* There are 30 articles to the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. A declaration is not legally binding. A covenant is a legal term that is binding on member-states of the United Nations under international law. Nearly all international human rights instruments since 1948 elaborate principles set out in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. They contain their own articles and are specific measures for implementing broad principles. As of December 31, 1982, 75 states had ratified or acceded to the two covenants passed in 1966. The United States is not a party to either of the covenants.