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## Seventy-fourth session

Item 72 (b) of the provisional agenda\*

**Promotion and protection of human rights: human rights questions, including alternative approaches for improving the effective enjoyment of human rights and fundamental freedoms**

## **International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**

### **Report of the Secretary-General**

#### *Summary*

In its resolution [72/183](#), the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, at its seventy-fourth session, a report on the status of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the implementation of the resolution. The present report is submitted in accordance with that request.

In a note verbale dated 1 March 2019, the Secretary-General invited Governments to transmit any information pertaining to the implementation of resolution [72/183](#). Replies were received from the Governments of Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Italy, Lebanon, Switzerland and Ukraine. Their responses are summarized in the present report.

The present report also includes information on the activities carried out in relation to the implementation of the resolution by the Secretary-General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and her Office, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances, the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.

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\* [A/74/150](#).



## I. Introduction

1. In its resolution [72/183](#), the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General to submit, at its seventy-fourth session, a report on the status of the Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance and the implementation of the resolution. The present report is submitted in accordance with that request. The previous report is available in document [A/72/280](#).

2. On 1 March 2019, the Secretary-General invited Member States, specialized agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations system and civil society organizations to transmit relevant information pertaining to the implementation of the resolution.<sup>1</sup>

## II. Status of ratification of the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance

3. As at 1 July 2019, 98 States had signed and 60 had ratified or acceded to the Convention; 22 States had recognized the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider communications from or on behalf of individuals subject to its jurisdiction claiming to be victims of a violation by the State party of provisions of the Convention (art. 31); and 23 States had recognized the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications in which a State party claimed that another State party was not fulfilling its obligations under the Convention (art. 32). Updated information on the status of ratification of the Convention may be found in the annex to the present report.

## III. Status of reporting

4. As at 1 July 2019, 37 States parties had submitted their reports under article 29 (1) of the Convention and two States parties had submitted additional information under article 29 (4) of the Convention.

5. As at the sixteenth session of the Committee, held from 8 to 18 April 2019, 31 State party reports submitted under article 29 (1) had been considered and one State party report submitted as additional information under article 29 (4) had been considered.

6. During the reporting period, the Committee, through its secretariat, continued to send reminders to States parties whose reports were overdue to encourage prompt submission. As at 1 July 2019, 17 States parties' reports were overdue. The Committee also decided to initiate a review of States parties whose reports were more than five years overdue.

## IV. Submissions received from States

7. Summaries of the submissions of States relating to the implementation of resolution [72/183](#) are provided below.

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<sup>1</sup> As at 1 July 2019, submissions had been received from Argentina, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Honduras, Italy, Lebanon, Switzerland Ukraine, the United Nations country team in Madagascar, Associació per a la Recuperació de la Memòria Històrica de Catalunya, the Euro-Mediterranean Federation against Enforced Disappearances, Todos los Niños Robados Son También Mis Niños, TRIAL International and Truth Now Cyprus. Their responses are summarized in the present report.

**Argentina**

8. Argentina reported on the efforts undertaken by the Office of the Public Prosecutor in the investigation of the crime of enforced disappearance and the prosecution and punishment of those responsible. According to Act No. 26.298, enforced disappearance is a federal crime under domestic law. Investigations remain active in cases where victims of enforced disappearance have not been found or where they have not been identified.

**Costa Rica**

9. Costa Rica ratified the Convention on 16 February 2012 and has not yet decided to declare that it recognizes the competence of the Committee to receive and consider communications in accordance with articles 31 and 32 of the Convention. Costa Rica is currently in its final phase of the preparation of its report and expects to submit it in 2019.

10. Regarding the implementation of its obligations under the Convention, Costa Rica considers as an appropriate forum the Inter-Agency Commission for Monitoring and Implementation of International Human Rights Obligations, whose coordination is the responsibility of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. In 2017, the Commission, together with the United Nations country team in Costa Rica and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), held a training workshop on the Convention and the Committee that was attended by the Chair of the Committee. The workshop addressed the issue of reporting to the treaty bodies and the need to harmonize national legislation with the provisions of the Convention. In addition, a working group on the implementation of the Convention was established within the Inter-Agency Commission, comprising institutions such as the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Justice and Peace and the Office of the Attorney General.

11. Regarding good practices in the application of provisions of the Convention, the Costa Rican Commission on International Humanitarian Law is addressing issues such as the promotion of peace and disarmament and enforced disappearances. The Commission also works to bring domestic law into line with the Convention's definition of enforced disappearance with the aim of combating impunity for that crime, while working to ensure compliance with the Convention's other provisions. In collaboration with the Costa Rican Red Cross and the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the Commission has promoted international humanitarian law by including certain aspects of the Convention in their proposed training activities.

**El Salvador**

12. El Salvador is not yet a State party to the Convention but the Legislative Assembly is studying the initiative of the President of the Republic to ratify the Convention.

13. In November 2015, the El Salvadoran Legislative Assembly's Committee on Foreign Affairs, Central American Integration and Salvadorans Abroad held a session on the International Convention and the Inter-American Convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons to raise awareness of international law and international human rights law as it applies to enforced disappearances of Government officers and members of national human rights institutions and civil society organizations.

14. El Salvador reported important progress in the investigation of enforced disappearances, having created a national commission for the search for children who disappeared during the internal armed conflict and a national search commission for disappeared adult persons in the context of the armed conflict of El Salvador.

El Salvador reported that both Commissions had been allocated the necessary human and financial resources to carry out investigations to locate and contact disappeared persons and reunite them with their biological families in appropriate cases, while providing psychosocial support to families who are victims of enforced disappearances.

### **Honduras**

15. Honduras ratified the Convention on 1 April 2008. It reported it was committed to preventing enforced disappearances and fighting impunity while taking into account the rights of the victims to justice and reparations. Since 2005, Honduras is also party to the Inter-American Convention on Forced Disappearance of Persons. Honduras submitted its report to the Committee in 2016. The report was considered by the Committee in 2018.

16. In 2012, the Criminal Code was amended to include the crime of enforced disappearance through the addition of a new article, 333-A, to title XI, chapter IV, of the Code. The amendment sought to harmonize domestic legislation with the Convention. Persons found guilty of the crime of enforced disappearance may face prison sentences of 15 to 20 years.

17. Honduras ratified the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court in Decree No. 236-2002 of 30 May 2002, incorporating the crime of enforced disappearance as a crime against humanity in domestic legislation.

18. In addition, Honduras has established other measures to reinforce its legal framework with respect to enforced disappearances, such as the National Prevention Committee against Torture, Cruel, Inhumane or Degrading Treatment.

19. Honduras undertook good practice measures in order to comply with its obligations under the Convention, thereby preventing and combating enforced disappearances, such as the establishment of the Special Response Group on Human Rights, which coordinates reports to United Nations human rights mechanisms. In 2016, Honduras received technical cooperation from Paraguay, which allowed Honduras to establish the Recommendation Monitoring System of Honduras in 2017 as a mechanism to follow up on the recommendations of international and inter-American systems for the protection of human rights. OHCHR has provided technical support on the implementation of the Monitoring System and has developed a workshop for State officers on human rights.

20. Honduras has established a council on disappeared migrants, coordinated by ICRC and composed of several public institutions and civil society organizations, and a national forensic database. A form for collecting data on disappeared migrants has also been developed. In October 2018, with the support of ICRC, a workshop on the prevention and investigation of enforced disappearances was organized by the Ministry of Security.

### **Italy**

21. Italy ratified the Convention on 8 October 2015. It reported that the protection of fundamental rights and freedoms, as envisaged by the 1948 Constitution, is a fundamental pillar of the country's domestic and foreign policies.

22. No arbitrary restriction of fundamental freedoms is allowed by the Italian legal system. The Italian constitutional system of procedural guarantees includes the right to defence and a three-fold system of appeals.

23. The Government of Italy remains deeply committed to ensuring the protection of human dignity and the fundamental rights of individuals and, more generally, to

countering any possible violation and/or arbitrary deprivation of personal liberty or inhuman or degrading situation or treatment.

24. Although the Italian Criminal Code does not contain enforced disappearance as a distinct crime, article 605, as well as other criminal acts envisaged by the Code, already comprehensively cover that crime.

25. Italy is committed to training its authorities to ensure adequate human rights training for all law enforcement agencies and the judiciary.

26. The Italian national preventive mechanism, established in March 2016 under the Optional Protocol to the Convention on Torture and Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, has a full-fledged independent mandate.

27. The national mechanism for reporting and follow-up has planned follow-up activities including the translation into Italian of the Committee's concluding observations on the report submitted by Italy under article 29 (1) of the Convention.

### **Lebanon**

28. Lebanon signed the Convention on 6 February 2007. It reported that it had taken steps towards ratification through the submission of a bill to the Parliament that year.

29. In 2018, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs addressed the Council of Ministers, requesting that Parliament review the draft bill related to the ratification of the Convention, but the request remained unanswered. Lebanon declares that ratification is following its natural constitutional course and that the next stage in that process is adoption of the bill by the Lebanese Parliament.

30. Given the optional nature of articles 31 and 32 of the Convention and the fact that Lebanon experienced a civil war that resulted in numerous cases of disappearance, Lebanon believes that it is premature to accept the competence of the Committee.

### **Switzerland**

31. Switzerland ratified the Convention on 6 December 2016. It has also made a declaration under article 31 of the Convention recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider individual communications from or on behalf of persons within its jurisdiction who claim to be the victim of a violation by Switzerland of the provisions of the Convention.

32. On 21 December 2018, Switzerland submitted its report under article 29 (1) of the Convention and will hold a constructive dialogue with the Committee in the near future.

33. One measure taken by Switzerland to implement the Convention is the creation of a national network to locate disappeared persons or persons deprived of liberty who are potentially victims of enforced disappearance. The State party notes that no case of enforced disappearance as defined by the Convention has occurred in Switzerland.

### **Ukraine**

34. On 17 June 2015, the Supreme Council of Ukraine adopted Law No. 525-VIII on accession to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance. Ukraine acceded to the Convention on 14 August 2015, and it entered into force on 13 September 2015. Ukraine also made a declaration recognizing the competence of the Committee under articles 31 and 32 of the Convention.

35. With respect to searches for persons missing in connection with an armed conflict, Law No. 525-VIII provides for the creation of the Commission on Persons Missing in Special Circumstances, the body responsible for ascertaining the fate and whereabouts of such persons. The law defines the main powers and tasks of the Commission, which is a permanent advisory body of the Cabinet of Ministers of Ukraine.
36. The above-mentioned Commission was created to coordinate the activities of State bodies authorized to keep records and/or search for missing persons, including persons missing in the area of the combined forces operation in the Donetsk and Luhansk regions and persons missing in connection with armed conflicts, military actions, emergency situations or other events that could cause massive loss of life.
37. A law on the legal status of missing persons was added to article 1461 on enforced disappearance in the Criminal Code of Ukraine, which establishes individual criminal responsibility for an enforced disappearance.
38. Corresponding changes were also made to the Ukrainian Code on Administrative Offences, the Civil Code, and the laws on the national police, the Ukrainian Security Service, the Ukrainian National Guard, operational search activity and the compulsory State pension insurance.
39. Bodies and institutions subordinate to the State Penitentiary Service of Ukraine engage in constructive cooperation with ICRC.

## **V. Activities of the Secretary-General and the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights**

40. The Convention has been highlighted at all treaty-related events organized by the United Nations in New York since 2007 in order to promote accession or ratification and implementation. The Convention was also part of the treaty event on the promotion of human rights through the multilateral treaty framework, held in New York from 25 to 28 September 2018.
41. During her visit to Mexico in April 2019, the High Commissioner discussed issues related to the Convention and enforced disappearances with authorities, non-governmental organizations, relatives of victims of enforced disappearance and other stakeholders. In particular, the High Commissioner encouraged Mexico to accept a visit from the Committee and to promote international justice by recognizing the competence of the Committee to receive and consider individual communications under article 31 of the Convention.
42. In April 2019, OHCHR signed an agreement with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Mexico, in which OHCHR pledged to support the new Commission for Truth and Access to Justice in the Ayotzinapa Case by providing technical assistance in seeking the truth and ensuring justice for the disappearance of 43 students in 2014.
43. Several OHCHR field presences continued to be actively involved in supporting States, national human rights institutions and civil society actors in their efforts to address enforced disappearances. In Thailand, the regional office of OHCHR for South Asia has advocated the passing of an anti-torture and disappearance bill. In the Gambia, the regional office of OHCHR for West Africa advocated that authorities ratify international human rights conventions. On 28 September 2018, the Gambia officially ratified, among other instruments, the Convention.
44. OHCHR Mexico has provided support to authorities in charge of searching for disappeared persons and investigating enforced disappearances, in fulfilment of their duties under the Convention and international human rights law. It has also conducted

several activities to increase awareness and to build the capacity of civil society organizations representing victims of enforced disappearance with respect to utilizing human rights mechanisms. OHCHR Mexico has promoted the recognition of the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances to receive and consider individual communications.

45. OHCHR Honduras, together with ICRC, has supported the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Honduran civil society organizations to address the enforced disappearance of migrants.

46. At the end of 2017, OHCHR field presences from Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico and Panama conducted an assessment mission to better understand the challenges and human rights protection gaps faced by migrants traveling from or through El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico. The findings of the mission contributed to the development of a subregional and national strategy to address the issues of access to justice for relatives of disappeared migrants and the documentation of violations of the human rights of migrants. In 2018, the Regional Office for Central America, in a coordinated effort with OHCHR field presences in Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, facilitated a dialogue between organizations of relatives of disappeared and deceased migrants and the Governments of El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Mexico, at which the Governments expressed an intention to continue a close dialogue with relatives of disappeared and deceased migrants and to make improvements with respect to search protocols for missing migrants, coordination with relatives' organizations, investigations and reparations.

47. In May 2018, in Nepal, OHCHR organized a workshop to support the preparation of a draft amendment to the Commission on Investigation of Disappeared Persons, Truth and Reconciliation Act 2014.

48. OHCHR has supported both the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances. Of particular relevance is the support provided to the latter in the handling of and follow-up to several hundred requests for urgent action on the prevention of enforced disappearances.

49. Several OHCHR field presences were actively involved in supporting engagement between actors at the national level and the Committee on Enforced Disappearances. In 2019, the Regional Office for South America supported Chile and Peru in their preparation of the reports required under article 29 (1) of the Convention, which were reviewed in April 2019 during the sixteenth session of the Committee. In November 2018, OHCHR Mexico actively supported the consideration of additional follow-up information submitted by Mexico under article 29 (4) of the Convention through several activities aimed at building further capacity of national actors in Mexico with respect to engagement with the Committee. OHCHR Honduras contributed to the dissemination and implementation of the Committee's concluding observations, issued in 2018, on the report submitted by Honduras.

## **VI. Activities of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances**

50. During the reporting period, the Committee on Enforced Disappearances took several steps to promote the ratification and implementation of the Convention and maintained a dialogue with the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances and other relevant mechanisms and stakeholders. A detailed compilation of the activities of the Committee can be found in its most recent annual reports to the General Assembly at its seventy-third and seventy-fourth sessions ([A/73/56](#) and [A/74/56](#)).

51. In all her public statements, the Chair of the Committee has continued to promote the ratification of the Convention and to stress that ratification should be followed by its implementation and incorporation into the domestic legal framework. She has also continued inviting States parties that have not done so to accept the competence of the Committee under articles 31 and 32 of the Convention.

52. On the occasion of the International Day of the Victims of Enforced Disappearances on 30 August 2017 and 2018, the Committee and the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances issued a joint press release urging all Member States to ratify the Convention,<sup>2</sup> reaffirming their continuous support to the victims of enforced disappearance and their relatives and encouraging States around the world to act immediately to carry out investigations into the crime of enforced disappearances and to expedite the search for people who have been subject to enforced disappearances, in compliance with their obligations under the Convention.<sup>3</sup>

53. The Committee met with Member States at public meetings held on 13 November 2018 and 15 April 2019, wherein it invited States parties to the Convention that had not yet submitted their reports to do so. It also encouraged States that had neither signed nor ratified the Convention to do so and encouraged all States to accept the Committee's competence under articles 31 and 32. In addition, the Chair updated States on the work of the Committee.

54. During the reporting period, the Committee reiterated its call for all stakeholders to promote the ratification of the Convention and to promote the 2017 campaign of the High Commissioner to double the number of ratifications within the following five years.

## **VII. Activities of the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances**

55. In November 2018, the Chair-Rapporteur of the Working Group met, via videoconference, with the Committee on Enforced Disappearances during its fifteenth session to exchange information on the respective activities of the two bodies, including the Working Group's study on standards and public policies for effective investigations into enforced disappearances.

56. In September 2018, in its report to the Human Rights Council, the Working Group reiterated its calls for States that had not signed and/or ratified the Convention to do so as soon as possible and to accept the competence of the Committee to receive individual communications under article 31 and inter-State communications under article 32 of the Convention (see [A/HRC/39/46](#), para. 152). The Working Group takes every opportunity to promote ratification of the Convention, including during visits to States and bilateral meetings held with their representatives.

57. On 10 September 2018, the Working Group held an expert meeting on the preparation of its thematic report on standards and public policies for effective investigations of enforced disappearances. A member of the Committee discussed the relationship between investigations and searches for the disappeared.

58. In October 2018, the Chairs of the Working Group and the Committee addressed the Third Committee of the General Assembly, calling upon all Member States to increase their efforts to search for disappeared persons, to bring perpetrators to justice and to provide reparations and guarantees of non-repetition to victims.

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<sup>2</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=22005&LangID=E>.

<sup>3</sup> <https://www.ohchr.org/EN/NewsEvents/Pages/DisplayNews.aspx?NewsID=23483&LangID=E>.



## **VIII. Activities of United Nations agencies and organizations and intergovernmental organizations**

59. A number of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations have undertaken efforts at the national, regional and global levels to disseminate information on the Convention, promote understanding of it, prepare for its entry into force and assist States parties in fulfilling their obligations thereunder.

60. The United Nations country team in Madagascar indicated that since 2015, OHCHR has provided annual special sensitization sessions for the two chambers of Parliament. Those sessions have raised awareness among Members of Parliament and senators of their role in promoting and protecting human rights, and have also served to advocate ratification of the Convention. A human rights handbook for parliamentarians was produced and provided to all 151 Members of Parliament and 63 senators. In addition, weekly meetings are held with the Human Rights Department of the Ministry of Justice, at which the ratification process for remaining human rights instruments, including the Convention, are discussed and at which the country team offers support to the Government.

61. Monthly high-level bilateral meetings are held between the United Nations resident coordinator and the Minister of Justice of Madagascar to intensify advocacy and advance awareness and understanding of the importance of ratifying human rights instruments, including the Convention. The United Nations Resident Coordinator and the Prime Minister co-chaired the Strategic Dialogue Group, a high-level platform for dialogue between the Government and technical and financial partners. The Resident Coordinator has used that forum to promote ratification of key international human rights instruments, including the Convention.

## **IX. Activities of non-governmental organizations**

62. The Associació per a la Recuperació de la Memòria Històrica de Catalunya reports that it is an organization that works to locate persons who went missing during the Spanish Civil War and under Francoism. It also collaborates with the Government of the Autonomous Community of Catalonia, which has a genetic identification programme that aims at creating a database of genetic profiles from the relatives of the disappeared and a database of genetic profiles extracted from the remains of persons missing during the Spanish Civil War and under Francoism, and then compares the information in both databases for identification purposes.

63. The France-based Euro-Mediterranean Federation against Enforced Disappearances reports that it is a founding member of the 26-member International Coalition against Enforced Disappearances, which was created in 2007 and is active in 12 Euro-Mediterranean countries. In an effort to increase the number of States parties to the Convention, the Federation solicited meetings with several authorities in the Euro-Mediterranean region to discuss the Convention and promote its ratification. Since 2008, the Federation has also been organizing regional meetings with all their member associations, all of which advocate ratification at the national level by the region's Governments. During the fourth meeting of the Euro-Mediterranean Federation, participants prepared an analysis on the implementation of the Convention, its progress and its challenges. The Federation is working to support victims and the families of victims of enforced disappearances by raising awareness of their rights and of State obligations under legally binding instruments and by making their voices heard at the local, national, regional and international levels.

64. The association Todos los Niños Robados Son También Mis Niños focuses on investigating patterns in the abductions of infants that took place in Spain from the 1940s to the 1990s. During the reporting period, the association carried out activities to raise institutional and social awareness about the implementation of the Convention in Spain. The association also participated in the drafting of legislative proposals such as one on abducted infants.

65. Between June 2017 and December 2018, TRIAL International, a member of the International Coalition against Enforced Disappearances, carried out several activities to disseminate information on the Convention, promote understanding of the Convention, assist States parties in implementing their obligations and encourage other States to become parties and recognize the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances pursuant to articles 31 and 32 of the Convention. TRIAL International has submitted follow-up reports on the implementation status of the recommendations contained in the views of the Human Rights Committee on cases regarding Nepal and Bosnia and Herzegovina. TRIAL International lodged those communications with the Human Rights Committee. TRIAL International and a Burundian non-governmental organization, Forum pour la Conscience et le Développement, submitted a joint report in October 2017 to the Working Group on Enforced or Involuntary Disappearances on enforced disappearance in Burundi as a crime against humanity. In August 2017 and February 2018, TRIAL International, as part of a coalition of non-governmental organizations, submitted reports to the European Commission on the subject of enforced disappearance in Bosnia and Herzegovina. In October 2018, TRIAL International and the Fundación para la Justicia y el Estado Democrático de Derecho submitted a report to the Committee on Enforced Disappearances in view of the follow-up dialogue with Mexico and took part in the relevant session of the Committee in November 2018. In an effort to promote ratification of the Convention, TRIAL International has been working on the subject of enforced disappearance in the Gambia and has been in contact with the Working Group in that regard, submitting information in view of its country visit and afterwards. Advocacy and lobbying efforts have been consistently carried out, resulting in the eventual ratification by the Gambia of the Convention on 28 September 2018. TRIAL International organized several training events for lawyers and human rights defenders in Burundi and Nepal.

66. Truth Now Cyprus reports that, in its effort to push for ratification by Cyprus, a signatory to the Convention since 2007, it has addressed on multiple occasions inquiries to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the House of Representatives on the reasons for the delay in ratification. The non-governmental organization was informed by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs that a relevant proposal had been submitted to the Council of Ministers and that in November 2013, the Ratification Law was approved and authorized in cooperation with the Office of the Attorney General. The Ministry of Foreign Affairs also informed Truth Now Cyprus that the delays in ratification were due to some provisions of the Convention that require further consideration, as well as to the financial burden associated with proposed amendments and legal and administrative arrangements.

## **X. Conclusion**

**67. The Secretary-General encourages all States that have not yet become parties to the International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance to take the necessary measures to do so and to accept the competence of the Committee on Enforced Disappearances under articles 31 and 32 of the Convention. Noting the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the Convention in 2020, the United Nations will continue its intensive efforts to assist States in becoming parties to the Convention and in ensuring its full implementation.**

## Annex

**States that have signed, ratified or acceded to the  
International Convention for the Protection of All Persons  
from Enforced Disappearance as at 1 July 2019**

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of signature</i>	<i>Date of accession or ratification</i>
Albania <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	8 November 2007
Algeria <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	
Angola	24 September 2014	
Argentina <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	14 December 2007
Armenia	10 April 2007	24 January 2011
Austria <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	7 June 2012
Azerbaijan	6 February 2007	
Belgium <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	2 June 2011
Belize		14 August 2015 <sup>b</sup>
Benin	19 March 2010	2 November 2017
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	6 February 2007	17 December 2008
Bosnia and Herzegovina <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	30 March 2012
Brazil	6 February 2007	29 November 2010
Bulgaria	24 September 2008	
Burkina Faso	6 February 2007	3 December 2009
Burundi	6 February 2007	
Cabo Verde	6 February 2007	
Cambodia		27 June 2013 <sup>b</sup>
Cameroon	6 February 2007	
Central African Republic		11 October 2016 <sup>b</sup>
Chad	6 February 2007	
Chile <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	8 December 2009
Colombia	27 September 2007	11 July 2012
Comoros	6 February 2007	
Congo	6 February 2007	
Costa Rica	6 February 2007	16 February 2012
Croatia	6 February 2007	
Czechia <sup>a</sup>	19 July 2016	8 February 2017

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of signature</i>	<i>Date of accession or ratification</i>
Cuba <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	2 February 2009
Cyprus	6 February 2007	
Denmark	25 September 2007	
Dominica		13 May 2019 <sup>b</sup>
Dominican Republic	28 September 2018	
Ecuador <sup>a</sup>	24 May 2007	20 October 2009
Eswatini	25 September 2007	
Finland	6 February 2007	
France <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	23 September 2008
Gabon	25 September 2007	19 January 2011
Gambia	20 September 2017	28 September 2018
Germany <sup>a</sup>	26 September 2007	24 September 2009
Ghana	6 February 2007	
Greece	1 October 2008	9 July 2015
Grenada	6 February 2007	
Guatemala	6 February 2007	
Guinea-Bissau	24 September 2013	
Haiti	6 February 2007	
Honduras	6 February 2007	1 April 2008
Iceland	1 October 2008	
India	6 February 2007	
Indonesia	27 September 2010	
Iraq		23 November 2010 <sup>b</sup>
Ireland	29 March 2007	
Italy	3 July 2007	8 October 2015
Japan <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	23 July 2009
Kazakhstan		27 February 2009 <sup>b</sup>
Kenya	6 February 2007	
Lao People's Democratic Republic	29 September 2008	
Lebanon	6 February 2007	
Lesotho	22 September 2010	6 December 2013

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of signature</i>	<i>Date of accession or ratification</i>
Liechtenstein	1 October 2007	
Lithuania <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	14 August 2013
Luxembourg	6 February 2007	
Madagascar	6 February 2007	
Malawi		14 July 2017 <sup>b</sup>
Maldives	6 February 2007	
Malia	6 February 2007	1 July 2009
Malta	6 February 2007	27 March 2015
Mauritania	27 September 2011	3 October 2012
Mexico	6 February 2007	18 March 2008
Monaco	6 February 2007	
Mongolia	6 February 2007	12 February 2015
Montenegro <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	20 September 2011
Morocco	6 February 2007	14 May 2013
Mozambique	24 December 2008	
Netherlands <sup>a</sup>	29 April 2008	23 March 2011
Niger	6 February 2007	24 July 2015
Nigeria		27 July 2009 <sup>b</sup>
North Macedonia	6 February 2007	
Norway	21 December 2007	
Palau	20 September 2011	
Panama	25 September 2007	24 June 2011
Paraguay	6 February 2007	3 August 2010
Peru		26 September 2012
Poland	25 June 2013	
Portugal <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	27 January 2014
Republic of Moldova	6 February 2007	
Romania	3 December 2008	
Samoa	6 February 2007	27 November 2012
Senegal	6 February 2007	11 December 2008
Serbia <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	18 May 2011

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of signature</i>	<i>Date of accession or ratification</i>
Seychelles		18 January 2017 <sup>b</sup>
Sierra Leone	6 February 2007	
Slovakia	26 September 2007	15 December 2014
Slovenia	26 September 2007	
Spain <sup>a</sup>	27 September 2007	24 September 2009
Sri Lanka <sup>a</sup>	10 December 2015	25 May 2016
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	29 March 2010	
Sweden	6 February 2007	
Switzerland <sup>a</sup>	19 January 2011	2 December 2016
Thailand	9 January 2012	
Togo	27 October 2010	21 July 2014
Tunisia	6 February 2007	29 June 2011
Uganda	6 February 2007	
Ukraine <sup>a</sup>		12 August 2015 <sup>b</sup>
United Republic of Tanzania	29 September 2008	
Uruguay <sup>a</sup>	6 February 2007	4 March 2009
Vanuatu	6 February 2007	
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) <sup>a</sup>	21 October 2008	
Zambia	27 September 2010	4 April 2011

<sup>a</sup> States that have made declarations recognizing the competence of the Committee under articles 31 and/or 32 of the Convention. The full text of the declarations and reservations made by States parties is available from <http://treaties.un.org>.

<sup>b</sup> Accession.