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| Israel has ratified the main human rights conventions; however, it is not a party to any additional protocols except the Optional Protocol on Children in Armed Conflicts. It has also not accepted the jurisdiction of any of the treaty body committees; thus, individual communications cannot be considered. In addition, Israel made important reservations on the conventions it ratified. Israel is a party to the *1949 Geneva Conventions*, but not to the first and second *1977 Additional Protocols*. Although Israel has signed the *1998 Rome Statute* on 28 August 2002, the Secretary-General received from the Government of Israel, the following communication: "...in connection with the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court adopted on 17 July 1998, [...] Israel does not intend to become a party to the treaty. Accordingly, Israel has no legal obligations arising from its signature on 31 December 2000. Israel requests that its intention not to become a party, as expressed in this letter, be reflected in the depositary's status lists relating to this treaty."Israel has domestically declared State of Emergency since 1948. A notifications under Article 4(3) of the *Covenant on Civil and Political Rights* (Derogations), was made on 3 October 1991, after the ratification of the Convention."Since its establishment, the state of Israel has been the victim of continuous threats and attacks on its very existence as well as on the life and property of its citizens. These have taken the form of threats of war, of actual armed attacks, and campaigns of terrorism resulting in the murder of and injury to human beings. In view of the above, the State of Emergency which was proclaimed in May 1948 has remained in force ever since. This situation constitutes a public emergency within the meaning of article 4 (1) of the Covenant. The Government of Israel has therefore found it necessary, in accordance with the said article 4, to take measures to the extent strictly required by the exigencies of the situation, for the defence of the state and for the protection of life and property, including the exercise of powers of arrest and detention. In so far as any of these measures are inconsistent with article 9 of the Covenant, Israel thereby derogates from its obligations under that provision." |