

Methodology

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All the ratification and reporting data in this publication was taken from the UN OHCHR website. Information on reservations, declarations, and statements submitted by states was also taken from the UN OHCHR website.

However, in some cases information was taken from treaty bodies reports to clarify the number of reservations made by a state.

With regards to reservations, declarations and submitted statements, the information and documentation was in some cases found to be ambiguous. A distinction between a reservation and a declaration was not always clearly made. In some cases a declaration made by a state effectively amounted to a reservation. In order to present an accurate overview of the legal commitments made by each state, in those cases where legal expertise deemed that a declaration or uncodified statement amounted to a reservation, it has been counted as such.

Reservations placed on two or more sub-articles have been counted as a single reservation if only one legal obligation is involved.

In the case of Optional Protocols which establish an individual complaint mechanism, statements submitted by the state upon ratification which serve solely to highlight

reservations made on the corresponding treaty have not been counted.

This methodology places a tighter analysis than was used previously on the reservations and declarations made by states. As such, some information contained in the first edition of this publication has been altered to reflect a more accurate account of the legal commitments made by each state.

The date given for the establishment of NHRIs is the date when each institution became a fully functioning body.