



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

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**

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

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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>.