

No. 1257

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**CANADA, CEYLON, CHILE, CHINA, EGYPT,  
FINLAND, etc.**

**International Agreement for the suppression of the white  
slave traffic, signed at Paris on 18 May 1904, as amended  
by the Protocol signed at Lake Success, New York,  
4 May 1949**

*Official text: French.*

*Registered ex officio on 21 June 1951.*

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**CANADA, CEYLAN, CHILI, CHINE, ÉGYPTE,  
FINLANDE, etc.**

**Arrangement international en vue d'assurer une protection  
efficace contre le trafic criminel connu sous le nom de  
« traite des blanches », signé à Paris le 18 mai 1904  
et amendé par le Protocole signé à Lake Success (New  
York) le 4 mai 1949**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré d'office le 21 juin 1951.*

## TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 1257. INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE WHITE SLAVE TRAFFIC, SIGNED AT PARIS ON 18 MAY 1904<sup>2</sup>, AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL SIGNED AT LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK, 4 MAY 1949<sup>3</sup>

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*Article 1*

Each of the Contracting Governments undertakes to establish or name some authority charged with the co-ordination of all information relative to the procuring of women or girls for immoral purposes abroad; this authority shall be empowered to correspond direct with the similar department establish in each of the Contracting States.

*Article 2*

Each of the Governments undertakes to have a watch kept, especially in railway stations, ports of embarkation, and *en route*, for persons in charge of women and girls destined for an immoral life. With this object, instructions shall be given to the officials, and all other qualified persons, to obtain, within legal limits, all information likely to lead to the detection of criminal traffic.

The arrival of persons who clearly appear to be the principals, accomplices in, or victims of, such traffic shall be notified, when it occurs, either to the authorities of the place of destination, or to the Diplomatic or Consular Agents interested, or to any other competent authorities.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 21 June 1951, 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:*

Australia	Denmark	Norway
Austria	Egypt	Switzerland
Canada	Finland	Turkey
Ceylon	France	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland
Chile	India	United States of America
China	Iraq	Yugoslavia
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	

<sup>2</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. I, p. 83; Vol. III, p. 254; Vol. XI, p. 354; Vol. CVII, p. 456; CXI, p. 402; Vol. CXVII, p. 42; Vol. CLXXII, p. 388; Vol. CXC VII, p. 282, and United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 31, p. 493.

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 30, pp. 23 and 367; Vol. 31, p. 488; Vol. 32, p. 400; Vol. 42, p. 367; Vol. 43, p. 341; Vol. 44, p. 342; Vol. 45, p. 331; Vol. 47, p. 363; Vol. 65, p. 317; Vol. 70, p. 273, and Vol. 71, p. 311.

*Article 3*

The Governments undertake, when the case arises, and within legal limits, to have the declarations taken of women or girls of foreign nationality who are prostitutes, in order to establish their identity and civil status, and to discover who has caused them to leave their country. The information obtained shall be communicated to the authorities of the country of origin of the said women or girls, with a view to their eventual repatriation.

The Governments undertake, within legal limits, and as far as can be done, to entrust temporarily, and with a view to their eventual repatriation, the victims of a criminal traffic when destitute to public or private charitable institutions, or to private individuals offering the necessary security.

The Governments also undertake, within legal limits, and as far as possible, to send back to their country of origin those women and girls who desire it, or who may be claimed by persons exercising authority over them. Repatriation shall only taken place after agreement as to identity and nationality, as well as place and date of arrival at the frontiers. Each of the Contracting Countries shall facilitate transit through its territory.

Correspondence relative to repatriation shall be direct as far as possible.

*Article 4*

Where the woman or girl to be repatriated cannot herself repay the cost of transfer, and has neither husband, relations, nor guardian to pay for her, the cost of repatriation shall be borne by the country where she is in residence as far as the nearest frontier or port of embarkation in the direction of the country of origin, and by the country of origin as regards the rest.

*Article 5*

The provisions of the foregoing articles 3 and 4 shall not affect any private Conventions existing between the Contracting Governments.

*Article 6*

The Contracting Governments undertake, within legal limits, to exercise supervision, as far as possible, over the offices or agencies engaged in finding employment for women or girls abroad.

*Article 7*

Non-signatory States may adhere to the present Agreement. For this purpose they shall notify their intention to the Secretary-General of the United

Nations, who shall acquaint all the Contracting States and all the Members of the United Nations.

*Article 8*

The present Agreement shall come into force six months after the exchange of ratifications. If one of the Contracting Parties denounces it, this denunciation shall only have effect as regards that party, and that only twelve months after the date of denunciation.

*Article 9*

The present Agreement shall be ratified, and the ratifications shall be exchanged, at Paris with the least possible delay.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement, and thereunto affixed their seals.