

# List of international vehicle registration codes

From Wikipedia, the free encyclopedia

The country in which a motor vehicle's vehicle registration plate was issued is indicated by an **international licence plate country code** displayed in bold block uppercase on a small white oval plate or sticker near the number plate on the rear of a vehicle.

The allocation of codes is maintained by the United Nations as the *Distinguishing Signs of Vehicles in International Traffic* (sometimes abbreviated to DSIT), authorised by the UN's Geneva Convention on Road Traffic of 1949 and the Vienna Convention on Road Traffic of 1968. Many vehicle codes created since the adoption of ISO 3166 coincide with ISO two- or three-letter codes.

The 2004 South-East Asian *Agreement ...for the Facilitation of Cross-Border Transport of Goods and People* uses a mixture of ISO and DSIT codes: Myanmar uses MYA, China CHN, and Cambodia KH (ISO codes), Thailand uses T (DSIT code), Laos LAO, and Viet Nam VN (coincident ISO and DSIT codes).<sup>[1]</sup>

In the European Union, vehicles from one member state do not need to display the oval while within another state, provided the number plate is in the common EU standard format, which includes the international vehicle registration code on the plate.<sup>[2]</sup>



Example of the small white oval plate or sticker; this one represents the former East Germany

## Contents

- 1 Current codes
- 2 Codes no longer in use
- 3 See also
- 4 References
- 5 External links

## Current codes

**Note:** an asterisk (\*) indicates that this code is unofficial (does not appear in the UN list of distinguishing codes).

Code	Country	From	Before	Notes
A	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Austria	1910		
AFG	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Afghanistan	1971		
AG*	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Antigua and Barbuda			
AL	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Albania	1934		
AM	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Armenia	1992	SU	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
AND	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Andorra	1957		
ANG*	<span><span><span></span></span><span> </span></span> Angola	1975	PAN: 1932–1957, P: 1957–1975	Formerly a territory of Portugal
ARK*	Antarctica			

AUA*, ARU*	 Aruba		NA	Formerly part of the Netherlands Antilles
AUS	 Australia	1954		
AX*	 Åland Islands	2002	SF	Territory of Finland. FIN is the official code.
AXA*	 Anguilla			
AZ	 Azerbaijan	1993	SU	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
B	 Belgium	1910		
BD	 Bangladesh	1978	PAK	Formerly East Pakistan
BDS	 Barbados	1956		
BF	 Burkina Faso	1990	RHV / HV	until August 2003, 1984; (République (de)) Haute Volta (Upper Volta)
BG	 Bulgaria	1910		
BH	 Belize	1938		former British Honduras. Uses BZ unofficially since 1980, although still officially registered as BH as of 2007.
BHT*	 Bhutan			
BIH	 Bosnia and Herzegovina	1993	YU	Bosna i Hercegovina
BOL	 Bolivia	1967		
BR	 Brazil	1930		
BRN	 Bahrain	1954		
BRU	 Brunei	1956		
BS	 Bahamas	1950		
BUR	 Myanmar	1956	BA	Also known as Burma.
BVI	 British Virgin Islands			
BW	 Botswana	2003	BP	unofficially for Botswana. Officially RB for Republic of Botswana. Formerly Bechuanaland Protectorate
BY	 Belarus	1992 (2004)	SU	Byelorussia; formerly part of the Soviet Union. The UN was officially notified of the change from SU to BY only in 2004. <sup>[3]</sup>
BZ*	 Belize	1980		former British Honduras. Still officially registered as BH (as of 2007).
C	 Cuba	1930		
CAM	 Cameroon	1952	F & WAN	Formerly a territory of France
CDN	 Canada	1956	CA	Canadian Dominion
CH	 Switzerland	1911		Confœderatio Helvetica (Latin)
CI	 Côte d'Ivoire (Ivory Coast)	1961	F	Formerly a territory of France
CL	 Sri Lanka	1961		Formerly Ceylon
CN*	 People's Republic of			

	 China			
CO	 Colombia	1952		
COM*	 Comoros		F	Formerly a territory of France
CR	 Costa Rica	1956		
CV*	 Cape Verde	1975	P	Formerly a territory of Portugal
CY	 Cyprus	1932		
CYM*	 Wales			Part of the United Kingdom, <i>CYM</i> from Cymru (Wales)
CZ	 Czech Republic	1993	CS	Formerly Československo (Czechoslovakia)
D	 Germany	1910		Deutschland (German); also used until 1974 by  East Germany, which then used DDR until German reunification in 1990
DJI*	 Djibouti		F	Formerly a territory of France
DK	 Denmark	1914		
DOM	 Dominican Republic	1952		
DY	 Benin	1910	Part of AOF (Afrique occidentale française) – 1960	Dahomey (name until 1975)
DZ	 Algeria	1962	F – 1911	Dzayer (Algerian Arabic); Formerly part of France
E	 Spain	1910		España (Spanish)
EAK	 Kenya	1938		East Africa Kenya
EAT	 Tanzania	1938	EAT & EAZ	East Africa Tanzania; formerly East Africa Tanganyika and East Africa Zanzibar
EAU	 Uganda	1938		East Africa Uganda
EAZ	 Zanzibar			East Africa Zanzibar
EC	 Ecuador	1962		
ENG*	 England			Part of the United Kingdom
ER	 Eritrea	1993	AOI – 1941, ETH 1964–1993	Africa Orientale Italiana (Italian), Ethiopia
ES	 El Salvador	1978		
EST	 Estonia	1993	EW 1919–1940 & 1991–1993; SU 1940–1991	Eesti Vabariik (Estonian); Formerly part of the Soviet Union
ET	 Egypt	1927		
ETH	 Ethiopia	1964	AOI – 1941	Africa Orientale Italiana (Italian)
F	 France	1910		
FIN	 Finland	1993	SF	Suomi Finland (Finnish/Swedish)
FJI	 Fiji	1971		
				

FL	 Liechtenstein	1923		Fürstentum Liechtenstein (German)
FO	 Faroe Islands	1996		Sometimes FØ or Fø
FRL*	 Friesland			unofficial; usually with the Frisian flag printed in the oval shape, behind the letters
FSM*	 Federated States of Micronesia			
G	 Gabon	1974	ALEF – 1960	Afrique Équatoriale Française
GB	 United Kingdom (of Great Britain and Northern Ireland)	1910		Before 1922 it was used for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Ireland
GBA	 Alderney	1924		Great Britain – Alderney
GBG	 Guernsey	1924		Great Britain – Guernsey
GBJ	 Jersey	1924		Great Britain – Jersey
GBM	 Isle of Man	1932		Great Britain – Isle of Man
GBZ	 Gibraltar	1924		Great Britain – Gibraltar [Z was assigned because G was already used for Guernsey]
GCA	 Guatemala	1956		Guatemala, Central America
GE	 Georgia	1992	SU	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
GH	 Ghana	1959	WAC – 1957	West Africa Gold Coast – 1957
GQ*	 Equatorial Guinea		E	Formerly a territory of Spain – Spanish Guinea – 1968
GR	 Greece	1913		
GUY	 Guyana	1972	BRG	Formerly British Guiana – 1966
GW*, RGB*	 Guinea-Bissau	1974	P	Portuguese Guinea – 1974. República da Guiné-Bissau
H	 Hungary	1910		
HK*	 Hong Kong	1932		
HKJ	 Jordan		JOR	Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan
HN*	 Honduras			
HR	 Croatia	1992	SHS 1919–29, Y 1929–53, YU 1953–92	Hrvatska (Croatian). Formerly part of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (Kraljevina Srba, Hrvata i Slovenaca – Croatian), then part of Yugoslavia.  In the period immediately following Croatia's declaration of independence from Yugoslavia in 1991, it was common to see unofficial oval stickers with the letters "CRO" sold across Croatia. Despite the initial anticipation that Croatia's international vehicle registration code would be "CRO", Croatia officially opted for the 2-letter "HR" (Hrvatska) code instead.

I	 Italy	1919		
IL	 Israel	1952		
IND	 India	1947		
IR	 Iran	1936		
IRL	 Ireland	1962	GB – 1910, SE – 1924, EIR – 1938	Formerly Great Britain, Saorstát Éireann, Éire. Currently there is a campaign underway by Irish Language activists to have the name of the country in the native language represented by changing the code back to EIR or ÉIR. This is unnecessary, as Statutory Instrument No. 269 of 1961 provides: " ... <i>the letters EIR are used to indicate the name of the State but the letters IRL may be substituted therefor.</i> "
IRQ	 Iraq	1930		
IS	 Iceland	1936		Ísland (Icelandic)
J	 Japan	1964		
JA	 Jamaica	1932		
K	 Cambodia	1956	F – 1949	Known as Kampuchea 1976–89. Formerly a territory of France.
KAN*	 Saint Kitts and Nevis			
KIR*	 Kiribati			
KN*	 Greenland		GRO	Kalaallit Nunaat
KP*	 Democratic People's Republic of Korea			
KS	 Kyrgyzstan	1992	SU – 1991	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
KWT	 Kuwait	1954		
KZ	 Kazakhstan	1992	SU – 1991	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
L	 Luxembourg	1911		
LAO	 Laos	1959	F – 1949	Formerly a territory of France (French Indochina)
LAR	 Libya	1972	I – 1949, LT	Libyan Arab Republic; Formerly a territory of Italy
LB	 Liberia	1967		
LS	 Lesotho	1967	BL	Basutoland – 1966
LT	 Lithuania	1992	SU 1940–1991	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
LV	 Latvia	1992	LR 1927–1940, SU 1940–1991	Latvijas Republika (Latvian); Formerly part of the Soviet Union
M	 Malta	1966	GBY 1924–66	
MA	 Morocco	1924		Maroc (French)
MAL	 Malaysia	1967	PRK – 1957, FM 1954-7, PTM 1957–67	formerly Perak, then Federated Malay States, then <i>Persekutuan Tanah Melayu</i> (Malay)

MC	 Monaco	1910		
MD	 Moldova	1992	SU – 1991	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
MEX	 Mexico	1952		
MGL	 Mongolia			
MH*	 Marshall Islands			
MK	 Macedonia	1992	YU – 1992	Formerly part of Yugoslavia
MNE	 Montenegro	2006	MN – 1913–1919, SHS 1919–29, Y 1929–53, YU 1953–2003, SCG 2003–2006	Formerly part of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (Srba, Hrvata i Slovenaca – Serbo-Croatian), then part of Yugoslavia and then Serbia and Montenegro (Srbija i Crna Gora – Serbian)
MO*	 Macau	1930s?		former Portuguese overseas province
MOC	 Mozambique	1975	MOC: 1932–56, P: 1957–75	Formerly part of Portugal. Moçambique (Portuguese)
MS	 Mauritius	1938		
MV*	 Maldives			
MW	 Malawi	1965	EA 1932–38, NP – 1938–70, RNY option 1960–65	Formerly the Nyasaland Protectorate
N	 Norway	1922		
NA	 Netherlands Antilles	1957		
NAM	 Namibia	1990	SWA	Formerly South West Africa
NAU	 Nauru	1968		
NC*	 New Caledonia			
NEP	 Nepal	1970		
NI*	Northern Ireland			Part of the United Kingdom
NIC	 Nicaragua	1952		
NL	 Netherlands	1910		
NZ	 New Zealand	1958		
OM*	 Oman			
P	 Portugal	1910		
PA	 Panama	1952		
PAL*	 Palau			
PE	 Peru	1937		
PK	 Pakistan	1947?		
PL	 Poland	1921		
PMR*	 Transnistria	1990	SU – 1991, MD	Pridnestrovian Moldavian Republic – officially part of  Moldova. Formerly part

			1991	of the Soviet Union.
PNG	 Papua New Guinea	1978		
PR*	 Puerto Rico			
PS*	 Palestinian territories			
PY	 Paraguay	1952		
Q	 Qatar	1972		
RA	 Argentina	1927		República Argentina (Spanish)
RB	 Botswana	1966	BP	Republic of Botswana. Unofficially uses BW. Formerly Bechuanaland Protectorate
RC	 Republic of China (Taiwan)	1932		
RCA	 Central African Republic	1962		République Centrafricaine (French)
RCB	 Republic of the Congo	1962		République du Congo Brazzaville (French)
RCH	 Chile	1930		República de Chile (Spanish)
RG	 Guinea	1972		République de Guinée (French)
RH	 Haiti	1952		République d'Haïti (French)
RI	 Indonesia	1955		Republik Indonesia (Indonesian)
RIM	 Mauritania	1964		République islamique de Mauritanie (French)
RKS*	 Kosovo	2010	SRB; KS 1999–2010; RKS 2010	Serbia claims Kosovo as part of its territory.
RL	 Lebanon	1952		République Libanaise (French)
RM	 Madagascar	1962		République de Madagascar (French)
RMM	 Mali	1962	AOF – 1960	République du Mali (French). Formerly part of French West Africa (Afrique Occidentale Française)
RN	 Niger	1977	AOF – 1960	République du Niger (French). Formerly part of French West Africa (Afrique Occidentale Française)
RO	 Romania	1981	R	
ROK	 Republic of Korea	1971		
ROU	 Uruguay	1979		República Oriental del Uruguay (Spanish)
RP	 Philippines	1975		Republic of the Philippines
RSM	 San Marino	1932		Repubblica di San Marino (Italian)
RU	 Burundi	1962?		Belgian territory of Ruanda-Urundi
RUS	 Russia	1992	SU	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
RWA	 Rwanda	1964	RU – 1962	Formerly part of Ruanda-Urundi – 1962
S	 Sweden	1911		

SA	 Saudi Arabia	1973		
SCO*	 Scotland			Part of the United Kingdom
SD	 Swaziland	1935		
SGP	 Singapore	1952		
SK	 Slovakia	1993	CS 1919–39, 1945–92, SQ 1939–45	Formerly Československo (Czechoslovakia)
SLE*	 Sierra Leone	2002		officially WAL; SLE is only used on local licence plates, written below the national flag
SLO	 Slovenia	1992	SHS 1919–29, Y 1929–53, YU 1953–92	Formerly part of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, then part of Yugoslavia
SME	 Suriname	1936		
SMOM*	 Sovereign Military Order of Malta			
SN	 Senegal	1962		
SO	 Somalia	1974		
SOL*	 Solomon Islands			
SRB	 Serbia	2006	SB – 1919, SHS 1919–29, Y 1929–53, YU 1953–2003, SCG 2003–2006	Formerly part of the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (Srba, Hrvata i Slovenaca – Serbo-Croatian), then part of Yugoslavia and then Serbia and Montenegro (Srbija i Crna Gora – Serbian)
STP*	 São Tomé and Príncipe	1975	P	Formerly a territory of Portugal
SUD	 Sudan	1963		
SY	 Seychelles	1938		
SYR	 Syria	1952		
T	 Thailand	1955		
TCH, TD	 Chad	1973		Tchad (French)
TG	 Togo	1973		
TJ	 Tajikistan	1992	SU – 1991	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
TL*	 Timor-Leste		P, RI	Formerly a territory of Portugal, then part of Indonesia
TM	 Turkmenistan	1992	SU – 1991	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
TN	 Tunisia	1957	F – 1956	Formerly a territory of France
TO*	 Tonga			
TR	 Turkey	1935		
TT	 Trinidad and Tobago	1964		
TUV*	 Tuvalu			

UA	 Ukraine	1992	SU	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
UAE	 United Arab Emirates			
USA	 United States	1952		Correctly used by U.S.-registered vehicles abroad. Today, U.S.-owned vehicles registered in Europe use the licence plate code of the country in which they are located.
UZ	 Uzbekistan	1992	SU	Formerly part of the Soviet Union
V	 Vatican City	1931		
VN	 Vietnam	1953		
VU*	 Vanuatu			
WAG	 Gambia	1932		West Africa Gambia
WAL	 Sierra Leone	1937		West Africa Sierra Leone; on local licence plates SLE is used
WAN	 Nigeria	1937		West Africa Nigeria
WD	 Dominica	1954		Windward Islands Dominica
WG	 Grenada	1932		Windward Islands Grenada
WL	 Saint Lucia	1932		Windward Islands Saint Lucia
WS	 Samoa	1962		formerly Western Samoa
WSA*	Western Sahara	1932	SE – 1976	formerly Sahara Español (Spanish); now mostly occupied by Morocco, with some territory administered by the Sahrawi Arab Democratic Republic
WV	 Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	1932		Windward Islands Saint Vincent
YAR	 Yemen			North Yemen formerly known as the Yemen Arab Republic
YV	 Venezuela			the same code is used for aircraft
Z	 Zambia	1964	NR	formerly Northern Rhodesia
ZA	 South Africa	1936		Zuid-Afrika (from Dutch; in Afrikaans it is Suid-Afrika <sup>[4]</sup> )
ZRE	 Democratic Republic of the Congo	1971?	CB, RCL, CGO, ZR	Congo Belge (French), République de Congo Léopoldville (French), Congo (Kinshasa), Zaïre
ZW	 Zimbabwe	1980	SR, RSR	formerly Southern Rhodesia until 1965, Rhodesia unrecognised until 1980

## Codes no longer in use

Code	Country	Until	After	Notes
ADN	Aden	1980	Y	From 1938. a.k.a. South Yemen, People's Democratic Republic of Yemen (1967)
BA	 Myanmar	1956	BUR	From 1937.

BP	Bechuanaland Protectorate	1966		Now Botswana
CS	Czechoslovakia	1992	CZ / SK	
DA	 Free City of Danzig (Gdańsk)	1939	D (1939-1945) PL (since 1945)	Danzig (German for Gdańsk)
DDR	German Democratic Republic	1990	D	Deutsche Demokratische Republik
EW	Estonia	1993	EST	Eesti Vabariik (Estonian)
FR	Faroe Islands	1996	FO	Føroyar (Faroese)
GRO	Greenland		KN	
HV	Haute Volta, now Burkina Faso	1984	BF	Upper Volta
LR	Latvia	1927–1940	SU, LV	Latvijas Republika (Latvian)
R	Romania	1981	RO	
RNY	Rhodesia-Nyasaland Fed.	1953–1963	NP, NR, SR	Now Malawi, Zambia and Zimbabwe
RSR	Southern Rhodesia	1965–1979	SR	Now Zimbabwe
RT	 Togo	1973	TG	République togolaise (French). Formerly French Togoland – 1960
SA	Saarland	1956	D	also D between 1935 and 1945; SA is now Saudi Arabia
SB	Serbia	1919	SHS	Serbia became part of Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes
SCG	Serbia and Montenegro	2006	MNE, SRB	From Serbian name "Srbija i Crna Gora". Now Montenegro, Serbia
SF	Finland	1993	FIN	SF from "Suomi – Finland" (the names of the country in its official languages, Finnish and Swedish)
SHS	Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes	1929	Y	Srba, Hrvata i Slovenaca – Serbo-Croatian. Kingdom changed its name to Yugoslavia
SU	Soviet Union	1991	EST, LT, LV, BY, MD, UA, TJ, TUR, GE, KZ, UZ, KS, AZ, ARM, RUS	
SWA	South West Africa	1990		now Namibia
TS	Free Territory of Trieste	1947–1954	I, YU, SLO	
Y	Yugoslavia	1953	YU	Yemen started using Y afterwards
YU	Yugoslavia	2003	BIH, HR, KS, MK, MNE, SRB, SLO	Now Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia, and Slovenia

**Note1**

There are unofficial codes in common use, such as "BZH" for Brittany, "VL" for Flanders, "V" for Vojvodina/Vajdaság and "CD" for "Corps Diplomatique". These often signify places which are not internationally

recognised as independent states. See <http://www.kingkong.demon.co.uk/where/unoff.htm> for a list of some of these.

## Note2

Some licence plates indicate from which part of the country they originate. See <http://www.kingkong.demon.co.uk/where/where.htm> for these origins.

## See also

- Aircraft registration
- ISO 3166
- International Driving Permit

## References

- ↑ *Agreement between and among the Governments of the Kingdom of Cambodia, the People's Republic of China, the Lao People's Democratic Republic, the Union of Myanmar, the Kingdom of Thailand, and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam for the Facilitation of Cross-Border Transport of Goods and People, Annex 2: Registration of Vehicles in International Traffic* ([http://www1.mt.gov.vn/hotrovantai/uploads/2006/E\\_annex\\_2.pdf](http://www1.mt.gov.vn/hotrovantai/uploads/2006/E_annex_2.pdf)) , 2004 (also here (<http://www.adb.org/Documents/Others/GMS-Agreement/annex2.pdf>) and here ([http://www.news.mot.go.th/iba\\_website/fileupload/Annex2\\_Registration%20of%20Vehicles%20in%20International%20Traffic.pdf](http://www.news.mot.go.th/iba_website/fileupload/Annex2_Registration%20of%20Vehicles%20in%20International%20Traffic.pdf)) )
- ↑ European Council (1998-11-10). "Council Regulation (EC) No 2411/98 of 3 November 1998 on the recognition in intra-Community traffic of the distinguishing sign of the Member State in which motor vehicles and their trailers are registered" (<http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31998R2411:EN:HTML>) . *Official Journal L 299*. Eurlex. pp. 1–3. <http://eur-lex.europa.eu/LexUriServ/LexUriServ.do?uri=CELEX:31998R2411:EN:HTML>. Retrieved 2008-07-05. "Article 3: Member States requiring vehicles registered in another Member State to display a distinguishing registration sign when they are being driven on their territory shall recognise the distinguishing sign of the Member State of registration displayed on the extreme left of the registration plate in accordance with the Annex to this Regulation as being equivalent to any other distinguishing sign that they recognise for the purpose of identifying the State in which the vehicle is registered."
- ↑ [http://www.minbuza.nl/en/Key\\_Topics/Treaties/Search\\_the\\_Treaty\\_Database?verdragid=12396](http://www.minbuza.nl/en/Key_Topics/Treaties/Search_the_Treaty_Database?verdragid=12396)
- ↑ See article .za

## External links

- UN Economic Commission for Europe, Working Party on Road Transport (WP.11) ([http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/sc1\\_legalinst.html](http://www.unece.org/trans/conventn/sc1_legalinst.html))
- *Miscellaneous Proposals of Amendments to the Model Regulations on the Transport of Dangerous Goods: Identification of Approval Country in Marking* (<http://www.unece.org/trans/doc/2008/ac10c3/UN-SCETDG-33-INF05e.pdf>) , UN/SCETDG/33/INF.5 (table compares ISO 3166 and DSIT codes)
- *Association Francoplaque: Collectionneurs de Plaques d'Immatriculation* (<http://plaque.free.fr/ov1e.html>) (data mostly from RPW, below)
- *European Registration Plate Association: Registration Plates of the World Online* (<http://europlate.org.uk/buy.htm>) (registration required; data mostly from RPW, below)
- "RPW": Neil Parker and John Weeks, *Registration Plates of the World*, Europlate; 3rd edition (May 1994)

Retrieved from "http://en.wikipedia.org/w/index.php?title=List\_of\_international\_vehicle\_registration\_codes&oldid=465459682"

Categories:   Country codes   Lists of abbreviations   Vehicle registration plates

- This page was last modified on 12 December 2011 at 14:06.
  - Text is available under the Creative Commons Attribution-ShareAlike License; additional terms may apply. See Terms of use for details.
- Wikipedia® is a registered trademark of the Wikimedia Foundation, Inc., a non-profit organization.



