

**13th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution:  
Abolition of Slavery (1865)**

AMENDMENT XIII

**Section 1.**

Neither slavery nor involuntary servitude, except as a punishment for crime whereof the party shall have been duly convicted, shall exist within the United States, or any place subject to their jurisdiction.

**Section 2.**

Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation.

*Passed by Congress January 31, 1865. Ratified December 6, 1865.*