

**14. a) International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting  
Currency**

*Geneva, 20 April 1929<sup>1</sup>*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE** 22 February 1931, in accordance with article 25.  
**REGISTRATION:** 22 February 1931, No. 2623.<sup>1</sup>

***Ratifications or definitive accessions***

Austria	(June 25th, 1931)	Latvia	(July 22nd, 1939 a)
Belgium	(June 6th, 1932)	Mexico	(March 30th, 1936 a)
Brazil	(July 1st, 1938 a)	Monaco	(October 21st, 1931)
Bulgaria	(May 22nd, 1930)	The Netherlands	(April 30th, 1932)
Colombia	(May 9th, 1932)	Norway <sup>5</sup>	(March 16th, 1931)
Cuba	(June 13th, 1933)	In view of the provisions of Article 176, paragraph 2, of the Norwegian Ordinary Criminal Code and Article 2 of the Norwegian Law on the Extradition of Criminals, the extradition provided for in Article 10 of the present Convention may not be granted for the offence referred to in Article 3, No. 2, where the person uttering the counterfeit currency himself accepted it bona fide as genuine.	
Czechoslovakia <sup>2</sup>	(September 12th, 1931)	Poland	(June 15th, 1934)
Denmark <sup>3</sup>	(February 19th, 1931)	Portugal	(September 18th, 1930)
Ecuador	(September 25th, 1937 a)	Romania	(March 7th, 1939)
Estonia	(August 30th, 1930 a)	Spain	(April 28th, 1930)
Finland	(September 25th, 1936 a)	Turkey	(January 21st, 1937 a)
Germany <sup>4</sup>	(October 3rd, 1933)	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics <sup>6</sup>	(July 13th, 1931)
Greece	(May 19th, 1931)	Yugoslavia (former) <sup>7</sup>	(November 24th, 1930)
Hungary	(June 14th, 1933)		
Ireland	(July 24th, 1934 a)		
Italy	(December 27th, 1935)		

***Signatures not yet perfected by ratification***

Albania	China <sup>8</sup>
United States of America	Japan
India	Luxembourg
	Panama

As provided in Article 24 of the Convention, this signature does not include the territories of any Prince or Chief under the suzerainty of His Majesty.

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

***Participant<sup>4,9</sup>***  
***Ratification,***  
***Accession(a),***  
***Succession(d)***

<i>Participant<sup>4,9</sup></i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant<sup>4,9</sup></i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Algeria <sup>10</sup> .....	17 Mar 1965 a	Malaysia <sup>12</sup> .....	4 Jul 1972 a
Andorra.....	3 Oct 2007 a	Mali.....	6 Jan 1970 a
Australia.....	5 Jan 1982 a	Malta.....	17 Nov 2015 a
Bahamas.....	9 Jul 1975 d	Mauritius.....	18 Jul 1969 d
Belarus.....	23 Aug 2001 d	Montenegro.....	15 Dec 2015 a
Benin.....	17 Mar 1966 a	Morocco <sup>13</sup> .....	4 May 1976 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina.....	27 Apr 2009 a	Niger.....	5 May 1969 a
Burkina Faso.....	8 Dec 1964 a	Peru.....	11 May 1970 a
Côte d'Ivoire.....	25 May 1964 a	Philippines <sup>14</sup> .....	5 May 1971 a
Croatia.....	30 Dec 2003 d	San Marino.....	18 Oct 1967 a
Cyprus.....	10 Jun 1965 a	Senegal.....	25 Aug 1965 a
Czech Republic.....	9 Feb 1996 d	Serbia <sup>15</sup> .....	18 Mar 2016 d
Egypt.....	15 Jul 1957 a	Singapore.....	12 Feb 1979 d
Fiji.....	25 Mar 1971 d	Slovakia <sup>2</sup> .....	28 May 1993 d
France.....	28 Mar 1958	Slovenia.....	9 May 2006 d
Gabon.....	11 Aug 1964 a	Solomon Islands.....	3 Sep 1981 d
Georgia.....	20 Jul 2000 a	South Africa.....	28 Aug 1967 a
Ghana.....	9 Jul 1964 a	Sri Lanka.....	2 Jun 1967 a
Holy See.....	1 Mar 1965 a	Sweden.....	15 Mar 2001 a
Indonesia <sup>11</sup> .....	3 Aug 1982 a	Switzerland.....	30 Dec 1948
Iraq.....	14 May 1965 a	Syrian Arab Republic <sup>16</sup> .....	14 Aug 1964
Israel.....	10 Feb 1965 a	Thailand.....	6 Jun 1963 a
Kazakhstan.....	22 Dec 2010 a	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia.....	7 Mar 2005 d
Kenya.....	10 Nov 1977 a	Togo.....	3 Oct 1978 a
Kuwait.....	9 Dec 1968 a	Uganda.....	15 Apr 1965 a
Lebanon.....	6 Oct 1966 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland.....	28 Jul 1959
Liberia.....	16 Sep 2005 a	Viet Nam.....	3 Dec 1964 a
Lithuania.....	2 Apr 2004 a	Zimbabwe.....	1 Dec 1998 d
Luxembourg.....	14 Mar 2002		
Malawi.....	18 Nov 1965 a		

***Declarations and Reservations***  
***(Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations and reservations***  
***were made upon ratification, accession or succession.)***

**ANDORRA**

Having seen the provisions of article 431 of the Penal Code of Andorra and article 2 (a) of the Organic Law on Extradition, the extradition envisaged in article 10 of this Convention shall be granted in the case of persons who, having knowingly received counterfeit currency, attempt to place it in circulation or have placed it in circulation after realizing that it was not authentic.

**BELARUS**

The Republic of Belarus is not to be bound by the reservation on Article 20 of the Convention concerning the special order of transmitting the instrument of

ratification to the Depositary and the declaration on Article 19 of the Convention concerning the non-recognition of jurisdiction of the Permanent Court of International Justice and of a Court of Arbitration as the means of the Settlement of Disputes between States, made by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republic on signing the Convention.

**LUXEMBOURG**

The public prosecutor is designated to act as the central office in the meaning of article 12 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency signed at Geneva on 20 April 1929.

The designation of the public prosecutor as central office shall not prejudice the execution of the mission specified in articles 12 to 16 of the International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency or in the community legislative acts relating to

the protection of the euro against counterfeiting by the authorities or legally authorized national organs, subject to the procedure to be determined, if necessary, by the public prosecutor in his capacity as central office.

### **Notifications made under article 12 and 15**

***(Unless otherwise indicated, the declarations and reservations were made upon ratification, accession or succession.)***

#### **AUSTRIA**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **BELGIUM**

Belgium, a Member State of the European Union, has given the European Police Office (hereinafter referred to as Europol) a mandate to combat euro counterfeiting.

In order for the Geneva Convention of 1929 to function more effectively, Belgium shall in future fulfil its obligations as follows:

1. With regard to euro counterfeiting, Europol shall perform - in the framework of its objective according to the Council Act of 26 July 1995 on the establishment of a European Police Office (Europol Convention) [OJ C 316, 27.11.1995, p. 1] - the following central office functions within the meaning of Articles 12 to 15 of the Geneva Convention of 1929.

1.1. Europol shall centralise and process, in accordance with the Europol Convention, all information of a nature to facilitate the investigation, prevention and combating of euro counterfeiting and shall forward this information without delay to the national central offices of the Member States.

1.2. In accordance with the Europol Convention, in particular in accordance with Article 18 thereof and the Council Act of 12 March 1999 adopting the rules governing the transmission of personal data by Europol to third States and third bodies [OJ C 88, 30.3.1999 p. 1. Council Act as amended by Council Act of 28 February 2002 (OJ C 76, 27.3.2002, p. 1)], Europol shall correspond directly with the central offices of third countries to fulfil the tasks set down in points 1.3, 1.4 and 1.5 of this Declaration.

1.3. Europol shall, insofar as it considers it expedient, forward to the central offices of third countries a set of specimens of actual euro.

1.4. Europol shall regularly notify the central offices of third countries, giving all necessary particulars, of new currency issued and the withdrawal of currency from circulation.

1.5. Except in cases of purely local interest, Europol shall, insofar as it considers it expedient, notify the central offices of third countries of:

any discovery of counterfeit or falsified Euro currency. Notification of the counterfeit or falsification shall be accompanied by a technical description of the counterfeit, to be provided solely by the institution whose notes have been counterfeited. A photographic reproduction or, if possible, a specimen counterfeited note should be transmitted. In urgent cases, a notification and a brief description made by the police authorities may be discreetly communicated to the central offices interested, without prejudice to the notification and technical description mentioned above;

details of discoveries of counterfeiting, stating whether it has been possible to seize all the counterfeit currency put into circulation.

1.6. As central office for the Member States, Europol shall participate in conferences dealing with euro

counterfeiting within the meaning of Article 15 of the Geneva Convention.

1.7. Where Europol is unable to carry out the tasks specified in points 1.1. to 1.6. in accordance with the Europol Convention, the national central offices of the Member States shall retain competence.

2. With regard to the counterfeiting of all other currencies and for central office functions not delegated to Europol in accordance with point 1, the existing competencies of the national central offices shall remain in effect.

#### **BULGARIA**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **CYPRUS**

*[Same notifications as the one made under Belgium.]*

#### **CZECH REPUBLIC**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **DENMARK**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **ESTONIA**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **FINLAND**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **FRANCE**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **GERMANY**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **GREECE**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **HUNGARY**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **IRELAND**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **ITALY**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

#### **KAZAKHSTAN**

“In the frameworks of the present International convention[,] the Republic of Kazakhstan exercises cooperation on matters of mutual legal assistance, prosecution and extradition with the central bureaus of other states through the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Kazakhstan.” In accordance with Article 22 of the Convention, “[i]f within six months of the date of the communication of the Secretary-General no objections have been received, the participation in the Convention of the country making the reservation shall be deemed to have been accepted by the other High Contracting Parties

subject to the said reservation.” In accordance with its Article 26, the Convention shall enter into force for Kazakhstan “on the ninetieth day from the date of [the receipt by the Secretary-General of its instrument of ratification] [...]”.

**LATVIA**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*  
*Notification under article 12*  
 "Central office in accordance with Article 12:  
 Economic Police  
 Department of the Central Criminal Police  
 Department of the State Police

Address:

Cierkurkalna 1st line 1, K-4  
 Riga, LV-1026  
 Latvia  
 Phone: +371 67075212  
 Fax: +371 67075053  
 e-mail: epb@vp.gov.lv"

**LITHUANIA**

"... in accordance with Article 12 of the said Convention, the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania designates the Police Department under the Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania as a Central Authority to discharge the duties imposed by the Convention;

... it is provided in Article 16, paragraph 4, of the Convention, the Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania declares that requests under Article 16 shall be communicated to its authorities only through its Central Authority."

**LUXEMBOURG**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

**MONTENEGRO**

“[The] Ministry of Justice is the state administration body to which letters of request relating to criminal offences referred to in Article 3 of the Convention should be transmitted.”

**NETHERLANDS**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

**POLAND**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

**PORTUGAL**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

**SLOVAKIA**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

**SLOVENIA**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

**SPAIN**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN**

**IRELAND**

*[Same notifications as the ones made by Belgium.]*

***Territorial Application***

<b><i>Participant</i></b>	<b><i>Date of receipt of the notification</i></b>	<b><i>Territories</i></b>
Netherlands	22 Mar 1954	Netherlands Antilles and Suriname
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	28 Jul 1959	Channel Islands and Isle of Man
	13 Oct 1960	Antigua, Bahamas, Basutoland, Bechuanaland Protectorate, Bermuda, British Guiana, British Honduras, British Solomon Islands, British Virgin Islands, Dominica, Falkland Islands (Malvinas), Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland, Fiji, Gambia, Gibraltar, Gilbert and Ellice Islands, Grenada, Jamaica, Kenya, Mauritius, Montserrat, North Borneo, St. Christopher-Nevis and Anguilla, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Sarawak, Sierra Leone, State of Singapore, Swaziland, Tanganyika, Trinidad, Uganda, Zanzibar
	7 Mar 1963	Barbados and its dependencies

***Notes:***

<sup>1</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, [./doc/Publication/UNTS/LON/Volume%20112/v112.pdf](https://www.unhcr.org/refugees/doc/Publication/UNTS/LON/Volume%20112/v112.pdf).

<sup>2</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>3</sup> According to a Declaration made by the Danish Government when ratifying the Convention, the latter was to

take effect in respect of Denmark only upon the coming into force of the Danish Penal Code of April 15th, 1930. This Code having entered into force on January 1st, 1933, the Convention has become effective for Denmark from the same date.

<sup>4</sup> In a notification received on 21 February 1974, the Government of the German Democratic Republic stated that the German Democratic Republic had declared the reapplication of the Convention as of 6 June 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 31 January 1974, concerning the application, as from 6 June 1958, of the International Convention of 20 April 1929 for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency, 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 International Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency, April 20th, 1929 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.

<sup>5</sup> The reservation by Norway has not given rise to any objection on the part of the States to which it was communicated in accordance with Article 22, it may be considered as accepted.

<sup>6</sup> Instrument deposited in Berlin.

<sup>7</sup> See note 1 under "former Yugoslavia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume

<sup>8</sup> See note concerning signatures, ratifications and accession made on behalf of China (note 1 under "China" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume).

<sup>9</sup> The Republic of Viet-Nam had acceded to the Convention and the Protocol on 3 December 1964. See also note 1 under "Viet Nam" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume

<sup>10</sup> With the following reservation, which is deemed to have been accepted by the other Contracting Parties in accordance with article 22 of the Convention:

The Democratic and Popular Republic of Algeria does not consider itself bound by article 19 of the Convention, which confers upon the International Court of Justice jurisdiction with respect to any disputes concerning the Convention.

The jurisdiction of international tribunals may be accepted, by way of exception, in cases with respect to which the Algerian Government shall have expressly given its consent.

<sup>11</sup> With the following reservation, which is deemed to have been accepted by the other Contracting Parties in accordance with article 22 of the Convention:

"The Government of the Republic of Indonesia does not consider itself bound by the provisions of article 19 of this Convention but takes the position that any dispute relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention may be submitted to arbitration or to the International Court of Justice for decision, only with the agreement of all the parties to the dispute.

<sup>12</sup> With the following reservation, which is deemed to have been accepted by the other Contracting Parties in accordance with article 22 of the Convention:

"The Government of Malaysia does not consider itself bound by the provisions of article 19 of the Convention."

<sup>13</sup> With the following reservation, which is deemed to have been accepted by the other Contracting Parties in accordance with article 22 of the Convention: The Kingdom of Morocco does not consider itself bound by article 19 of the Convention which provides that any disputes which might arise relating to the said Convention shall be settled by the Permanent Court of International Justice.

However, it may accept the jurisdiction of the International Court, by way of exception, in cases where the Moroccan Government expressly states that it accepts such jurisdiction.

<sup>14</sup> With the following reservation, which is deemed to have been accepted by the other Contracting Parties in accordance with article 22 of the Convention:

"Articles 5 and 8 of the Convention shall be inoperative with respect to the Philippines unless and until Article 163 of the Revised Penal Code and Section 14 (a), Rule 110, of the Rules of the Court in the Philippines, shall have been amended to conform to the said provisions of the Convention."

<sup>15</sup> See note 1 under "Yugoslavia", "former Yugoslavia" et "Serbia and Montenegro" and in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

<sup>16</sup> In a communication received on 14 August 1964, the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic, referring to Presidential decree No.1147 of 20 June 1959, pursuant to which the application of the Convention for the Suppression of Counterfeiting Currency and Protocol, done at Geneva on 30 April 1929, was extended to the Syrian Province of the United Arab Republic, and to décret-loi No.25 promulgated on 13 June 1962 by the President of the Syrian Arab Republic (see also note 1 under "United Arab Republic (Egypt and Syria)" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume) has informed the Secretary-General that the Syrian Arab Republic considers itself a party to the said Convention

and Protocol as from 20 June 1959. See also note 1 under “United Arab Republic (Egypt and Syria)” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

