

No. 4577

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**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN  
AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Declaration recognizing as compulsory the jurisdiction of  
the International Court of Justice, in conformity with  
Article 36, paragraph 2, of the Statute of the Inter-  
national Court of Justice. New York, 26 November  
1958**

*Official text: English.*

*Registered ex officio on 26 November 1958.*

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD**

**Déclaration reconnaissant comme obligatoire la juridiction  
de la Cour internationale de Justice, conformément  
au paragraphe 2 de l'Article 36 du Statut de la Cour  
internationale de Justice. New-York, 26 novembre  
1958**

*Texte officiel anglais.*

*Enregistré d'office le 26 novembre 1958.*

No. 4577. UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND : DECLARATION<sup>1</sup> RECOGNIZING AS COMPULSORY THE JURISDICTION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE, IN CONFORMITY WITH ARTICLE 36, PARAGRAPH 2, OF THE STATUTE OF THE INTERNATIONAL COURT OF JUSTICE. NEW YORK, 26 NOVEMBER 1958

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UNITED KINGDOM MISSION TO THE UNITED NATIONS  
NEW YORK

(1641/33/58)

November 26, 1958

Your Excellency,

I have the honour, by direction of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, to declare on behalf of the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland that they accept as compulsory *ipso facto* and without special convention, on condition of reciprocity, the jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice, in conformity with paragraph 2 of Article 36 of the Statute of the Court, until such time as notice may be given to terminate the acceptance, over all disputes arising after the 5th of February, 1930, with regard to situations or facts subsequent to the same date, other than :

- (i) disputes in regard to which the Parties to the dispute have agreed or shall agree to have recourse to some other method of peaceful settlement ;
- (ii) disputes with the Government of any other country which is a Member of the British Commonwealth of Nations, all of which disputes shall be settled in such manner as the Parties have agreed or shall agree ;
- (iii) disputes with regard to questions which by international law fall exclusively within the jurisdiction of the United Kingdom ;
- (iv) disputes arising out of events occurring between the 3rd of September, 1939, and the 2nd of September, 1945 ;
- (v) without prejudice to the operation of sub-paragraph (iv) above, disputes arising out of, or having reference to, any hostilities, war, state of war, or belligerent or military occupation in which the Government of the United Kingdom are or have been involved ;

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<sup>1</sup> Deposited with the Secretary-General of the United Nations on 26 November 1958.

- (vi) disputes concerning any question relating to or arising out of events occurring before the date of the present Declaration which, had they been the subject of proceedings brought before the International Court of Justice previous to that date, would have been excluded from the Court's compulsory jurisdiction under the second part of the Reservation numbered (v) in the previous United Kingdom Declaration dated the 18th of April, 1957,<sup>1</sup> namely that part which started with the words "...or relating to any question..." and ended with the words "...dependent territories" ;
- (vii) disputes relating to any matter excluded from compulsory adjudication or arbitration under any treaty, convention or other international agreement or instrument to which the United Kingdom is a party ;
- (viii) disputes in respect of which arbitral or judicial proceedings are taking, or have taken place, with any State which, at the date of the commencement of the proceedings, had not itself accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice ; and
- (ix) disputes in respect of which any other Party to the dispute has accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the International Court of Justice only in relation to or for the purposes of the dispute ; or where the acceptance of the Court's compulsory jurisdiction on behalf of any other Party to the dispute was deposited or ratified less than twelve months prior to the filing of the application bringing the dispute before the Court.

2. The Government of the United Kingdom also reserves the right at any time, by means of a notification addressed to the Secretary-General of the United Nations, and with effect as from the moment of such notification, either to add to, amend or withdraw any of the foregoing reservations, or any that may hereafter be added.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

Pierson DIXON

His Excellency Mr. Dag Hammarskjöld  
Secretary-General of the United Nations

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 265, p. 221, and p. 385 of this volume.