

ties. The European Convention on Human Rights has been incorporated as an ordinary statute in order to provide an explicit basis for its application.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 20 March 1968; ratified: 6 January 1972.
Denmark's third periodic report (E/1994/104/Add.15) is scheduled for consideration at the Committee's April/May 1999 session; the fourth periodic report is due 30 June 1999.
Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph (d) of article 7.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 20 March 1968; ratified: 6 January 1972.
Denmark's fourth periodic report was due 31 December 1998.
Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 3 of article 10; paragraphs 1, 5 and 7 of article 14; paragraph 1 of article 20; declaration under article 41.

Optional Protocol: Signed: 20 March 1968; ratified: 6 January 1972.

Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 2 (a) of article 5.

Second Optional Protocol: Signed: 13 February 1990; ratified: 24 February 1994.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 21 June 1966; ratified: 9 December 1971.
Denmark's 14th periodic report is due 8 January 1999.
Reservations and Declarations: Declaration under article 14.

Discrimination against Women

Signed: 17 July 1980; ratified: 21 April 1983.
Denmark's fourth periodic report (CEDAW/C/DEN/4) has been submitted but is not yet scheduled for consideration by the Committee; the fifth periodic report is due 21 May 2000.

Torture

Signed: 4 February 1985; ratified: 27 May 1987.
Denmark's fourth periodic report is due 25 June 2000.
Reservations and Declarations: Declaration under articles 21 and 22.

Rights of the Child

Signed: 26 January 1990; ratified: 19 July 1991.
Denmark's second periodic report (CRC/70/Add.6) has been submitted and is pending for consideration at the Committee's January 2001 session; the third periodic report is due 17 August 2003.
Reservations and Declarations: Paragraph 2 (b) (v) of article 40.



FINLAND

Date of admission to UN: 14 December 1955.

TREATIES: RATIFICATIONS AND RESERVATIONS

Land and People: Finland has submitted a revised core document (HRI/CORE/1/Add.59/Rev.2) for use by the treaty bodies. The report prepared by the government contains demographic and statistical data and information on the constitutional basis and general political structure as well as the general legal framework for the protection of human rights. Amended chapter II of the Constitution Act, containing provisions on fundamental rights, entered into force on 1 August 1995. The reform of the legislation on fundamental rights modernized the system and stipulated that fundamental rights now apply to all persons (the Constitution formerly only mentioned "the rights of Finnish citizens"). The reform aimed at the convergence of the domestic system of fundamental rights with the international obligations of human rights, and expanded the scope of fundamental rights to include economic, social and cultural rights, rights relating to the individual's legal safety, the right to vote and be elected and the right to participate in the activities of society as well as rights concerning the environment. Domestic statutes are to be interpreted in accordance with human rights in order to avoid conflict between domestic legislation and human rights instruments. It is possible to refer directly to the provisions of the human rights treaties before courts and authorities. The supervision of the observance of human rights by the public authorities is within the competence of the Parliamentary Ombudsman and the Chancellor of Justice of the Council of State. At the legislative stage, it is the duty of the Parliamentary Committee for Constitutional Law to observe that legislative proposals conform to human rights instruments.

Economic, Social and Cultural Rights

Signed: 11 October 1967; ratified: 19 August 1975.
Finland's fourth periodic report is due 30 June 1999.

Civil and Political Rights

Signed: 11 October 1967; ratified: 19 August 1975.
Finland's fourth periodic report (CCPR/C/95/Add.6) was considered at the Committee's March/April 1998 session; the fifth periodic report is due 18 August 1999.
Reservations and Declarations: Paragraphs 2 (b) and 3 of article 10; paragraph 7 of article 14; paragraph 1 of article 20; declaration under article 41.

Optional Protocol: Signed: 11 December 1967; ratified: 19 August 1975.

Second Optional Protocol: Signed: 13 February 1990; ratified: 4 April 1991.

Racial Discrimination

Signed: 6 October 1966; ratified: 14 July 1970.
Finland's 13th and 14th periodic reports were submitted