

**19. DECLARATION RECOGNISING THE RIGHT TO A FLAG OF STATES HAVING NO  
SEA-COAST**

*Barcelona, 20 April 1921*

**ENTRY INTO FORCE**  
**REGISTRATION:**  
**TEXT:**

20 April 1921.  
8 October 1921, No. 174.<sup>1</sup>  
League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, [vol.7, p.73](#).

*Ratifications or definitive accessions*

Albania		Hungary	
	(October 8th, 1921)		(May 18th, 1928 a)
Austria		Iraq	
	(July 10th, 1924)		(April 17th, 1935 a)
Belgium		Italy <sup>4</sup>	
	(May 16th, 1927)		
British Empire <sup>2</sup> , including Newfoundland		Japan	
	(October 9th, 1922)		(February 20th, 1924)
Canada		Latvia	
	(October 31st, 1922 a)		(February 12th, 1924)
Australia		Mexico	
	(October 31st, 1922 a)		(October 17th, 1935 a)
New Zealand		The Netherlands <sup>4,6</sup> (including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao)	
	(October 9th, 1922)		(November 28th, 1921)
Union of South Africa		Norway	
	(October 31st, 1922 a)		(September 4th, 1923)
India		Poland	
	(October 9th, 1922)		(December 20th, 1924)
Bulgaria		Romania	
	(July 11th, 1922)		(February 22nd, 1923 a)
Chile		Spain	
	(March 19th 1928)		(July 1st, 1929)
Czechoslovakia <sup>3</sup>		Sweden	
	(September 8th, 1924)		(January 19th, 1925)
Denmark		Switzerland <sup>4</sup>	
	(November 13th, 1922)		
Estonia <sup>4</sup>		Thailand	
			(November 29th, 1922 a)
Finland		Turkey	
	(September 22nd, 1922 a)		(June 27th, 1933 a)
France <sup>4</sup>		Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	
			(May 16th, 1935 a)
Germany <sup>5</sup>		Yugoslavia (former) <sup>7</sup>	
	(November 10th, 1931 a)		(May 7th, 1930)
Greece			
	(January 3rd, 1928)		

*Signatures or accessions not yet perfected by ratification*

Bolivia	Panama
China <sup>8</sup>	Peru (a)
Guatemala	Portugal
Iran	Uruguay
Lithuania	

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

<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,5</sup>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Antigua and Barbuda.....	25 Oct 1988 d
Croatia .....	3 Aug 1992 d
Czech Republic <sup>3</sup> .....	9 Feb 1996 d
Eswatini .....	16 Oct 1970 a
Fiji .....	15 Mar 1972 d
Lesotho .....	23 Oct 1973 d
Malawi.....	11 Jun 1969 d
Malta.....	21 Sep 1966 d

<i>Participant</i> <sup>2,5</sup>	<i>Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Mauritius.....	18 Jul 1969 d
Mongolia.....	15 Oct 1976 a
Rwanda .....	10 Feb 1965 d
Slovakia <sup>3</sup> .....	28 May 1993 d
Solomon Islands .....	3 Sep 1981 d
St. Vincent and the Grenadines .....	5 Sep 2001 d
Zimbabwe .....	1 Dec 1998 d

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**Notes:**

<sup>1</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 7, p. 73.

<sup>2</sup> The Secretary-General received, on 6 and 10 June 1999, communications concerning the status of Hong Kong from China and the United Kingdom (see also note 2 under “China” and note 2 under “United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland” regarding Hong Kong 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 will also apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

<sup>3</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>4</sup> Accepts Declaration as binding without ratification.

<sup>5</sup> In a notification received on 31 January 1974, the Government of the German Democratic Republic stated that the German Democratic Republic had declared the reapplication of the Convention as of 4 June 1958.

In this connection, the Secretary-General received, on 23 February 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 4 June 1958, of the Declaration of 20 April 1921 recognizing the Right to a Flag of States having no Sea-coast, 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 Declaration recognizing the Right to a Flag of States having no Sea-coast,

April 20th, 1921 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>6</sup> See note 1 under “Suriname” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume.

<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, accessions etc, on behalf of China (note 1 under “China” in the “Historical Information” section in the front matter of this volume).

