

# Circular 38a

## International Copyright Relations of the United States

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### GENERAL INFORMATION

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This circular sets forth U.S. copyright relations of current interest with the other independent nations of the world. Each entry gives country name (and alternate name) and a statement of copyright relations. The following code is used:

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|-------------------|--|-------------------|---|
| <b>BAC</b>        | Party to the Buenos Aires Convention of 1910, as of the date given. U.S. ratification deposited with the Government of Argentina, May 1, 1911; proclaimed by the President of the United States, July 13, 1914.  | <b>UCC Geneva</b> | Party to the Universal Copyright Convention, Geneva, 1952, as of the date given. The effective date for the United States is September 16, 1955.  |
| <b>Berne</b>      | Party to the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works as of the date given. Appearing within parentheses is the latest Act <sup>1</sup> of the Convention to which the country is party. The effective date for the United States is March 1, 1989. The latest Act of the Convention, to which the United States is party, is the revision done at Paris on July 24, 1971. | <b>UCC Paris</b>  | Party to the Universal Copyright Convention as revised at Paris, 1971, as of the date given. The effective date for the United States is July 10, 1974.   |
| <b>Bilateral</b>  | Bilateral copyright relations with the United States by virtue of a proclamation or treaty, as of the date given. Where there is more than one proclamation or treaty, only the date of the first one is given.  | <b>Unclear</b>    | Became independent since 1943. Has not established copyright relations with the United States, but may be honoring obligations incurred under former political status.  |
| <b>None</b>       | No copyright relations with the United States.   | <b>WCT</b>        | Party to the World Intellectual Property Organization Copyright Treaty, Geneva, 1996, as of the date provided. The effective date for the United States is March 6, 2002, the date the treaty entered into force.   |
| <b>Phonograms</b> | Party to the Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms, Geneva, 1971, as of the date given. The effective date for the United States is March 10, 1974.  | <b>WPPT</b>       | Party to the World Intellectual Property Organization Performances and Phonograms Treaty, Geneva, 1996, as of the date provided. The effective date for the United States is May 20, 2002, the date the treaty entered into force.  |
| <b>SAT</b>        | Party to the Convention Relating to the Distribution of PROGRAMME-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite, Brussels, 1974, as of the date given. The effective date for the United States is March 7, 1985.  | <b>WTO</b>        | Member of the World Trade Organization (WTO), established pursuant to the Marrakesh Agreement of April 15, 1994, to implement the Uruguay Round Agreements. These Agreements affect, among other things, intangible property rights, including copyright and other intellectual property rights. The effective date of United States membership in the WTO is January 1, 1995. A country's membership in the WTO is effective as of the date indicated. |

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**RELATIONS AS OF JANUARY 2003**

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**Afghanistan**

None

**Albania**

Berne March 6, 1994 (Paris)<sup>1</sup>  
WTO Sept. 8, 2000  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Algeria**

UCC Geneva Aug. 28, 1973  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
Berne April 19, 1998 (Paris)

**Andorra**

UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955

**Angola**

WTO Nov. 23, 1996

**Antigua and Barbuda**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne March 17, 2000 (Paris)

**Argentina**

Bilateral Aug. 23, 1934  
BAC April 19, 1950  
UCC Geneva Feb. 13, 1958  
Berne June 10, 1967 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Phonograms June 30, 1973  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Armenia**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
SAT Dec. 13, 1993  
Berne Oct. 19, 2000 (Paris)

**Australia**

Bilateral March 15, 1918  
Berne April 14, 1928 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva May 1, 1969  
Phonograms June 22, 1974  
UCC Paris Feb. 28, 1978  
SAT Oct. 26, 1990  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Austria**

Bilateral Sept. 20, 1907  
Berne Oct. 1, 1920 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva July 2, 1957  
SAT Aug. 6, 1982  
UCC Paris Aug. 14, 1982  
Phonograms Aug. 21, 1982  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Azerbaijan**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
Berne June 4, 1999 (Paris)  
Phonograms Sept. 1, 2001

**Bahamas, The**

Berne July 10, 1973 (Brussels)  
UCC Geneva Dec. 27, 1976  
UCC Paris Dec. 27, 1976

**Bahrain**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne March 2, 1997 (Paris)

**Bangladesh**

UCC Geneva Aug. 5, 1975  
UCC Paris Aug. 5, 1975  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne May 4, 1999 (Paris)

**Barbados**

UCC Geneva June 18, 1983  
UCC Paris June 18, 1983  
Berne July 30, 1983 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Phonograms July 29, 1983  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Belarus**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
Berne Dec. 12, 1997 (Paris)  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Belgium**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

**Belize**

UCC Geneva Dec. 1, 1982  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne June 17, 2000 (Paris)

**Benin**

Berne Jan. 3, 1961 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Feb. 22, 1996

**Bhutan**

None

**Bolivia**

BAC May 15, 1914  
UCC Geneva March 22, 1990  
UCC Paris March 22, 1990  
Berne Nov. 4, 1993 (Paris)  
WTO Sept. 12, 1995

**Bosnia and Herzegovina**

UCC Geneva May 11, 1966  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
Berne March 1, 1992 (Paris)  
SAT March 6, 1992

**Botswana**

WTO May 31, 1995  
Berne April 15, 1998 (Paris)

**Brazil**

BAC Aug. 31, 1915  
Berne Feb. 9, 1922 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral April 2, 1957  
UCC Geneva Jan. 13, 1960  
Phonograms Nov. 28, 1975  
UCC Paris Dec. 11, 1975  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Brunei**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Bulgaria**

Berne Dec. 5, 1921 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva June 7, 1975  
UCC Paris June 7, 1975  
Phonograms Sept. 6, 1995  
WTO Dec. 1, 1996  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Burkina Faso**

Berne Aug. 19, 1963 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Phonograms Jan. 30, 1988  
WTO June 3, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Burundi**

WTO July 23, 1995

**Cambodia**

UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955

**Cameroon**

Berne Sept. 21, 1964 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva May 1, 1973  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
WTO Dec. 13, 1995

**Canada**

Bilateral Jan. 1, 1924  
Berne April 10, 1928 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Aug. 10, 1962  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Cape Verde**

Berne July 7, 1997 (Paris)

**Central African Republic**

Berne Sept. 3, 1977 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO May 31, 1995

**Chad**

Berne Nov. 25, 1971 (Brussels)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Oct. 19, 1996

**Chile**

Bilateral May 25, 1896  
BAC June 14, 1955  
UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955  
Berne June 5, 1970 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Phonograms March 24, 1977  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**China**

Bilateral Jan. 13, 1904<sup>5</sup>  
Bilateral March 17, 1992<sup>9</sup>  
Berne Oct. 15, 1992 (Paris)  
UCC Geneva Oct. 30, 1992  
UCC Paris Oct. 30, 1992  
Phonograms April 30, 1993  
WTO Dec. 22, 2001

**Chinese Taipei**

WTO Jan. 1, 2002

**Colombia**

BAC Dec. 23, 1936

UCC Geneva June 18, 1976

UCC Paris June 18, 1976

Berne March 7, 1988 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

Phonograms May 16, 1994

WTO April 30, 1995

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Comoros**

Unclear

**Congo, Democratic Republic of the**

Berne Oct. 8, 1963 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

Phonograms Nov. 29, 1977

WTO Jan. 1, 1997

**Congo, Republic of the**

Berne May 8, 1962 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

WTO March 27, 1997

**Costa Rica<sup>6</sup>**

Bilateral Oct. 19, 1899

BAC Nov. 30, 1916

UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955

Berne June 10, 1978 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

UCC Paris March 7, 1980

Phonograms June 17, 1982

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

SAT June 25, 1999

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Cote d'Ivoire**

Berne Jan. 1, 1962 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Croatia**

UCC Geneva May 11, 1966

UCC Paris July 10, 1974

Berne Oct. 8, 1991 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

SAT Oct. 8, 1991

Phonograms April 20, 2000

WTO Nov. 30, 2000

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Cuba**

Bilateral Nov. 17, 1903

UCC Geneva June 18, 1957

WTO April 20, 1995

Berne Feb. 20, 1997 (Paris)

**Cyprus**

Berne Feb. 24, 1964 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

UCC Geneva Dec. 19, 1990

UCC Paris Dec. 19, 1990

Phonograms Sept. 30, 1993

WTO July 30, 1995

**Czech Republic**

UCC Geneva Jan. 6, 1960

UCC Paris April 17, 1980

Berne Jan. 1, 1993 (Paris)

Phonograms Jan. 1, 1993

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Denmark**

Bilateral May 8, 1893

Berne July 1, 1903 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

UCC Geneva Feb. 9, 1962

Phonograms March 24, 1977

UCC Paris July 11, 1979

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Djibouti**

WTO May 31, 1995

Berne May 13, 2002 (Paris)

**Dominica**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

Berne Aug. 7, 1999 (Paris)

**Dominican Republic<sup>6</sup>**

BAC Oct. 31, 1912

UCC Geneva May 8, 1983

UCC Paris May 8, 1983

WTO March 9, 1995

Berne Dec. 24, 1997 (Paris)

**Ecuador**

BAC Aug. 31, 1914

UCC Geneva June 5, 1957

Phonograms Sept. 14, 1974

UCC Paris Sept. 6, 1991

Berne Oct. 9, 1991 (Paris)

WTO Jan. 21, 1996

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Egypt**

Berne June 7, 1977 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

Phonograms April 23, 1978

WTO June 30, 1995

**El Salvador**

Bilateral June 30, 1908, by virtue of

Mexico City Convention, 1902

Phonograms Feb. 9, 1979

UCC Geneva March 29, 1979

UCC Paris March 29, 1979

Berne Feb. 19, 1994 (Paris)

WTO May 7, 1995

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Equatorial Guinea**

Berne June 26, 1997 (Paris)

**Estonia**

Berne Oct. 26, 1994 (Paris)

WTO Nov. 13, 1999

Phonograms May 28, 2000

**Ethiopia**

None

**European Community**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Fiji**

Berne Dec. 1, 1971 (Brussels)<sup>2</sup>

UCC Geneva March 13, 1972

Phonograms April. 18, 1973<sup>3</sup>

WTO Jan. 14, 1996

**Finland**

Berne April 1, 1928 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

Bilateral Jan. 1, 1929

UCC Geneva April 16, 1963

Phonograms April 18, 1973<sup>3</sup>

UCC Paris Nov. 1, 1986

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**France**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

Bilateral July 1, 1891<sup>14</sup>

UCC Geneva Jan. 14, 1956

Phonograms April 18, 1973<sup>3</sup>

UCC Paris July 10, 1974

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Gabon**

Berne March 26, 1962 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Gambia, The**

Berne March 7, 1993 (Paris)

WTO Oct. 23, 1996

**Georgia<sup>17</sup>**

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973

Berne May 16, 1995 (Paris)

WTO June 14, 2000

WCT March 6, 2002

WPPT May 20, 2002

**Germany<sup>10, 15</sup>**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2, 7</sup>

Bilateral April 15, 1892

UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955

Bilateral July 12, 1967<sup>15</sup>

Phonograms May 18, 1974

UCC Paris July 10, 1974

SAT Aug. 25, 1979<sup>4</sup>

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Ghana**

UCC Geneva Aug. 22, 1962

Berne Oct. 11, 1991 (Paris)

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Greece**

Berne Nov. 9, 1920 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

Bilateral March 1, 1932

UCC Geneva Aug. 24, 1963

SAT Oct. 22, 1991

Phonograms Feb. 9, 1994

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Grenada**

WTO Feb. 22, 1996  
Berne Sept. 22, 1998 (Paris)

**Guatemala**<sup>6</sup>

BAC March 28, 1913  
UCC Geneva Oct. 28, 1964  
Phonograms Feb. 1, 1977  
WTO July 21, 1995  
Berne July 28, 1997 (Paris)  
WCT Feb. 4, 2003  
WPPT Jan. 8, 2003

**Guinea**

Berne Nov. 20, 1980 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Nov. 13, 1981  
UCC Paris Nov. 13, 1981  
WTO Oct. 25, 1995  
WCT May 25, 2002  
WPPT May 25, 2002

**Guinea-Bissau**

Berne July 22, 1991 (Paris)  
WTO May 31, 1995

**Guyana**

Berne Oct. 25, 1994 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Haiti**

BAC Nov. 27, 1919  
UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955  
Berne Jan. 11, 1996 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 30, 1996

**Honduras**<sup>6</sup>

BAC April 27, 1914  
Berne Jan. 25, 1990 (Paris)  
Phonograms March 6, 1990  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT May 20, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Hong Kong**<sup>12</sup>

WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne July 1, 1997 (Paris)  
Phonograms July 1, 1997

**Hungary**

Bilateral Oct. 16, 1912  
Berne Feb. 14, 1922 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Jan. 23, 1971  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
Phonograms May 28, 1975  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Iceland**

Berne Sept. 7, 1947 (Rome)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Dec. 18, 1956  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**India**

Berne April 1, 1928 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral Aug. 15, 1947  
UCC Geneva Jan. 21, 1958  
Phonograms Feb. 12, 1975  
UCC Paris April 7, 1988  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Indonesia**

Bilateral Aug. 1, 1989  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne Sept. 5, 1997 (Paris)  
WCT March 6, 2002

**Iran**

None

**Iraq**

None

**Ireland**

Berne Oct. 5, 1927 (Brussels)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral Oct. 1, 1929  
UCC Geneva Jan. 20, 1959  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Israel**

Bilateral May 15, 1948  
Berne March 24, 1950 (Brussels)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955  
Phonograms May 1, 1978  
WTO April 21, 1995

**Italy**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral Oct. 31, 1892  
UCC Geneva Jan. 24, 1957  
Phonograms March 24, 1977  
UCC Paris Jan. 25, 1980  
SAT July 7, 1981<sup>4</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Jamaica**

Berne Jan. 1, 1994 (Paris)  
Phonograms Jan. 11, 1994  
WTO March 9, 1995  
SAT Jan. 12, 2000  
WCT June 12, 2002  
WPPT June 12, 2002

**Japan**<sup>8</sup>

Berne July 15, 1899 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva April 28, 1956  
UCC Paris Oct. 21, 1977  
Phonograms Oct. 14, 1978  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT Oct. 9, 2002

**Jordan**

Berne July 28, 1999 (Paris)  
WTO April 11, 2000  
Bilateral Dec. 17, 2001<sup>16</sup>

**Kazakhstan**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
Berne April 12, 1999 (Paris)  
Phonograms Aug. 3, 2001

**Kenya**

UCC Geneva Sept. 7, 1966  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
Phonograms April 21, 1976  
SAT Aug. 25, 1979<sup>4</sup>  
Berne June 11, 1993 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Kiribati**

Unclear

**Korea, North**

Unclear

**Korea, South**

UCC Geneva Oct. 1, 1987  
UCC Paris Oct. 1, 1987  
Phonograms Oct. 10, 1987  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne Aug. 21, 1996 (Paris)

**Kuwait**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Kyrgyz Republic**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
WTO Dec. 20, 1998  
Berne July 8, 1999 (Paris)  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT Aug. 15, 2002  
Phonograms Oct. 12, 2002

**Laos**

UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955

**Latvia**

Berne Aug. 11, 1995 (Paris)  
Phonograms Aug. 23, 1997  
WTO Feb. 10, 1999  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Lebanon**

Berne Sept. 30, 1947 (Rome)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Oct. 17, 1959

**Lesotho**

Berne Sept. 28, 1989 (Paris)  
WTO May 31, 1995

**Liberia**

UCC Geneva July 27, 1956  
Berne March 8, 1989 (Paris)

**Libya**

Berne Sept. 28, 1976 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>

**Liechtenstein**

Berne July 30, 1931 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Jan. 22, 1959  
WTO Sept. 1, 1995  
Phonograms Oct. 12, 1999  
UCC Paris Nov. 11, 1999

**Lithuania**

Berne Dec. 14, 1994 (Paris)  
Phonograms Jan. 27, 2000  
WTO May 31, 2001  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Luxembourg**

Berne June 20, 1888 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral June 29, 1910  
UCC Geneva Oct. 15, 1955  
Phonograms March 8, 1976  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Macau**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne Dec. 20, 1999 (Paris)

**Macedonia**

Berne Sept. 8, 1991 (Paris)  
SAT Nov. 17, 1991  
UCC Geneva July 30, 1997  
UCC Paris July 30, 1997  
Phonograms March 2, 1998

**Madagascar**

Berne Jan. 1, 1966 (Brussels)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Nov. 17, 1995

**Malawi**

UCC Geneva Oct. 26, 1965  
Berne Oct. 12, 1991 (Paris)  
WTO May 31, 1995

**Malaysia**

Berne Oct. 1, 1990 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Maldives**

WTO May 31, 1995

**Mali**

Berne March 19, 1962 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO May 31, 1995  
WCT April 24, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Malta**

Berne Sept. 21, 1964 (Rome)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Nov. 19, 1968  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Mauritania**

Berne Feb. 6, 1973 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO May 31, 1995

**Mauritius**

UCC Geneva March 12, 1968  
Berne May 10, 1989 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Mexico**

Bilateral Feb. 27, 1896  
UCC Geneva May 12, 1957  
BAC April 24, 1964  
Berne June 11, 1967 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Phonograms Dec. 21, 1973<sup>3</sup>  
UCC Paris Oct. 31, 1975  
SAT Aug. 25, 1979<sup>4</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Moldova**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
Berne Nov. 2, 1995 (Paris)  
Phonograms July 17, 2000  
WTO July 26, 2001  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Monaco**

Berne May 30, 1889 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral Oct. 15, 1952  
UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955  
Phonograms Dec. 2, 1974  
UCC Paris Dec. 13, 1974

**Mongolia**

WTO Jan. 29, 1997  
Berne March 12, 1998 (Paris)  
WCT Oct. 25, 2002  
WPPT Oct. 25, 2002

**Morocco**

Berne June 16, 1917 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva May 8, 1972  
UCC Paris Jan. 28, 1976  
SAT June 30, 1983<sup>4</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Mozambique**

WTO Aug. 26, 1995

**Myanmar, Union of**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Namibia**

Berne March 21, 1990 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Nauru**

Unclear

**Nepal**

None

**Netherlands and Possessions**

Bilateral Nov. 20, 1899  
Berne Nov. 1, 1912 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva June 22, 1967  
UCC Paris Nov. 30, 1985  
Phonograms Oct. 12, 1993  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**New Zealand**

Bilateral Dec. 1, 1916  
Berne April 24, 1928 (Rome)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Sept. 11, 1964  
Phonograms Aug. 13, 1976  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Nicaragua**<sup>6</sup>

BAC Dec. 15, 1913  
UCC Geneva Aug. 16, 1961  
SAT Aug. 25, 1979<sup>4</sup>  
WTO Sept. 3, 1995  
Phonograms Aug. 10, 2000  
Berne Aug. 23, 2000 (Paris)  
WCT March 6, 2003  
WPPT March 6, 2003

**Niger**

Berne May 2, 1962 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva May 15, 1989  
UCC Paris May 15, 1989  
WTO Dec. 13, 1996

**Nigeria**

UCC Geneva Feb. 14, 1962  
Berne Sept. 14, 1993 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Norway**

Berne April 13, 1896 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral July 1, 1905  
UCC Geneva Jan. 23, 1963  
UCC Paris Aug. 7, 1974  
Phonograms Aug. 1, 1978  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Oman**

Berne July 14, 1999 (Paris)  
WTO Nov. 9, 2000

**Pakistan**

Berne July 5, 1948 (Rome)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Palau**

Unclear

**Panama**

BAC Nov. 25, 1913  
UCC Geneva Oct. 17, 1962  
Phonograms June 29, 1974  
UCC Paris Sept. 3, 1980  
SAT Sept. 25, 1985  
Berne June 8, 1996 (Paris)  
WTO Sept. 6, 1997  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Papua New Guinea**

WTO June 9, 1996

**Paraguay**

BAC Sept. 20, 1917  
UCC Geneva March 11, 1962  
Phonograms Feb. 13, 1979  
Berne Jan. 2, 1992 (Paris)  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Peru**

BAC April 30, 1920  
UCC Geneva Oct. 16, 1963  
UCC Paris July 22, 1985  
SAT Aug. 7, 1985  
Phonograms Aug. 24, 1985  
Berne Aug. 20, 1988 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT July 18, 2002

**Philippines**

Bilateral Oct. 21, 1948  
Berne Aug. 1, 1951 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT Oct. 4, 2002  
WPPT Oct. 4, 2002

**Poland**

Berne Jan. 28, 1920 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral Feb. 16, 1927  
UCC Geneva March 9, 1977  
UCC Paris March 9, 1977  
WTO July 1, 1995

**Portugal**

Bilateral July 20, 1893  
Berne March 29, 1911 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Dec. 25, 1956  
UCC Paris July 30, 1981  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
SAT March 11, 1996

**Qatar**

WTO Jan. 13, 1996  
Berne July 5, 2000 (Paris)

**Romania**

Berne Jan. 1, 1927 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral May 14, 1928  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Phonograms Oct. 1, 1998  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Russia<sup>17</sup>**

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
SAT Dec. 25, 1991  
UCC Paris March 9, 1995  
Berne March 13, 1995 (Paris)  
Phonograms March 13, 1995

**Rwanda**

Berne March 1, 1984 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Nov. 10, 1989  
UCC Paris Nov. 10, 1989  
WTO May 22, 1996

**St. Kitts and Nevis**

Berne April 9, 1995 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Feb. 21, 1996

**Saint Lucia**

Berne Aug. 24, 1993 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Phonograms April 2, 2001  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Saint Vincent and the Grenadines**

UCC Geneva April 22, 1985  
UCC Paris April 22, 1985  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne Aug. 29, 1995 (Paris)

**San Marino**

None

**São Tomé and Príncipe**

Unclear

**Saudi Arabia**

UCC Geneva July 13, 1994  
UCC Paris July 13, 1994

**Senegal**

Berne Aug. 25, 1962 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva July 9, 1974  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT May 18, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Serbia and Montenegro**

Berne June 17, 1930 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva May 11, 1966  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
SAT Aug. 25, 1979 4

**Seychelles**

Unclear

**Sierra Leone**

WTO July 23, 1995

**Singapore**

Bilateral May 18, 1987  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne Dec. 21, 1998 (Paris)

**Slovakia**

UCC Geneva Jan. 6, 1960  
UCC Paris April 17, 1980  
Berne Jan. 1, 1993 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Phonograms Jan. 1, 1993  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Slovenia**

UCC Geneva May 11, 1966  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
Berne June 25, 1991 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
SAT June 25, 1991  
WTO July 30, 1995  
Phonograms Oct. 15, 1996  
WCT March 6, 2002  
WPPT May 20, 2002

**Solomon Islands**

WTO July 26, 1996

**Somalia**

Unclear

**South Africa**

Bilateral July 1, 1924  
Berne Oct. 3, 1928 (Brussels)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Spain**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral July 10, 1895  
UCC Geneva Sept. 16, 1955  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
Phonograms Aug. 24, 1974  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Sri Lanka**

Berne July 20, 1959 (Rome)<sup>2</sup>  
UCC Geneva Jan. 25, 1984  
UCC Paris Jan. 25, 1984  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Sudan**

Berne Dec. 28, 2000 (Paris)

**Suriname**

Berne Feb. 23, 1977 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Swaziland**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
Berne Dec. 14, 1998 (Paris)

**Sweden**

Berne Aug. 1, 1904 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral June 1, 1911  
UCC Geneva July 1, 1961  
Phonograms April 18, 1973<sup>3</sup>  
UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Switzerland**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
Bilateral July 1, 1891<sup>14</sup>  
UCC Geneva March 30, 1956  
UCC Paris Sept. 21, 1993  
SAT Sept. 24, 1993  
Phonograms Sept. 30, 1993  
WTO July 1, 1995

**Syria**

Unclear

**Tajikistan**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
 Berne March 9, 2000 (Paris)

**Tanzania**

Berne July 25, 1994 (Paris)  
 WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Thailand**

Bilateral Sept. 1, 1921  
 Berne July 17, 1931 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Togo**

Berne April 30, 1975 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 WTO May 31, 1995

**Tonga**

Berne June 14, 2001 (Paris)

**Trinidad and Tobago**

Berne Aug. 16, 1988 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 UCC Geneva Aug. 19, 1988  
 UCC Paris Aug. 19, 1988  
 Phonograms Oct. 1, 1988  
 WTO March 1, 1995  
 SAT Nov. 1, 1996

**Tunisia**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 UCC Geneva June 19, 1969  
 UCC Paris June 10, 1975  
 WTO March 29, 1995

**Turkey**

Berne Jan. 1, 1952 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 WTO March 26, 1995

**Turkmenistan**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973

**Tuvalu**

Unclear

**Uganda**

WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Ukraine**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973  
 Berne Oct. 25, 1995 (Paris)  
 Phonograms Feb. 18, 2000  
 WCT March 6, 2002  
 WPPT May 20, 2002

**United Arab Emirates**

WTO April 10, 1996

**United Kingdom**

Berne Dec. 5, 1887 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 Bilateral July 1, 1891<sup>14</sup>  
 UCC Geneva Sept. 27, 1957  
 Phonograms April 18, 1973<sup>3</sup>  
 UCC Paris July 10, 1974  
 WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Uruguay**

BAC Dec. 17, 1919  
 Berne July 10, 1967 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 Phonograms Jan. 18, 1983  
 UCC Geneva April 12, 1993  
 UCC Paris April 12, 1993  
 WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Uzbekistan**<sup>17</sup>

UCC Geneva May 27, 1973

**Vanuatu**

Unclear

**Vatican City**

Berne Sept. 12, 1935 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 UCC Geneva Oct. 5, 1955  
 Phonograms July 18, 1977  
 UCC Paris May 6, 1980

**Venezuela**

UCC Geneva Sept. 30, 1966  
 Phonograms Nov. 18, 1982  
 Berne Dec. 30, 1982 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 WTO Jan. 1, 1995  
 UCC Paris Feb. 11, 1997

**Vietnam**

Bilateral Dec. 23, 1998<sup>13</sup>  
 Bilateral Dec. 10, 2001

**Yemen**

(Unclear)

**Zambia**

UCC Geneva June 1, 1965  
 Berne Jan. 2, 1992 (Paris)<sup>2</sup>  
 WTO Jan. 1, 1995

**Zimbabwe**

Berne April 18, 1980 (Rome)<sup>2</sup>  
 WTO March 5, 1995

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**STATUTORY PROVISIONS**

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Reprinted below is section 104 of title 17 of the United States Code, as of March 1, 2003.

**§ 104. Subject matter of copyright: National origin**

(a) Unpublished Works.-The works specified by sections 102 and 103, while unpublished, are subject to protection under this title without regard to the nationality or domicile of the author.

(b) **Published Works.** The works specified by sections 102 and 103, when published, are subject to protection under this title if-

(1) on the date of first publication, one or more of the authors is a national or domiciliary of the United States, or is a national, domiciliary, or sovereign authority of a treaty party, or is a stateless person, wherever that person may be domiciled; or

(2) the work is first published in the United States or in a foreign nation that, on the date of first publication, is a treaty party; or

(3) the work is a sound recording that was first fixed in a treaty party; or

(4) the work is a pictorial, graphic, or sculptural work that is incorporated in a building or other structure, or an architectural work that is embodied in a building and the building or structure is located in the United States or a treaty party; or

(5) the work is first published by the United Nations or any of its specialized agencies, or by the Organization of American States; or

(6) the work comes within the scope of a Presidential proclamation. Whenever the President finds that a particular foreign nation extends, to works by authors who are nationals or domiciliaries of the United States or to works that are first published in the United States, copyright protection on substantially the same basis as that on which the foreign nation extends protection to works of its own nationals and domiciliaries and works first published in that nation, the President may by proclamation extend protection under this title to works of which one or more of the authors is, on the date of first publication, a national, domiciliary, or sovereign authority of that nation, or which was first published in that nation. The President may revise, suspend, or revoke any such proclamation or impose any conditions or limitations on protection under a proclamation.

For purposes of paragraph (2), a work that is published in the United States or a treaty party within 30 days after publication in a foreign nation that is not a treaty party shall be considered to be first published in the United States or such treaty party, as the case may be.

(c) **Effect of Berne Convention.** No right or interest in a work eligible for protection under this title may be claimed by virtue of, or in reliance upon, the provisions of the Berne Convention, or the adherence of the United States thereto. Any rights in a work eligible for protection under this title that derive from this title, other Federal or State statutes, or the common law, shall not be expanded or reduced by virtue of, or in reliance upon, the provisions of the Berne Convention, or the adherence of the United States thereto.

(d) **Effect of Phonograms Treaties.** Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (b), no works other than sound recordings shall be eligible for protection under this title solely by virtue of the adherence of the United States to the Geneva Phonograms Convention or the WIPO Performances and Phonograms Treaty.

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#### **SOME POINTS TO REMEMBER REGARDING THE INTERNATIONAL PROTECTION OF LITERARY AND ARTISTIC WORKS**

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There is no such thing as an “international copyright” that will automatically protect an author’s writings throughout the world. Protection against unauthorized use in a particular country basically depends on the national laws of that country. However, most countries offer protection to foreign works under certain conditions that have been greatly simplified by international copyright treaties and conventions. There are two principal international copyright conventions, the Berne Union for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Property (Berne Convention) and the Universal Copyright Convention (UCC).

An author who wishes copyright protection for his or her work in a particular country should first determine the extent of the protection available to works of foreign authors in that country. If possible, this should be done before the work is published anywhere, because protection may depend on the facts existing at the time of first publication.

If the country in which protection is sought is a party to one of the international copyright conventions, the work generally may be protected by complying with the conditions of that convention. Even if the work cannot be brought under an international convention, protection under the specific provisions of the country’s national laws may still be possible. There are, however, some countries that offer little or no copyright protection to any foreign works. For current information on the requirements and protection provided by other countries, it may be advisable to consult an expert familiar with foreign copyright laws. The U.S. Copyright Office is not permitted to recommend agents or attorneys or to give legal advice on foreign laws.

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#### **FOOTNOTES**

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<sup>1</sup> “Paris” means the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works as revised at Paris on July 24, 1971 (Paris Act)

“Stockholm” means the said Convention as revised at Stockholm on July 14, 1967 (Stockholm Act) “Brussels” means the said Convention as revised at Brussels on June 26, 1948 (Brussels Act) “Rome” means the said Convention as revised at Rome on June 2, 1928 (Rome Act)

“Berlin” means the said Convention as revised at Berlin on Nov. 13, 1908 (Berlin Act).

NOTE: In each case the reference to Act signifies adherence to the substantive provisions of such Act only, e.g., Articles 1 to 21 and the Appendix of the Paris Act. Articles 22 to 38 deal with administration and structure.

<sup>2</sup> The Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works of Sept. 9, 1886, as revised at Paris on July 24, 1971, did not enter into force with respect to the United States until March 1, 1989.

<sup>3</sup> The Convention for the Protection of Producers of Phonograms Against Unauthorized Duplication of Their Phonograms done at Geneva on Oct. 29, 1971, did not enter into force with respect to the United States until March 10, 1974.

<sup>4</sup> The Convention Relating to the Distribution of Programme-Carrying Signals Transmitted by Satellite done at Brussels on May 21, 1974, did not enter into force with respect to the United States until March 7, 1985.

<sup>5</sup> The government of the People’s Republic of China views this treaty as not binding on the PRC. In the territory administered by the authorities on Taiwan the treaty is considered to be in force.

<sup>6</sup> This country became a party to the Mexico City Convention, 1902, effective June 30, 1908, to which the United States also became a party, effective on the same date. As regards copyright relations with the United States, this Convention is considered to have been superseded by adherence of this country and the United States to the Buenos Aires Convention of 1910.

<sup>7</sup> Date on which the accession by the German Empire became effective.

<sup>8</sup> Bilateral copyright relations between Japan and the United States, which were formulated effective May 10, 1906, are considered to have been abrogated and superseded by the adherence of Japan to the UCC Geneva, effective April 28, 1956.

<sup>9</sup> Bilateral copyright relations between the People’s Republic of China and the United States of America were established,



effective March 17, 1992, by a Presidential Proclamation of the same date, under the authority of section 104 of title 17 of the United States Code, as amended by the Act of Oct. 31, 1988 (Public Law 100-568, 102 Stat. 2853, 2855).

<sup>10</sup> The dates of adherence by Germany to multilateral treaties include adherence by the Federal Republic of Germany when that country was divided into the Federal Republic of Germany and the German Democratic Republic. However, through the accession, effective Oct. 3, 1990, of the German Democratic Republic to the Federal Republic of Germany, in accordance with the German Unification Treaty of Aug. 31, 1990, the German Democratic Republic ceased, on the said date, to be a sovereign state. Previously, the German Democratic Republic had become party to the Paris Act of the Berne Convention for the Protection of Literary and Artistic Works on Feb. 18, 1978, but ceased to be a party to the said Convention on Oct. 3, 1990. The German Democratic Republic had also been a member of the Universal Copyright Convention, having become party to the Geneva text of the said Convention on Oct. 5, 1973, and party to the revised Paris text of the same Convention on Dec. 10, 1980.

<sup>11</sup> See also Czech Republic and Slovakia.

<sup>12</sup> Prior to the return of Hong Kong to China, bilateral copyright relations existed with Hong Kong through the United Kingdom (from Aug. 1, 1973), and Phonogram Convention Membership existed through the United Kingdom (from March 4, 1975).

<sup>13</sup> Bilateral copyright relations between the Socialist Republic of Vietnam and the United States were established effective December 23, 1998, by Presidential Proclamation No. 7161 of that same date, at 63 Fed. Reg. 71571 (1998), under the authority of sections 104(b)(5) and 104A(g) of title 17 of the United States Code, as amended.

<sup>14</sup> Bilateral copyright relations between the United States and Belgium, France, the United Kingdom, and Switzerland were established effective July 1, 1891, by Presidential Proclamation No. 3. of that same date, at 27 Stat. 981 (1891), under the authority of The Chase Act of 1891.

<sup>15</sup> Bilateral copyright relations between the United States and Germany were established effective July 12, 1967, by Presidential Proclamation No. 3792 of that same date, at 32 Fed. Reg. 10341, under the authority of Copyright Act of 1909 amended at 55 Stat. 732.

<sup>16</sup> Bilateral copyright relations between Jordan and the United States were established pursuant to the Agreement between the United States of America and the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan on the Establishment of a Free Trade Area, signed Oct. 24, 2000, and effective Dec. 17, 2001.

<sup>17</sup> Each of the following Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) countries: Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyz Republic, Moldova, Russia, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, Ukraine, and Uzbekistan (but not the CIS countries Latvia, Lithuania, and Estonia) is a successor state to the Soviet Union's copyright treaty obligations, in particular, the obligations under the UCC Geneva, and accordingly is a member of the UCC Geneva effective May 27, 1973, the date the Soviet Union became a party. The successor status in each case was confirmed in a bilateral trade agreement between each of these countries and the United States, effective in each case on the date set forth below. Note that the successor status is consistent with the treatment by UNESCO (secretariat for the UCC) of these countries. The effective dates of the bilateral agreements with the United States confirming the successor status are as follows:

- Azerbaijan (April 21, 1995)
- Belarus (Feb. 16, 1993)
- Georgia (Aug. 13, 1993)
- Kazakhstan (Feb. 18, 1993)
- Kyrgyz Republic (Aug. 21, 1992)
- Moldova (July 2, 1992)
- Russia (June 17, 1992)
- Tajikistan (Nov. 24, 1993)
- Turkmenistan (Oct. 25, 1993)
- Ukraine (June 23, 1992)
- Uzbekistan (Jan. 13, 1994)