

THE UNITED NATIONS' CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA WAS ADOPTED - 25 YEARS AFTER

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ABSTRACT

As at 31 October 2007, the number of parties to UNCLOS stood at 155, including the European Community. On 31 May 2007, Lesotho and Morocco ratified the Convention and expressed their consent to be bound by the Agreement relating to the Implementation of Part XI of the Convention (Part XI Agreement). Thus, at 27 July 2007, there were 129 parties to that Agreement, including the European Community. Following the accessions by Lithuania on 1 March 2007, by the Czech Republic on 19 March 2007, and by Romania on 16 July 2007, the number of parties to the 1995 Fish Stocks Agreement¹ rose to 67, including the European Community.

KEY WORDS : UNCLOS, Romania, Black Sea, Danube, geopolitics, axes

I. LEGAL FRAME

All countries of the world are continuously striving to decide on proper legal norms for the international co-operation process, in order to piece up differences in an amicable way through negotiations based on legal equality according to art. 2 paragraph 3 of the United Nations Charter.

During different stages and phases of its development the social and economic life depends upon the maritime field where through common efforts of the entire humanity we are called upon to obey fundamental requirements regarding: a) the rights and duties of each state for the use of seas and oceans of the world b) the definition of practical forms and means to improve their riches.

¹ Agreement for the Implementation of the Provisions of the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea of 10 December 1982 relating to the Conservation and Management of Straddling Fish Stocks and Highly Migratory Fish Stocks, United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 2167, No. 37924.

1.1. International legal frame

The most important international forum the United Nations' Organization has had preoccupations regarding the coding of legal regulations and norms in the maritime field.

In 1958 during the first UNO Conference on the Law of the Sea concrete norms were drawn up for the first time in all fields of maritime law, i.e. the territorial sea, continental shelf, high seas and fishing, and thus all maritime spaces have been included in a general concept envisaging both the issue of national area, with the rights and obligations of the neighboring states and the other states in the region and the issues of the free sea where the rights to sail, to fish, to lay cables and pipelines and to fly over were recognized.

After these regulations have been adopted some important issues such as those concerning the limit of the territorial sea² and the regime of submarine land³ have been reconsidered in order to draw up new legal solutions. Thus, following debates during 1967 - 1970 regarding the legal regime of the submarine land which are beyond the limits of national jurisdiction, The General Assembly of the UNO adopted in 1970, the *Declaration of Principles*, through which the international area was established as „common patrimony of mankind”. Gradually, the issue of this patrimony has stirred more and more interest; ways and practical means to draw up and exploit the resources in these territories have been approached and the conclusion was that mineral resources should be capitalized on equal terms and under no circumstances should the resources „be acquired by certain states or individuals”⁴.

Under the influence of sweeping changes in the world economy, as a consequence of the contemporary scientific and technical revolution when new resources have been discovered and due to the exacerbation brought about by the noxious effects of pollution on the marine benthos, further developments

² The 2nd UNO Conference on the Law of the Sea took place in Geneva in 1960 and had as object the establishment of a uniform limit for the territorial sea, but it didn't reach an agreement.

³ In 1967, the General Assembly of the UNO created a special Committee of 35 member states with the task to study the peaceful use of the seabed beyond the limits of national jurisdiction. This organism was replaced by the Committee for the peaceful use of the seabed beyond the limit of national jurisdiction, which dealt with the setting up of principles and juridical norms to encourage international co-operation in the field of exploiting resources in these territories for the benefit of mankind. The number of member states in this committee rose from 42 in 1968, to 91 in 1971. Romania has been part of the committee since 1967.

⁴ Declaration des principes regissant le fond des mers et des oceans, ainsi que leur sous-sol, au-delà des limites de la juridiction nationale (Resolution 2749/XXV).

of maritime reports have determined the summon of the 3rd UNO Conference on the Law of the Sea in 1970⁵.

The Conference adopted in a constructive manner all maritime issues in order to obtain „real progress in setting an exploration and exploitation system of the resources of the oceans in *the interest of all nations*.

1.2. The national legal frame

The Convention on the Law of the Sea of 12th December 1982, signed in Montego Bay - Jamaica, provides even in the Preamble the wish of states parties to settle in a spirit of understanding and mutual cooperation all issues regarding the law of the sea, so that they ensure a legal order for the seas and oceans to facilitate the international communications and the peaceful use of seas and oceans, the unprejudiced and efficient use of biological and mineral resources of the marine environment as well as its protection and preservation⁶.

At the same time it is stated that the area of the seabed as well as its subsoil beyond the limits of national jurisdiction and the resources of the area are and must be considered as the common patrimony of mankind, its exploration and exploitation are to be performed in the common interest of mankind regardless of the geographical position of states. The Convention ascertains the entire sovereignty of the neighboring country over the territorial sea, over the air space above the territorial sea and over the seabed and its subsoil⁷.

Romania was one of the 160 attendant states in the 3rd UNO Conference on the Law of the Sea in the negotiation process to identify solutions which can be generally applied to equally make use of the sea and ocean riches on Earth.

⁵ In 1970, by the resolution 2750 C/XXV, the UNO General Assembly decided to summon the 3rd UNO Conference on the Law of the Sea, with the aim to examine the regime applicable to the new institution, the international area of submarine territories and a large range of related matters, i.e. all issues regarding the law of the sea, ending in New York, in 1982. The sessions of the Conference took place in New York in 1973; in Caracas in 1974, in Geneva in 1975, in New York in 1976 and 1977, in Geneva and New York in 1978, in Geneva and New York in 1979, in Geneva in New York in 1980, in Geneva and New York in 1981 and in New York and Montego Bay in 1982.

⁶ Constantin Anechitoae, *Principle of Freedom of the Sea*, Bren Publishing House, Bucharest, 2004, p 19.

⁷ Constantin Anechitoae, *Introduction in Maritime Law*, Bren Publishing House, Bucharest, 2008, p. 21.

According to its wish to range with international provisions, Romania ratified and adhered to the Convention on the Law of the Sea, by the Law 110 of 10 October 1996⁸, and at the same time adhered to the Agreement regarding the application of Part XI of the UNO Convention on the law of the Sea, concluded in New York at 28 July 1994.

By Law 98 of 16/04/2007 Romania implemented the Agreement for the application of provisions of CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA of 10th December 1982 concerning the preservation and management of anadromous fish stocks and stocks of large migrating fish concluded in New York at 4th August 1995.

Through a Declaration reaffirmed during the ratification of the Montego Bay Convention, Romania as a disadvantaged country from a geographic point of view, because it neighbors a sea poor in what concerns fishing resources has stated the necessity to develop international co-operation in the field of capitalizing fishing resources in the economic areas based on equal and fair agreements that would ensure the access of countries in this area to fishing resources in the economic areas of other regions and sub regions⁹.

1.3. Legal regulations regarding the marine scientific research

By the ratifying Act of CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA of 1982, Romania has given its consent to become part and the provisions of the Convention are part of its national legal regulations.

In part XI, Section 2, article 143 and Part XIII art. 238-277 in CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA express provisions regarding the marine scientific research are provided.

This way, according to provisions of art. 238 in CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA of 1982, all states, irrespective of their geographic situation as well as competent international bodies are entitled to perform marine scientific research under the reserve of other states rights and duties as defined in the Convention.

According to art. 239 International Competent States and organizations will encourage and facilitate the development and conduct of marine scientific research according to the provisions of the Convention.

⁸ Law. 110/1996 was adopted by the Senate and the Deputy Dept. In the meetings of 27 June 1996 and 23 September 1996, respectively and was promulgated by the Decree no. 492 of 10th October 1996.

⁹ Dumitru Mazilu, *Maritime Law. Concepts and insitutions set by the Convention in Montego – Bay*, Lumina Lex Publishing House, Bucharest, 2002, p.482.

Marine scientific research will observe the following principles:

- a) It will be conducted for peaceful purposes exclusively;
- b) It will use proper scientific methods compatible with the Convention;
- c) It will not interfere unjustly with the other legitimate uses of the sea compatible with the Convention and will be taken into consideration during the use as agreed;
- d) Will be conducted according to all pertinent regulations adopted in applying the Convention, including those regarding the protection and preservation of the marine environment.

Part XI „The Area”, in Section 2, article 143 in CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA has express provisions regarding marine scientific research.

Thus, according to provisions in 1. „ Marine scientific research in the area will be conducted with exclusive peaceful purposes and in the interest of mankind according to Part XIII in the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA”.

State parties are entitled to conduct scientific research in the area. They will encourage international co-operation in the field of marine scientific research in the area:

- a) By taking part in international programs and encouraging co-operation in the field of marine scientific research conducted by the personnel in different countries and of the authority;
- b) By watching that programs are drawn up by authorities or other international organizations, as the case may be, for the advantage of developing states and less advanced states from a technological point of view so that:
 - Their scientific potential is increased;
 - Personnel and authority in the field of scientific techniques and application is formed;
 - Qualified personnel is trained for the scientific activities conducted in the area;
 - When available the outcome of research and analysis is disseminated by means of the authority or other international mechanisms, as the case may be.

1.4. 25 years since the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA was adopted and 11 years since the Strategic Acting Plan for the Black Sea was signed by all 6 riverside countries

This year we celebrate 25 years since the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA was adopted and signed in Montego Bay – Jamaica, at 10th December 1982.

When the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA was adopted everybody expected that an order will be established concerning the issues related to the sea and at the same time concerning a uniform exploitation of the riches of the Planetary Ocean in the benefit of all nations.

The reference period was scattered with many misunderstandings and disputes regarding the settlement of issues according to the provisions of this Convention.

During this period all institutions mentioned in the Convention have been designed to deal with the solving of this problem and have made efforts in this respect.

Although the issue of limiting some maritime areas between riverside states to the seas and oceans of the world have not yet been finished and, as a consequence we appreciate that these may cause a potential conflict.

We can also mention as novelty a new area which may bring about a potential conflict. This is determined by the climatic changes which call forth the thawing of the ice cap, and thus disclose new possibilities to explore and exploit resources with restricted access in respect with the economic potential of certain states.

This is also a present reality since the objectives of the convention in what concerns the exploring and exploitation of seas and oceans of the world unconventionally dissociate between the economic advanced countries in respect with the expectancies of the countries under development which have not practically capitalized on the advantages of these international provisions.

Illegal fishing and other maritime offences are activities which violate the provisions of the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA and which are still going on in certain maritime areas without the real possibility to prevent or sanction them by applying corrective forces of maritime world.

Some clarifications regarding military and security activities are expected that should clearly state rules concerning foreign military operations and intelligence activities in the Economic Exclusive Zone.

Also, measures envisaged for the maintaining of security at sea are still not clearly defined, thus enabling threats of international terrorism on land extend to sea as well.

Many states have no logistics to perform control to impose measures and to maintain a state of safety regarding the navigation of tankers in adjacent areas of the Contiguous Zone and Territorial Sea, respectively.

In areas restricted to certain rules under the control of riverside states through their political and economic pressures a threat regarding the freedom of safe navigation can be foreseen in the interest of the countries which owe tankers with drafts over the maximum admitted limits.

The problem of „innocent passing” and the situation of mines on the seabed which have not yet been detected and destroyed must be also considered in what regards maritime safety and the international authorities should revise their approach in this respect.

If till the adoption of the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA the academic teams of experts have played an important part in promoting negotiation regarding maritime issues among states, after 25 years there is a decrease of their role. This role has been taken over by the 155 states which have adhered or ratified this Convention so far.

The process to include the provisions of the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA in the national maritime law is closely linked to the act of its ratification. In this respect, we consider that most provisions of this Convention contain legal norms which in a certain degree support the initiatives of the under developed countries but they still remain ineffective because of their reduced economic potential.

The legal norms edited by the Convention have imposed all states to accept obligations on equal terms in order to perform maritime activities but they disregard economic and political realities of the industrialized countries. In this respect we can singularize the United States of America, a country which has not ratified the CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF THE SEA up to the present, although in the issues of international law and external policy they observe and promote its principles.

II. CHRONOLOGICAL LISTS OF RATIFICATIONS OF, ACCESSIONS AND SUCCESSIONS TO THE CONVENTION AND THE RELATED AGREEMENTS AS AT

Annex 1

155.	Lesotho (31 May 2007)	77.	Austria (14 July 1995)
154.	Morocco (31 May 2007)	76.	India (29 June 1995)
153.	Moldova (6 February 2007)	75.	Slovenia (16 June 1995)
152.	Montenegro (23 October 2006)	74.	Bolivia (28 April 1995)
151.	Niue (11 October 2006)	73.	Croatia (5 April 1995)
150.	Belarus (30 August 2006)	72.	Cook Islands (15 February 1995)
149.	Estonia (26 August 2005)	71.	Italy (13 January 1995)
148.	Burkina Faso (25 January 2005)	70.	Lebanon (5 January 1995)
147.	Latvia (23 December 2004)	69.	Sierra Leone (12 December 1994)
146.	Denmark (16 November 2004)	68.	Singapore (17 November 1994)
145.	Lithuania (12 November 2003)	67.	Mauritius (4 November 1994)
144.	Canada (7 November 2003)	66.	Germany (14 October 1994)
143.	Albania (23 June 2003)	65.	Australia (5 October 1994)
142.	Kiribati (24 February 2003)	64.	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (19 August 1994)
141.	Tuvalu (9 December 2002)	63.	Viet Nam (25 July 1994)
140.	Qatar (9 December 2002)	62.	Sri Lanka (19 July 1994)
139.	Armenia (9 December 2002)	61.	Comoros (21 June 1994)
138.	Hungary (5 February 2002)	60.	Bosnia and Herzegovina (12 January 1994)
137.	Madagascar (22 August 2001)	59.	Guyana (16 November 1993)
136.	Bangladesh (27 July 2001)	58.	Barbados (12 October 1993)
135.	Serbia (12 March 2001)	57.	Honduras (5 October 1993)
134.	Luxembourg (5 October 2000)	56.	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines (1 October 1993)
133.	Maldives (7 September 2000)	55.	Malta (20 May 1993)
132.	Nicaragua (3 May 2000)	54.	Zimbabwe (24 February 1993)
131.	Vanuatu (10 August 1999)	53.	Saint Kitts and Nevis (7 January 1993)
130.	Ukraine (26 July 1999)	52.	Uruguay (10 December 1992)
129.	Poland (13 November 1998)	51.	Costa Rica (21 September 1992)
128.	Belgium (13 November 1998)	50.	Dominica (24 October 1991)
127.	Nepal (2 November 1998)	49.	Djibouti (8 October 1991)
126.	Suriname (9 July 1998)	48.	Seychelles (16 September 1991)
125.	Lao People's Democratic Republic (5 June 1998)	47.	Marshall Islands (9 August 1991)
124.	European Community (1 April 1998)	46.	Micronesia (Federated States of) (29 April 1991)
123.	Gabon (11 March 1998)	45.	Grenada (25 April 1991)
122.	South Africa (23 December 1997)	44.	Angola (5 December 1990)
121.	Portugal (3 November 1997)	43.	Uganda (9 November 1990)
120.	Benin (16 October 1997)	42.	Botswana (2 May 1990)

119.	Chile (25 August 1997)	41.	Oman (17 August 1989)
118.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (25 July 1997)	40.	Somalia (24 July 1989)
117.	Equatorial Guinea (21 July 1997)	39.	Kenya (2 March 1989)
116.	Solomon Islands (23 June 1997)	38.	Democratic Republic of the Congo (17 February 1989)
115.	Mozambique (13 March 1997)	37.	Antigua and Barbuda (2 February 1989)
114.	Russian Federation (12 March 1997)	36.	Brazil (22 December 1988)
113.	Pakistan (26 February 1997)	35.	Cyprus (12 December 1988)
112.	Guatemala (11 February 1997)	34.	Sao Tome and Principe (3 November 1987)
111.	Spain (15 January 1997)	33.	Cape Verde (10 August 1987)
110.	Papua New Guinea (14 January 1997)	32.	Yemen (21 July 1987)
109.	Romania (17 December 1996)	31.	Paraguay (26 September 1986)
108.	Brunei Darussalam (5 November 1996)	30.	Guinea-Bissau (25 August 1986)
107.	Malaysia (14 October 1996)	29.	Nigeria (14 August 1986)
106.	Palau (30 September 1996)	28.	Kuwait (2 May 1986)
105.	Mongolia (13 August 1996)	27.	Trinidad and Tobago (25 April 1986)
104.	Haiti (31 July 1996)	26.	Indonesia (3 February 1986)
103.	New Zealand (19 July 1996)	25.	Cameroon (19 November 1985)
102.	Mauritania (17 July 1996)	24.	United Republic of Tanzania (30 September 1985)
101.	Panama (1 July 1996)	23.	Guinea (6 September 1985)
100.	Netherlands (28 June 1996)	22.	Iraq (30 July 1985)
99.	Sweden (25 June 1996)	21.	Mali (16 July 1985)
98.	Norway (24 June 1996)	20.	Iceland (21 June 1985)
97.	Ireland (21 June 1996)	19.	Bahrain (30 May 1985)
96.	Finland (21 June 1996)	18.	Tunisia (24 April 1985)
95.	Czech Republic (21 June 1996)	17.	Togo (16 April 1985)
94.	Japan (20 June 1996)	16.	Saint Lucia (27 March 1985)
93.	Algeria (11 June 1996)	15.	Sudan (23 January 1985)
92.	China (7 June 1996)	14.	Senegal (25 October 1984)
91.	Myanmar (21 May 1996)	13.	Cuba (15 August 1984)
90.	Bulgaria (15 May 1996)	12.	Gambia (22 May 1984)
89.	Slovakia (8 May 1996)	11.	Philippines (8 May 1984)
88.	Saudi Arabia (24 April 1996)	10.	Côte d'Ivoire (26 March 1984)
87.	France (11 April 1996)	9.	Egypt (26 August 1983)
86.	Georgia (21 March 1996)	8.	Belize (13 August 1983)
85.	Monaco (20 March 1996)	7.	Bahamas (29 July 1983)
84.	Republic of Korea (29 January 1996)	6.	Ghana (7 June 1983)
83.	Nauru (23 January 1996)	5.	Namibia (18 April 1983)
82.	Argentina (1 December 1995)	4.	Jamaica (21 March 1983)

81.	Jordan (27 November 1995)	3.	Mexico (18 March 1983)
80.	Samoa (14 August 1995)	2.	Zambia (7 March 1983)
79.	Tonga (2 August 1995)	1.	Fiji (10 December 1982)
78.	Greece (21 July 1995)		

Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the Convention
Annex 2

Agreement relating to the implementation of Part XI of the Convention			
130.	Uruguay (7 August 2007)	65.	New Zealand (19 July 1996)
129.	Lesotho (31 May 2007)	64.	Mauritania (17 July 1996)
128.	Morocco (31 May 2007)	63.	Panama (1 July 1996)
127.	Moldova (6 February 2007)	62.	Netherlands (28 June 1996)
126.	Montenegro (23 October 2006)	61.	Malta (26 June 1996)
125.	Niue (11 October 2006)	60.	Sweden (25 June 1996)
124.	Belarus (30 August 2006)	59.	Norway (24 June 1996)
123.	Viet Nam (27 April 2006)	58.	Ireland (21 June 1996)
122.	Estonia (26 August 2005)	57.	Finland (21 June 1996)
121.	Botswana (31 January 2005)	56.	Czech Republic (21 June 1996)
120.	Burkina Faso (25 January 2005)	55.	Japan (20 June 1996)
119.	Latvia (23 December 2004)	54.	Algeria (11 June 1996)
118.	Denmark (16 November 2004)	53.	China (7 June 1996)
117.	Lithuania (12 November 2003)	52.	Myanmar (21 May 1996)
116.	Canada (7 November 2003)	51.	Bulgaria (15 May 1996)
115.	Honduras (28 July 2003)	50.	Slovakia (8 May 1996)
114.	Albania (23 June 2003)	49.	Saudi Arabia (24 April 1996)
113.	Mexico (10 April 2003)	48.	France (11 April 1996)
112.	Kiribati (24 February 2003)	47.	Georgia (21 March 1996)
111.	Tuvalu (9 December 2002)	46.	Monaco (20 March 1996)
110.	Qatar (9 December 2002)	45.	Republic of Korea (29 January 1996)
109.	Armenia (9 December 2002)	44.	Nauru (23 January 1996)
108.	Cuba (17 October 2002)	43.	Argentina (1 December 1995)
107.	Cameroon (28 August 2002)	42.	Jordan (27 November 1995)
106.	Kuwait (2 August 2002)	41.	Micronesia (Federated States of) (6 September 1995)
105.	Tunisia (24 May 2002)	40.	Samoa (14 August 1995)
104.	Hungary (5 February 2002)	39.	Tonga (2 August 1995)
103.	Costa Rica (20 September 2001)	38.	Zimbabwe (28 July 1995)
102.	Madagascar (22 August 2001)	37.	Zambia (28 July 1995)
101.	Bangladesh (27 July 2001)	36.	Serbia and Montenegro (28 July 1995)
100.	Luxembourg (5 October 2000)	35.	Uganda (28 July 1995)
99.	Maldives (7 September 2000)	34.	Trinidad and Tobago (28 July 1995)
98.	Indonesia (2 June 2000)	33.	Togo (28 July 1995)

97.	Nicaragua (3 May 2000)	32.	Sri Lanka (28 July 1995)
96.	Vanuatu (10 August 1999)	31.	Nigeria (28 July 1995)
95.	Ukraine (26 July 1999)	30.	Namibia (28 July 1995)
94.	Poland (13 November 1998)	29.	Jamaica (28 July 1995)
93.	Belgium (13 November 1998)	28.	Iceland (28 July 1995)
92.	Nepal (2 November 1998)	27.	Guinea (28 July 1995)
91.	Suriname (9 July 1998)	26.	Grenada (28 July 1995)
90.	United Republic of Tanzania (25 June 1998)	25.	Fiji (28 July 1995)
89.	Lao People's Democratic Republic (5 June 1998)	24.	Côte d'Ivoire (28 July 1995)
88.	European Community (1 April 1998)	23.	Barbados (28 July 1995)
87.	Gabon (11 March 1998)	22.	Bahamas (28 July 1995)
86.	South Africa (23 December 1997)	21.	Cyprus (27 July 1995)
85.	Portugal (3 November 1997)	20.	Senegal (25 July 1995)
84.	Benin (16 October 1997)	19.	Greece (21 July 1995)
83.	Chile (25 August 1997)	18.	Austria (14 July 1995)
82.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (25 July 1997)	17.	Paraguay (10 July 1995)
81.	Philippines (23 July 1997)	16.	India (29 June 1995)
80.	Equatorial Guinea (21 July 1997)	15.	Slovenia (16 June 1995)
79.	Solomon Islands (23 June 1997)	14.	Bolivia (28 April 1995)
78.	Mozambique (13 March 1997)	13.	Croatia (5 April 1995)
77.	Russian Federation (12 March 1997)	12.	Cook Islands (15 February 1995)
76.	Pakistan (26 February 1997)	11.	Italy (13 January 1995)
75.	Oman (26 February 1997)	10.	Lebanon (5 January 1995)
74.	Guatemala (11 February 1997)	9.	Seychelles (15 December 1994)
73.	Spain (15 January 1997)	8.	Sierra Leone (12 December 1994)
72.	Papua New Guinea (14 January 1997)	7.	Singapore (17 November 1994)
71.	Romania (17 December 1996)	6.	Mauritius (4 November 1994)
70.	Brunei Darussalam (5 November 1996)	5.	Belize (21 October 1994)
69.	Malaysia (14 October 1996)	4.	Germany (14 October 1994)
68.	Palau (30 September 1996)	3.	Australia (5 October 1994)
67.	Mongolia (13 August 1996)	2.	The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (19 August 1994)
66.	Haiti (31 July 1996)	1.	Kenya (29 July 1994)

**Agreement for the implementation of the provisions of the Convention
relating to the conservation and management of straddling fish stocks
and highly migratory fish stocks**

Annex 3

67.	Romania (16 July 2007)	33.	Ukraine (27 February 2003)
66.	Czech Republic (19 March 2007)	32.	Cyprus (25 September 2002)
65.	Lithuania (1 March 2007)	31.	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland (10 December 2001); (19 December 2003) For details, refer to UN Treaties.
64.	Latvia (5 February 2007)	30.	Malta (11 November 2001)
63.	Bulgaria (13 December 2006)	29.	Costa Rica (18 June 2001)
62.	Niue (11 October 2006)	28.	New Zealand (18 April 2001)
61.	Trinidad and Tobago (13 September 2006)	27.	Barbados (22 September 2000)
60.	Japan (7 August 2006)	26.	Brazil (8 March 2000)
59.	Estonia (7 August 2006)	25.	Australia (23 December 1999)
58.	Slovenia (15 June 2006)	24.	Uruguay (10 September 1999)
57.	Poland (14 March 2006)	23.	Canada (3 August 1999)
56.	Liberia (16 September 2005)	22.	Monaco (9 June 1999)
55.	Guinea (16 September 2005)	21.	Papua New Guinea (4 June 1999)
54.	Kiribati (15 September 2005)	20.	Cook Islands (1 April 1999)
53.	Belize (14 July 2005)	19.	Maldives (30 December 1998)
52.	Kenya (13 July 2004)	18.	Iran (Islamic Republic of) (17 April 1998)
51.	Sweden (19 December 2003)	17.	Namibia (8 April 1998)
50.	Spain (19 December 2003)	16.	Seychelles (20 March 1998)
49.	Portugal (19 December 2003)	15.	Russian Federation (4 August 1997)
48.	Netherlands (19 December 2003)	14.	Micronesia (Federated States of) (23 May 1997)
47.	Luxembourg (19 December 2003)	13.	Mauritius (25 March 1997)
46.	Italy (19 December 2003)	12.	Iceland (14 February 1997)
45.	Ireland (19 December 2003)	11.	Solomon Islands (13 February 1997)
44.	Greece (19 December 2003)	10.	Senegal (30 January 1997)
43.	Germany (19 December 2003)	9.	Bahamas (16 January 1997)
42.	France (19 December 2003)	8.	Nauru (10 January 1997)
41.	Finland (19 December 2003)	7.	Norway (30 December 1996)
40.	Denmark (19 December 2003)	6.	Fiji (12 December 1996)
39.	Belgium (19 December 2003)	5.	Samoa (25 October 1996)
38.	Austria (19 December 2003)	4.	Sri Lanka (24 October 1996)
37.	European Community (19 December 2003)	3.	United States of America (21 August 1996)
36.	India (19 August 2003)	2.	Saint Lucia (9 August 1996)
35.	South Africa (14 August 2003)	1.	Tonga (31 July 1996)
34.	Marshall Islands (19 March 2003)		

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