

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

Key features

Type of organisation: Inter-governmental organisation

Charter/Constitution: Convention on the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD Convention), www.oecd.org/general/conventionontheorganisationforeconomicco-operationanddevelopment.htm

Membership:

- Nature: Representatives from governments
- Number: 35 members

Year of establishment: 1961

Headquarters: Paris, France

Country offices: Berlin (Germany), Mexico City (Mexico), Tokyo (Japan) and Washington, D.C. (United States)

Secretariat staff: 2500 (2017) **Total budget:** EUR 374 million (2017)

Type of activity: Policy dialogue, data collection and analysis, information exchange, development of legal instruments, peer reviews

Sectors of activity: All policy areas of economic relevance.

Webpage: www.oecd.org

Members

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, Chile, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Korea, Latvia, Luxembourg, Mexico, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

Relationship with non-members

The European Union participates in the work of the OECD pursuant to the Supplementary Protocol No. 1 to the OECD Convention.

Accession discussions have been launched with four countries: Colombia, Costa Rica, Lithuania and the Russian Federation.* The OECD conducts policy dialogue and capacity building activities with many countries and territories (i.e. Partners) beyond its membership, through such initiatives as Key Partners (Brazil, India, Indonesia, the People's Republic of China and South Africa), Country Programmes (with Kazakhstan, Peru and Morocco), Regional Approaches, OECD Global Fora and other global approaches to share best policy practices and to enrich the OECD's policy debate.

Observers

The OECD has multiple relations with other international organisations and institutions. In particular, the ILO, FAO, IMF, World Bank, IAEA, and many United Nations bodies participate in many meetings of OECD subsidiary bodies. In addition, the OECD is an active partner of the G20.

Mandate

The mandate of the OECD is to promote policies that will improve the economic and social well-being of people around the world.

"The aims of the Organisation shall be to promote policies designed: a) to achieve the highest sustainable economic growth and employment and a rising standard of living in member countries, while maintaining financial stability, and thus to contribute to the development of the world economy; b) to contribute to sound economic expansion in Member as well as non-member countries in the process of economic development; and c) to contribute to the expansion of world trade on a multilateral, non-discriminatory basis in accordance with international obligations." (Article 1 of the OECD Convention)

*. Following its meeting on 12 March 2014, the OECD Council postponed activities related to the OECD accession process for the Russian Federation for the time being.

IRC processes taking place within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development



Categories of legal and policy instruments

	Is it taking place within the IO?	Approximate number
Treaties for ratification by States (excluding the funding one)	√	7
Legally binding decisions	√	25
Recommendations	√	167
Political declarations	√	26
Model treaties or law	√	2
Production of technical standards	√	
Non-binding guidance/best practices document	√	Many (exact number not available)

Interactions with other international organisations active in the field

Mechanisms of interaction	Approximate number of IOs involved	Examples
Develop joint instruments	√	
MoU or other agreements	√	
Participate in co-ordinating institution	√	World Bank, IMF, ASEAN,
Joint meetings that provide forum for co-ordination	√	EU, ICANN, ISO
Observe relevant actions of other bodies	√	
Exchange information	√	

OECD history

The Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) was established in 1948 to run the US-financed Marshall Plan for reconstruction of a continent ravaged by war. By making individual governments recognise the interdependence of their economies, it paved the way for a new era of co-operation that was to change the face of Europe. Encouraged by its success and the prospect of carrying its work forward on a global stage, Canada and the United States joined OEEC members in signing the new OECD Convention on 14 December 1960. The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) was officially born on 30 September 1961, when the Convention entered into force.

Source: Updated from OECD (2016), *International Regulatory Co-operation: The Role of International Organisations in Fostering Better Rules of Globalisation*, OECD Publishing, Paris. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1787/9789264244047-en>