

C.N.56.1960.TREATIES-1

26 April 1960

CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES  
DONE AT GENEVA ON 28 JULY 1951

RATIFICATION BY GREECE

Sir,

I am directed by the Secretary-General to inform you that, on 5 April 1960 the Permanent Representative of Greece to the United Nations deposited with the Secretary-General the instrument of ratification by the Government of Greece of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees, done at Geneva on 28 July 1951, in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 2 of article 39 of the Convention.

In depositing the instrument of ratification the Permanent Representative submitted the following statement:

"With reference to paragraph B 1 of Article of this Convention, I have been instructed to state that the Royal Greek Government understand the words: 'events occurring before January 1951', contained in Article 1 Section A to mean: 'events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before the 1st of January 1951'.

"I have also been instructed in depositing the attached instrument to state that the ratification of the above-mentioned Convention has been made under the following reservations:

"1.- In cases or circumstances which, in its opinion would justify exceptional procedure for reasons of national security or public order, the Royal Hellenic Government reserves the right to derogate from the Obligations imposed by the provisions of Articles 8,26,28,31 and 32.



"2.- In the opinion of the Royal Hellenic Government the provisions of Articles 11, 24 par. 3 and 34 constitute recommendations and not juridical obligations.

"3.- It is understood that the provisions of Article 13 shall not be deemed to refer to rights or claims on movable or immovable property owned by such persons prior to their entry into Greece as refugees.

"4.- As far as wage-earning employment under Art. 17 is concerned, the Royal Hellenic Government shall not accord to the refugees less rights than those accorded generally to nationals of foreign countries.

"5.- Public relief accorded under Article 23 shall be deemed to be the relief accorded on the basis of general laws and regulations of the country. Exceptional measures which the Royal Hellenic Government has taken or shall deem necessary to take as a result of special circumstances in favour of a particular group of Greek nationals shall not automatically extend to persons falling under the provisions of the present Convention.

"6.- The Royal Hellenic Government does not accept and does not consider as valid, as far as Greece is concerned, the second paragraph of the reservation made by the Government of Turkey at the time of the signature of the present Convention.

"The above reservations have been published together with the text of the aforementioned convention in the Official Gazette of the Kingdom of Greece the 26th of September 1959 (A No. 201)".

In accordance with article 43, the Convention will come into force for Greece on 4 July 1960, that is to say, the ninetieth day following the day of deposit of the instrument of ratification.

Accept, Sir, the assurances of my highest consideration.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Oscar Schachter".

Oscar Schachter  
Director of the General Legal Division,  
in charge of the Office of Legal Affairs