

**8. OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON CONSULAR  
RELATIONS CONCERNING THE COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

*Vienna, 24 April 1963*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 19 March 1967 by the exchange of the said letters, in accordance with VIII.

**REGISTRATION:** 8 June 1967, No. 8640.

**STATUS:** Signatories: 38. Parties: 52.<sup>1</sup>

**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 596, p. 487.

*Note:* See "Note:" in chapter III.6.

<i>Participant<sup>2,3</sup></i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>	<i>Participant<sup>2,3</sup></i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>
Argentina .....	24 Apr 1963		Ireland .....	24 Apr 1963	
Australia .....		12 Feb 1973 a	Italy .....	22 Nov 1963	25 Jun 1969
Austria .....	24 Apr 1963	12 Jun 1969	Japan .....		3 Oct 1983 a
Belgium .....	31 Mar 1964	9 Sep 1970	Kenya .....		1 Jul 1965 a
Benin .....	24 Apr 1963		Kuwait .....	10 Jan 1964	
Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>4</sup> .....	12 Jan 1994 d		Lao People's Democratic Republic .....		9 Aug 1973 a
Botswana .....		12 May 2008 a	Lebanon .....	24 Apr 1963	
Bulgaria .....		11 Jul 1989 a	Liberia .....	24 Apr 1963	
Burkina Faso .....	24 Apr 1963	11 Aug 1964	Liechtenstein .....	24 Apr 1963	18 May 1966
Cameroon .....	21 Aug 1963		Lithuania .....		26 Sep 2012 a
Central African Republic .....	24 Apr 1963		Luxembourg .....	24 Mar 1964	8 Mar 1972
Chile .....	24 Apr 1963		Madagascar .....		17 Feb 1967 a
Colombia .....	24 Apr 1963		Malawi .....		23 Feb 1981 a
Congo .....	24 Apr 1963		Mauritius .....		13 May 1970 a
Côte d'Ivoire .....	24 Apr 1963		Mexico .....		15 Mar 2002 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo .....	24 Apr 1963		Montenegro <sup>7</sup> .....	23 Oct 2006 d	
Denmark .....	24 Apr 1963	15 Nov 1972	Nepal .....		28 Sep 1965 a
Dominican Republic .....	24 Apr 1963	4 Mar 1964	Netherlands <sup>8</sup> .....		17 Dec 1985 a
Estonia .....		21 Oct 1991 a	New Zealand <sup>9</sup> .....		10 Sep 1974 a
Finland .....	28 Oct 1963	2 Jul 1980	Nicaragua .....		9 Jan 1990 a
France .....	24 Apr 1963	31 Dec 1970	Niger .....	24 Apr 1963	21 Jun 1978
Gabon .....	24 Apr 1963	23 Feb 1965	Norway .....	24 Apr 1963	13 Feb 1980
Germany <sup>5,6</sup> .....	31 Oct 1963	7 Sep 1971	Oman .....		31 May 1974 a
Ghana .....	24 Apr 1963		Pakistan .....		29 Mar 1976 a
Hungary .....		8 Dec 1989 a	Panama .....	4 Dec 1963	28 Aug 1967
Iceland .....		1 Jun 1978 a	Paraguay .....		23 Dec 1969 a
India .....		28 Nov 1977 a	Peru .....	24 Apr 1963	23 Mar 2007
Iran (Islamic Republic of) .....		5 Jun 1975 a	Philippines .....	24 Apr 1963	15 Nov 1965
			Republic of Korea .....		7 Mar 1977 a
			Romania .....		19 Sep 2007 a

<i>Participant<sup>2,3</sup></i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>
Senegal.....		29 Apr 1966 a
Serbia <sup>4</sup> .....	12 Mar 2001 d	
Seychelles .....		29 May 1979 a
Slovakia .....		27 Apr 1999 a
Spain .....		21 Sep 2011 a
State of Palestine .....		18 Mar 2019 a
Suriname .....		11 Sep 1980 a
Sweden.....	8 Oct 1963	19 Mar 1974

<i>Participant<sup>2,3</sup></i>	<i>Signature, Succession to signature(d)</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a)</i>
Switzerland .....	23 Oct 1963	3 May 1965
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland <sup>10</sup> .....	27 Mar 1964	9 May 1972
United States of America <sup>1</sup> .....	[24 Apr 1963 ]	[24 Nov 1969 ]
Uruguay .....	24 Apr 1963	
Viet Nam.....		10 May 1973 a

#### **Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> On 7 March 2005, the Secretary-General received from the Government of the United States of America, a communication notifying its withdrawal from the Optional Protocol. The communication reads as follows:

“... the Government of the United States of America [refers] to the Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations Concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes, done at Vienna April 24, 1963.

This letter constitutes notification by the United States of America that it hereby withdraws from the aforesaid Protocol. As a consequence of this withdrawal, the United States will no longer recognize the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice reflected in that Protocol.”

<sup>2</sup> The Republic of Viet-Nam had acceded to the Protocol on 10 May 1973. See also note 1 under “Viet Nam” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>3</sup> Signed on behalf of the Republic of China on 24 April 1963. See also note 1 under “China” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>4</sup> The former Yugoslavia had signed the Optional Protocol on 24 April 1963. 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>5</sup> See note 2 under “Germany” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>6</sup> In a communication deposited on 24 January 1972 with the Registrar of the International Court of Justice, who transmitted it to the Secretary-General pursuant to operative paragraph 3 of Security Council resolution 9 (1946) of 15 October 1946, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany stated as follows:

“In respect of any dispute between the Federal Republic of Germany and any Party to the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations of 24 April 1963 and to the Optional Protocol thereto

concerning the Compulsory Settlement of disputes that may arise within the scope of that Protocol, the Federal Republic of Germany accepts the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice. This declaration also applies to such disputes as may arise, within the scope of article IV of the Optional Protocol concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes, in connexion with the Optional Protocol concerning the Acquisition of nationality.

“It is in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations and with the terms and subject to the conditions of the Statute and Rules of the International Court of Justice that the jurisdiction of the Court is hereby recognized.

“The Federal Republic of Germany undertakes to comply in good faith with the decisions of the Court and to accept all the obligations of a Member of the United Nations under article 94 of the Charter.”

See also note 1 under “Germany” regarding Berlin (West) in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>7</sup> See note 1 under “Montenegro” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>8</sup> For the Kingdom in Europe and the Netherlands Antilles. See also notes 1 and 2 under “Netherlands” regarding Aruba/Netherlands Antilles in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>9</sup> See note 1 under “New Zealand” regarding Tokelau in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>10</sup> In respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Associated States (Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent) and territories under the territorial sovereignty of the United Kingdom, as well as the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.

