

Reference: C.N.228.2018.TREATIES-III.5 (Depositary Notification)

OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC  
RELATIONS, CONCERNING THE COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF  
DISPUTES

VIENNA, 18 APRIL 1961

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA: COMMUNICATION <sup>1</sup>

The Secretary-General of the United Nations, acting in his capacity as depositary,  
communicates the following:

The above action was effected on 1 May 2018.

(Original: English)

“The United States Mission to the United Nations presents its compliments to the Executive Office of the Secretary-General of the United Nations and refers to the U.N. Secretary-General’s depositary notification C.N.149.2018.TREATIES-III.5, dated March 23, 2018, regarding the purported accession by the ‘State of Palestine’ to the Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, Concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes, done at Vienna April 18, 1961 (the Optional Protocol), for which the Secretary-General of the United Nations is the depositary.

The Government of the United States of America does not believe the ‘State of Palestine’ qualifies as a sovereign State and does not recognize it as such. Accession to the Optional Protocol is limited to sovereign States which may become Parties to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations.

The Government of the United States of America recalls that the Secretary-General in his depositary capacity issued, on April 9, 2014, a notification concerning accession by the ‘State of Palestine’ to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, in response to which the United States Mission to the United Nations, on May 13, 2014, communicated that the Government of the United States of America believes that the ‘State of Palestine’ is not qualified to accede to the Convention.

Therefore, the Government of the United States of America believes that the ‘State of Palestine’ is not qualified to accede to the Optional Protocol and affirms that it will not consider itself to be in a treaty relationship with the ‘State of Palestine’ under the Optional Protocol.”

1 May 2018



<sup>1</sup> Refer to depositary notification C.N.149.2018.TREATIES-III.5 of 23 March 2018 (Accession: State of Palestine).