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2024   
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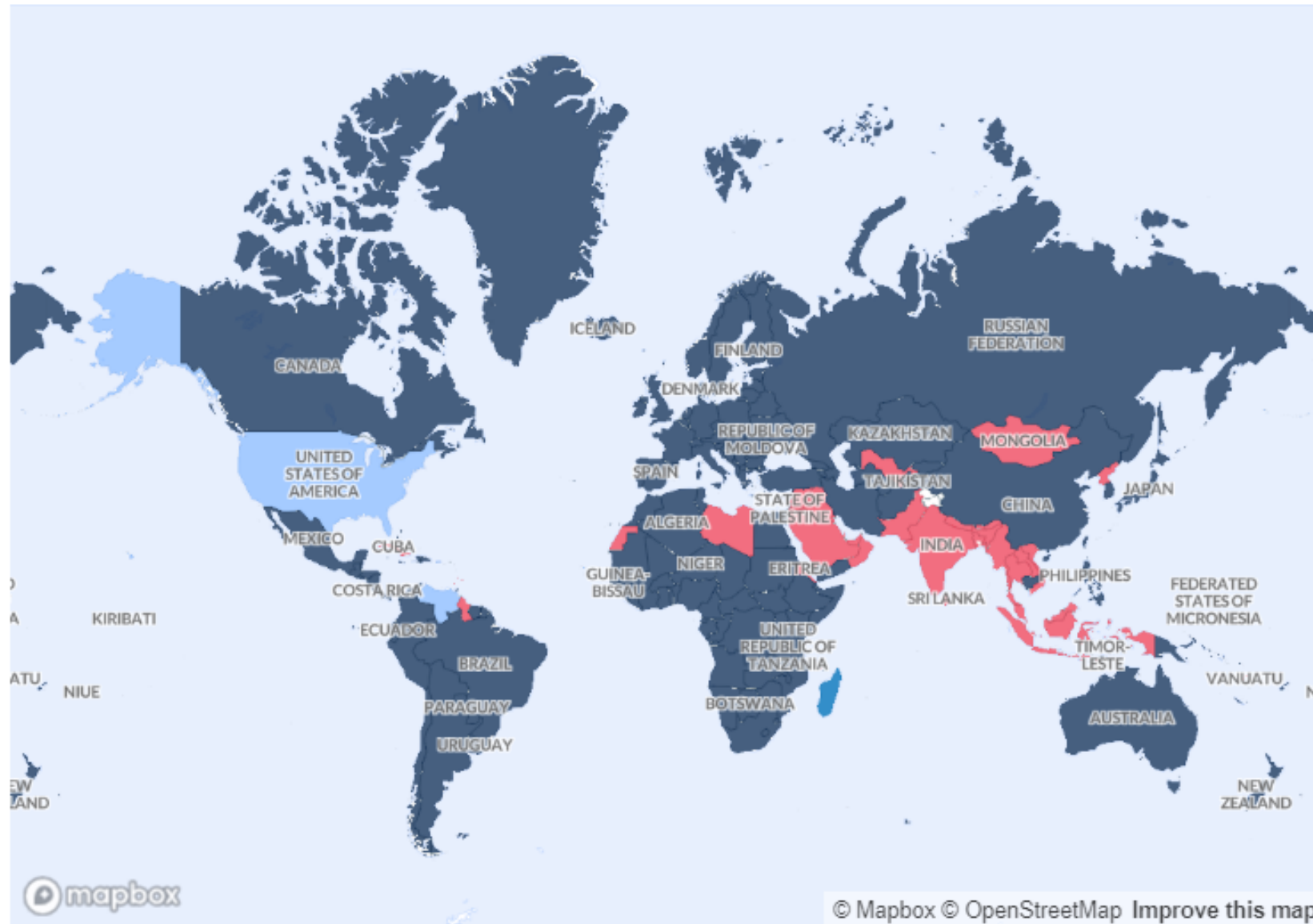
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# Refugee Travel Documents

**Michael Casasola**

Senior Resettlement and Complimentary Pathways Officer  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

## States party to and territories to which the 1951 Convention and/or its 1967 Protocol extends



■ Application of the 1951 Convention

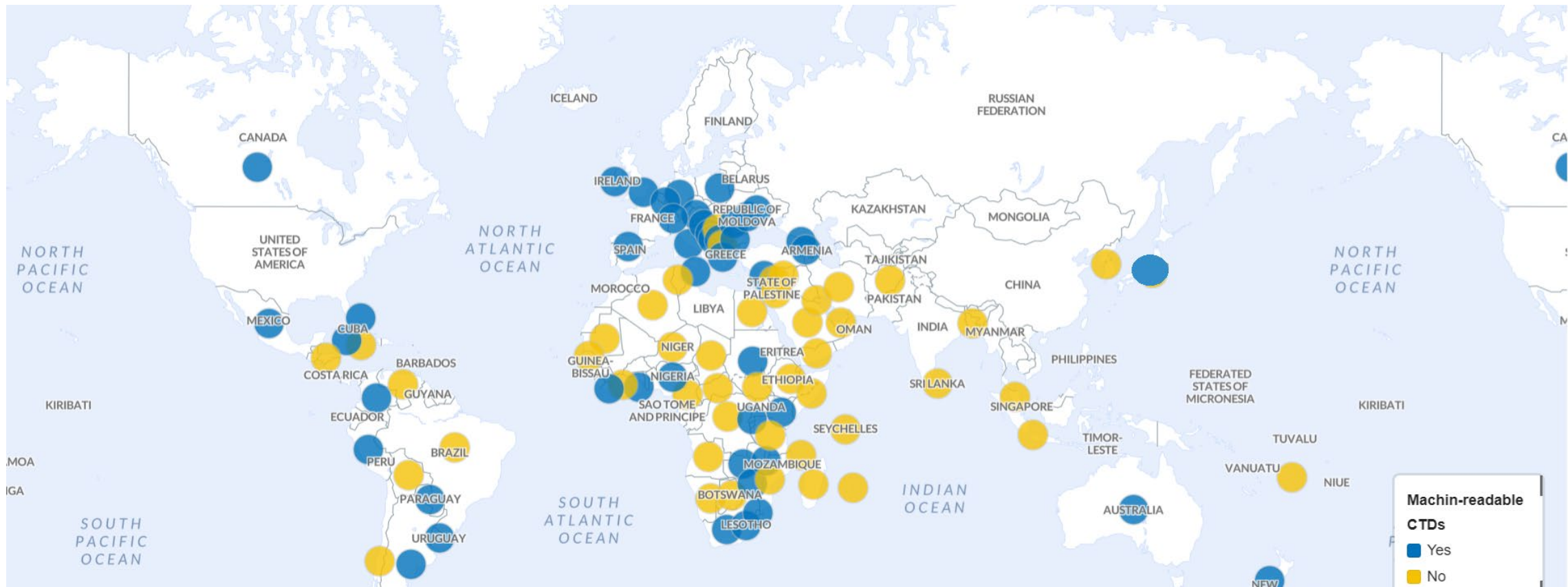
■ Application of the 1967 Protocol

■ Application of the 1951 Convention and its 1967 Protocol

■ No territorial application of the 1951 Convention or 1967 Protocol

## Categories

- For the 149 parties to the 1951 Refugee Convention, we have these scenarios:
  - States issuing MRCTDs
  - States not issuing MRCTDs and no GRF pledge
  - States not issuing MRCTDs but made a GRF pledge
  - States that were issuing MRCTDs but the system is currently on hold
- States that are not party to the 1951 Refugee Convention.



## Current Overview of MRCTDs

- 92 countries responded to survey in 2022
- 46 countries providing MRCTDs (50%)
- 19 countries issuing manual CTDs

## ICAO – Annex 9

### D. Travel documents

3.11 All passports issued by Contracting States shall be machine readable in accordance with the specifications of Doc 9303, Part 4.

*Note.— This provision does not intend to preclude the issuance of non-machine readable passports or temporary travel documents of limited validity in cases of emergency.*

3.11.1 For passports issued after 24 November 2005 and which are not machine readable, Contracting States shall ensure the expiration date falls before 24 November 2015.

3.12 Contracting States shall ensure that travel documents for refugees and stateless persons (“Convention Travel Documents”) are machine readable, in accordance with the specifications of Doc 9303.

*Note.— “Convention Travel Documents” are provided for in the 1951 Convention Relating to the Status of Refugees and the 1954 Convention Relating to the Status of Stateless Persons (cf. respective Article 28 of both Conventions).*

3.13 **Recommended Practice.**— *When issuing identity documents or visas accepted for travel purposes, Contracting States should issue these in machine readable form, as specified in Doc 9303.*

3.14 **Recommended Practice.**— *Contracting States should establish publicly accessible facilities for the receipt of travel document applications and/or for the issuance of travel documents.*

# Standards & Recommended Practices

- UNHCR
  - Right to return
  - Acceptance of CTDs
  - Protection against refoulement (linked to nationality field)
  - CTDs renewable abroad
  - Price is same or lower than lowest priced national passport
- ICAO
  - Machine-readable
  - Nationality field not included or noted as refugee / stateless
  - Transparent application procedures for issuance, renewal, replacement
  - 5-year validity period (as a minimum) and unlimited journeys for passports

# Global Compact on Refugees



**Ease the pressures on host countries**



**Enhance refugee self-reliance**



**Expand access to third-country solutions**



**Support conditions in countries of origin for return in safety and dignity**

# GRF Pledge: Refugee Travel Documents

- At the Global Refugee Forum, UNHCR launched a **multi-stakeholder pledge** on refugee travel documents.
- The following **10 States** made pledges to start issuing that do not currently have a system: Botswana, Chad, Chile, Cote d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of Congo, Ethiopia, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kyrgyzstan, and South Sudan.
- **3 States**, Burkina Faso, Uganda and Kenya, made pledges to improve their travel document systems.
- Another **3 states** made pledges to support research and build capacity in issuing machine readable RTDs: Australia, Canada, and New Zealand.
- Other actors like: Secure Identity Alliance (SIA), IOM, ID4Africa, and Talent Beyond Boundaries (TBB) have pledged technical and/or advocacy support.



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# Thank You

