

**United Nations Conference on the Elimination or Reduction of Future
Statelessness**

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Text of Article 8 as prepared by the Working Group appointed by the Conference

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UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE ELIMINATION
OR REDUCTION OF FUTURE STATELESSNESS

Text of Article 8 as prepared by the/Working Group
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1. A contracting State shall not deprive a person of its nationality if such deprivation would render him stateless.
2. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, a person may be deprived of the nationality of a Contracting State:
 - (a) in the circumstances in which, under paragraphs 4 and 5 of article 7, it is permissible that a person should lose his nationality;
 - (b) where the nationality has been obtained by misrepresentation or fraud.
3. Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph 1, a Contracting State may retain the right to deprive a person of his nationality, if at the time of signature, ratification or accession it specifies its retention of such right on one or more of the following grounds, being grounds existing in its national law at that time:
 - (a) that the person, inconsistent with his duty of loyalty to the Contracting State,
 - (i) has, in disregard of an express prohibition by the Contracting State rendered or continued to render services to, or received or continued to receive emoluments from, another State, or
 - (ii) has conducted himself in a manner seriously prejudicial to vital interests of the State;
 - (b) that the person has taken an oath, or made a formal declaration, of allegiance to another State, or given definite evidence of his determination to repudiate his allegiance to the Contracting State.
4. Nothing in the previous paragraph shall prejudice the right of a Contracting State to enact subsequent legislation embodying grounds for deprivation not less favourable to the individual than those specified at the time of signature, ratification or accession.

5. A Contracting State shall not exercise a power of deprivation permitted by paragraph 2, 3 or 4 except in accordance with a procedure established by law, which shall provide for a fair hearing by a court or other completely independent and impartial body.
