



**Short form**

- [CRC](#)
- [OP-CRC-AC](#)
- [OP-CRC-SC](#)
- [OP-CRC-CF](#)
- [ICERD](#)
- [ICERD-CP](#)
- [ICERD-CP2](#)
- [ICEWC](#)
- [CERD](#)
- [CERD-AW](#)
- [CAT](#)
- [CAT-IT](#)
- [ICRAMV](#)
- [CERD](#)
- [CERD](#)
- [1967 Protocol to BR](#)
- [Racial Discrimination](#)
- [LIFEED](#)
- [Supplementary Treaty & Protocol](#)
- [Rome Statute](#)
- [International Child Abduction](#)
- [International Child Abduction](#)
- [Consent to Marriage](#)
- [ILO 138](#)
- [ILO 152](#)
- [Discrimination in Education](#)
- [Rome Statute](#)
- [GENEVA PROTOCOL I](#)
- [GENEVA PROTOCOL II](#)
- [European Protocol](#)
- [Osaka Treaty](#)
- [CMA](#)
- [African Charter](#)
- [R](#)
- [A](#)
- [AC](#)
- [D](#)
- [S](#)
- [N/A](#)

**Full name**

- CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD
- OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON THE INVOLVEMENT OF CHILDREN IN ARMED CONFLICT
- OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON THE SALE OF CHILDREN, CHILD PROSTITUTION AND CHILD PORNOGRAPHY
- OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION OF THE RIGHTS OF THE CHILD ON A COMMUNICATIONS PROCEDURE
- INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF RACIAL DISCRIMINATION
- INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS
- OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS
- SECOND OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON CIVIL AND POLITICAL RIGHTS, AIMING AT THE ABOLITION OF THE DEATH PENALTY
- INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS
- CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN
- OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION ON THE ELIMINATION OF ALL FORMS OF DISCRIMINATION AGAINST WOMEN
- CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT
- OPTIONAL PROTOCOL TO THE CONVENTION AGAINST TORTURE AND OTHER CRUEL, INHUMAN OR DEGRADING TREATMENT OR PUNISHMENT
- INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION ON THE PROTECTION OF THE RIGHTS OF ALL MIGRANT WORKERS AND MEMBERS OF THEIR FAMILIES
- CONVENTION ON THE RIGHTS OF PERSONS WITH DISABILITIES
- CONVENTION RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES
- PROTOCOL RELATING TO THE STATUS OF REFUGEES
- CONVENTION ON THE REDUCTION OF STATELESSNESS
- INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION FOR THE PROTECTION OF ALL PERSONS FROM ENFORCED DISAPPEARANCE
- CONVENTION FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE TRAFFIC IN PERSONS AND EXPLOITATION OF THE PROSTITUTION OF OTHERS
- PROTOCOL TO PREVENT, SUPPRESS AND PUNISH TRAFFIC IN PERSONS, ESPECIALLY WOMEN AND CHILDREN, SUPPLEMENTING THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME
- CONVENTION ON PROTECTION OF CHILDREN AND CO-OPERATION IN RESPECT OF INTERCOUNTRY ADOPTION
- CONVENTION ON THE CIVIL ASPECTS OF INTERNATIONAL CHILD ABDUCTION
- CONVENTION ON CONSENT TO MARRIAGE, MINIMUM AGE FOR MARRIAGE AND REGISTRATION OF MARRIAGES
- CONVENTION CONCERNING THE MINIMUM AGE FOR ADMISSION TO EMPLOYMENT
- CONVENTION CONCERNING THE ELIMINATION OF THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR
- CONVENTION AGAINST DISCRIMINATION IN EDUCATION (UNESCO)
- ROME STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL CRIMINAL COURT
- PROTOCOL ADDITIONAL (I) TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS, AND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS
- PROTOCOL ADDITIONAL (II) TO THE GENEVA CONVENTIONS, AND RELATING TO THE PROTECTION OF VICTIMS OF NON-INTERNATIONAL ARMED CONFLICTS
- PROTOCOL AGAINST THE ILLICIT MANUFACTURING OF AND TRAFFIC IN FIREARMS, THEIR PARTS AND COMPONENTS AND AMMUNITION, SUPPLEMENTING THE LIAI CONVENTION AGAINST TRANSNATIONAL ORGANIZED CRIME
- CONVENTION ON THE PROHIBITION OF THE USE, STOCKPILING, PRODUCTION AND TRANSFER OF ANTI-PERSONAL MINES AND ON THEIR DESTRUCTION
- CONVENTION ON CLUSTER MUNITIONS
- AFRICAN CHARTER ON THE RIGHTS AND WELFARE OF THE CHILD
- Ratification
- Accession
- Acceptance
- Succession
- Signature
- Not applicable

**Reservations made by countries in Sub-Saharan Africa to the Convention of the Rights of the Child**

At the time of ratification, the following countries made reservations:  
 The Government of **Botswana**, which ratified the Convention on 13 April 1995, made a reservation on article 1 defining a child who is considered here as a "human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier." For the Botswana government, article 1 may be in conflict with the Law and Statutes of Botswana and may therefore not be applied. Following this Declaration, the Secretary-General received from the Government of Denmark, on 16 November 1995, a communication rejecting such reservations since it was incompatible with the object and purpose of the Convention and inadmissible under international law.

The Government of **Djibouti** ratified the CRC on 16 December 1990 and declared that it did "not consider that bound by any provisions or articles that are incompatible with its religion and its traditional values". The government of Denmark recommended, in its communication on 16 November 1995 to the Secretary-General, that the government of Djibouti reconsider this reservation.

The Government of the Republic of **Madagascar** declared that, in view of the provisions of the Mal Family Code, there was no reason to apply article 16 of the Convention.

At the moment of signature, the Islamic Republic of **Mauritania** made reservations to articles or provisions which may be contrary to the beliefs and values of Islam, the religion of the Mauritanian People and State.

The Government of **Madagascar** ratified the Convention on the Rights of the Child on 05 October 2000 and then declared that the Convention was a starting point of the child rights guarantee and that implementation was to be progressive as it also depended on the enforcement of certain in social, economic and cultural rights. More specifically, the government indicated that article 4, concerning the right to the highest attainable standard of health, would be applied to the maximum extent of available resources. For this purpose, the government called for the international community's co-operation.

On 4 June 2008, the Government of the Republic of **Mauritania** informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the reservation made upon accession in respect to article 22 of the Convention.  
 On 19 October 2008, the Government of **Morocco** informed the Secretary-General that it had decided to withdraw the reservation made with regard to article 14 made upon ratification.

**Definitions of key terms used in the UN Treaty Collection**

**Adoption**  
 "Adoption" is the formal act by which the form and content of a proposed treaty text are established. As a general rule, the adoption of the text of a treaty takes place through the expression of the consent of the states participating in the treaty-making process. Treaties that are negotiated within an international organization will usually be adopted by a resolution of a representative organ of the organization whose membership lists or less corresponds to the list of participating states in the treaty in question. A treaty can also be adopted by an international conference which has specifically been convened for adopting the treaty, by a vote of two-thirds of the states present and voting, unless, by the same majority, they have decided to apply a different rule. (Article 2 (1) (b) and 15, Vienna Convention of the Law of Treaties 1969)

**Acceptance and Approval**  
 The instruments of "acceptance" or "approval" of a treaty have the same legal effect as ratification and consequently express the consent of a state to be bound by a treaty. In the practice of certain states acceptance and approval have been used instead of ratification when, at a national level, constitutional law does not require the treaty to be ratified by the head of state. (Article 2 (1) (b) and 14 (c), Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969)

**Accession**  
 "Accession" is the act whereby a state accedes to the offer or that opportunity to become a party to a treaty already negotiated and signed by other states. It has the same legal effect as ratification. Accession usually occurs after the treaty has entered into force. The Secretary-General of the United Nations, in his function as depositary, has also accepted accession to some conventions before they enter into force. The conditions under which accession may occur and the procedure involved depend on the provisions of the treaty. A treaty might provide for the accession of all other states or for a limited and defined number of states; in the absence of such a provision, accession can only occur where the negotiating states were agreed or subsequently agree on it in the case of the state in question. (Article 2 (1) (b) and 15, Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969)

**Ratification**  
 Ratification defines the international act whereby a state indicates its consent to be bound to a treaty if the parties intend to show that consent by such an act. In the case of bilateral treaties, ratification is usually accomplished by exchanging the requisite instruments, while in the case of multilateral treaties the usual procedure is for the depositary to collect the ratifications of all states, keeping all parties informed of the situation. The institution of ratification grants states the necessary time-frame to seek the required approval for the treaty on the domestic level and to enact the necessary legislation to give domestic effect to that treaty. (Article 2 (1) (b), 14 (1) and 16, Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969)

**Reservation**  
 A reservation is a declaration made by a state by which it purports to exclude or alter the legal effect of certain provisions of a treaty in its application to that state. A reservation enables a state to accept a multilateral treaty as a whole by giving it the possibility not to apply certain provisions with which it does not want to comply. Reservations can be made when the treaty is signed, ratified, accepted, approved or accession. Reservations must not be incompatible with the object and purpose of the treaty. Furthermore, a treaty might prohibit reservations or only allow for certain reservations to be made. (Article 2 (1) (b) and 19-22, Vienna Convention of the Law of Treaties 1969)

**Signature Subject to Ratification, Acceptance or Approval**  
 Where the signature is subject to ratification, acceptance or approval, the signature does not establish the consent to be bound. However, it is a means of authentication and expresses the willingness of the signatory state to continue the treaty-making process. The signature qualifies the signatory state to proceed to ratification, acceptance or approval. It also creates an obligation to refrain, in good faith, from acts that would defeat the object and purpose of the treaty. (Article 10 and 16, Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties 1969)

**Succession**  
 Participation in treaties in force at the date of the succession of States: A newly independent State may, by a notification of succession, establish its status as a party to any multilateral treaty which at the date of the succession of States was in force in respect of the territory to which the succession of States relates. Participation in treaties not in force at the date of the succession of States: a newly independent State may, by a notification of succession, establish its status as a contracting State to a multilateral treaty which is not in force at the date of the succession of States the predecessor State was a contracting State in respect of the territory to which the succession of States relates. (Article 17 and 18, Vienna Convention on Succession of States in respect of Treaties 1978)