

No. 7312

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**AUSTRIA, BELGIUM,  
CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC,  
REPUBLIC OF CHINA, COLOMBIA, etc.**

**Optional Protocol to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic  
Relations, concerning the Compulsory Settlement of  
Disputes. Done at Vienna, on 18 April 1961**

*Official texts: English, French, Chinese, Russian and Spanish.*

*Registered ex officio on 24 June 1964.*

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**AUTRICHE, BELGIQUE,  
RÉPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE,  
RÉPUBLIQUE DE CHINE, COLOMBIE, etc.**

**Protocole de signature facultative à la Convention de Vienne  
sur les relations diplomatiques, concernant le règle-  
ment obligatoire des différends. Fait à Vienne, le 18  
avril 1961**

*Textes officiels anglais, français, chinois, russe et espagnol.*

*Enregistré d'office le 24 juin 1964.*

No. 7312. OPTIONAL PROTOCOL<sup>1</sup> TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS,<sup>2</sup> CONCERNING THE COMPULSORY SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES. DONE AT VIENNA, ON 18 APRIL 1961

*The States Parties to the present Protocol and to the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations,*<sup>2</sup> hereinafter referred to as “the Convention”, adopted by the United Nations Conference held at Vienna from 2 March to 14 April 1961,<sup>3</sup>

*Expressing their wish* to resort in all matters concerning them in respect of any dispute arising out of the interpretation or application of the Convention to the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, unless some other form of settlement has been agreed upon by the parties within a reasonable period,

*Have agreed* as follows :

### Article I

Disputes arising out of the interpretation or application of the Convention shall lie within the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice and may accordingly be brought before the Court by an application made by any party to the dispute being a Party to the present Protocol.

### Article II

The parties may agree, within a period of two months after one party has notified its opinion to the other that a dispute exists, to resort not to the International Court of Justice but to an arbitral tribunal. After the expiry of the said period, either party may bring the dispute before the Court by an application.

<sup>1</sup> In accordance with article VIII (1), the Protocol came into force on 24 April 1964, the date of entry into force of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations, in respect of the following States, on behalf of which the instruments of ratification or accession (a) were deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on the dates indicated :

|                      |                     |                       |                     |
|----------------------|---------------------|-----------------------|---------------------|
| Tanganyika . . . . . | 5 November 1962     | Iraq . . . . .        | 15 October 1963     |
| Laos . . . . .       | 3 December 1962 (a) | Switzerland . . . . . | 22 November 1963    |
| Yugoslavia . . . . . | 1 April 1963        | Panama . . . . .      | 4 December 1963 (a) |
| Madagascar . . . . . | 31 July 1963 (a)    | Dominican Republic    | 13 February 1964    |

Subsequently, the Protocol came into force for Gabon on 2 May 1964 and for Liechtenstein on 7 June 1964, the instruments of accession and ratification having been deposited on behalf of these States on 2 April and 8 May 1964 respectively. Furthermore, the instrument of ratification was deposited on behalf of Japan on 8 June 1964, to take effect on 8 July 1964.

<sup>2</sup> See p. 95 of this volume.

<sup>3</sup> *United Nations Conference on Diplomatic Intercourse and Immunities, Official Records, Vols. I and II* (United Nations Publication, Sales Nos. : 61.X.2 and 62.X.1).

*Article III*

1. Within the same period of two months, the parties may agree to adopt a conciliation procedure before resorting to the International Court of Justice.
2. The conciliation commission shall make its recommendations within five months after its appointment. If its recommendations are not accepted by the parties to the dispute within two months after they have been delivered, either party may bring the dispute before the Court by an application.

*Article IV*

States Parties to the Convention, to the Optional Protocol concerning Acquisition of Nationality,<sup>1</sup> and to the present Protocol may at any time declare that they will extend the provisions of the present Protocol to disputes arising out of the interpretation or application of the Optional Protocol concerning Acquisition of Nationality. Such declarations shall be notified to the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

*Article V*

The present Protocol shall be open for signature by all States which may become Parties to the Convention, as follows: until 31 October 1961 at the Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Austria and subsequently, until 31 March 1962, at the United Nations Headquarters in New York.

*Article VI*

The present Protocol is subject to ratification. The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

*Article VII*

The present Protocol shall remain open for accession by all States which may become Parties to the Convention. The instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations.

*Article VIII*

1. The present Protocol shall enter into force on the same day as the Convention or on the thirtieth day following the date of deposit of the second instrument of ratification or accession to the Protocol with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, whichever day is the later.

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 223 of this volume.

2. For each State ratifying or acceding to the present Protocol after its entry into force in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article, the Protocol shall enter into force on the thirtieth day after deposit by such State of its instrument of ratification or accession.

#### *Article IX*

The Secretary-General of the United Nations shall inform all States which may become Parties to the Convention :

- (a) of signatures to the present Protocol and of the deposit of instruments of ratification or accession, in accordance with Articles V, VI and VII;
- (b) of declarations made in accordance with Article IV of the present Protocol;
- (c) of the date on which the present Protocol will enter into force, in accordance with Article VIII.

#### *Article X*

The original of the present Protocol, of which the Chinese, English, French, Russian and Spanish texts are equally authentic, shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations, who shall send certified copies thereof to all States referred to in Article V.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Protocol.

DONE at Vienna, this eighteenth day of April one thousand nine hundred and sixty-one.

[The list of the names of states as they appear on signature pages in the original copy of this Protocol is identical to that of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations reproduced on pages 177 to 203 of this volume. Only the names of States which signed this Protocol are printed herein.]

[La liste nominative des États figurant sur les pages de signature de l'exemplaire original du présent Protocole est identique à celle de la Convention de Vienne sur les relations diplomatiques, reproduite aux pages 177 à 203 de ce volume. Seul figure ici le nom des États qui ont signé le Protocole.]

FOR AUSTRIA:

POUR L'AUTRICHE:

奧地利:

За Австрию:

FOR AUSTRIA:

KREISKY

FOR BELGIUM:

POUR LA BELGIQUE:

比利時:

За Бельгию:

FOR BELGICA:

G. DELCOIGNE

Le 23 octobre 1961

FOR THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:

POUR LA RÉPUBLIQUE CENTRAFRICAINE:

中非共和國:

За Центральноафриканскую Республику:

FOR LA REPÚBLICA CENTROAFRICANA:

M. GALLIN-DOUATHE

28 mars 1962