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# **COMMITTEE OF LEGAL ADVISERS ON PUBLIC INTERNATIONAL LAW (CAHDI)**

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## **State of signatures and ratifications of the UN Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property and the European Convention on State Immunity**

41<sup>st</sup> meeting  
Strasbourg, 17-18 March 2011

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**United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States  
and Their Property<sup>1</sup>**

***New York, 2 December 2004***

**Not yet in force** : in accordance with article 30 which reads as follows: "1. The present Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession with the Secretary-General of the United Nations. 2. For each State ratifying, accepting, approving or acceding to the present Convention after the deposit of the thirtieth instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after the deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession."  
[http://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg\\_no=III-13&chapter=3&lang=en](http://treaties.un.org/pages/ViewDetails.aspx?src=TREATY&mtdsg_no=III-13&chapter=3&lang=en) - #

**Status** : Signatories : 28. Parties : 11

**Text** : Doc. A/59/508; depositary notification C.N.141.2005.TREATIES-4 of 28 February 2005 [Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (Chinese version)] and C.N.419.2005.TREATIES-6 of 31 May 2005 [Corrections to the original text of the Convention (Chinese version)]; C.N.359.2008.TREATIES-1 of 6 May 2008 (Proposal of corrections to the original text of the Convention (Arabic text) and to the Certified True Copies) and C.N.556.2008.TREATIES-2 of 21 August 2008 (corrections).

**Note** : The above Convention was adopted during the 65th plenary meeting of the General Assembly by resolution A/59/38 of 2 December 2004. In accordance with its articles 28 and 33, the Convention shall be open for signature by all States from 17 January 2005 until 17 January 2007, at United Nations Headquarters in New York.

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<sup>1</sup> The information contained therein can be consulted at the UN Treaty Collection Site: <http://treaties.un.org>.

Participant	Signature	Ratification, Acceptance(A), Approval(AA), Accession(a)
Austria	17 Jan 2005	14 Sep 2006
Belgium	22 Apr 2005	
China	14 Sep 2005	
Czech Republic	13 Oct 2006	
Denmark	19 Sep 2006	
Estonia	30 Mar 2006	
Finland	14 Sep 2005	
France	17 Jan 2007	
Iceland	16 Sep 2005	
India	12 Jan 2007	
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	17 Jan 2007	29 Sep 2008 <sup>2</sup>
Japan	11 Jan 2007	11 May 2010 A
Kazakhstan		17 Feb 2010 a
Lebanon	11 Nov 2005	21 Nov 2008
Madagascar	15 Sep 2005	
Mexico	25 Sep 2006	
Morocco	17 Jan 2005	
Norway	8 Jul 2005	27 Mar 2006 <sup>3</sup>
Paraguay	16 Sep 2005	
Portugal	25 Feb 2005	14 Sep 2006
Romania	14 Sep 2005	15 Feb 2007
Russian Federation	1 Dec 2006	
Saudi Arabia		1 Sep 2010 a
Senegal	21 Sep 2005	

<sup>2</sup> Reservation:

"Pursuant to Article 27, paragraph 3 of the United Nations Convention on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran does not consider itself bound by the provisions of Article 27, paragraph 2 of the Convention. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran affirms that the consent of all parties to such a dispute is necessary, in each individual case, for the submission of the dispute to the International Court of Justice. The Government of the Islamic Republic of Iran can, if it deems appropriate, for the settlement of such a dispute, agree with the submission of the dispute to arbitration in accordance with its related domestic law."

<sup>3</sup> Declaration:

"Recalling inter alia resolution 59/38 adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 2 December 2004, in which the General Assembly took into account, when adopting the Convention, the statement of 25 October 2004 of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee on Jurisdictional Immunities of States and Their Property introducing the Committee's report, Norway hereby states its understanding that the Convention does not apply to military activities, including the activities of armed forces during an armed conflict, as those terms are understood under international humanitarian law, and activities undertaken by military forces of a State in the exercise of their official duties. Such activities remain subject to other rules of international law. Similarly, as also noted in the said statement, the Convention does not apply where there is a special immunity regime, including immunities *ratione personae*. Thus, the express mention of heads of State in Article 3 should not be read as suggesting that the immunity *ratione personae* of other State officials is affected by the Convention.

Furthermore, in cases where it has been established that property of a State is specifically in use or intended for use by the State for other than government non-commercial purposes and is in the territory of the State of the forum, it is the understanding of Norway that Article 18 does not prevent pre-judgement measures of constraint from being taken against property that has a connection with the entity against which the proceeding was directed.

Finally, Norway understands that the Convention is without prejudice to any future international development in the protection of human rights."

Sierra Leone	21 Sep 2006
Slovakia	15 Sep 2005
Sweden	14 Sep 2005 23 Dec 2009 <sup>4</sup>
Switzerland	19 Sep 2006 16 Apr 2010 <sup>5</sup>
Timor-Leste	16 Sep 2005
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	30 Sep 2005

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<sup>4</sup> Declarations:

“Recalling inter alia resolution 59/38, adopted by the General Assembly on 16 December 2004, taking into account inter alia the statement of the Chairman of the Ad Hoc Committee introducing the report of the Ad Hoc Committee to the General Assembly, as well as the report of the Ad Hoc Committee, Sweden hereby declares its understanding that the Convention does not apply to military activities, including the activities of armed forces during an armed conflict, as those terms are understood under international humanitarian law, and activities undertaken by military forces of a State in the exercise of their official functions.

Sweden also declares its understanding that the express mention of heads of State in article 3 should not be read as suggesting that the immunity *ratione personae* which other State officials might enjoy under international law is affected by the Convention.

Sweden furthermore declares its understanding that the Convention is without prejudice to any future international legal development concerning the protection of human rights.”

<sup>5</sup> General interpretative declaration:

“In accordance with General Assembly resolution 59/38, adopted on 2 December 2004, Switzerland hereby understands that the Convention does not cover criminal proceedings;”

*Interpretative declaration concerning article 12:*

“Switzerland considers that article 12 does not govern the question of pecuniary compensation for serious human rights violations which are alleged to be attributable to a State and are committed outside the State of the forum. Consequently, this Convention is without prejudice to developments in international law in this regard;”

*Interpretative declaration concerning article 22, paragraph 3:*

“If the State concerned is a Swiss canton, Switzerland considers that “official language” should be understood as the official language or one of the official languages of the canton in which process is to be served.”



San Marino											
Serbia											
Slovakia											
Slovenia											
Spain											
Sweden											
Switzerland	16/5/1972	6/7/1982	7/10/1982			X					
The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia											
Turkey											
Ukraine											
United Kingdom	16/5/1972	3/7/1979	4/10/1979			X	X	X	X		

#### Non-member States of the Council of Europe

States	Signature	Ratification	Entry into force	Notes	R.	D.	A.	T.	C.	O.
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Total number of signatures not followed by ratifications:	1
Total number of ratifications/accessions:	8

#### Notes:

a: Accession - s: Signature without reservation as to ratification - su: Succession - r: Signature "ad referendum".  
R.: Reservations - D.: Declarations - A.: Authorities - T.: Territorial Application - C.: Communication - O.: Objection.

Source : Treaty Office on <http://conventions.coe.int>