

CONVENTION RELATIVE TO THE RIGHTS OF ALIENS¹ SIGNED AT THE SECOND INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF AMERICAN STATES (MEXICO CITY, 1902)

First: Aliens shall enjoy all civil rights pertaining to citizens, and make use thereof in the substance, form or procedure, and in the recourses which result therefrom, under exactly the same terms as the said citizens, except as may be otherwise provided by the Constitution of each country.

Second: The States do not owe to, nor recognize in favor of, foreigners, any obligations or responsibilities other than those established by their Constitutions and laws in favor of their citizens. Therefore, the States are not responsible for damages sustained by aliens through acts of rebels or individuals, and in general, for damages originating from fortuitous causes of any kind, considering as such the acts of war, whether civil or national; except in the case of failure on the part of the constituted authorities to comply with their duties.

Third: Whenever an alien shall have claims or complaints of a civil, criminal or administrative order against a State, or its citizens, he shall present his claims to a competent Court of the country, and such claims shall not be made, through diplomatic channels, except in the cases where there shall have been on the part of the Court, a manifest denial of justice, or unusual delay, or evident violation of the principles of International Law.

Source: Yearbook of the International Law Commission, 1956, Vol. II, document A/CN.4/96, Annex B-5, p. 226

Accessed online, 7 December 2015: http://legal.un.org/ilc/documentation/english/a_cn4_96.pdf

¹ The International Conferences of American States, 1889 - 1928