

**5. OPTIONAL PROTOCOL OF SIGNATURE CONCERNING THE COMPULSORY  
SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES**

*Geneva, 29 April 1958*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE:** 30 September 1962.  
**REGISTRATION:** 3 January 1963, No. 6466.  
**STATUS:** Signatories: 14. Parties: 37.<sup>1</sup>  
**TEXT:** United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 450, p. 169.

*Note:* See Note" in the same place in chapter XXI.1.

<i>Participant<sup>1,2</sup></i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Definitive signature(s), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant<sup>1,2</sup></i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Definitive signature(s), Succession(d)</i>
Australia.....		14 May 1963 s	Madagascar.....		10 Aug 1962 s
Austria.....	27 Oct 1958		Malawi.....		17 Dec 1965 s
Belgium.....		6 Jan 1972 s	Malaysia.....		1 May 1961 s
Bolivia (Plurinational State of).....		17 Oct 1958 s	Malta.....		19 May 1966 d
Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>3</sup> .....		12 Jan 1994 d	Mauritius.....		5 Oct 1970 d
Cambodia.....	22 Jan 1970		Montenegro <sup>8</sup> .....		23 Oct 2006 d
Canada.....	29 Apr 1958		Nepal.....		29 Apr 1958 s
Colombia <sup>4</sup> .....		[29 Apr 1958 s]	Netherlands <sup>9</sup> .....	31 Oct 1958	18 Feb 1966
Costa Rica.....		29 Apr 1958 s	New Zealand.....		29 Oct 1958 s
Cuba.....		29 Apr 1958 s	Pakistan.....		6 Nov 1958 s
Denmark.....	29 Apr 1958	26 Sep 1968	Panama.....		2 May 1958 s
Dominican Republic.....		29 Apr 1958 s	Portugal.....	28 Oct 1958	8 Jan 1963
Finland.....	27 Oct 1958	16 Feb 1965	Serbia <sup>3</sup> .....		12 Mar 2001 d
France.....		30 Oct 1958 s	Sierra Leone.....		14 Feb 1963 s
Germany <sup>5,6</sup> .....	30 Oct 1958	26 Jul 1973	Solomon Islands.....		3 Sep 1981 d
Ghana.....		29 Apr 1958 s	Sri Lanka.....		30 Oct 1958 s
Haiti.....	29 Apr 1958	29 Mar 1960	Sweden.....	1 Jun 1966	28 Jun 1966
Holy See.....		30 Apr 1958 s	Switzerland.....	24 May 1958	18 May 1966
Hungary.....		8 Dec 1989 s	Uganda.....		15 Sep 1964 s
Indonesia <sup>7</sup> .....	8 May 1958		United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....		9 Sep 1958 s
Israel.....	29 Apr 1958		United States of America <sup>10</sup> .....	15 Sep 1958	
Liberia.....		27 May 1958 s	Uruguay.....		29 Apr 1958 s

**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> Article V of the Protocol provides that the latter "shall remain open for signature by all States who become Parties to any Convention on the Law of the Sea and is subject to ratification, where necessary, according to the constitutional

requirements of the signatory States". Consequently, the signatures listed above appear in the second or third column according to whether they have been affixed subject or not to ratification.

The States listed herein are bound by this Protocol to the extent that they have signed it definitively, ratified it or succeeded to it, and that they are bound by one at least of the four Law of the Sea Conventions.

<sup>2</sup> Signature affixed without reservation as to ratification on behalf of the Republic of China on 29 April 1958. 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>3</sup> The former Yugoslavia had signed and ratified the Optional Protocol on 29 April 1958 and 28 January 1966, respectively. 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>4</sup> Declaration made upon signature:

In signing the Optional Protocol, the delegation of Colombia reserved the obligations of Colombia arising out of conventions concerning the peaceful settlement of disputes which Colombia has ratified and out of any previous conventions concerning the same subject which Colombia may ratify.

Subsequently, on 15 September 2017, the Secretary-General received from the Government of the Republic of Colombia, a communication notifying its withdrawal from the Protocol. The communication reads as follows:

I have the honour to write to you regarding the Optional Protocol of Signature concerning the Compulsory Settlement of Disputes, done at Geneva (Swiss Confederation) on 29 April 1958.

In this respect, I would like to inform you that the present note constitutes notification of the withdrawal of the Republic of Colombia from the above-mentioned Protocol. As a consequence of this withdrawal, the Government of the Republic of Colombia, from this date, will no longer recognize the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice that is set forth in the Protocol.

<sup>5</sup> See note 2 under "Germany" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>6</sup> See note 1 under "Germany" regarding Berlin (West) in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>7</sup> In a communication received on 24 December 1958, the Government of Indonesia informed the Secretary-General that according to the constitutional requirements of Indonesia, the signature affixed on its behalf to this Protocol is subject to ratification.

<sup>8</sup> See note 1 under "Montenegro" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>9</sup> In respect of the Kingdom in Europe, Surinam and the Netherland Antilles. See also note 1 under "Netherlands Antilles" and "Suriname" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>10</sup> In a communication received on 10 June 1963, the Government of the United States of America informed the Secretary-General that the Protocol "will not enter into force with respect to the United States until the Protocol has been ratified on the part of the United States and instrument of ratification has been deposited".

