



Background Guide
Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty
The Future of the Antarctic Treaty

History of this committee at ADMUN:

In December 2018 I was fortunate to travel to Antarctica as a National Geographic Grosvenor Teacher Fellow. In planning to travel there, I was charged with thinking about how I would bring back this extraordinary experience to my students. As the Alice Deal Model United Nations Advisor, I believe writing this background guide is a way to tell the long histories, discuss complex and varied issues of the continent, and brainstorm solutions for the future of the world's southernmost continent.

I look forward to seeing what topics are of interest to you, what solutions you come up with, and furthering the conversation of our world communities.

Ms. Trenkle, Alice Deal MUN Advisor



Topic Background

Antarctica

The Antarctic continent is vast. It embraces the South Pole with permanent ice and snow. It is encircled by floating barriers of ice, stormy seas and appalling weather. Its great altitude chills the air to extremes, and its descent to sea level across a moving ice sheet generates the world's strongest winds. The cycling seasons reveal the spectacular natural forces of our planet. The surrounding seas teem with wildlife. And just 2% of this continent is free of ice, allowing a small toe-hold for hardy animals and plants.

The weather and isolation dominate all who visit. The discovery and exploration of Antarctica was shaped by the continent's remoteness and its extraordinarily inhospitable environment. These factors combined for centuries to keep humans away from all but the subantarctic islands and parts of the Southern Ocean where whaling and sealing took place. In human historic terms, the land exploration of Antarctica is recent, most of it being accomplished during the twentieth century.

The improved technology and knowledge of the last 100 years allowed greater access to the continent, encouraging detailed surveying and research, and the gradual occupation of Antarctica by scientific stations. By mid-century, permanent stations were being established and planning was underway for the International Geophysical Year (IGY) in 1957-58, the first substantial multi-nation research program in Antarctica. By mid-century, territorial positions had also been asserted, but not agreed, creating a tension that threatened future scientific cooperation.

The IGY was recognised as pivotal to the scientific understanding of Antarctica. The twelve nations active in Antarctica, nine of which made territorial claims or reserved the right to do so, agreed that their political and legal differences should not interfere with the research program. The outstanding success of the IGY led these nations to agree that peaceful scientific cooperation in the Antarctic should continue indefinitely. Negotiation of such an agreement, the Antarctic Treaty, commenced immediately after the IGY.

The Antarctic Treaty

The Antarctic Treaty was signed in Washington on 1 December 1959 by the twelve nations that had been active during the IGY (Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, France, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, South Africa, United Kingdom, United States and USSR). The Treaty, which applies to the area south of 60° South latitude, is surprisingly short, but remarkably effective. Through this agreement, the countries active in Antarctica consult on the uses of a whole continent, with a commitment that it should not become the scene or object of international discord. In its fourteen articles the Treaty:

- stipulates that Antarctica should be used exclusively for peaceful purposes, military activities, such as the establishment of military bases or weapons testing, are specifically prohibited;

- guarantees continued freedom to conduct scientific research, as enjoyed during the IGY;
- promotes international scientific cooperation including the exchange of research plans and personnel, and requires that results of research be made freely available;
- sets aside the potential for sovereignty disputes between Treaty parties by providing that no activities will enhance or diminish previously asserted positions with respect to territorial claims, provides that no new or enlarged claims can be made, and makes rules relating to jurisdiction;
- prohibits nuclear explosions and the disposal of radioactive waste;
- provides for inspection by observers, designated by any party, of ships, stations and equipment in Antarctica to ensure the observance of, and compliance with, the Treaty;
- requires parties to give advance notice of their expeditions; provides for the parties to meet periodically to discuss measures to further the objectives of the Treaty; and
- puts in place a dispute settlement procedure and a mechanism by which the Treaty can be modified.

The Treaty also provides that any member of the United Nations can accede to it. The Treaty now has 52 signatories, 28 are Consultative Parties on the basis of being original signatories or by conducting substantial research there. Membership continues to grow. A full list of the current parties to the Treaty appears at the end of this document.

Since entering into force on 23 June 1961, the Treaty has been recognised as one of the most successful international agreements. Problematic differences over territorial claims have been effectively set aside and as a disarmament regime it has been outstandingly successful. The Treaty parties remain firmly committed to a system that is still effective in protecting their essential Antarctic interests. Science is proceeding unhindered.

Since the first Antarctic Treaty Consultative Meeting (ATCM) in 1961, the parties have met frequently, now annually, to discuss issues as diverse as scientific cooperation, measures to protect the environment, and operational issues – and they are committed to taking decisions by consensus. This process has allowed the Antarctic Treaty to evolve into a system with a number of components that meet the special needs of managing activities in the Antarctic, while protecting national interests. This regime is now known by the broader title of the Antarctic Treaty System, which operates under the umbrella of the annual ATCM.

The Antarctic Treaty System

The Antarctic Treaty System comprises the Treaty itself and a number of related agreements. It also includes a range of organizations that contribute to the work of the decision-making forums.

In addition to the related agreements (described below), the Treaty System includes the recommendations, measures, decisions and resolutions of the Consultative Meetings relating to matters such as:

- scientific cooperation;
- protection of the Antarctic environment;
- conservation of plants and animals;
- preservation of historic sites;
- designation and management of protected areas;
- management of tourism;
- information exchange;
- collection of meteorological data;
- hydrographic charting;
- logistic cooperation; and
- communications and safety.

The Treaty Parties have put in place rules relating to specific issues. The development of these agreements has allowed the implementation, with greater precision, of legally binding provisions for the regulation of activities in Antarctica.

Retrieved May 6, 2019 from <https://www.bas.ac.uk/about/antarctica/the-antarctic-treaty/the-antarctic-treaty-explained/>

The Antarctic Treaty

The Governments of Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Chile, the French Republic, Japan, New Zealand, Norway, the Union of South Africa, the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America,

Recognizing that it is in the interest of all mankind that Antarctica shall continue forever to be used exclusively for peaceful purposes and shall not become the scene or object of international discord;

Acknowledging the substantial contributions to scientific knowledge resulting from international cooperation in scientific investigation in Antarctica;

Convinced that the establishment of a firm foundation for the continuation and development of such cooperation on the basis of freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica as applied during the International Geophysical Year accords with the interests of science and the progress of all mankind;

Convinced also that a treaty ensuring the use of Antarctica for peaceful purposes only and the continuance of international harmony in Antarctica will further the purposes and principles embodied in the Charter of the United Nations;

Have agreed as follows:

Article I

1. Antarctica shall be used for peaceful purposes only. There shall be prohibited, inter alia, any measures of a military nature, such as the establishment of military bases and fortifications, the carrying out of military maneuvers, as well as the testing of any type of weapons.
2. The present Treaty shall not prevent the use of military personnel or equipment for scientific research or for any other peaceful purpose.

Article II

Freedom of scientific investigation in Antarctica and cooperation toward that end, as applied during the International Geophysical Year, shall continue, subject to the provisions of the present Treaty.

Article III

1. In order to promote international cooperation in scientific investigation in Antarctica, as provided for in Article II of the present Treaty, the Contracting Parties agree that, to the greatest extent feasible and practicable:

- (a) information regarding plans for scientific programs in Antarctica shall be exchanged to permit maximum economy and efficiency of operations;
- (b) scientific personnel shall be exchanged in Antarctica between expeditions and stations;
- (c) scientific observations and results from Antarctica shall be exchanged and made freely available.

2. In implementing this Article, every encouragement shall be given to the establishment of cooperative working relations with those Specialized Agencies of the United Nations and other international organizations having a scientific or technical interest in Antarctica.

Article IV

1. Nothing contained in the present Treaty shall be interpreted as:

- (a) a renunciation by any Contracting Party of previously asserted rights of or claims to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica;
- (b) a renunciation or diminution by any Contracting Party of any basis of claim to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica which it may have whether as a result of its activities or those of its nationals in Antarctica, or otherwise;
- (c) prejudicing the position of any Contracting Party as regards its recognition or non-recognition of any other State's right of or claim or basis of claim to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica.

2. No acts or activities taking place while the present Treaty is in force shall constitute a basis for asserting, supporting or denying a claim to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica or create any rights of sovereignty in Antarctica. No new claim, or enlargement of an existing claim, to territorial sovereignty in Antarctica shall be asserted while the present Treaty is in force.

Article V

1. Any nuclear explosions in Antarctica and the disposal there of radioactive waste material shall be prohibited.

2. In the event of the conclusion of international agreements concerning the use of nuclear energy, including nuclear explosions and the disposal of radioactive waste material, to which all of the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX are parties, the rules established under such agreements shall apply in Antarctica.

Article VI

The provisions of the present Treaty shall apply to the area south of 60° South Latitude, including all ice shelves, but nothing in the present Treaty shall prejudice or in any way affect the rights, or the exercise of the rights, of any State under international law with regard to the high seas within that area.

Article VII

1. In order to promote the objectives and ensure the observance of the provisions of the present Treaty, each Contracting Party whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings referred to in Article IX of the Treaty shall have the right to designate observers to carry out any inspection provided for by the present Article. Observers shall be nationals of the Contracting Parties which designate them. The names of observers shall be communicated to every other Contracting Party having the right to designate observers, and like notice shall be given of the termination of their appointment.
2. Each observer designated in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article shall have complete freedom of access at any time to any or all areas of Antarctica.
3. All areas of Antarctica, including all stations, installations and equipment within those areas, and all ships and aircraft at points of discharging or embarking cargoes or personnel in Antarctica, shall be open at all times to inspection by any observers designated in accordance with paragraph 1 of this Article.
4. Aerial observation may be carried out at any time over any or all areas of Antarctica by any of the Contracting Parties having the right to designate observers.
5. Each Contracting Party shall, at the time when the present Treaty enters into force for it, inform the other Contracting Parties, and thereafter shall give them notice in advance, of
 - (a) all expeditions to and within Antarctica, on the part of its ships or nationals, and all expeditions to Antarctica organized in or proceeding from its territory;
 - (b) all stations in Antarctica occupied by its nationals; and
 - (c) any military personnel or equipment intended to be introduced by it into Antarctica subject to the conditions prescribed in paragraph 2 of Article I of the present Treaty.

Article VIII

1. In order to facilitate the exercise of their functions under the present Treaty, and without prejudice to the respective positions of the Contracting Parties relating to jurisdiction over all other persons in Antarctica, observers designated under paragraph 1 of Article VII and scientific personnel exchanged under subparagraph 1 (b) of Article III of the Treaty, and members of the staffs accompanying any such persons, shall be subject only to the jurisdiction of the Contracting Party of which they are nationals in respect of all acts or omissions occurring while they are in Antarctica for the purpose of exercising their functions.

2. Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph 1 of this Article, and pending the adoption of measures in pursuance of subparagraph 1 (e) of Article IX, the Contracting Parties concerned in any case of dispute with regard to the exercise of jurisdiction in Antarctica shall immediately consult together with a view to reaching a mutually acceptable solution.

Article IX

1. Representatives of the Contracting Parties named in the preamble to the present Treaty shall meet at the City of Canberra within two months after the date of entry into force of the Treaty, and thereafter at suitable intervals and places, for the purpose of exchanging information, consulting together on matters of common interest pertaining to Antarctica, and formulating and considering, and recommending to their Governments, measures in furtherance of the principles and objectives of the Treaty, including measures regarding:

- (a) use of Antarctica for peaceful purposes only;
- (b) facilitation of scientific research in Antarctica;
- (c) facilitation of international scientific cooperation in Antarctica;
- (d) facilitation of the exercise of the rights of inspection provided for in Article VII of the Treaty;
- (e) questions relating to the exercise of jurisdiction in Antarctica;
- (f) preservation and conservation of living resources in Antarctica.

2. Each Contracting Party which has become a party to the present Treaty by accession under Article XIII shall be entitled to appoint representatives to participate in the meetings referred to in paragraph 1 of the present Article, during such time as that Contracting Party demonstrates its interest in Antarctica by conducting substantial scientific research activity there, such as the establishment of a scientific station or the despatch of a scientific expedition.

3. Reports from the observers referred to in Article VII of the present Treaty shall be transmitted to the representatives of the Contracting Parties participating in the meetings referred to in paragraph 1 of the present Article.

4. The measures referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article shall become effective when approved by all the Contracting Parties whose representatives were entitled to participate in the meetings held to consider those measures.

5. Any or all of the rights established in the present Treaty may be exercised as from the date of entry into force of the Treaty whether or not any measures facilitating the exercise of such rights have been proposed, considered or approved as provided in this Article.

Article X

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to exert appropriate efforts, consistent with the Charter of the United Nations, to the end that no one engages in any activity in Antarctica contrary to the principles or purposes of the present Treaty.

Article XI

1. If any dispute arises between two or more of the Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Treaty, those Contracting Parties shall consult among themselves with a view to having the dispute resolved by negotiation, inquiry, mediation, conciliation, arbitration, judicial settlement or other peaceful means of their own choice.
2. Any dispute of this character not so resolved shall, with the consent, in each case, of all parties to the dispute, be referred to the International Court of Justice for settlement; but failure to reach agreement on reference to the International Court shall not absolve parties to the dispute from the responsibility of continuing to seek to resolve it by any of the various peaceful means referred to in paragraph 1 of this Article.

Article XII

1. (a) The present Treaty may be modified or amended at any time by unanimous agreement of the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX. Any such modification or amendment shall enter into force when the depositary Government has received notice from all such Contracting Parties that they have ratified it.

(b) Such modification or amendment shall thereafter enter into force as to any other Contracting Party when notice of ratification by it has been received by the depositary Government. Any such Contracting Party from which no notice of ratification is received within a period of two years from the date of entry into force of the modification or amendment in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph 1(a) of this Article shall be deemed to have withdrawn from the present Treaty on the date of the expiration of such period.
2. (a) If after the expiration of thirty years from the date of entry into force of the present Treaty, any of the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX so requests by a communication addressed to the depositary Government, a Conference of all the Contracting Parties shall be held as soon as practicable to review the operation of the Treaty.

(b) Any modification or amendment to the present Treaty which is approved at such a Conference by a majority of the Contracting Parties there represented, including a majority of those whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX, shall be communicated by the depositary Government to all the Contracting Parties immediately after the termination of the Conference and shall enter into force in accordance with the provisions of paragraph 1 of the present Article.

(c) If any such modification or amendment has not entered into force in accordance with the provisions of subparagraph 1(a) of this Article within a period of two years after the date of its communication to all the Contracting Parties, any Contracting Party may at any time after the expiration of that period give notice to the depositary Government of its withdrawal from the present Treaty; and such withdrawal shall take effect two years after the receipt of the notice by the depositary Government.

Article XIII

1. The present Treaty shall be subject to ratification by the signatory States. It shall be open for accession by any State which is a Member of the United Nations, or by any other State which may be invited to accede to the Treaty with the consent of all the Contracting Parties whose representatives are entitled to participate in the meetings provided for under Article IX of the Treaty.
2. Ratification of or accession to the present Treaty shall be effected by each State in accordance with its constitutional processes.
3. Instruments of ratification and instruments of accession shall be deposited with the Government of the United States of America, hereby designated as the depositary Government.
4. The depositary Government shall inform all signatory and acceding States of the date of each deposit of an instrument of ratification or accession, and the date of entry into force of the Treaty and of any modification or amendment thereto.
5. Upon the deposit of instruments of ratification by all the signatory States, the present Treaty shall enter into force for those States and for States which have deposited instruments of accession. Thereafter the Treaty shall enter into force for any acceding State upon the deposit of its instrument of accession.
6. The present Treaty shall be registered by the depositary Government pursuant to Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article XIV

The present Treaty, done in the English, French, Russian and Spanish languages, each version being equally authentic, shall be deposited in the archives of the Government of the United States of America, which shall transmit duly certified copies thereof to the Governments of the signatory and acceding States.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned Plenipotentiaries, duly authorized, have signed the present Treaty.

DONE at Washington this first day of December, one thousand nine hundred and fifty-nine.

Retrieved on May 5, 2019 from <http://disarmament.un.org/treaties/t/antarctic/text>



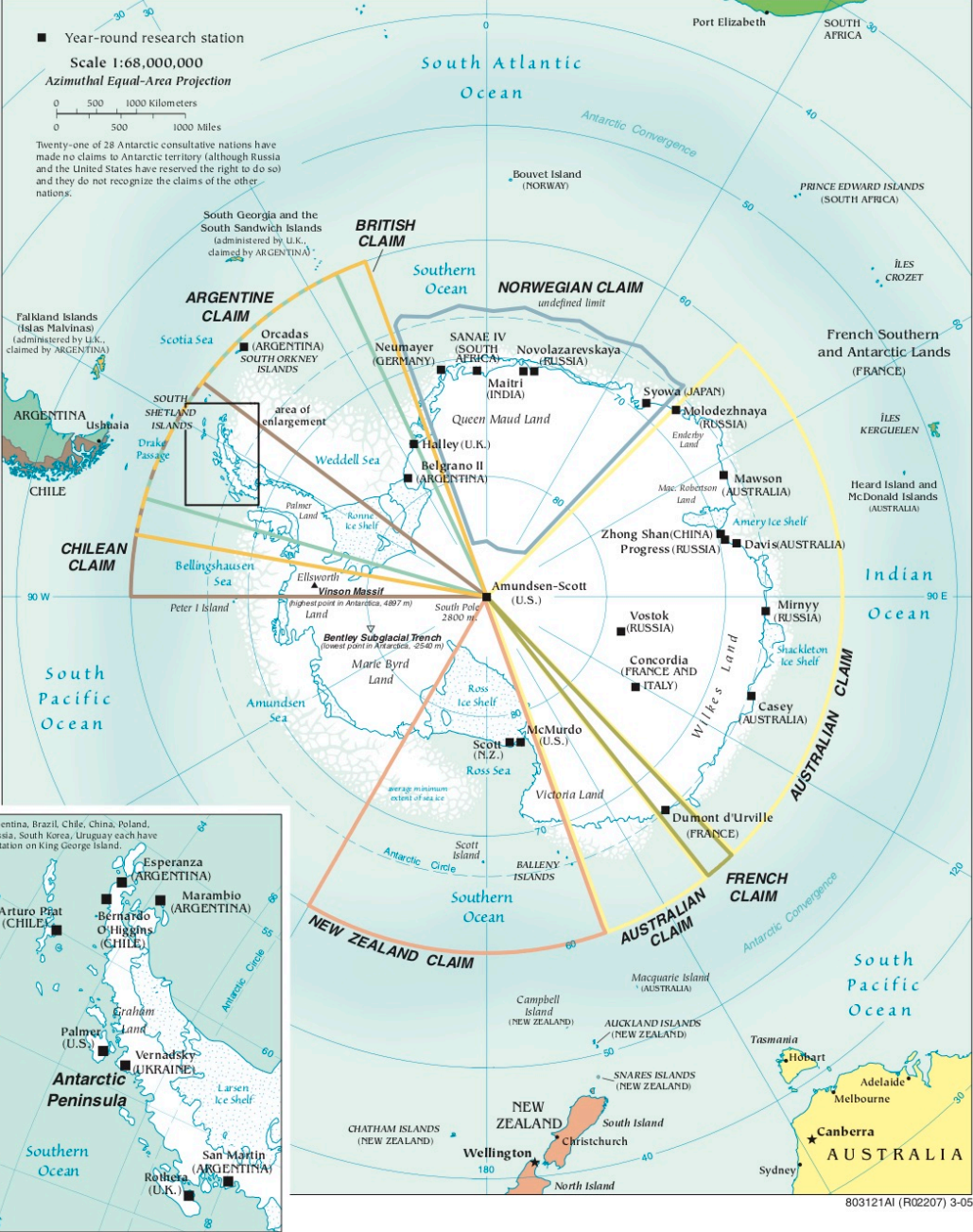
Retrieved on May 5, 2019 from <http://ontheworldmap.com/antarctica/antarctica-location-map.jpg>

**The Antarctic Treaty
Main Points**

- 1 - No military use
- 2 - Freedom of scientific investigation
- 3 - Free exchange of scientific plans and data
- 4 - Any territorial claims put on hold
- 5 - Nuclear free zone
- 6 - Applies to land but not seas
- 7 - All stations open to inspection by other nations
- 8 - National laws apply to citizens not to areas
- 9 - The treaty may be modified at any time, requires unanimous agreement of treaty nations
- 10 - All treaty nations to ensure no-one carries out acts against the treaty

Retrieved on May 5, 2019 from https://www.coolantarctica.com/Antarctica%20fact%20file/science/antarctic_treaty_summary.php

ANTARCTIC REGION



Retrieved on May 5, 2019 from <http://polardiscovery.who.edu/antarctica/images/antarctic-treaty.pdf>

A summary of the 14 articles of the Antarctic Treaty

- 1. No military use shall be made of Antarctica**, though military personnel and equipment may be used for peaceful purposes.
- 2. There will be complete freedom of scientific investigation.**
- 3. Antarctic Treaty Nations will exchange plans for their scientific programmes**, scientific data will be freely available and scientists will be exchanged between expeditions where practical.
- 4. All territorial claims are put aside for the duration of the Treaty.** No activities under the Treaty will affect claims to sovereignty of any part of Antarctica made by any nation.
- 5. Nuclear explosions and nuclear waste disposal are banned from Antarctica.**
- 6. The Treaty applies to all land and ice shelves south of 60° South, but not to the seas.**
- 7. All Antarctic stations and all ships and aircraft supplying Antarctica shall be open to inspectors from any Treaty nation.**
- 8. Observers and exchange scientists shall be under the jurisdiction of their own country** regardless of which national station they may visit. National laws do not apply to stations or areas, but only to the citizens of those countries.
- 9. Treaty nations will meet to consider ways of furthering the principles and objectives of the Treaty.** Attendance at these meetings shall be limited to those countries that are engaged in substantial scientific research activity in Antarctica. Unanimous approval will be necessary for any new measures to become effective (i.e. everyone has to agree).
- 10. All Treaty Nations will try to ensure that no one carries out any activity in Antarctica that is against the Treaty.**
- 11. Any dispute by Treaty Nations, if not settled by agreement, shall be determined by the International Court of Justice.**
- 12. The Treaty may be modified at any time by unanimous agreement.** After 30 years any consultative Party may call for a conference to review the operation of the Treaty. The Treaty may be modified at this conference by a majority decision.
- 13. The Treaty must be legally ratified (agreed to) by any nation wishing to join.** Any member of the United Nations may join as well as any other country invited to do so by the Treaty Nations. All notices and records are deposited with the Archives of the United States of America.
- 14. The Treaty translated into English, French, Russian and Spanish was signed on 1st December 1959 by 12 states and entered into force on 23rd of June 1961.**

Retrieved on May 5, 2019 from
https://www.coolantarctica.com/Antarctica%20fact%20file/science/antarctic_treaty_summary.php

Summary of the Articles of the Antarctic Treaty

Article I: Prohibits military activity, as “Antarctica shall be used for peaceful purposes only.” Military personnel may conduct scientific research, and military equipment can be used in the service of scientific research.

Article II: Establishes freedom of scientific research and encourages cooperation in the service of science.

Article III: Parties agree to exchange research and program plans, scientific results, and scientific personnel, in the spirit of scientific cooperation.

Article IV: Discusses territorial claims and declares that signing the Treaty should not be construed as having any impact on territorial claims; declares that while the Treaty is in force no new territorial claims can be made.

Article V: No nuclear tests are allowed; if nuclear power is used Parties must follow international laws on its use.

Article VI: Defines the area covered by the Treaty as everything south of 60°S latitude.

Article VII: Observers may be designated by Contracting Parties to carry out inspections of stations, equipment, and expeditions, and will have free access to all areas of Antarctica. Inspections are designed to ensure that the provisions of the Treaty are being followed.

Article VIII: Observers, scientific personnel residing at other nations’ stations, and their staff members are subject to the jurisdiction of the Party of their citizenship.

Article IX: Contracting parties to the Treaty shall meet regularly to discuss relevant matters.

Article X: Contracting Parties should strive to ensure that activities contrary to the spirit of the Treaty do not occur.

Article XI: Disputes between Contracting Parties should be resolved peacefully.

Antarctica Timeline in a Global Context

Year(s)	Event
These are eras of Antarctic History.	
1492-1800	The Age of Exploration (red)
1801-1900	The Age of Discovery (blue)
1901-1914	The Heroic Age (green)
1917-1958	The Age of Science (yellow)
1959-1990	The Second Age of Science (gray)
1991-present	The Age of Tourism (purple)
Antarctic Events	
1772-1775	James Cook (2 nd voyage) became the first person to cross the Antarctic Circle.
1820	Russian, British, and American explorers sight the continent and make note of it.
February 7, 1821	John Davis (American) became the first person to set foot upon the Antarctic continent (Hugh's Bay).
1840	Charles Wilkes (American) led the first American expedition to Antarctica and insisted that Antarctica was not just ice, but rather a continent.
1882-83	The International Polar Year was established to promote cooperation among nations on Antarctica.
1897-1899	Baron Adrian Victor Gerlache de Gomery (Belgian) led the first fully scientific expedition to Antarctica and the first to winter over on the continent.
1907	Ernest Shackleton (British) returned to Antarctica in command of his own expedition, and comes within 83 miles of the South Pole before having to turn around.
December 14, 1911	Roald Amundsen (Norwegian) was the first man to reach the South Pole.
1925	The first sustained scientific research in Antarctica began.
1928	Hubert Wilkins (British) was the first to use an airplane to explore the Antarctic Peninsula.
November 29, 1929	Richard Evelyn Byrd (American) was the first to fly to and return from the South Pole from the Ross Ice Shelf.
1935	First flight across the continent by Lincoln Ellsworth (American).
1944	Port Lockroy established (first British permanent station in Antarctica established)
1946	The US Navy conducted the largest Antarctic expedition ever attempted and conducted surveys and used aerial photographs to accurately map the continent.
1958	Vivan Fuchs (British) and Sir Edmund Hillary (New Zealand) completed the first overland trans-continental expedition.
June 23, 1961	The Antarctic Treaty was ratified by 12 nations.
1970	First woman to set foot on Antarctic interior.
1989-90	Will Steger's Trans-Antarctic journey
1993	The "ozone hole" above Antarctica was the size of the United States.
2017	55,000 people travel to Antarctica as tourists.
December 2018	You traveled to Antarctica!

US and World History Events

1492	Columbus lands in the Americas
1775-1781	American Revolutionary War takes place.
1861-1865	US Civil War takes place.
1914-1918	World War I takes place.
1937-1945	World War II takes place.
1957	Sputnik launched.
	Man walks on the moon for the first time
1998	International Space Station completed and launched
2000	Researchers began living on International Space Station.

Focus Questions

1. When this treaty becomes modifiable in 2048, what does your country recommend should happen?
2. What countries should be of the governing body of this continent?
3. What does your country feel about tourism/ecotourism on the continent?
4. What is the role of scientific research on the continent?
5. What rights do nations have to the waters surrounding Antarctica?
6. What will be done to protect Antarctica from climate change issues?
7. What government activities should/should not take place in Antarctica?
8. What is the role of bioprospecting on the continent?
9. Who will be the future governing body of Antarctica?

Important Research Links

Antarctica keeps attracting visitors—and it may be ‘last-chance tourism’
<https://globalnews.ca/news/4072700/antarctica-tourism-climate-change/>

Antarctica Should Remain Off Limits to United Nations Meddling
<https://www.heritage.org/global-politics/report/antarctica-should-remain-limits-united-nations-meddling>

ANTARCTIC TREATY RECOGNIZED AS FURTHERING UN CHARTER PRINCIPLES, IN DRAFT RESOLUTION APPROVED BY FIRST COMMITTEE
<https://www.un.org/press/en/2002/gadis3244.doc.htm>

History of Antarctica in UN: <https://www.un.org/press/en/2005/gadis3314.doc.htm>

In 30 years the Antarctic Treaty becomes modifiable and the fate of a continent could hang in the balance: <http://theconversation.com/in-30-years-the-antarctic-treaty-becomes-modifiable-and-the-fate-of-a-continent-could-hang-in-the-balance-98654>

Key documents of the Antarctic Treaty System https://www.ats.aq/e/ats_keydocs.htm

Polar Discovery Woods Hole Oceanographic Institution
<http://polardiscovery.whoi.edu/antarctica/index.html>

Secretariat of the Antarctic Treaty <https://www.ats.aq/e/ats.htm>

Signing of the Antarctic Treaty <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wsrYGvMr4Nc>

TRANSPARENCY IN ARMS, PRESERVING ANTARCTICA, DISARMAMENT COMMISSION WORK PROGRAMME ADDRESSED IN FIRST COMMITTEE TEXTS, AS SESSION CONCLUDES
<https://www.un.org/press/en/2005/gadis3314.doc.htm>

United Nations of Disarmament Affairs (UNODA) <http://disarmament.un.org/treaties/t/antarctic>

The Antarctic Treaty Explained <https://www.bas.ac.uk/about/antarctica/the-antarctic-treaty/the-antarctic-treaty-explained>

Country Lists

https://www.ats.aq/devAS/ats_parties.aspx?lang=e

First Assigned: (Consultative Status, June 23, 1961)

- Argentina
- Australia
- Belgium
- Chile
- France
- Japan
- New Zealand
- Norway
- Russian Federation
- South Africa
- United Kingdom
- United States

Second Assigned: (Consultative Status, after June 23, 1961)

- Brazil
- Bulgaria
- China
- Czech Republic
- Ecuador
- Finland
- Germany
- India
- Italy
- Korea
- Netherlands
- Peru
- Poland
- Spain
- Sweden
- Ukraine
- Uruguay

Last Assigned: (Non-Consultative Status—they do not participate in decision making)

- Austria
- Belarus
- Canada

- Colombia
- Cuba
- Denmark
- Estonia
- Greece
- Guatemala
- Hungary
- Iceland
- Kazakhstan
- Korea (DPRK)
- Malaysia
- Monaco
- Mongolia
- Pakistan
- Papua New Guinea
- Portugal
- Romania
- Slovak Republic
- Switzerland
- Turkey
- Venezuela