

UN Member States: Parties and Non-parties to the UN Convention and Protocol Relating to the Status of Refugees

Below are governments that belong to the United Nations, listed according to whether or not they have ratified the 1951 UN Convention and/or the 1967 Protocol relating to the Status of Refugees, as of January 2003.

PARTIES

Albania	Ethiopia	Nigeria
Algeria	Fiji	Norway
Angola	Finland	Panama
Antigua and Barbuda	France	Papua New Guinea
Argentina	Gabon	Paraguay
Armenia	Gambia	Peru
Australia	Georgia	Philippines
Austria	Germany	Poland
Azerbaijan	Ghana	Portugal
Bahamas	Greece	Romania
Belarus	Guatemala	Russian Federation
Belgium	Guinea	Rwanda
Belize	Guinea-Bissau	St. Vincent and the Grenadines (C)
Benin	Haiti	Samoa
Bolivia	Honduras	Sao Tome and Principe
Bosnia and Hercegovina	Hungary	Senegal
Botswana	Iceland	Seychelles
Brazil	Iran	Sierra Leone
Bulgaria	Ireland	Slovak Republic
Burkina Faso	Israel	Slovenia
Burundi	Italy	Solomon Islands
Cambodia	Jamaica	Somalia
Cameroon	Japan	South Africa
Canada	Kazakhstan	Spain
Cape Verde (P)	Kenya	St. Kitts & Nevis (C)
Central African Republic	Korea (South)	Sudan
Chad	Kyrgyzstan	Suriname
Chile	Latvia	Swaziland (P)
China	Lesotho	Sweden
Colombia	Liberia	Tajikistan
Congo-Brazzaville	Liechtenstein	Tanzania
Congo-Kinshasa	Lithuania	Togo
Costa Rica	Luxembourg	Trinidad and Tobago
Côte d'Ivoire	Macedonia	Tunisia
Croatia	Madagascar (C)	Turkey
Cyprus	Malawi	Turkmenistan
Czech Republic	Mali	Tuvalu
Denmark	Malta	Uganda
Djibouti	Mauritania	Ukraine
Dominica	Mexico	United Kingdom
Dominican Republic	Moldova	United States (P)
East Timor	Monaco (C)	Uruguay
Ecuador	Morocco	Venezuela (P)
Egypt	Mozambique	Yemen
El Salvador	Namibia (C)	Yugoslavia
Equatorial Guinea	Netherlands	Zambia
Estonia	New Zealand	Zimbabwe
	Nicaragua	
	Niger	

NONPARTIES

Afghanistan	Maldives
Andorra	Marshall Islands
Bahrain	Mauritius
Bangladesh	Micronesia
Barbados	Mongolia
Bhutan	Nepal
Brunei	Oman
Burma (Myanmar)	Pakistan
Comoros	Palau
Cuba	Qatar
Eritrea	St. Lucia
Grenada	San Marino
Guyana	Saudi Arabia
India	Singapore
Indonesia	Sri Lanka
Iraq	Syria
Jordan	Thailand
Korea (North)	United Arab Emirates
Kuwait	Uzbekistan
Laos	Vanuatu
Lebanon	Vietnam
Libya	
Malaysia	

Two international documents, the 1951 Refugee Convention and its 1967 Protocol, establish the legal standards for refugee protection. Although the Refugee Convention and Protocol do not require states to provide asylum to refugees, they do include an explicit prohibition against *refoulement*—expelling or returning refugees to countries where their lives or freedom would be threatened. By ratifying the Refugee Convention or Protocol, a government willingly binds itself to the legal obligations contained in the document.

(C) Parties to the Convention only
(P) Parties to the Protocol only

Note: Non-UN members Switzerland and the Holy See have also ratified the Refugee Convention and Protocol.