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ALTERNATIVE APPROACHES AND WAYS AND MEANS WITHIN THE UNITED NATIONS  
SYSTEM FOR IMPROVING THE EFFECTIVE ENJOYMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND  
FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS

Status of international conventions in the field of human rights  
in respect of which the Secretary-General performs depositary  
functions

Report of the Secretary-General

1. In paragraph 4 of its resolution 3451 (XXX) of 9 December 1975, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit a report on the status of the international conventions in the field of human rights for which he acts as depositary.
2. The information in the present report on the status of these conventions has been extracted from the publication, entitled Multilateral Treaties in respect of which the Secretary-General Performs Depositary Functions, List of Signatures, Ratifications, Accessions, etc., as at 31 December 1979 (ST/LEG/SER.D/13), 1/ prepared by the Office of Legal Affairs of the Secretariat and brought up to date as at 30 June 1980. 2/

\* A/35/150.

1/ United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.V.10.

2/ Further details regarding the status of the International Covenants on Human Rights, the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination and the International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid are contained in documents A/35/195, A/35/196 and A/35/197, respectively.





States	(1) Social and Cultural Rights	(2) International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	(3) Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	(4) Punishment of the Crime of Genocide	(5) Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity	(6) International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	(7) Convention relating to the Status of Refugees	(8) Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees	(9) Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons	(10) Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness	(11) Convention on the Political Rights of Women	(12) Convention on the Nationality of Married Women	(13) Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages	(14) Convention on the International Right of Correction	(15) Protocol amending Slavery Convention of 25 September 1926 as amended	(16) Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery	(17) Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others	(18) International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid	(19) Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	States	
Guyana	X	X				X					X									Guyana	
Haiti				X		X					X										Haiti
Holy See	S	S		X		X					X										Holy See
Honduras	X	X		X		X					X										Honduras
Hungary	X	X		X		X					X										Hungary
Iceland	X	X	X	X		X					X										Iceland
India	X	X		X		X					X										India
Indonesia	X	X		X		X					X										Indonesia
Iran	X	X		X		X					X										Iran
Iraq	S	S		X		X					X										Iraq
Ireland	S	S		X		X					X										Ireland
Israel	S	S		X		X					X										Israel
Italy	X	X	X	X		X					X										Italy
Ivory Coast	X	X		X		X					X										Ivory Coast
Jamaica	X	X		X		X					X										Jamaica
Japan	X	X		X		X					X										Japan
Jordan	X	X		X		X					X										Jordan
Kenya	X	X		X		X					X										Kenya
Kuwait	X	X		X		X					X										Kuwait
Lao People's Democratic Republic	X	X		X		X					X										Lao People's Democratic Republic
Lebanon	X	X		X		X					X										Lebanon
Lesotho	S	S		X		X					X										Lesotho
Liberia	X	X		X		X					X										Liberia
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	X	X		X		X					X										Libyan Arab Jamahiriya
Liechtenstein	S	S		X		X					X										Liechtenstein
Luxembourg	S	S		X		X					X										Luxembourg
Madagascar	X	X		X		X					X										Madagascar
Malawi	X	X		X		X					X										Malawi
Malaysia	X	X		X		X					X										Malaysia
Maldives	X	X		X		X					X										Maldives
Mali	X	X		X		X					X										Mali
Malta	S	S		X		X					X										Malta
Mauritania	X	X		X		X					X										Mauritania
Mauritius	X	X		X		X					X										Mauritius





States	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)	(7)	(8)	(9)	(10)	(11)	(12)	(13)	(14)	(15)	(16)	(17)	(18)	(19)	(20)	States	TOTAL NUMBER OF STATES PARTIES	Signatures not followed by ratification
States	65	63	23	84	22	107	82	79	32	10	85	54	31	10	44	75	93	50	58	1		10	
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	11	12	8	4	1	9	0	0	8	4	6	8	8	6	0	0	4	6	8	10			
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights																							
Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights																							
Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights																							
Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide																							
Convention on the Non-Applicability of Statutory Limitations to War Crimes and Crimes against Humanity																							
International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination																							
Convention relating to the Status of Refugees																							
Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees																							
Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons																							
Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness																							
Convention on the Political Rights of Women																							
Convention on the Nationality of Married Women																							
Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage and Registration of Marriages																							
Convention on the International Right of Correction																							
Protocol amending Slavery Convention of 1926																							
Slavery Convention as amended																							
Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery																							
Convention for the Suppression of the Traffic in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of Others																							
International Convention on the Suppression and Punishment of the Crime of Apartheid																							
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women																							
States	65	63	23	84	22	107	82	79	32	10	85	54	31	10	44	75	93	50	58	1		10	
TOTAL NUMBER OF STATES PARTIES																							
Signatures not followed by ratification																							

x Ratification, accession, notification of succession, acceptance or definitive signature.  
s Signature not yet followed by ratification.  
3 x Action taken in 1980.  
c Declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination under article 14 of the International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination.  
d Declaration recognizing the competence of the Human Rights Committee under article 41 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights.

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a/ Following on the adoption of resolution 2758 (XXVI) of 25 October 1971 on the lawful rights of the People's Republic of China in the United Nations by the General Assembly, the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of China, by a note addressed to the Secretary-General, received on 29 September 1972, stated:

"1. With regard to the multilateral treaties signed, ratified or acceded to by the defunct Chinese government before the establishment of the Government of the People's Republic of China, my Government will examine their contents before making a decision in the light of the circumstances as to whether or not they should be recognized.

"2. As from 1 October 1949, the day of the founding of the People's Republic of China, the Chiang Kai-shek clique has no right at all to represent China. Its signature and ratification of, or accession to, any multilateral treaties by usurping the name of 'China' are all illegal and null and void. My Government will study these multilateral treaties before making a decision in the light of the circumstances as to whether or not they should be acceded to."

The lists therefore do not indicate that, subsequent to 1 October 1949, and prior to 25 October 1971, the "Republic of China" (a) ratified, acceded to or accepted the conventions listed above under the numbers (6), (11), (12), (15), (16) and (17), and (b) signed, but did not ratify the conventions listed under numbers (1), (2), (3) and (13) and that the convention listed under number (4) was signed on behalf of the "Republic of China" on 20 July 1949 and an instrument of ratification by the "Republic of China" was deposited on 19 July 1951.

b/ The Democratic Republic of Viet-Nam and the Republic of South Viet-Nam (the latter of which replaced the Republic of Viet-Nam) united on 2 July 1976 to constitute a new State, the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam (Viet Nam). At the time of preparing this publication no indication had been received from the Government of Viet Nam regarding its position with respect to a possible succession.

The conventions listed under numbers (4) and (16) were acceded to by the Republic of South Viet-Nam on 11 August 1950 and 14 August 1956 respectively. The convention listed under number (17) was signed on behalf of the Republic of South Viet-Nam on 7 September 1956. (For further information, see United Nations publication, Sales No. E.80.V.10, note on page 54 and under the conventions concerned.)