

N° 417.

**FINLANDE ET
RÉPUBLIQUE DES SOVIETS
DE RUSSIE**

**Arrangement provisoire concernant
le règlement des relations postales
entre la Finlande et la Russie, signé
à Helsingfors le 22 juin 1922.**

**FINLAND
AND SOVIET REPUBLIC
OF RUSSIA**

**Provisional Agreement regarding the
regulation of Postal relations be-
tween Finland and Russia, signed
at Helsingfors, June 22, 1922.**

TEXTE RUSSE. — RUSSIAN TEXT.

№. 417. — ВРЕМЕННОЕ СОГЛАШЕНИЕ ОБ УСТАНОВЛЕНИИ ПОЧТОВЫХ СНОШЕНИЙ МЕЖДУ РОССИЕЙ И ФИНЛЯНДИЕЙ.

№. 417. — ARRANGEMENT PROVISOIRE CONCERNANT LE RÉGLEMENT DES RELATIONS POSTALES ENTRE LA FINLANDE ET LA RUSSIE, SIGNÉ A HELSINGFORS LE 22 JUIN 1922.

Finnish, French, Russian and Swedish official texts communicated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of Finland. The registration of this Agreement took place May 1, 1923.

ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВО РОССИЙСКОЙ СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКОЙ ФЕДЕРАТИВНОЙ СОВЕТСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ и ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВО ФИНЛЯНДСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ, желая немедленно установить почтовые сношения между обоими странами, постановили, впредь до заключения о том Конвенции, предусмотренной ст. 34 Мирного Договора, подписанного в г. Юрьеве 14-го октября 1920¹ года, временно установить эти сношения на началах, определяемых настоящим Соглашением, поручив его составление и подписание Центральной Смешанной Русско-Финляндской Комиссии и уполномочив для того ;

Правительство Российской Социалистической

Федеративной Советской Республики :

С. М. ФРАНКФурТА,
А. М. СМИРНОВА,
А. П. ЗЕЛЕНОВОГО,
Н. П. КОЛЧАНОВСКОГО,

и Правительство Финляндской Республики :

А. АХОНЕН,
П. Ю. ХЮННИНЕН,
В. ХУПЛИ,
И. В. ПУХАККА,
П. ПАЮЛА.

Le GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE FINLANDE et Le GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE FÉDÉRATIVE DES SOVIETS DE RUSSIE, animés du désir d'établir de suite les relations postales entre les deux pays, ayant décidé de régler les dites relations d'après les dispositions du présent Arrangement provisoire, jusqu'à la conclusion de la Convention à ce sujet prévue par l'article 34 du Traité de Paix signé à Dorpat le 14 octobre 1920¹ — et ayant chargé la Commission centrale mixte finlandaise-russe de dresser et de signer cet Acte — se sont fait représenter dans ce but par les personnes suivantes :

Le GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DE FINLANDE :

A. AHONEN
P. J. HYNINEN
V. HUPLI
Y. W. PUHAKKA
P. PAJULA ;

et Le GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE FÉDÉRATIVE DES SOVIETS DE RUSSIE :

S. M. FRANCFURTE
A. M. SMIRNOFF
A. P. ZELENOW
N. P. KOLTCHANOWSKI.

¹ Vol. III, page 5, of this Series.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 417. — PROVISIONAL AGREEMENT REGARDING THE REGULATION OF POSTAL RELATIONS BETWEEN FINLAND AND RUSSIA, SIGNED AT HELSINGFORS, JUNE 22, 1922.

The GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND and the Government of the RUSSIAN SOCIALIST FEDERAL SOVIET REPUBLIC, being animated by the desire to establish immediately postal relations between the two countries, and having decided to regulate these relations in accordance with the terms of this Provisional Agreement until the conclusion of the Convention on this subject referred to in Article 34 of the Treaty of Peace, signed at Dorpat on October 14, 1920, and having further instructed the Central Mixed Finnish-Russian Commission to draw up and execute this instrument, have appointed for this purpose as their representatives :

The GOVERNMENT OF THE FINNISH REPUBLIC :

A. AHONEN,
P. J. HYNNINEN,
V. HUPLI,
Y. W. PUHAKKA,
P. PAJULA.

The GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN SOCIALIST FEDERAL SOVIET REPUBLIC :

S. M. FRANKFURT,
A. M. SMIRNOFF,
A. P. ZELENOY,
N. P. KOLTCHANOWSKI.

The said plenipotentiaries, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed to the following provisions :

Article 1.

A regular and periodical exchange of ordinary and registered correspondence (letters, post-cards, commercial papers, printed papers of all kinds, samples and patterns in special wrappers), as provided for in the Universal Postal Convention mentioned in Article 10 of this Agreement, shall be established between Finland and Russia.

Article 2.

This exchange, in regard to which the places and the conditions shall be laid down by means of a direct agreement between the Postal Administrations of the two countries, shall take place directly across the frontiers of the Contracting States.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

The conveyance of postal packets as far as the frontier points agreed upon shall be effected by the respective Administrations of the two States and at their charge. Each of the Postal Administrations is authorised to come to an agreement as to the exchange of correspondence at a specified place situated within the territory of the other contracting State. In this case the Postal Administration conveying the postal correspondence through the territory of the other State will receive payment at an agreed rate.

Article 3.

The Postal Administration of one of the two States shall accept for conveyance in transit through its territories ordinary and registered correspondence, sent by the Postal Administration of the other contracting State or through the intermediary of the other contracting State, to its destination in any country exchanging its postal correspondence with the Postal Administration of the contracting State undertaking the transit.

The Postal Administrations responsible for sending the above-mentioned articles will receive remuneration at a rate laid down in the Universal Postal Convention mentioned in Article 10 of this Agreement.

The articles in question shall be delivered for transit either in the form of closed mails addressed directly to the country of destination, or as open-mail correspondence, according to the requirements of the traffic and the postal service.

Should the Postal Administration of the country of transit request the transmission of postal correspondence in the form of closed mails on the ground that the open-mail correspondence addressed to any country is on so extensive a scale that it might interfere with the work of the above-mentioned administration, such correspondence shall be transmitted in closed mails.

Article 4.

The correspondence mentioned in Article 1 of this Agreement shall be handed over by the State forwarding the correspondence in sacks and strong, closed leather bags accompanied by the documents referred to in the Universal Postal Convention mentioned in Article 10 of this Agreement, which must be drawn up in the French language.

Registered articles shall, however, be forwarded separately, and a receipt therefor shall be issued immediately on their being handed over, provided the Postal Administrations of either of the Contracting Countries expressly submits such a demand.

The empty sacks and bags used for the conveyance of postal correspondence shall be returned immediately by the following post.

Article 5.

The postal packets referred to in this Agreement shall be provided with forms for postal prepayment, drawn up in accordance with the rates laid down in the Universal Postal Convention mentioned in Article 10 of this Agreement.

The Postal Administrations of the two States shall communicate to each other beforehand the equivalent of the rates of postage calculated in the currency of the respective Contracting States.

Article 6.

Correspondence relating to the postal service shall be in French, and shall be carried on through the intermediary of such offices or officials as each of the Postal Administrations of the two countries may prescribe.

Other languages than French may also be employed in the correspondence in question under a special agreement between the above-mentioned Administrations.

This correspondence shall be conveyed gratuitously by the Postal Administrations of the two Contracting Countries.

Article 7.

In the case of the loss of a registered article, the Postal Administration of the State in the territory of which, or in the postal service of which, the loss has occurred, shall pay to the Postal Administration of the country sending the above-mentioned article an indemnity reckoned in gold francs, the amount of which shall be equivalent to the sum due by the Postal Administration of the forwarding country in the case of the loss of registered foreign correspondence; nevertheless, the above-mentioned indemnity may not exceed 50 gold francs for each article lost.

Should the loss occur while the correspondence is being exchanged by the offices authorised to effect such an exchange, and should it be impossible to discover which of the two offices is responsible for the loss, the indemnity shall be borne in equal proportions by the two Postal Administrations.

No indemnity shall be paid to the sender in the case of loss through force majeure.

If the indemnity is paid by the Postal Administration of the one country on behalf of the Postal Administration of the other country which is responsible for the loss, the latter Administration shall refund the sum in question, not later than a period of one month after notice has been given of the payment. A claim regarding lost correspondence must be submitted beforehand. The enquiry in regard to such a claim shall be concluded within a period of three months, counting from the day on which the claim is submitted.

Article 8.

Payments will be made *ad interim* in the capital of the creditor country through the diplomatic representatives of the Contracting States and shall not involve the Postal Administrations of the countries in any expenditure whatsoever.

Article 9.

Each of the Contracting Parties shall be entitled, should circumstances make it desirable, to suspend the exchange of ordinary and registered correspondence, after notifying the other Contracting Party, if necessary by telegram, of this fact.

Article 10.

All cases relating to the postal packets mentioned, but not provided for, in this Agreement, shall be dealt with in accordance with the terms of the Principal Convention of the Universal Postal Union at present in force and of the Final Protocol and Detailed Regulations annexed thereto.

Article 11.

In case of disagreement between the Postal Administrations of the two Contracting Parties regarding the interpretation of this Agreement, the question at issue shall be settled in accordance with the advice of the Berne Office of the Universal Postal Union.

Article 12.

This Agreement shall come into force within a period of fifteen days as from the date on which it is signed, and shall remain in force until the entry into effect of the Convention regarding the postal relations between Finland and Russia. Nevertheless, each of the Contracting Parties shall be entitled to denounce this Agreement at any time. In this case it shall cease to be operative within a period of three months, counting from the date on which it is denounced.

This Arrangement is drawn up in French, Finnish, Swedish and Russian, two copies being made in each case, and all the texts are authentic.

In faith whereof the plenipotentiaries of the two Contracting States have signed this Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Helsingfors on June 22, 1922.

(L. S.) S. M. FRANKFURT.

(L. S.) A. M. SMIRNOFF.

(L. S.) A. P. ZELENOY.

(L. S.) N. P. KOLTCHANOWSKI.

(L. S.) A. AHONEN.

(L. S.) P. J. HYNNINEN.

(L. S.) VÄINÖ HUPLI.

(L. S.) Y. W. PUHAKKA.

(L. S.) PAAVO PAJULA.