



States Parties to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1967 Protocol

The Convention was drafted and signed by the United Nations Conference of Plenipotentiaries on the Status of Refugees and Stateless Persons, held at Geneva from 2 to 25 July 1951. The Conference was convened pursuant to General Assembly resolution 429 (V) of 14 December 1950. The Convention was adopted on 28 July 1951; in accordance with Article 43, it entered into force on 22 April 1954. The Protocol was adopted on 31 January 1967; it entered into force on 4 October 1967 in accordance with its Article VIII.

States Parties (as of April 2015)ⁱ

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| Total number of States Parties to the 1951 Convention: | 145 |
| Total number of States Parties to the 1967 Protocol: | 146 |
| States Parties to both the Convention and Protocol: | 142 |
| States Parties to one or both of these instruments: | 148 |

States Parties to the 1951 Convention only:

Madagascar, Saint Kitts and Nevis

States Parties to the 1967 Protocol only:

Cabo Verde, United States of America, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)

The dates indicated below are the dates of deposit of the instrument of ratification or accession by the respective States Parties with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. In accordance with Article 43 (2), the Convention enters into force on the ninetieth day after the date of deposit by the ratifying or acceding State. The Protocol enters into force on the date of deposit of each acceding State (Article VIII (2)). Exceptions are indicated below.

Most recent ratification/accession:

Nauru

Convention

28 June 2011 a

Protocol

28 June 2011 a



| Country | Convention | | Protocol | |
|--|-------------------|--------|-----------------|--------|
| Afghanistan | 30 Aug | 2005 a | 30 Aug | 2005 a |
| Albania | 18 Aug | 1992 a | 18 Aug | 1992 a |
| Algeria | 21 Feb | 1963 d | 08 Nov | 1967 a |
| Angola | 23 Jun | 1981 a | 23 Jun | 1981 a |
| Antigua and Barbuda | 07 Sep | 1995 a | 07 Sep | 1995 a |
| Argentina | 15 Nov | 1961 a | 06 Dec | 1967 a |
| Armenia | 06 Jul | 1993 a | 06 Jul | 1993 a |
| Australia | 22 Jan | 1954 a | 13 Dec | 1973 a |
| Austria | 01 Nov | 1954 r | 05 Sep | 1973 a |
| Azerbaijan | 12 Feb | 1993 a | 12 Feb | 1993 a |
| Bahamas (the) | 15 Sep | 1993 a | 15 Sep | 1993 a |
| Belarus | 23 Aug | 2001 a | 23 Aug | 2001 a |
| Belgium | 22 Jul | 1953 r | 08 Apr | 1969 a |
| Belize | 27 Jun | 1990 a | 27 Jun | 1990 a |
| Benin | 04 Apr | 1962 d | 06 Jul | 1970 a |
| Bolivia (Plurinational State of) | 09 Feb | 1982 a | 09 Feb | 1982 a |
| Bosnia and Herzegovina | 01 Sep | 1993 d | 01 Sep | 1993 d |
| Botswana | 06 Jan | 1969 a | 06 Jan | 1969 a |
| Brazil | 16 Nov | 1960 r | 07 Apr | 1972 a |
| Bulgaria | 12 May | 1993 a | 12 May | 1993 a |
| Burkina Faso | 18 Jun | 1980 a | 18 Jun | 1980 a |
| Burundi | 19 Jul | 1963 a | 15 Mar | 1971 a |
| Cabo Verde | | | 09 Jul | 1987 a |
| Cambodia | 15 Oct | 1992 a | 15 Oct | 1992 a |
| Cameroon | 23 Oct | 1961 d | 19 Sep | 1967 a |
| Canada | 04 Jun | 1969 a | 04 Jun | 1969 a |
| Central African Republic (the) | 04 Sep | 1962 d | 30 Aug | 1967 a |
| Chad | 19 Aug | 1981 a | 19 Aug | 1981 a |
| Chile | 28 Jan | 1972 a | 27 Apr | 1972 a |
| China | 24 Sep | 1982 a | 24 Sep | 1982 a |
| Colombia | 10 Oct | 1961 r | 04 Mar | 1980 a |
| Congo (the) | 15 Oct | 1962 d | 10 Jul | 1970 a |
| Costa Rica | 28 Mar | 1978 a | 28 Mar | 1978 a |
| Côte d'Ivoire | 08 Dec | 1961 d | 16 Feb | 1970 a |
| Croatia | 12 Oct | 1992 d | 12 Oct | 1992 d |
| Cyprus (the) | 16 May | 1963 d | 09 Jul | 1968 a |
| Czech Republic (the) | 11 May | 1993 d | 11 May | 1993 d |
| Denmark | 04 Dec | 1952 r | 29 Jan | 1968 a |
| Democratic Republic of the Congo (the) | 19 July | 1965 a | 13 Jan | 1975 a |
| Djibouti | 09 Aug | 1977 d | 09 Aug | 1977 d |
| Dominica | 17 Feb | 1994 a | 17 Feb | 1994 a |
| Dominican Republic (the) | 04 Jan | 1978 a | 04 Jan | 1978 a |
| Ecuador | 17 Aug | 1955 a | 06 Mar | 1969 a |
| Egypt | 22 May | 1981 a | 22 May | 1981 a |
| El Salvador | 28 Apr | 1983 a | 28 Apr | 1983 a |
| Equatorial Guinea | 07 Feb | 1986 a | 07 Feb | 1986 a |
| Estonia | 10 Apr | 1997 a | 10 Apr | 1997 a |
| Ethiopia | 10 Nov | 1969 a | 10.Nov | 1969 a |
| Fiji | 12 Jun | 1972 d | 12 Jun | 1972 d |
| Finland | 10 Oct | 1968 a | 10 Oct | 1968 a |
| France | 23 Jun | 1954 r | 03 Feb | 1971 a |

**UNHCR, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

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|----------------------------|---------|--------|---------|--------|
| Gabon | 27 Apr | 1964 a | 28 Aug | 1973 a |
| Gambia (the) | 07 Sep | 1966 d | 29 Sep | 1967 a |
| Georgia | 09 Aug | 1999 a | 09 Aug | 1999 a |
| Germany | 01 Dec | 1953 r | 05 Nov | 1969 a |
| Ghana | 18 Mar | 1963 a | 30 Aug | 1968 a |
| Greece | 05 Apr | 1960 r | 07 Aug | 1968 a |
| Guatemala | 22 Sep | 1983 a | 22 Sep | 1983 a |
| Guinea | 28 Dec | 1965 d | 16 May | 1968 a |
| Guinea-Bissau | 11 Feb | 1976 a | 11 Feb | 1976 a |
| Haiti | 25 Sep | 1984 a | 25 Sep | 1984 a |
| Holy See | 15 Mar | 1956 r | 08 Jun | 1967 a |
| Honduras | 23 Mar | 1992 a | 23 Mar | 1992 a |
| Hungary | 14 Mar | 1989 a | 14 Mar | 1989 a |
| Iceland | 30 Nov | 1955 a | 26 Apr | 1968 a |
| Iran (Islamic Republic of) | 28 Jul | 1976 a | 28 Jul | 1976 a |
| Ireland | 29 Nov | 1956 a | 06 Nov | 1968 a |
| Israel | 01 Oct | 1954 r | 14 Jun | 1968 a |
| Italy | 15 Nov | 1954 r | 26 Jan | 1972 a |
| Jamaica | 30 Jul | 1964 d | 30 Oct | 1980 a |
| Japan | 03 Oct | 1981 a | 01 Jan | 1982 a |
| Kazakhstan | 15 Jan | 1999 a | 15 Jan | 1999 a |
| Kenya | 16 May | 1966 a | 13 Nov | 1981 a |
| Kyrgyzstan | 08 Oct | 1996 a | 08 Oct | 1996 a |
| Latvia | 31 Jul | 1997 a | 31 Jul | 1997 a |
| Lesotho | 14 May | 1981 a | 14 May | 1981 a |
| Liberia | 15 Oct | 1964 a | 27 Feb | 1980 a |
| Liechtenstein | 08 Mar | 1957 r | 20 May | 1968 a |
| Lithuania | 28 Apr | 1997 a | 28 Apr | 1997 a |
| Luxembourg | 23 Jul | 1953 r | 22 Apr | 1971 a |
| Madagascar | 18 Dec | 1967 a | | |
| Malawi | 10 Dec | 1987 a | 10 Dec | 1987 a |
| Mali | 02 Feb | 1973 d | 02 Feb | 1973 a |
| Malta | 17 Jun | 1971 a | 15 Sep | 1971 a |
| Mauritania | 05 May | 1987 a | 05 May | 1987 a |
| Mexico | 07 June | 2000 a | 07 June | 2000 a |
| Monaco | 18 May | 1954 a | 16 June | 2010 a |
| Montenegro | 10 Oct | 2006 d | 10 Oct | 2006 d |
| Morocco | 07 Nov | 1956 d | 20 Apr | 1971 a |
| Mozambique | 16 Dec | 1983 a | 01 May | 1989 a |
| Namibia | 17 Feb | 1995 a | 17 Feb | 1995 a |
| Nauru | 17 Jun | 2011 a | 17 Jun | 2011 a |
| Netherlands (the) | 03 May | 1956 r | 29 Nov | 1968 a |
| New Zealand | 30 Jun | 1960 a | 06 Aug | 1973 a |
| Nicaragua | 28 Mar | 1980 a | 28 Mar | 1980 a |
| Niger (the) | 25 Aug | 1961 d | 02 Feb | 1970 a |
| Nigeria | 23 Oct | 1967 a | 02 May | 1968 a |
| Norway | 23 Mar | 1953 r | 28 Nov | 1967 a |
| Panama | 02 Aug | 1978 a | 02 Aug | 1978 a |
| Papua New Guinea | 17 Jul | 1986 a | 17 Jul | 1986 a |
| Paraguay | 01 Apr | 1970 a | 01 Apr | 1970 a |
| Peru | 21 Dec | 1964 a | 15 Sep | 1983 a |
| Philippines (the) | 22 Jul | 1981 a | 22 Jul | 1981 a |
| Poland | 27 Sep | 1991 a | 27 Sep | 1991 a |

**UNHCR, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees**

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|--|--------|--------|--------|--------|
| Portugal | 22 Dec | 1960 a | 13 Jul | 1976 a |
| Republic of Korea (the) | 03 Dec | 1992 a | 03 Dec | 1992 a |
| Republic of Moldova | 31 Jan | 2002 a | 31 Jan | 2002 a |
| Romania | 07 Aug | 1991 a | 07 Aug | 1991 a |
| Russian Federation (the) | 02 Feb | 1993 a | 02 Feb | 1993 a |
| Rwanda | 03 Jan | 1980 a | 03 Jan | 1980 a |
| Saint Kitts and Nevis | 01 Feb | 2002 a | | |
| Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | 03 Nov | 1993 a | 03 Nov | 2003 a |
| Samoa | 21 Sep | 1988 a | 29 Nov | 1994 a |
| Sao Tome and Principe | 01 Feb | 1978 a | 01 Feb | 1978 a |
| Senegal | 02 May | 1963 d | 03 Oct | 1967 a |
| Serbia | 12 Mar | 2001 d | 12 Mar | 2001 d |
| Seychelles | 23 Apr | 1980 a | 23 Apr | 1980 a |
| Sierra Leone | 22 May | 1981 a | 22 May | 1981 a |
| Slovakia | 04 Feb | 1993 d | 04 Feb | 1993 d |
| Slovenia | 06 Jul | 1992 d | 06 Jul | 1992 d |
| Solomon Islands | 28 Feb | 1995 a | 12 Apr | 1995 a |
| Somalia | 10 Oct | 1978 a | 10 Oct | 1978 a |
| South Africa | 12 Jan | 1996 a | 12 Jan | 1996 a |
| Spain | 14 Aug | 1978 a | 14 Aug | 1978 a |
| Sudan (the) | 22 Feb | 1974 a | 23 May | 1974 a |
| Suriname | 29 Nov | 1978 d | 29 Nov | 1978 d |
| Swaziland | 14 Feb | 2000 a | 28 Jan | 1969 a |
| Sweden | 26 Oct | 1954 r | 04 Oct | 1967 a |
| Switzerland | 21 Jan | 1955 r | 20 May | 1968 a |
| Tajikistan | 07 Dec | 1993 a | 07 Dec | 1993 a |
| The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia | 18 Jan | 1994 d | 18 Jan | 1994 d |
| Timor-Leste | 07 May | 2003 a | 07 May | 2003 a |
| Togo | 27 Feb | 1962 d | 01 Dec | 1969 a |
| Trinidad and Tobago | 10 Nov | 2000 a | 10 Nov | 2000 a |
| Tunisia | 24 Oct | 1957 d | 16 Oct | 1968 a |
| Turkey | 30 Mar | 1962 r | 31 Jul | 1968 a |
| Turkmenistan | 02 Mar | 1998 a | 2 Mar | 1998 a |
| Tuvalu | 07 Mar | 1986 d | 07 Mar | 1986 d |
| Uganda | 27 Sep | 1976 a | 27 Sep | 1976 a |
| Ukraine | 10 Jun | 2002 a | 04 Apr | 2002 a |
| United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (the) | 11 Mar | 1954 r | 04 Sep | 1968 a |
| United Republic of Tanzania (the) | 12 May | 1964 a | 04 Sep | 1968 a |
| United States of America (the) | | | 01 Nov | 1968 a |
| Uruguay | 22 Sep | 1970 a | 22 Sep | 1970 a |
| Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) | | | 19 Sep | 1986 a |
| Yemen | 18 Jan | 1980 a | 18 Jan | 1980 a |
| Zambia | 24 Sep | 1969 d | 24 Sep | 1969 a |
| Zimbabwe | 25 Aug | 1981 a | 25 Aug | 1981 a |



Limitations:

Article 1 B (1) of the 1951 Convention provides: “For the purposes of this Convention, the words ‘events occurring before 1 January 1951’ in article 1, Section A, shall be understood to mean either (a) ‘events occurring in Europe before 1 January 1951’; or (b) ‘events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951’, and each Contracting State shall make a declaration at the time of signature, ratification or accession, specifying which of these meanings it applies for the purposes of its obligations under this Convention.”

The following States adopted alternative (a), the geographical limitation: Congo, Madagascar, Monaco and Turkey. Turkey expressly maintained its declaration of geographical limitation upon acceding to the 1967 Protocol. Madagascar has not yet adhered to the Protocol.

All other States Parties ratified, acceded or succeeded to the Convention without a geographical limitation by selecting option (b), ‘events occurring in Europe or elsewhere before 1 January 1951’.

Note:

* Ratification (r), Accession (a), Succession (d).

ⁱ The 1951 Convention and the 1967 Protocol are deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations (Article 39 (1) of the 1951 Convention and Article V of the 1967 Protocol). For the authoritative source of the current status of both treaties, please refer to the United National Treaty Collection website under status of Multilateral Treaties Deposited with the Secretary-General (MTDSG): <https://treaties.un.org/Pages/Treaties.aspx?id=5&subid=A&lang=en>.