

## 6. AGREEMENT FOR THE REPRESSION OF OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS

*Paris, 4 May 1910*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 15 September 1911.

**REGISTRATION:** 5 July 1920, No. 22.<sup>1</sup>

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*The following list was provided by the Government of France at the time of the transfer to the Secretary-General of the depositary functions in respect of the Agreement*

*(1) States which ratified the Agreement*

Austria-Hungary	Netherlands
Belgium	Portugal
Brazil	Russia
Denmark	Spain
France	Switzerland
Germany	United States of America
Great Britain and Northern Ireland	
Italy	

*(2) States which acceded to the Agreement*

Albania	Luxembourg
Bulgaria	Monaco
China <sup>2,3</sup>	Norway
Czechoslovakia <sup>4</sup>	Poland
Egypt	Romania
Estonia	San Marino
Finland	Siam
Ireland	
Latvia	

*(3) The Agreement was declared applicable to the following colonies, dominions and protectorates*

Australia	Gold Coast
Bahamas	Hong Kong <sup>2</sup>
Barbados	Iceland and Danish West Indies
Basutoland	India
Bechuanaland	Iraq
Belgian Congo	Jamaica
and Ruanda-Urundi	Kenya
Bermuda	Leeward Islands
British East Africa	(Antigua, Dominica, Montserrat, St. Kitts-Nevis)
British Guiana	Malay States
British Honduras	Malta
Canada	Mauritius
Ceylon	Netherlands East Indies, Surinam and Curaçao
Cyprus	Newfoundland
Falkland Islands (Malvinas)	New Zealand
Fiji	Northern Nigeria
Gambia	Northern Rhodesia
German Colonies	Nyasaland
Gibraltar	Palestine
Gilbert and Ellice Islands	St. Helena

Samoa  
 Seychelles  
 Sierra Leone  
 Solomon Islands  
 Somaliland  
 Southern Nigeria  
 Southern Rhodesia  
 South West Africa  
 Straits Settlements  
 Swaziland  
 Tanganyika

Transjordan  
 Trinidad and Tobago  
 Turks and Caicos Islands  
 Uganda  
 Union of South Africa  
 Virgin Islands  
 Wei-hai-wei  
 Western Pacific Islands  
 Windward Islands (Grenada, St. Lucia, St. Vincent)  
 Zanzibar

**(4) States which by their accession to or their ratification of the Convention of 12 September 1923 for the Suppression of the Circulation of, and Traffic in, Obscene Publications, ipso facto accepted the Agreement of 4 May 1910 by virtue of article 10 of the Convention of 12 September 1923**

Afghanistan  
 Colombia  
 Cuba  
 Salvador  
 Greece  
 Guatemala  
 Iran

Japan  
 Mexico  
 Paraguay  
 Turkey  
 Yugoslavia (former)<sup>5</sup>

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

<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,6</sup>	<i>Acceptance(A)</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,6</sup>	<i>Acceptance(A)</i>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Czech Republic <sup>4</sup> .....		30 Dec 1993 d	Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 A	
Fiji .....		1 Nov 1971 d	Slovakia <sup>4</sup> .....		28 May 1993 d
Kazakhstan.....	3 Sep 2024 A		Zimbabwe .....		1 Dec 1998 d

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> *British and Foreign State Papers*, volume 103, p. 251. This Agreement is listed under No. 22a in the League of Nations *Treaty Series* and in the United Nations *Treaty Series* (Annex C).

<sup>2</sup> The Secretary-General, received on 6 and 10 June 1997, communications regarding the status of Hong Kong from China and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (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 Agreement will also apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

<sup>3</sup> 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).

<sup>4</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>5</sup> See 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>6</sup> In a communication received by the Secretary-General on 4 October 1974, the Government of the German Democratic Republic stated that the German Democratic Republic had declared the reapplication of the Convention as of 18 December 1958.

In this connection, the Secretary-General received on 2 March 1976 the following communication from the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:

With reference to the communication by the German Democratic Republic of 30 September 1974, concerning the application, as from 18 December 1958, of the Agreement of 4 May 1910 for the Suppression of the Circulation of Obscene Publications, the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany declares that in the relation between the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic the

declaration of application has no retroactive effect beyond 21 June 1973.

Subsequently, in a communication received on 17 June 1976, the Government of the German Democratic Republic declared:

"The Government of the German Democratic Republic takes the view that in accordance with the applicable rules of international law and the international practice of States the regulations on the reapplication of agreements concluded under

international law are an internal affair of the successor State concerned. Accordingly, the German Democratic Republic was entitled to determine the date of reapplication of the Agreement for the Suppression of the Circulation of Obscene Publications, May 4th, 1910 to which it established its status as a party by way of succession."

See also note 2 under "Germany" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.