

**United Nations Human Rights Treaty System (Treaties and Optional Protocols),  
Year of General Assembly Approval, Number of States Parties, Whether the US is a  
Party or Not, US Limitations, Number of Signatories, Whether US is a Signatory or  
Not (May 1, 2010). Amount of Change, if any, since February 1, 2010 is in  
Parentheses.**

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- International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (ICERD), 1965  
173 parties, U.S. is a party – 3 reservations, 1 understanding, and 1 declaration\*  
85 signatories, US is a signatory
- International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR), 1966  
160 parties; US is not a party  
69 signatories; US is a signatory
- International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR), 1966  
165 parties; US is a party – 5 reservations, 5 understandings, 3 declarations\*  
72 signatories; US is a signatory
- Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), 1979  
186 parties; US is not a party  
98 signatories; US is a signatory
- Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CAT), 1984  
146 parties; US is a party – 2 reservations, 9 understandings, 1 declaration\*  
76 signatories; US is a signatory
- Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), 1989  
193 parties; US is not a party  
140 signatories; US is a signatory
- International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their  
Families (ICRMW), 1990  
42 parties; US is not a party  
31 signatories; US is not a signatory
- Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), 2006  
85 (+8) parties; US is not a party  
144 signatories; US is a signatory
- Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (ICCPR-OP1) (implements  
Treaty), 1966  
113 parties; US is not a party  
35 signatories; US is not a signatory
- Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the  
abolition of the death penalty, (ICCPR-OP2) 1989  
72 parties; US is not a party  
35 signatories; US is not a signatory
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women  
(OP-CEDAW) (implements Treaty), 1999  
99 parties; US is not a party  
79 signatories; US is not a signatory
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed  
conflict (OP-CRC-AC), 2000  
132 (+1) parties; US is a party – 8 understandings, 4 declarations\*  
125 signatories; US is a signatory
- Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution  
and child pornography (OP-CRC-SC), 2000  
137 (+2) parties; US is a party – 1 reservation, 9 understandings\*  
117 signatories; US is a signatory

Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (implements Treaty), (OP-CAT), 2002  
50 parties; US is not a party  
64 signatories; US is not a signatory

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (implements Treaty), (OP-CRPD) 2008  
52 (+4) parties; US is not a party  
88 signatories; US is not a signatory

International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance. 2006  
Not yet in force; 18 parties and 83 (+2) signatories  
The US is neither a party nor a signatory

Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, 2008  
Not yet in force; 32 (+1) signatories  
The US is not a signatory

\*The United States has attached reservations, understandings and/or declarations to each of the three treaties and two protocols that it has ratified, thus limiting for itself the full applicability of each treaty/protocol. (e.g., the United States has declared each of the three treaties it has ratified to be “not self-executing”).

Errata – In the previous table (February 1, 2010), the number of parties and signatories for OP-CRC-AC were mistakenly interchanged.

This table will be updated quarterly for this ACLU-NC website. Updates will be referenced in LIBERTY, the ACLU-NC’s quarterly newsletter. The next update will report treaty status as of August 1, 2010. We welcome your comments/questions/suggestions.

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Source: United Nations Treaty Collection:  
<http://treaties.un.org/Pages/Treaties.aspx?id=4&subid=A&lang=en>