

2. CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION OF, AND TRAFFIC IN, OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS, CONCLUDED AT GENEVA ON 12 SEPTEMBER 1923 AND AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL SIGNED AT LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK, ON 12 NOVEMBER 1947

New York, 12 November 1947

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 2 February 1950, in accordance with article 9 , the date on which the amendments set forth in the annex to the Protocol of 12 November 1947, entered into force in accordance with paragraph 2 of article V of the Protocol.

REGISTRATION: 2 February 1950, No. 710.

STATUS: Parties: 56.

TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series* , [vol. 46, p. 201](#).

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Definitive signature of the Protocol, Succession to the Convention and the Protocol, Acceptance of the Protocol, Acceptance ipso facto by virtue of article 10 (1) of the Convention of 12 September 1923, as amended(A)</i>	<i>Succession to the Convention as amended by the Protocol(d), Accession to the Convention as amended by the Protocol(a), Ratification of the Convention as amended by the Protocol</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Definitive signature of the Protocol, Succession to the Convention and the Protocol, Acceptance of the Protocol, Acceptance ipso facto by virtue of article 10 (1) of the Convention of 12 September 1923, as amended(A)</i>	<i>Succession to the Convention as amended by the Protocol(d), Accession to the Convention as amended by the Protocol(a), Ratification of the Convention as amended by the Protocol</i>
Afghanistan.....	12 Nov 1947		Guatemala.....	26 Aug 1949	
Albania.....	25 Jul 1949		Haiti		26 Aug 1953
Australia.....	13 Nov 1947		Hungary	2 Feb 1950	
Austria	4 Aug 1950		India.....	12 Nov 1947	
Belarus		8 Sep 1998 d	Ireland.....	28 Feb 1952	
Belgium	12 Nov 1947		Italy.....	16 Jun 1949	
Brazil	3 Apr 1950		Jamaica		30 Jul 1964 d
Cambodia.....		30 Mar 1959 a	Jordan.....		11 May 1959 a
Canada	24 Nov 1947		Lesotho		28 Nov 1975 d
China ^{1,2}	12 Nov 1947		Liberia ⁵	16 Sep 2005 A	
Cuba.....	2 Dec 1983		Luxembourg.....	14 Mar 1955	
Cyprus.....		16 May 1963 d	Madagascar.....		10 Apr 1963 a
Czech Republic ³		30 Dec 1993 d	Malawi		22 Jul 1965 a
Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		31 May 1962 d	Malaysia.....		21 Aug 1958 d
Denmark ⁴	[21 Nov 1949]		Malta.....		24 Mar 1967 d
Egypt.....	12 Nov 1947		Mauritius.....		18 Jul 1969 d
Fiji	1 Nov 1971		Mexico	4 Feb 1948	
Finland.....	6 Jan 1949		Montenegro ⁶		23 Oct 2006 d
Ghana.....		7 Apr 1958 d	Myanmar.....	13 May 1949	
Greece.....	5 Apr 1960		Netherlands (Kingdom of the) ⁷	[7 Mar 1949]	

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New Zealand ⁸	28 Oct 1948		Solomon Islands		3 Sep 1981 d
Nigeria		26 Jun 1961 d	South Africa.....	12 Nov 1947	
Norway	28 Nov 1947		Sri Lanka.....		15 Apr 1958 a
Pakistan.....	12 Nov 1947		Trinidad and Tobago		11 Apr 1966 d
Poland.....	21 Dec 1950		Türkiye.....	12 Nov 1947	
Romania.....	2 Nov 1950		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland ¹	16 May 1949	
Russian Federation	18 Dec 1947		United Republic of Tanzania.....		28 Nov 1962 a
Serbia ⁹		12 Mar 2001 d	Zambia		1 Nov 1974 d
Sierra Leone.....		13 Mar 1962 d			
Slovakia ³		28 May 1993 d			

Notes:

¹ On 6 and 10 June 1997, the Secretary-General received communications regarding the status of Hong Kong from China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland with regard to the Convention (chapter VIII-3) and Protocol (chapter VIII-1)(see also note 2 under "China" and note 2 under "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" 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 and the Protocol will also apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

² See note concerning signatures, ratifications, accessions, etc., on behalf of China (note 1 under "China" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume).

³ Czechoslovakia, by virtue of its definitive signature of the Protocol of 12 November 1947 amending the Convention of 1923, was a participant in the Convention on that same date. See also note 1 under "Czech Republic" and note 1 under "Slovakia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁴ A notification of denunciation was received on 16 August 1967. In communicating this notification, the Government of Denmark has informed the Secretary-General that the denunciation was intended to apply also in relation to the States parties to the 1923 Convention (chapter VIII.3) which had not yet become parties to the Protocol of 12 November 1947

amending the said Convention (chapter VIII.1). The denunciation took effect on 16 August 1968.

⁵ Ratification of or accession to the Convention of 12 September 1923 shall *ipso facto*, and without special notification, involve concomitant and full acceptance of the Agreement of 4 May 1910 [...]

⁶ See note 1 under "Montenegro" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁷ On 30 July 1985, the Secretary-General received from the Government of the Netherlands a notification of denunciation of the said Protocol and Convention. The notification specifies that the denunciation shall apply in respect of the Kingdom in Europe only and that the Protocol and the Convention will therefore remain in force in the Netherlands Antilles. The notification also indicated that the reason for the denunciation is the following:

" . . . under the Act of 3 July 1985 (Bulletin of Acts, Orders and Decrees No. 385) the provisions of the Dutch Criminal Code were amended in such a way that it is no longer possible for the Netherlands to comply fully with the international obligations it assumed under the Convention. Article I of the Convention contains - *inter alia* - the obligation to make it a punishable offence to make, produce or have in possession, to import, convey or export obscene publications or any other

obscene objects for the purposes of distribution or public exhibition.

"The new provisions of the Dutch Criminal Code fulfill this requirement only with regard to the portrayal of - or to any medium of information which portrays - sexual activity involving persons under the age of sixteen (i.e. child pornography). As regards the other forms of pornography, the shop windows, to send such images or objects unsolicited through the mail or to supply, offer or show them to children. Since the Convention does not contain any provision which would allow the Netherlands to make punishable only those offences included in the amended Criminal Code, the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands has no other choice than to denounce the Convention for the Netherlands."

⁸ See note 1 under "New Zealand" regarding Tokelau in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁹ The former Yugoslavia had signed the Protocol definitively on 12 November 1947. 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.

