, to vessels which have been granted special authorization as fulfilling the requirements of the said legislation.

In exercising this right, the German Government will continue to be guided as far as possible by the principles of this Statute.

Greece

(January 24th, 1927)

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.

Hungary

(March 21st, 1929)

With reservation as to the right regarding emigration provided in Article 12 of the Statute.

Iraq

(May 1st, 1929 a)

With reservation as to the rights regarding emigration provided in Article 12 of the Statute.

Italy

(October 16th, 1933)

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.

This ratification does not apply to the Italian colonies or possessions.

This ratification cannot be interpreted as implying the admission or the recognition of any reservation or

declaration made with a view to limiting in any way the rights granted by Article 12 of the Statute to the High Contracting Parties.

Japan

(September 30th, 1926)

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.

Mexico

(March 5th, 1934 a)

The Netherlands<sup>4</sup>

(February 22nd, 1928)

Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curacao

(February 22nd, 1928 a)

The Netherlands Government reserves the right mentioned in Article 12, paragraph 1, of the Statute annexed to the Convention, it being understood that no discrimination shall be made against the flag of any contracting State which in regard to the transport of emigrants does not discriminate against the Netherlands flag.

Norway

(June 21st, 1928)

Sweden

(September 15th, 1927)

Switzerland

(October 23rd, 1926)

Thailand

(January 9th, 1925)

Yugoslavia (former)<sup>5</sup>

(November 20th, 1931)

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.

**Signatures or accessions not yet perfected by ratification**

Brazil

Bulgaria

Chile

Lithuania

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute

Panama (a)

El Salvador

Spain

With reservation as to the right relating to emigrants mentioned in Article twelve (12) of the Statute.

Uruguay

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

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Denunciation</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Denunciation</i>
Antigua and Barbuda.....	27 Feb 1989 d		Fiji .....	15 Mar 1972 d	
Burkina Faso.....	18 Jul 1966 a		Madagascar <sup>6</sup> .....	4 Oct 1967 a	
Côte d'Ivoire .....	22 Jun 1966 a		Malaysia.....	31 Aug 1966 a	
Croatia .....	3 Aug 1992 d		Malta.....	18 Apr 1966 d	
Cyprus.....	9 Nov 1964 d		Marshall Islands.....	2 Feb 1994 a	
Czechia <sup>3</sup> .....	9 Feb 1996 d		Mauritius.....	18 Jul 1969 d	

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Denunciation</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Denunciation</i>
Monaco .....	20 Feb 1976 a		Grenadines .....		
Morocco.....	19 Oct 1972 a		Thailand.....		[ 2 Oct 1973 ]
Nigeria .....	3 Nov 1967 a		Trinidad and Tobago .....	14 Jun 1966 a	
Slovakia <sup>3</sup> .....	28 May 1993 d		Vanuatu.....	8 May 1991 a	
St. Vincent and the .....			Zimbabwe .....	1 Dec 1998 d	

### *Territorial Application*

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Date of receipt of the notification</i>	<i>Territories</i>
Germany	10 May 1957	Land Berlin

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 58, p. 285.

<sup>2</sup> 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.

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

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

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

<sup>6</sup> The Government of Madagascar shall have the power, in conformity with article 8 of the Statute, of suspending the benefit of equality of treatment as regards the mercantile marine of a State which, under the provisions of article 12, paragraph 1, has itself departed from equality of treatment in favour of its own marine.

