

International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR)

The International Convention on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ICESCR) which was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly on **16 December 1966**, entered into force on **3 January 1976**. The Convention was acceded to, by Mauritius on **12 December 1973**.

Objectives

The **31 articles** of the Convention lay emphasis on:

- Protecting the right to an adequate standard of living, including adequate food, clothing and housing.
- Promoting and ensuring people's rights to self-determination.
- Enabling all persons to participate effectively in society.

Optional Protocol

The Optional Protocol to the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (OP-ICESCR) was adopted by the United Nation General Assembly on 10 December 2008. It allows victims of violation of economic, social and cultural rights, to present complaints at international level and an inquiry mechanism for these violations to be investigated by the Committee on ICESCR. Mauritius has not acceded to the Protocol, for adequate revenue of redress already exists in its legal system.

Domestication

The ICESCR has been domesticated in Mauritius in various legislations namely:

- The Immigration Act
- The Constitution (S 1, 3, 16, 17, 24)
- The Occupational Safety and Health Act 2005
- The Education Act
- The Criminal Code
- The Family Protection Act
- The Health and Welfare Act
- The Public Gatherings Act
- The Domestic Violence Act

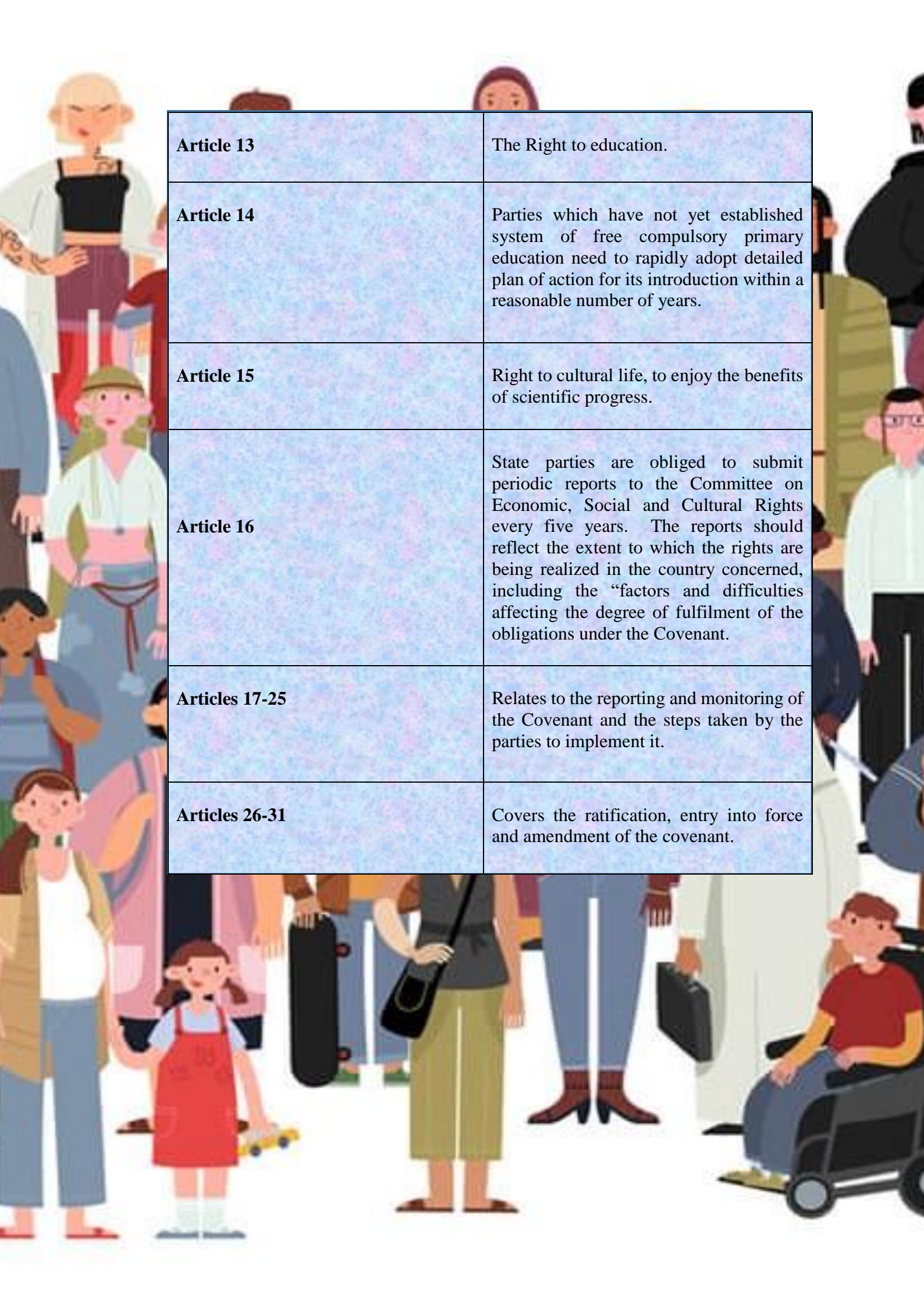
Status

The 5th Periodic Report of the State of Mauritius was submitted on 19 July 2017 and the next report is due for 31 March 2024.

A diverse group of people of various ages, ethnicities, and genders are illustrated in the background. Some are holding books, suggesting a school or educational setting. The style is colorful and cartoonish.

Provisions

Article 1	The Right to self-determination.
Article 2	The Right to freedom expression.
Article 3	Ensures equal rights of men and women to the enjoyment of all economic, social and cultural rights
Article 4	Reasonable restrictions may be imposed on the Rights for public welfare.
Article 5	These Rights shall not be misused by any group or person.
Article 6	The Right to work.
Article 7	The Right to the enjoyment of just and favorable conditions of work and a decent living.
Article 8	The Right to form and join a trade union.
Article 9	Right to social security and social insurance.
Article 10	The Right to family protection, leave for new mothers and protection of children.
Article 11	The Right to food, adequate standard of living, clothing, housing and continuous improvement of living conditions.
Article 12	The Right to health.



Article 13	The Right to education.
Article 14	Parties which have not yet established system of free compulsory primary education need to rapidly adopt detailed plan of action for its introduction within a reasonable number of years.
Article 15	Right to cultural life, to enjoy the benefits of scientific progress.
Article 16	State parties are obliged to submit periodic reports to the Committee on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights every five years. The reports should reflect the extent to which the rights are being realized in the country concerned, including the “factors and difficulties affecting the degree of fulfilment of the obligations under the Covenant.
Articles 17-25	Relates to the reporting and monitoring of the Covenant and the steps taken by the parties to implement it.
Articles 26-31	Covers the ratification, entry into force and amendment of the covenant.