

**AFGHANISTAN, ALBANIA, AUSTRALIA, BELGIUM,
BURMA, etc.**

**Convention for the suppression of the circulation of and traffic
in obscene publications, concluded at Geneva on 12 September
1923, as amended by the Protocol signed at Lake Success,
New York, on 12 November 1947**

Official texts : English and French.

Registered ex officio on 2 February 1950.

**AFGHANISTAN, ALBANIE, AUSTRALIE, BELGIQUE,
BIRMANIE, etc.**

**Convention pour la répression de la circulation du trafic des
publications obscènes, conclue à Genève le 10 septembre 1923,
sous sa forme amendée par le Protocole signé à Lake Success
(New-York) le 12 novembre 1947**

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistrée d'office le 2 février 1950.

No. 710. INTERNATIONAL CONVENTION¹ FOR THE SUPPRESSION OF THE CIRCULATION OF AND TRAFFIC IN OBSCENE PUBLICATIONS, CONCLUDED AT GENEVA ON 12 SEPTEMBER 1923,² AS AMENDED BY THE PROTOCOL SIGNED AT LAKE SUCCESS, NEW YORK, ON 12 NOVEMBER 1947³

Article 1

The High Contracting Parties agree to take all measures to discover, prosecute and punish any person engaged in committing any of the following offences, and accordingly agree that

It shall be a punishable offence :

(1) For purposes of or by way of trade or for distribution or public exhibition to make or produce or have in possession obscene writings, drawings, prints, paintings, printed matter, pictures, posters, emblems, photographs, cinematograph films or any other obscene objects ;

(2) For the purposes above mentioned, to import, convey or export or cause to be imported, conveyed or exported any of the said obscene matters or things, or in any manner whatsoever to put them into circulation ;

¹ Came into force on 2 February 1950, the date on which the amendments to the Convention, as set forth in the annex to the Protocol of 12 November 1947, entered into force in accordance with paragraph 2 of Article V of the said Protocol.

States Parties to the Convention as amended by the said Protocol :

Afghanistan	Egypt	Norway
Albania	Finland	Pakistan
Australia	Guatemala	Turkey
Belgium	Hungary	Union of South Africa
Burma	India	Union of Soviet Socialist
Canada	Italy	Republics
China	Mexico	United Kingdom
Czechoslovakia	Netherlands	Yugoslavia
Denmark	New Zealand	

² League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Volume XXVII, page 213 ; Volume XXXI, page 260 ; Volume XXXV, page 314 ; Volume XXXIX, page 190 ; Volume XLV, page 122 ; Volume LIV, page 391 ; Volume LIX, page 357 ; Volume LXXXIII, page 394 ; Volume LXXXVIII, page 313 ; Volume XCII, page 368 ; Volume XCVI, page 191 ; Volume C, page 211 ; Volume CXI, page 403 ; Volume CXXVI, page 433 ; Volume CXLII, page 341 ; Volume CLII, page 294 ; Volume CLVI, page 186 ; Volume CLX, page 335 ; Volume CLXIV, page 361 ; Volume CLXXII, page 398 ; Volume CLXXXI, page 357 ; Volume CXC VII, page 295 and Volume CC, page 501.

³ See page 169 of this volume.

(3) To carry on or take part in a business, whether public or private, concerned with any of the said obscene matters or things, or to deal in the said matters or things in any manner whatsoever, or to distribute them or to exhibit them publicly or to make a business of lending them ;

(4) To advertise or make known by any means whatsoever, in view of assisting in the said punishable circulation or traffic, that a person is engaged in any of the above punishable acts, or to advertise or to make known how or from whom the said obscene matters or things can be procured either directly or indirectly.

Article 2

Persons who have committed an offence falling under Article 1 shall be amenable to the Courts of the Contracting Party in whose territories the offence, or any of the constitutive elements of the offence, was committed. They shall also be amenable, when the laws of the country shall permit it, to the Courts of the Contracting Party whose nationals they are, if they are found in its territories, even if the constitutive elements of the offence were committed outside such territories.

Each Contracting Party shall, however, have the right to apply the maxim *non bis in idem* in accordance with the rules laid down in its legislation.

Article 3

The transmission of rogatory commissions relating to offences falling under the present Convention shall be effected either :

(1) By direct communication between the judicial authorities ; or

(2) Through the diplomatic or the consular representative of the country making the request in the country to which the request is made ; this representative shall send the rogatory commission direct to the competent judicial authority or to the authority appointed by the Government of the country to which the request is made, and shall receive direct from such authority the papers showing the execution of the rogatory commission.

In each of the above cases a copy of the rogatory commission shall always be sent to the supreme authority of the country to which application is made.

(3) Or through diplomatic channels.

Each Contracting Party shall notify to each of the other Contracting