

US Ratification and Accession* to UN Human Rights Instruments

State Party
 Signatory
 No Action

NA signifies No Action taken by the US

International Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination	Signature: 1966, Ratification/Accession: 1994	✓
International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Signature: 1977, Ratification/Accession: 1992	✓
Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Second Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, aiming at the abolition of the death penalty	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Signature: 1977, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Signature: 1980, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	Signature: 1988, Ratification/Accession: 1994	✓
Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture and Other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Convention on the Rights of the Child	Signature: 1995, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict	Signature: 2000, Ratification/Accession: 2002	✓
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of children, child prostitution and child pornography	Signature: 2000, Ratification/Accession: 2002	✓
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on a communications procedure	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearance	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Signature: 2009, Ratification/Accession: NA	
Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities	Signature: NA, Ratification/Accession: NA	

* Though accession has the same legal effect as ratification, the procedures differ. In the case of ratification, the State first signs and then ratifies the treaty. In the US the senate must ratify treaties. The procedure for accession has only one step – it is not preceded by an act of signature.