

N° 4216.

**AFGHANISTAN,
UNION SUD-AFRICAINE,
RÉPUBLIQUE ARGENTINE,
BELGIQUE, CHILI, etc.**

Déclaration concernant l'enseignement de l'histoire (revision des manuels scolaires). Ouverte à la signature à Genève, le 2 octobre 1937.

**AFGHANISTAN,
UNION OF SOUTH AFRICA,
ARGENTINE REPUBLIC,
BELGIUM, CHILE, etc.**

Declaration regarding the Teaching of History (Revision of School Text-books). Opened for Signature at Geneva, October 2nd, 1937.

No. 4216. — DECLARATION REGARDING THE TEACHING OF HISTORY (REVISION OF SCHOOL TEXT-BOOKS). OPENED FOR SIGNATURE AT GENEVA, OCTOBER 2ND, 1937.

Official texts in French and English. This Declaration was registered with the Secretariat, in accordance with its Paragraph 5, on November 24th, 1937, the date of its entry into force.

The undersigned Plenipotentiaries in the name of their respective Governments :
Desirous of strengthening and developing the good relations uniting them with other countries ;
Convinced that those relations will be further strengthened if the younger generation in every country is given a wider knowledge of the history of other nations ;
Realising the necessity of obviating the dangers that may arise through the tendentious presentation of certain historical events in school text-books ;

Declare that they agree, each for its own part, upon the following principles :

1. It is desirable that the attention of the competent authorities in every country, and of authors of school text-books, should be drawn to the expediency :

(a) Of assigning as large a place as possible to the history of other nations ;

(b) Of giving prominence, in the teaching of world history, to facts calculated to bring about a realisation of the interdependence of nations.

2. It is desirable that every Government should endeavour to ascertain by what means, more especially in connection with the choice of school-books, school-children may be put on their guard against all such allegations and interpretations as might arouse unjust prejudices against other nations.

3. It is desirable that in every country a committee composed of members of the teaching profession, including history teachers, should be set up by the National Committee on Intellectual Co-operation, where such exists, in collaboration with other qualified bodies.

The committees so constituted would be empowered to co-operate among themselves, and it would in any case be their function to study the questions contemplated in the present Declaration and to suggest solutions to the competent national authorities or organisations. They would, in particular, be empowered, should they think the revision of school text-books necessary, to follow the procedure provided for in the resolution adopted on July 29th, 1925, by the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation on the proposal of M. Casares, the recommendations of which were confirmed and amplified in 1932 and 1933 by the International Committee on Intellectual Co-operation and approved by the Assembly of the League of Nations.

4. The present Declaration, the French and English texts of which are equally authentic, shall bear this day's date and shall be open for signature on behalf of any Member of the League of Nations or of any non-member State to which a draft of the said Declaration has been communicated.

5. The present Declaration shall be registered by the Secretary-General of the League of Nations when it has received two signatures, on which date it shall come into force.

6. The Secretary-General of the League of Nations shall notify the Members of the League of Nations and the non-member States mentioned in paragraph 4 of the signatures received.

Fait à Genève, le deux octobre mil neuf cent trente-sept, en un seul exemplaire, qui sera déposé dans les archives du Secrétariat de la Société des Nations et dont les copies certifiées conformes seront remises à tous les Membres de la Société des Nations et aux Etats non membres visés au paragraphe 4.

Done at Geneva on the second day of October, one thousand nine hundred and thirty-seven, in a single copy, which shall be deposited in the archives of the Secretariat of the League of Nations, and of which certified true copies shall be delivered to all the Members of the League of Nations and to the non-member States mentioned in paragraph 4.

<i>Afghanistan :</i>	M. HAÏDAR. Le 24 février 1938.	<i>Afghanistan :</i>
<i>Union Sud-Africaine :</i>	H. T. ANDREWS. January 24th, 1938	<i>Union of South Africa :</i>
<i>République Argentine :</i>	Enrique RUIZ-GUIÑAZÚ. Le 20 juillet 1938.	<i>Argentine Republic :</i>
<i>Belgique :</i>	BOURQUIN. 24 novembre 1937.	<i>Belgium :</i>
<i>Chili :</i>	Enrique J. GAJARDO V. 6 janvier 1938.	<i>Chile :</i>
<i>Colombie :</i>	Luis CANO. 2 juin 1938.	<i>Colombia :</i>
<i>République Dominicaine :</i>	Ch. ACKERMANN. 5 novembre 1937.	<i>Dominican Republic :</i>
<i>Egypte :</i>	Aly CHAMSI. 1 ^{er} mars 1938.	<i>Egypt :</i>
<i>Estonie :</i>	J. KÕDAR. 8 mars 1938.	<i>Estonia :</i>
<i>Grèce :</i>	S. POLYCHRONIADIS. 6 avril 1938.	<i>Greece :</i>
<i>Iran :</i>	Abdollah BAHRAMY. Le 27 avril 1938.	<i>Iran :</i>
<i>Norvège :</i>	Einar MASENG. 5 février 1938.	<i>Norway :</i>
<i>Pays-Bas :</i>	A. LOUDON. 25 janvier 1938.	<i>The Netherlands :</i>
	Pour les Pays-Bas, y compris les Indes néerlandaises, le Surinam et Curaçao ¹ .	
<i>Suède :</i>	K. I. WESTMAN. 25 février 1938.	<i>Sweden :</i>

¹ Translation by the Secretariat of the League of Nations :
For the Netherlands, including Netherlands Indies, Surinam and Curaçao.