

No. 728

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**AUSTRALIA, CANADA, CEYLON, CHINA,  
DENMARK, EGYPT, etc.**

**Agreement for the suppression of the circulation of obscene publications, signed at Paris on 4 May 1910, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York, on 4 May 1949**

*Official text : French.*

*Registered ex officio on 1 March 1950.*

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**AUSTRALIE, CANADA, CEYLAN, CHINE,  
DANEMARK, ÉGYPTÉ, etc.**

**Arrangement relatif à la répression de la circulation des publications obscènes, signé à Paris le 4 mai 1910, modifié par le Protocole signé à Lake Success (New-York), le 4 mai 1949**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré d'office le 1<sup>er</sup> mars 1950.*

## TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 728. AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION OF OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS, SIGNED AT PARIS ON 4 MAY 1910<sup>2</sup>, AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL, SIGNED AT LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK, ON 4 MAY 1949<sup>3</sup>

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Article 1

Each one of the Contracting Powers undertakes to establish or designate an authority charged with the duty of :

1. Centralizing all information which may facilitate the tracing and suppression of acts constituting infringements of their municipal law as to obscene writings, drawings, pictures or articles, and the constitutive elements of which bear an international character;
2. Supplying all information tending to check the importation of publications or articles referred to in the foregoing paragraph and also to insure or expedite their seizure, all within the scope of municipal legislation;
3. Communicating the laws that have already been or may subsequently be enacted in their respective States in regard to the object of the present Agreement.

The Contracting Governments shall mutually make known to one another, through the Secretary-General of the United Nations, the authority established or designated in accordance with the present article.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 March 1950, the date on which the amendments to the Agreement, as set forth in the annex to the Protocol of 4 May 1949, entered into force in accordance with Article 5 of the said Protocol.

*States Parties to the Agreement as amended by the said Protocol :*

Australia	Egypt	Switzerland
Canada	Finland	Union of Soviet Socialist Republics
Ceylon	France	
China	India	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Denmark	Norway	

<sup>2</sup> De Martens, *Nouveau Recueil général de Traités*, third series, tome VII, page 266. League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, volume XI, page 438. United Nations, *Treaty Series*, volume 30, page 18.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, volume 30, pages 3 and 366; volume 32, page 399; volume 42, page 366; volume 43, page 340; volume 44, page 341, volume 45, page 330 and page 362 of this volume.

*Article 2*

The authority designated in article 1 shall be empowered to correspond directly with the like service established in each one of the other Contracting States.

*Article 3*

The authority designated in article 1 shall be bound, if there be nothing to the contrary in the municipal law of its country, to communicate bulletins of the sentences passed in the said country to the similar authorities of all the other Contracting States in cases of offences coming under article 1.

*Article 4*

Non-signatory States will be permitted to adhere to the present Agreement. They shall notify their intention to that effect by means of an instrument which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall send a certified copy of the said instrument to each one of the Contracting States and to all the Members of the United Nations, and at the same time apprise them of the date of deposit.

Six months after that date, the Agreement will go into effect throughout the territory of the adhering State, which will thereby become a Contracting State.

*Article 5*

The present Agreement shall take effect six months after the date of deposit of the ratifications.

In the event of one of the Contracting States denouncing it, the denunciation would only have effect in regard to that State.

The denunciation shall be notified by an instrument which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall send a certified copy thereof to each one of the Contracting States and to all the Members of the United Nations, and at the same time apprise them of the date of deposit.

Twelve months after that date the Agreement shall cease to be in force throughout the territory of the denouncing State.

*Article 6*

The present Agreement shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be deposited at Paris as soon as six of the Contracting States shall be in a position to do so.

A *procès-verbal* of every deposit of ratifications shall be drawn up and a certified copy thereof shall be delivered through the diplomatic channel to each one of the Contracting States.

*Article 7*

Should a Contracting State wish to enforce the present Agreement in one or more of its colonies, possessions or areas under consular jurisdiction, it shall notify its intention to that effect by an instrument which shall be deposited in the archives of the United Nations. The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall send a certified copy to each of the Contracting States and to all the Members of the United Nations and at the same time apprise them of the date of the deposit.

Six months after that date the Agreement shall go into effect in the colonies, possessions or consular court districts specified in the instrument of ratification.

The denunciation of the Agreement by one of the Contracting States on behalf of one or more of its colonies, possessions or consular court districts shall be effected in the form and under the conditions set forth in the first paragraph of this article. It shall take effect twelve months after the date of the deposit of the instrument of denunciation in the archives of the United Nations.

*Article 8*

The present Agreement, which will bear the date of 4 May 1910, may be signed at Paris until the following 31st of July by the plenipotentiaries of the Powers represented at the Conference relative to the suppression of the circulation of obscene publications.

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