

Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents (New York, 14 December 1973)

OBJECTIVES

Crimes against diplomatic agents and other internationally protected persons create a serious threat to the maintenance of normal international relations which are necessary for cooperation among States. The objective of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of Crimes against Internationally Protected Persons, including Diplomatic Agents (the Convention) is to establish effective measures for the prevention and punishment of such crimes.

KEY PROVISIONS

The Convention applies to the crimes of direct involvement or complicity in the murder, kidnapping, or attack, whether actual, attempted or threatened, on the person, official premises, private accommodation or means of transport of diplomatic agents and other "internationally protected persons". Internationally protected persons are defined as Heads of State or Government, Ministers for Foreign Affairs, State officials and representatives of international organizations entitled to special protection in a foreign State, and their families.

Parties are obliged to establish jurisdiction over the offences described; make the offences punishable by appropriate penalties; take alleged offenders into custody; prosecute or extradite alleged offenders; cooperate in preventive measures; and exchange information and evidence needed in related criminal proceedings. The offences referred to in the Convention are deemed to be extraditable offences between Parties under existing extradition treaties, and under the Convention itself.

ENTRY INTO FORCE

The Convention entered into force on 20 February 1977 (article 17).

HOW TO BECOME A PARTY

The Convention is closed for signature. It is subject to ratification by signatory States. The Convention is open to accession by any State (articles 15 and 16).

OPTIONAL AND/OR MANDATORY DECLARATIONS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The Party where an alleged offender is prosecuted shall communicate the final outcome of the proceedings to the Secretary-General of the United Nations (article 11).

RESERVATIONS

The Convention is silent with regard to reservations. States may declare that they do not consider themselves bound by article 13, paragraph 1, according to which disputes among Parties relating to the interpretation or application of the Convention which are not settled by negotiation will be submitted to arbitration and, failing agreement on the organization of the arbitration six months after the date of the request for arbitration, to the International Court of Justice (article 13).

DENUNCIATION/WITHDRAWAL

Any Party may denounce this Convention by written notification to the Secretary-General of the United Nations. Such denunciation shall take effect six months following the date on which the notification is received by the Secretary-General (article 18).

**CONVENTION ON THE PREVENTION AND PUNISHMENT OF CRIMES AGAINST
INTERNATIONALLY PROTECTED PERSONS, INCLUDING DIPLOMATIC AGENTS**

New York, 14 December 1973

ENTRY INTO FORCE: 20 February 1977, in accordance with article 17(1).
REGISTRATION: 20 February 1977, No. 15410.
STATUS: Signatories: 25. Parties: 171.
TEXT: United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1035, p. 167.

Note: The Convention was opened for signature at New York on 14 December 1973 until 31 December 1974.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Afghanistan		24 Sep 2003 a	China ^{2,3}		5 Aug 1987 a
Albania		22 Jan 2002 a	Colombia		16 Jan 1996 a
Algeria		7 Nov 2000 a	Comoros		25 Sep 2003 a
Andorra		23 Sep 2004 a	Costa Rica		2 Nov 1977 a
Antigua and Barbuda		19 Jul 1993 a	Côte d'Ivoire		13 Mar 2002 a
Argentina		18 Mar 1982 a	Croatia ¹		12 Oct 1992 d
Armenia		18 May 1994 a	Cuba		10 Jun 1998 a
Australia	30 Dec 1974	20 Jun 1977	Cyprus		24 Dec 1975 a
Austria		3 Aug 1977 a	Czech Republic ⁴		22 Feb 1993 d
Azerbaijan		2 Apr 2001 a	Democratic People's Republic of Korea....		1 Dec 1982 a
Bahamas		22 Jul 1986 a	Democratic Republic of the Congo.....		25 Jul 1977 a
Bahrain		16 Sep 2005 a	Denmark ⁵	10 May 1974	1 Jul 1975
Bangladesh		20 May 2005 a	Djibouti		1 Jun 2004 a
Barbados		26 Oct 1979 a	Dominica		24 Sep 2004 a
Belarus.....	11 Jun 1974	5 Feb 1976	Dominican Republic.....		8 Jul 1977 a
Belgium		19 May 2004 a	Ecuador	27 Aug 1974	12 Mar 1975
Belize.....		14 Nov 2001 a	Egypt		25 Jun 1986 a
Benin		31 Jul 2003 a	El Salvador		8 Aug 1980 a
Bhutan		16 Jan 1989 a	Equatorial Guinea.....		7 Feb 2003 a
Bolivia		22 Jan 2002 a	Estonia.....		21 Oct 1991 a
Bosnia and Herzegovina ¹		1 Sep 1993 d	Ethiopia		16 Apr 2003 a
Botswana		25 Oct 2000 a	Fiji		15 May 2008 a
Brazil		7 Jun 1999 a	Finland.....	10 May 1974	31 Oct 1978
Brunei Darussalam		13 Nov 1997 a	France.....		26 Aug 2003 a
Bulgaria	27 Jun 1974	18 Jul 1974	Gabon		14 Oct 1981 a
Burkina Faso.....		1 Oct 2003 a	Georgia		18 Feb 2004 a
Burundi.....		17 Dec 1980 a	Germany ^{6,7}	15 Aug 1974	25 Jan 1977
Cambodia		27 Jul 2006 a	Ghana		25 Apr 1975 a
Cameroon		8 Jun 1992 a	Greece		3 Jul 1984 a
Canada.....	26 Jun 1974	4 Aug 1976	Grenada		13 Dec 2001 a
Cape Verde		10 Sep 2002 a	Guatemala	12 Dec 1974	18 Jan 1983
Central African Republic.....		19 Feb 2008 a	Guinea		22 Dec 2004 a
Chile		21 Jan 1977 a	Guinea-Bissau		6 Aug 2008 a

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Guyana		12 Sep 2007 a	Mongolia	23 Aug 1974	8 Aug 1975
Haiti		25 Aug 1980 a	Montenegro ⁸		23 Oct 2006 d
Honduras		29 Jan 2003 a	Morocco		9 Jan 2002 a
Hungary	6 Nov 1974	26 Mar 1975	Mozambique		14 Jan 2003 a
Iceland	10 May 1974	2 Aug 1977	Myanmar		4 Jun 2004 a
India		11 Apr 1978 a	Nauru		2 Aug 2005 a
Iran (Islamic Republic of)		12 Jul 1978 a	Nepal		9 Mar 1990 a
Iraq		28 Feb 1978 a	Netherlands ⁹		6 Dec 1988 a
Ireland		30 Jun 2005 a	New Zealand ¹⁰		12 Nov 1985 a
Israel		31 Jul 1980 a	Nicaragua	29 Oct 1974	10 Mar 1975
Italy	30 Dec 1974	30 Aug 1985	Niger		17 Jun 1985 a
Jamaica		21 Sep 1978 a	Norway	10 May 1974	28 Apr 1980
Japan		8 Jun 1987 a	Oman		22 Mar 1988 a
Jordan		18 Dec 1984 a	Pakistan		29 Mar 1976 a
Kazakhstan		21 Feb 1996 a	Palau		14 Nov 2001 a
Kenya		16 Nov 2001 a	Panama		17 Jun 1980 a
Kiribati		15 Sep 2005 a	Papua New Guinea		30 Sep 2003 a
Kuwait		1 Mar 1989 a	Paraguay	25 Oct 1974	24 Nov 1975
Kyrgyzstan		2 Oct 2003 a	Peru		25 Apr 1978 a
Lao People's Democratic Republic		22 Aug 2002 a	Philippines		26 Nov 1976 a
Latvia		14 Apr 1992 a	Poland	7 Jun 1974	14 Dec 1982
Lebanon		3 Jun 1997 a	Portugal		11 Sep 1995 a
Liberia		30 Sep 1975 a	Qatar		3 Mar 1997 a
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya		25 Sep 2000 a	Republic of Korea		25 May 1983 a
Liechtenstein		28 Nov 1994 a	Romania	27 Dec 1974	15 Aug 1978
Lithuania		23 Oct 2002 a	Russian Federation	7 Jun 1974	15 Jan 1976
Luxembourg		10 May 2006 a	Rwanda	15 Oct 1974	29 Nov 1977
Madagascar		24 Sep 2003 a	Sao Tome and Principe ..		12 Apr 2006 a
Malawi		14 Mar 1977 a	Saudi Arabia		1 Mar 2004 a
Malaysia		24 Sep 2003 a	Senegal		7 Apr 2006 a
Maldives		21 Aug 1990 a	Serbia ¹		12 Mar 2001 d
Mali		12 Apr 2002 a	Seychelles		29 May 1980 a
Malta		11 Nov 2001 a	Sierra Leone		26 Sep 2003 a
Marshall Islands		27 Jan 2003 a	Singapore		2 May 2008 a
Mauritania		9 Feb 1998 a	Slovakia ⁴		28 May 1993 d
Mauritius		24 Sep 2003 a	Slovenia ¹		6 Jul 1992 d
Mexico		22 Apr 1980 a	South Africa		23 Sep 2003 a
Micronesia (Federated States of)		6 Jul 2004 a	Spain		8 Aug 1985 a
Moldova		8 Sep 1997 a	Sri Lanka		27 Feb 1991 a
Monaco		27 Nov 2002 a	St. Kitts and Nevis		28 Jul 2008 a
			St. Vincent and the Grenadines		12 Sep 2000 a
			Sudan		10 Oct 1994 a
			Swaziland		4 Apr 2003 a

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Signature</i>	<i>Ratification, Accession(a), Succession(d)</i>
Sweden	10 May 1974	1 Jul 1975	Ukraine	18 Jun 1974	20 Jan 1976
Switzerland		5 Mar 1985 a	United Arab Emirates		25 Feb 2003 a
Syrian Arab Republic		25 Apr 1988 a	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	13 Dec 1974	2 May 1979
Tajikistan		19 Oct 2001 a	United States of America	28 Dec 1973	26 Oct 1976
Thailand		23 Feb 2007 a	Uruguay		13 Jun 1978 a
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia ¹		12 Mar 1998 d	Uzbekistan		19 Jan 1998 a
Togo		30 Dec 1980 a	Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)		19 Apr 2005 a
Tonga		9 Dec 2002 a	Viet Nam		2 May 2002 a
Trinidad and Tobago		15 Jun 1979 a	Yemen ¹¹		9 Feb 1987 a
Tunisia	15 May 1974	21 Jan 1977			
Turkey		11 Jun 1981 a			
Turkmenistan		25 Jun 1999 a			
Uganda		5 Nov 2003 a			

Notes:

¹ The former Yugoslavia had signed and ratified the Convention on 17 December 1974 and 29 December 1976,

respectively. See also note 1 under "Bosnia and Herzegovina", "Croatia", "former Yugoslavia", "The Former Yugoslav

Republic of Macedonia" and "Yugoslavia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

² 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 with reservation will also apply to the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

³ On 11 August 1999, the Government of Portugal informed the Secretary-General that the Convention will apply to Macao. Subsequently, the Secretary-General received, on 18 November 1999 and 13 December 1999, communications concerning the status of Macao from Portugal and China (see also note 3 under "China" and note 1 under "Portugal" regarding Macao in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume). Upon resuming the exercise of sovereignty over Macao, China notified the Secretary-General that the Convention with reservation will also apply to the Macao Special Administrative Region.

⁴ Czechoslovakia had signed and ratified the Convention on 11 October 1974 and 30 June 1975, respectively, with a reservation. Subsequently, by a notification received on 26 April 1991, the Government of Czechoslovakia notified the Secretary-General of its decision to withdraw the reservation to article 13 (1) made upon ratification. For the text of the reservation, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1035, p. 234. See also note 1 under "Czech Republic" and note 1 under "Slovakia" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁵ In a notification received on 12 March 1980, the Government of Denmark informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the reservation made upon ratification of the Convention, which specified that until further decision, the Convention would not apply to the Faeroe Islands or to Greenland. The notification indicates 1 April 1980 as the effective date of withdrawal.

⁶ The German Democratic Republic had signed and ratified the Convention, with reservation, on 23 May 1974 and 30 November 1976, respectively. For the text of the reservation, see United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1035, p. 230. See note 2 under "Germany" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁷ See note 1 under "Germany" regarding Berlin (West) in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁸ See note 1 under "Montenegro" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

⁹ For the Kingdom in Europe, the Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.

¹⁰ The instrument of accession specifies that the Convention will also apply to the Cook Islands and Niue. See also note 1

under "New Zealand" regarding Tokelau in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.

¹¹ The formality was effected by Democratic Yemen. See also note 1 under "Yemen" in the "Historical Information" section in the front matter of this volume.