

## Chronology

### 1918

- 8 Jan. The President of the United States of America, Woodrow Wilson, in his message on the conditions of peace delivered at a Joint Session of the Two Houses of the United States Congress, identifies the « 14 points » intended to serve as the basis for world peace. Point 14 says: "A general association of nations should be formed on the basis of covenants designed to create mutual guarantees of the political independence and territorial integrity of States, large and small equally."

### 1919

- 25 Jan. The plenary session of the Peace Conference accepts the proposals for the creation of a League of Nations.  
27 Jan. Election of a Committee to draft a Covenant.  
28 Apr. The Peace Conference unanimously adopts the draft Covenant on the motion of President Wilson of the United States of America.  
10 June Sir Eric Drummond presents a memorandum on the working of administrative services.  
10 June The Secretariat is set up in London.  
28 June Signature of the Treaty of Versailles. Part I, Articles 1 to 26 of this and other Peace Treaties contain the Covenant of the League of Nations.

### 1920

- 10 Jan. Entry into force of the Treaty of Versailles and of the Covenant of the League of Nations.  
16 Jan. First session of the Council of the League of Nations, Paris.  
13 Feb. The Council accepts the duties entrusted to it with regard to the protection of minorities.  
16 June International Jurists' Committee meets for the creation of the Permanent Court of International Justice.  
24 Sept. International Financial Conference at Brussels.  
1 Nov. The seat of the League of Nations is transferred from London to Geneva.  
15 Nov. First Assembly of the League of Nations convened in Geneva by President Wilson of the United States of America. Forty-one States send representatives.  
1 Dec. The Council approves the appointment of the Permanent Mandates Commission.  
13 Dec. The Assembly approves the draft Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice.  
15 Dec. Admission of Austria to the League of Nations.

### 1921

- 20 Apr.-10 May First General Conference on Communications and Transit at Barcelona, Spain.  
30 June International Conference on the Traffic in Women and Children, Geneva.  
2 Sept. The Permanent Court of International Justice comes into force.

### 1922

- 22 Jan. First meeting of the Permanent Court of International Justice.  
15 May Signature of the German-Polish Convention relating to Upper Silesia.  
18 Sept. Admission of Hungary to the League of Nations.  
25 Sept. The number of non-permanent Members elected by the Assembly to the Council increases from four to six.

4 Oct. Signature at Geneva of protocols relating to the financial reconstruction of Austria.

#### 1923

31 Aug. International Conference on Obscene Publications at Geneva.

#### 1924

14 Mar. Signature at Geneva of protocols relating to the financial reconstruction of Hungary.

1 Oct. Resolution of the Assembly opening the Protocol for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes for signature by the Members.

3 Nov. First Opium Conference at Geneva.

24 Dec. Costa Rica gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.

#### 1925

4-13 Feb. International Health Conference at Singapore.

1 Mar. Opening of the Eastern Epidemiological Intelligence Centre in Singapore.

4 May Conference on the Traffic in Arms.

14 Dec. Transfer of the documents of the Locarno Pact to the Archives of the League of Nations.

#### 1926

16 Jan. Inauguration of the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation at Paris.

12-18 May Passport Conference.

18 May First meeting of the Preparatory Disarmament Commission at Geneva.

14 June Brazil gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.

19-21 Aug. Meeting of Representatives of the Information Bureaux.

8 Sept. Admission of Germany to the League of Nations; Germany made a permanent Member of the Council.

8 Sept. The number of non-permanent Members elected by the Assembly to the Council increases from six to nine.

8 Sept. Spain gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.

#### 1927

1 Jan. Costa Rica ceases to be a Member of the League of Nations.

4-23 May First International Economic Conference at Geneva.

24-29 Aug. International Conference of Press Experts.

#### 1928

22 Mar. The Spanish Government announces that it will continue to collaborate in the work of the League of Nations.

30 May Inauguration of the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law, Rome.

13 June Brazil ceases to be a Member of the League of Nations.

5 Sept. Inauguration of the International Educational Cinematographic Institute, Rome.

26 Sept. The eighteenth Assembly adopts the General Act for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes.

#### 1929

16 Aug. The General Act for the Pacific Settlement of International Disputes comes into force.

4-13 Sept. Conference for the Revision of the Statute of the Permanent Court of International Justice.

### 1930

13 May-7 June International Conference for the Unification of Laws relating to Bills of Exchange, Promissory Notes and Cheques.

23 Sept. First Session of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union.

30 Sept. Creation of the Nansen International Office for Refugees.

### 1931

24 Jan. The Council decides to convene the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.

16-30 Mar. European Conference for Limiting the Manufacture and Regulating the Distribution of Narcotic Drugs.

26 Sept. The Assembly adopts a General Convention to improve the Means of Preventing War.

9-27 Nov. Conference for the Suppression of Opium-Smoking at Bangkok.

### 1932

11-14 Jan. Conference of Government Press Bureaux and Representatives of the Press at Copenhagen.

2 Feb. Two-year Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments opens at Geneva.

2 Feb. Opening of the League of Nations Wireless Station.

4 Sept. Signature of the Lytton Report, Peiping (now Beijing).

14 Sept. Germany notifies the President of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments of its decision to withdraw from the Conference.

3 Oct. Admission of Iraq to the League of Nations.

11 Dec. Agreement between France, Germany, Italy, the United Kingdom, and the United States of America on the question of Equality of Rights and Security.

### 1933

27 Mar. Japan gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.

12 June International Monetary and Economic Conference at London.

29 June Adjournment of the work of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.

26 Sept. The Government of the Argentine Republic notifies the Secretary-General that its Parliament has approved the Covenant of the League of Nations.

2 Oct. The Assembly provisionally raises the number of non-permanent Members of the Council from nine to ten.

14 Oct. Germany withdraws from the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.

21 Oct. Germany gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.

9 Nov. Conference of Government Press Bureaux and Representatives of the Press at Madrid.

### 1934

29 May Meeting of the General Commission of the Conference for the Reduction and Limitation of Armaments.

22 June Resolution adopted by the International Labour Conference inviting the Government of the United States of America to accede to the International Labour Organisation (ILO).

20 Aug. Acceptance by the President of the United States of America of the Resolution to accede to the ILO.

- 18 Sept. Admission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the League of Nations. The Assembly approves the Council's proposal that the Soviet Union should be made a permanent Member.
- 28 Sept. Ecuador, one of the original Members of the League of Nations and named in the Annex of the Covenant, accedes to the Covenant.

### 1935

- 13 Jan. Plebiscite held in the Saar Territory.
- 17 Jan. Based on the result of the Plebiscite, the Council decides that the Saar Territory should be united with Germany (rather than with France).
- 29 Jan. The Senate of the United States refuses to ratify the accession of the United States of America to the Permanent Court of International Justice.
- 23 Feb. Paraguay gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
- 1 Mar. Germany takes over the Government of the Saar Territory.
- 15 Mar. Registration by the Secretariat of the Agreement under which the United States of America acceded to the ILO.
- 27 Mar. Japan ceases to be a Member of the League of Nations.
- 21 Oct. Germany ceases to be a Member of the League of Nations.

### 1936

- 17-22 Feb. The Secretariat moves into the new League of Nations buildings in Geneva.
- 8 Mar. Germany denounces the Locarno Pact.
- 9 May Italy proclaims sovereignty over Ethiopia.
- 26 May Guatemala gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
- 27 June Nicaragua gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
- 4 July The Assembly recommends that the Council should invite Governments to send in proposals for improving the application of the Principles of the Covenant.
- 4 July The Assembly recommends that the Co-ordination Committee should propose to Governments the termination of sanctions.
- 10 July Honduras gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
- 9 Sept. Meeting between J.A. Avenol, Secretary-General, and Benito Mussolini, Rome.
- 17-23 Sept. Inter-Governmental Conference for the Conclusion of an International Convention Concerning the Use of Broadcasting in the Cause of Peace.
- 2 Oct. The Council increases the number of its non-permanent Members from 10 to 11 for a period of three years.
- 10 Oct. The Assembly appoints a Committee of 28 to study the Application of Principles of the Covenant.
- 14-16 Dec. First Session of the Committee on the Application of Principles of the Covenant.

### 1937

- 26 Jan. Brazil renews her acceptance of the Optional Clause of the Protocol of the Permanent Court of International Justice and ratifies the Protocol concerning the revision of the Statute of the Court.
- 2-15 Feb. Conference of Central Authorities of Eastern Countries on the Traffic of Women and Children, Bandung, Java.
- 23 Feb. Expiration of Paraguay's notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
- 4 Mar. The Egyptian Government applies for admission to the League of Nations.
- 22 Apr. The Bangkok Agreement on Opium-Smoking comes into force.
- 26-27 May Extraordinary Session of the Assembly; admission of Egypt to the League of Nations.
- 28 May The Council approves the reorganization of the Health and Financial Committees.
- 15 June The British Imperial Conference expresses the hope that the Covenant of the League of Nations might be separated from the Peace Treaties.

5-9 July	Second General Conference of National Committees on Intellectual Cooperation, Paris.
8 July	Signature by Afghanistan, Iran, Iraq and Turkey of a Treaty of Non-Aggression and Protocol establishing an understanding between the Near Eastern countries.
15 July	Expiration of the German-Polish Convention relating to Upper Silesia.
26 July	Salvador gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
12-29 Aug.	The Secretary-General visits Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia and Finland.
10-11 Sept.	Special Committee on the Application of Principles of the Covenant.
16 Sept.	The Council decides not to continue consideration of the question of calendar reform.
30 Sept.	The Term of Office of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union is renewed for one year.
1 Oct.	Meeting of the Commission of Enquiry for European Union.
5 Oct.	The Council adjourns the Convocation of the Bureau of the Disarmament Conference.
14 Oct.	Nicaragua complains to the League of Nations about the treatment of Nicaraguans living in Honduras.
11 Dec.	Italy gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
14 Dec.	Italy leaves the International Labour Office.

### 1938

21 Jan.	Statement by the Swiss Federal Council concerning the neutrality of the Swiss Confederation.
28 Jan.	The Council decides in favour of the League of Nations' participation in the 1939 New York World Fair.
29 Jan.	Adoption of a new statute for the Communications and Transit Organization.
7-10 Feb.	Conclusion by Diplomatic Conference (President: J. Loudon, The Netherlands) of a Convention concerning the Status of Refugees coming from Germany. The Convention is signed by the representatives of seven States.
18 Mar.	The German Government communicates to the Secretary-General the text of a Law, dated 13 March, providing for the inclusion of Austria in Germany.
19 Mar.	Departure of a mission of the League of Nations Secretariat for Latin America.
21 Mar	Declaration by the Swiss Federal Council concerning the neutrality and independence of the Swiss Confederation.
9 Apr.	The British Government requests that the question of the consequences arising from the existing situation in Ethiopia be placed on the agenda of the next meeting of the Council.
29 Apr.	Memorandum by the Swiss Federal Council on Swiss neutrality.
14 May	The Council takes note of the intention of the Swiss Government not to take part in the application of sanctions in future, and declares that Switzerland will not be invited to do so.
14 May	The Council refers a request by the Chilean Government to the Assembly that the reform of the Covenant should be treated as urgent.
25 May	The withdrawal of Guatemala from the League of Nations takes effect.
2 June	Chile gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
4 June	J.G. Winant from the United States of America is appointed Director of the International Labour Office.
29 June	The Electoral Commission, having stopped the registration of electors, leaves the Sanjak of Alexandretta and informs the Council that circumstances have prevented it from pursuing its work.
10 July	The withdrawal of Honduras from the League of Nations takes effect.
12 July	Venezuela gives notice of withdrawal from the League of Nations.
21 Sept.	The Dominican Republic, Greece and Yugoslavia are elected non-permanent Members of the Council.

- 22 Sept. The Assembly expresses its appreciation of the action of the mediating States in the restoration of peace in the Chaco and of the part played by S. Lamas and M.C. Cantilo.
- 30 Sept. The Council postpones the meeting of the Bureau of the Disarmament Conference.
- 14 Oct. Meeting at Perpignan, France, of the Commission instructed to verify "on the spot" the measures taken by the Spanish Government for the withdrawal of non-Spanish combatants.
- 27-29 Oct. Meeting of the Permanent Committee on Arts and Letters (Chairman: P. Valéry, France), Nice, France.
- 2 Nov. Japan discontinues her cooperation with the technical organs of the League of Nations.
- 17 Nov. The Nobel Peace Prize is awarded to the Nansen International Office for Refugees.
- 3 Dec. Signature at Paris of an International Act giving to the International Institute of Intellectual Cooperation the character of an organization founded on collective agreements.

### 1946

- 18 Apr. The League of Nations transfers all its assets to the United Nations. Contract signed by Włodzimierz Moderow, representative of the United Nations, and Sean Lester, the last Secretary-General of the League of Nations.