

**CONVENTION  
ON INTERNATIONAL LIABILITY FOR DAMAGE  
CAUSED BY SPACE OBJECTS**

**London, Moscow and Washington, 29 March 1972**

(The Convention entered into force on 1 September 1972)

States which have signed, ratified or acceded at London

<b>State</b>	<b>Date of Signature</b>	<b>Date of Deposit of Instrument of Ratification*</b>
United Kingdom <sup>1,2,8</sup>	29 March, 1972	9 October, 1973
Russian Federation <sup>3</sup> (formerly Union of Soviet Socialist Republics)	29 March, 1972	9 October, 1973
United States of America	29 March, 1972	9 October, 1973
Belgium	29 March, 1972	13 August, 1976
Bulgaria	29 March, 1972	16 May, 1972
Czechoslovakia <sup>4</sup>	29 March, 1972	9 September, 1976
Finland <sup>1</sup>	29 March, 1972	1 February, 1977
Hungary	29 March, 1972	27 December, 1972
Iceland	29 March, 1972	
Iran	29 March, 1972	21 February, 1974
Ireland <sup>1</sup>	29 March, 1972	29 June, 1972
Korea <sup>1</sup>	29 March, 1972	
Laos	29 March, 1972	25 April, 1973
Lebanon	29 March, 1972	
Mexico	29 March, 1972	8 April, 1974
Mongolia	29 March, 1972	14 September, 1972
Nepal	29 March, 1972	
Norway	29 March, 1972	3 April, 1995
Panama	29 March, 1972	
Poland	29 March, 1972	25 January, 1973
Romania	29 March, 1972	18 March, 1980
Switzerland	29 March, 1972	22 January, 1974
Morocco	4 April, 1972	
Argentine Republic	5 April, 1972	14 November, 1986
Tunisia	6 April, 1972	6 June, 1973
Nicaragua	11 April, 1972	
Italy	14 April, 1972	22 February, 1983
Denmark <sup>1</sup>	19 April, 1972	1 April, 1977

<b>State</b>	<b>Date of Signature</b>	<b>Date of Deposit of Instrument of Ratification*</b>
Algeria	20 April, 1972	
Luxembourg	27 April, 1972	18 October, 1983
Cyprus	28 April, 1972	15 May, 1973
Austria <sup>1</sup>	30 May, 1972	10 January, 1980
Egypt, Arab Republic of	6 June, 1972	
New Zealand <sup>1</sup>	19 June, 1972	30 October, 1974
Kuwait <sup>1</sup>	20 June, 1972	30 October, 1972
Oman	23 June, 1972	
Pakistan	6 July, 1972	10 April, 1973
Brazil	13 July, 1972	9 March, 1973
Singapore	19 July, 1972	19 August, 1975
The Gambia	8 August, 1972	
Greece <sup>1</sup>		4 May, 1977
Venezuela <sup>4</sup>		1 August, 1978
South Africa <sup>11</sup>		14 December, 2011

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

European Space Agency	23 September, 1976
Eutelsat	30 November, 1987
Eumetsat	29 September, 2005

#### **ACCESSIONS**

<b>State</b>	<b>Date of deposit of Instrument of Accession</b>
Sri Lanka	3 May, 1973
Fiji	4 May, 1973
Zambia	28 August, 1973
Qatar	11 January, 1974
Australia	20 January, 1975
Canada	20 February, 1975
Yugoslavia <sup>9</sup>	20 October, 1975
Germany, Federal Republic of <sup>5</sup>	18 December, 1975
France	31 December, 1975
Sweden <sup>1</sup>	15 June, 1976
Israel	23 June, 1977
Seychelles	5 January, 1978
Malta	13 January, 1978
India	9 July, 1979
Liechtenstein	9 January, 1980

## ACCESSIONS

<b>State</b>	<b>Date of deposit of Instrument of Accession</b>
Netherlands <sup>1,6</sup>	17 February, 1981
Gabon	5 February, 1982
Japan	20 June, 1983
China, People's Republic of <sup>1,8</sup>	20 December, 1988
Indonesia	18 June, 1996
St. Vincent and the Grenadines	13 May, 1999
Nigeria	21 December, 2005
Turkey <sup>1</sup>	15 February, 2007
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	20 April, 2010

## SUCCESSION

<b>State</b>	<b>Date of deposit of Instrument</b>
Papua New Guinea	27 October, 1980
Antigua and Barbuda	26 January, 1989
Slovenia	27 May, 1992
Czech Republic	29 September, 1993
Slovak Republic <sup>10</sup>	7 April, 2006

**\*For States whose instruments of ratification or accession are deposited subsequent to the entry into force of this Convention, it shall enter into force on the date of the deposit of their instruments of ratification or accession.**

Notes:

1. See Declarations and Reservations.
2. Ratification by the United Kingdom is in respect of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Associated States (Antigua, Dominica, Grenada, St. Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla, St. Lucia and St. Vincent) and Territories under the territorial sovereignty of the United Kingdom, as well as the State of Brunei and the British Solomon Islands Protectorate.
3. See Objections.
4. See now entry for Czech Republic.
5. Signed at Washington.
6. Including West Berlin.
7. For the Kingdom in Europe, Netherlands Antilles and Aruba.
8. Ceased to apply to Hong Kong wef 1 July 1997 ; applies to Hong Kong SAR wef 1 July, 1997.
9. As of 4 February 2003, the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia became known as "Serbia and Montenegro";  
As of 3 June 2006, the Republic of Serbia became the continuation State of "Serbia and Montenegro"  
In a Note dated 12 December 2006, the Government of the Republic of Montenegro confirmed that this Convention continues in force for the Republic of Montenegro with effect from 3 June, 2006.
10. In a Note dated London, 28 march, 2006, the Slovak Republic informed the United Kingdom, as depositary, that it "considers itself bound, as of January 1, 1993, i.e. the date of the division of the Czechoslovak Federation...including reservations and declarations in respect of Provision made earlier by Czechoslovakia, as well as objections by Czechoslovakia in respect of reservations made by other Parties".
11. South Africa signed the Convention in Washington on 29 March, 1972.

## DECLARATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

### AUSTRIA

#### Declaration:

"Having regard to the terms of operative paragraph 3 of Resolution 2777 (XXVI) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on November 29 1971, Austria will recognize as binding, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the decision of a Claims Commission concerning any dispute to which Austria may become a party under the terms of the Convention on the Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects, opened for signature at London, Moscow and Washington on 29 March 1972."

### CANADA

#### Declaration:

"Having regard to the terms of operative paragraph 3 of Resolution 2777 (XXVI) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 29 November 1971, the Government of Canada hereby declares that it will recognize as binding, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the decision of a Claims Commission concerning any dispute to which Canada may become a party under the terms of the Convention on Liability for Damage caused by Space Objects, opened for signature in London, Washington and Moscow on 29 March 1972."

### FINLAND

#### Declaration (Dated 5 October 2001):

"WHEREAS Article 19 paragraph 2 of the Convention on International Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects and the United Nations declaration on the binding force of the decision of the Claims Commission; NOW THEREFORE the Government of the Republic of Finland declares that Finland will recognise as binding, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the decision of a Claims Commission concerning any dispute to which Finland may become a party under the terms of the Convention".

### IRELAND

#### Declaration:

"Having regard to the terms of operative paragraph 3 of Resolution 2777 (XXVI) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 29 November 1971, the Government of Ireland hereby declares that Ireland will recognise as binding, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the decision of a Claims Commission concerning any dispute to which Ireland may become a party under the Convention on Liability for Damage caused by Space Objects, which was opened for signature in London, Washington and Moscow on 29 March 1972."

## DECLARATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

### KOREA, REPUBLIC OF

Declaration:

"The signing of by the Government of the Republic of Korea of the present Convention does not in any way mean or imply the recognition of any territory or regime which has not been recognized by the Government of the Republic of Korea."

### KUWAIT

Declaration:

"In ratifying the Convention on International Liability for Damage caused by Space Objects, 1972, the Government of the State of Kuwait takes the view that its ratification of the said Convention does not in any way imply its recognition of Israel, nor does it oblige it to apply the provisions of the aforementioned Convention in respect of the said country."

### CHINA, PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF

The Instrument of Acceptance by the People's Republic of China contained the statement that the signature and ratification of the Convention by the Taiwan authorities are illegal, and null and void.

### CZECH REPUBLIC

In a Note dated the 15 September 1993, received on 29 September 1993 the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic notified the Foreign and Commonwealth Office of the following:

"In conformity with the valid principles of international law and to the extent defined by it, the Czech Republic, as a successor State to the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, considers itself bound, as of 1 January, i.e. the date of the dissolution of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic, by the multilateral international treaties to which the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic was a party on that date, including reservations and declarations to their provisions made earlier by the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic.

From among the treaties deposited with the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland this applies to the following:

Convention on the International Liability for Damage caused by Space Objects, done at London, Moscow and Washington, March 29, 1972".

## DECLARATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

### DENMARK

#### Declaration:

"Having regard to the terms of operative paragraph 3 of Resolution 2777 (XXVI) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 29 November 1971, Denmark will recognise as binding, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the decision of a Claims Commission concerning any dispute to which Denmark may become a party under the terms of the Convention on Liability for Damage Caused by Space Objects, opened for signature in London, Washington and Moscow on 29 March 1972."

### NETHERLANDS

#### Declaration:

"The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands will recognize (for the Kingdom in Europe and the Netherlands Antilles) as binding, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the decision of a Claim Commission concerning any dispute to which the Kingdom of the Netherlands may become a party under the terms of the Convention."

### NEW ZEALAND

#### Declaration:

"The Government of New Zealand declares that it will accept as binding decisions of any Claims Commission established in accordance with Article XIV of the Convention."

### SWEDEN

#### Declaration:

"Having regard to the terms of operative paragraph 3 of Resolution 2777 (XXVI) adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 29 November 1971, the Government of Sweden hereby declares that Sweden will recognise as binding, in relation to any other State accepting the same obligation, the decision of a Claims Commission concerning any dispute to which Sweden may become a party under the terms of the Convention on Liability for Damage caused by Space Objects, opened for signature in London, Washington and Moscow on 29 March 1972."

### TURKEY

Declaration on ratification:

"Türkiye Cumhuriyeti, ipbu Sözleşme'nin hükümlerini yalnızca diplomatik ilişkisi bulunan Taraf Devletlere karşı uygulayacağını beyan eder".

[Translation]: "The Republic of Turkey declares that it will implement the provisions of this Convention only to the State Parties with which it has diplomatic relations".

#### **DECLARATIONS AND RESERVATIONS**

##### UNITED KINGDOM

Declaration dated 17 April 1972:

"The Government of the United Kingdom wish to recall their view that if a regime is not recognized as the Government of a State, neither signature nor the deposit of any instrument by it, nor notification of any of those acts, will bring about recognition of that regime by any other State."

#### **OBJECTION**

##### RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Objection dated 5 August 1976 (translation):

In accordance with the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971, the Federal Republic of Germany, as is well known, does not have the right to extend to the Western Sectors of Berlin international agreements affecting questions of status and security. The Convention on International Liability for Damage caused by Space Objects relates to just such a kind of agreement. Therefore the statement of the FRG about the extension of the said Convention to the Western Sectors of Berlin cannot be regarded as having juridical force.

Proceeding from the fact that, in accordance with the Quadripartite Agreement, the governments of France, Great Britain and the USA maintain their rights and responsibilities with regard to the representation of the interests abroad of the Western Sectors of Berlin and their permanent residents, including rights and responsibilities concerning questions of security and status, in international organisations as well as in relations with other countries, the Soviet side will address itself on all questions which may arise in connection with the application and implementation of the Convention in the Western Sectors of Berlin to the authorities of France, Great Britain and the USA.