
**Codes for the representation of names
of countries and their subdivisions —
Part 1:
Country code**

*Codes pour la représentation des noms de pays et de leurs
subdivisions —
Partie 1: Codes de pays*





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Foreword

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This fourth edition cancels and replaces the descriptive text of the third edition (ISO 3166-1:2013), which has been technically revised.

The main changes compared to the previous edition are as follows.

- The codes have been moved to the database format
- The components of the codes have been defined by descriptors, not by column or line numbers.
- The status of each alpha-2 country code element has been made explicit, as it is the main resource managed by ISO 3166/MA, necessary for traceability over time.
- All characters in the database, specifically those with diacritical marks, have been checked with the Universal Coded Character Set, ISO/IEC 10646, and are used consistently.
- The database encoding is UTF-8 (Universal Character Set Transformation Format - 8 bits) from ISO/IEC 10646, and the same has been used in many applications.
- The three parts — three codes — belong to the same database, updates are done only once for all parts.

A list of all parts in the ISO 3166 series can be found on the ISO website.

Any feedback or questions on this document should be directed to the user's national standards body. A complete listing of these bodies can be found at www.iso.org/members.html.