

N° 441.

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**LETONIE ET RÉPUBLIQUE  
DES SOVIETS D'UKRAINE**

Convention au sujet de la réévacuation des réfugiés lettons qui se trouvent sur le territoire de la République Socialiste des Soviets d'Ukraine, signée à Moscou, le 3 août 1921.

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**LATVIA  
AND THE UKRAINIAN  
SOVIET REPUBLIC**

Agreement regarding the repatriation of Latvian refugees who are at present in the territory of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic, signed at Moscow, August 3, 1921.

## ТЕХТЕ RUSSE. — RUSSIAN TEXT.

№. 441. — КОНВЕНЦИЯ О ПОРЯДКЕ ОТПРАВЛЕНИЯ НА РОДИНУ ЛАТВИЙСКИХ БЕЖЕНЦЕВ, ПРОЖИВАЮЩИХ НА ТЕРРИТОРИИ У. С. С. Р. ПОДПИСАНА В МОСКВЕ 3 АВГУСТА 1921<sup>1</sup>.

*Official Latvian and Russian texts communicated by the Latvian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Agreement took place on June 16, 1923.*

В развитие статьи договора, УКРАИНСКАЯ СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКАЯ СОВЕТСКАЯ РЕСПУБЛИКА с одной стороны и ЛАТВИЙСКАЯ ДЕМОКРАТИЧЕСКАЯ РЕСПУБЛИКА с другой, руководимые желанием возможно скорее ликвидировать бедствия, причиненные мировой войной, решили заключить конвенцию о порядке отправления на родину Латвийских беженцев, проживающих на территории У. С. С. Р., для чего назначили своими уполномоченными :

ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВО УКРАИНСКОЙ СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКОЙ СОВЕТСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ :

Юрия Михайловича Коцюбинского.

ПРАВИТЕЛЬСТВО ЛАТВИЙСКОЙ РЕСПУБЛИКИ :

Эрика Ансовича Фельдмана,  
Эвальда Яковлевича Шкипсна,  
Александра Васильевича Харитоновского.

Означенные уполномоченные по взаимному пред'явлению своих полномочий, признанных достаточными и составленными в надлежащей форме, согласились в нижеследующем :

*Статья 1.*

Латвийские беженцы проживающие на территории У. С. С. Р., выразившие желание возвратиться на родину, должны быть отправлены туда.

*Статья 2.*

Под Латвийскими беженцами в У. С. С. Р. понимаются лица, ранее проживавшие на территории, входящей ныне в состав Латвии, и в данное время находящиеся в пределах Украинской Советской Республики, оставившие во время мировой войны занятые или угрожаемые неприятелем районы либо выселенные распоряжением военных или гражданских властей из района военных действий если они сами или родители их были до 1-го августа 1914-го года приписаны к городским, сельским или сословным обществам на территории, составляющей ныне Латвийское государство.

*Примечание 1:* Принадлежность беженца к Латвийскому гражданству может быть констатируема нижеперечисленными документами : видом на жительство, паспортом, метрикой, свидетельством об образовании, формулярными списками о прежней службе, сви-

<sup>1</sup> This Convention came into force August 3, 1921.

<sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION.

No. 441. — CONVENTION ENTRE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE DE LETTONIE ET LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DES SOVIETS D'UKRAINE AU SUJET DE LA RÉÉVACUATION DES RÉFUGIÉS LETTONS QUI SE TROUVENT SUR LE TERRITOIRE DE CETTE DERNIÈRE, SIGNÉE A MOSCOU LE 3 AOÛT 1921.

Aux fins d'élargir les dispositions de l'article du Traité, la RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DES SOVIETS D'UKRAINE, d'une part, et la RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE DE LETTONIE, d'autre part, guidées du désir de liquider, dans le plus bref délai, les malheurs causés par la guerre mondiale, ont résolu de conclure une Convention sur l'ordre du transport dans la patrie des réfugiés lettons, résidant sur le territoire de la R. S. d. S. d'Ukraine, à quel effet ils ont nommé comme plénipotentiaires :

LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE SOCIALISTE DES SOVIETS D'UKRAINE :  
Youri KOTSIUBINSKO ;

LE GOUVERNEMENT DE LA RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE DE LETTONIE :  
Eric FELDMANS,  
Evald SCHKIPSNA,  
Alexandre CHARITONOVSKY.

Les plénipotentiaires susnommés ayant échangé leurs pleins pouvoirs, reconnus en bonne et due forme, sont convenus de ce qui suit :

*Article 1.*

Les réfugiés lettons, résidant sur le territoire de la R. S. d. S. d'Ukraine, qui ont exprimé le désir d'être rapatriés, doivent être expédiés dans la patrie.

*Article 2.*

Les réfugiés lettons dans la R. S. d. S. d'Ukraine sont les personnes qui, autrefois, ont résidé sur le territoire faisant actuellement partie de la Lettonie et qui, à présent, se trouvent dans les limites de la République des Soviets d'Ukraine et qui ont quitté pendant la guerre mondiale les régions occupées ou menacées par l'ennemi, ou qui, sur l'ordre des autorités militaires ou civiles, ont été forcées d'abandonner les régions des opérations militaires, si elles-mêmes ou leurs parents ont appartenu, avant le 1<sup>er</sup> août 1914, aux sociétés urbaines, rurales ou sociales existant sur le territoire composant actuellement l'Etat letton.

*Remarque 1.* L'appartenance d'un réfugié à la nationalité lettone peut être constatée par les documents ci-dessous énumérés : permis de séjour, passeport, certificat de naissance, diplôme universitaire, anciens états de service, certificat concernant le lieu du service militaire, quittances certifiant le paiement des droits publics du 1<sup>er</sup> août 1914

<sup>1</sup> Communiquée par le Ministère des Affaires étrangères de Lettonie.

<sup>1</sup> Communicated by the Ministry for Foreign Affairs of Latvia.

<sup>1</sup> TRANSLATION.

No. 441. — AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LATVIAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND THE UKRAINIAN SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLIC REGARDING THE REPATRIATION OF LATVIAN REFUGEES WHO ARE AT PRESENT IN THE TERRITORY OF THE LATTER, SIGNED AT MOSCOW, AUGUST 3, 1921.

For the purpose of widening the scope of the provisions contained in the Article of the Treaty, the UKRAINIAN SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLIC, of the one Part, and the LATVIAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC, of the other Part, being desirous of putting an end, as soon as possible, to the evils caused by the world war, have agreed to conclude an Agreement regarding the procedure to be followed in repatriating Latvian refugees residing in the territory of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic, and for this purpose have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

The GOVERNMENT OF THE UKRAINIAN SOCIALIST SOVIET REPUBLIC :

Youri KOTSUBINSKO ;

The GOVERNMENT OF THE LATVIAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC :

Eric FELDMANS,  
Evald SCHKIPSNA,  
Alexandre CHARITONOVSKY.

The above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries, having communicated their full powers, found to be in good and due form, have agreed upon the following provisions :

*Article 1.*

Latvian refugees, resident in the territory of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic, who have expressed a desire to be repatriated, shall be sent back to their own country.

*Article 2.*

Latvian refugees in the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic are persons who, while formerly resident in territory which is now part of Latvia, are at present within the territorial boundaries of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic, and who, during the war, left the regions occupied or threatened by the enemy, or who, by order of the military or civil authorities, were forced to leave districts in which military operations were being conducted, provided that they themselves, or their parents, were, before August 1, 1914, members of urban or rural communities or corporations existing upon territory which now forms part of the Latvian State.

*Note 1.* Refugees may prove their right to Latvian nationality by means of the documents enumerated below : certificate of residence, passport, birth certificate, university degree, former service records, certificate as to place of military service, receipts certifying the payment of taxes from August 1, 1914, to November 28, 1918, extracts from

<sup>1</sup> Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

<sup>1</sup> Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

the records of the public registrars' offices prepared in Latvia, and official information from Latvian government or public institutions. In cases where refugees have left their previous documents with State or public institutions in the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic, and have, in exchange, received fresh papers which do not establish the fact that they are Latvian refugees, they shall have the right to receive their former papers in exchange for the new ones.

*Note 2.* Persons on military service shall enjoy the same rights as refugees if they comply with the conditions set forth in Article 2 of this Agreement, and express a desire to return to their country. Demobilised soldiers shall be accompanied by their families if the latter so desire. The demobilisation of these persons shall be effected by the Ukrainian People's Commissariat for War within a period of three months from the date on which such persons as desire to return to their country give notice in writing to that effect.

*Note 3.* Latvian refugees who desire to be repatriated shall, within a period of six months from the date of the publication of this Convention in the official organ of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Press, inform the Government authorities responsible for the re-evacuation of the population of their desire and shall submit therewith the necessary documents. If their right to be repatriated is recognised, their names shall be registered as soon as possible for transport by convoy. At the same time all documents and lists referring to the refugees in question shall be sent to the competent Consular representatives in order to be checked and endorsed, after which they shall be returned to the competent authorities responsible for the re-evacuation of the population.

At the points of departure of the convoys, where there are no Latvian Consular representatives, the Consul for the district in question, or the Latvian Diplomatic Mission may appoint persons to check the documents on the spot.

#### *Article 3.*

Refugees shall be conveyed as far as the frontier stations in convoys or in special railway carriages. They shall be transported either in groups or individually to the ports of departure of the convoys or trains.

*Note 1.* The Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic shall undertake to repatriate not fewer than 1,200 persons per week. Latvian refugees who are not returning to their country by rail shall return at the times prescribed for them and shall cross the frontier at the appointed control stations.

*Note 2.* The refugees shall, wherever possible, be accompanied by persons who have expressed their desire to return with them.

*Note 3.* The transport of Latvian refugees and their property from ports may also be effected by sea.

*Note 4.* The Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic shall supply rolling-stock for the transport of refugees and their property as far as the stations at which they are handed over to the Latvian convoys.

#### *Article 4.*

The cost of conveying refugees and their property from Ukrainian territory to the Latvian border shall be borne by the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic.

*Article 5.*

All refugees, without exception, irrespective of age, profession or occupation, shall, in pursuance of this Agreement, have the right, after being registered on the lists, to be repatriated in the order in which they were registered.

*Note 1.* Priority shall be given to refugees whose families are on Latvian territory.

*Note 2.* Refugees under the orders of civil or military institutions or in the service of any enterprise or institution whatsoever shall be discharged. The affairs of such persons shall be finally settled as from the date on which the notification of their registration for transport by convoy is delivered by the evacuating authorities to the proper persons. The evacuating authorities shall be obliged to give this information as soon as the list of convoys has been drawn up.

*Article 6.*

The Government of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic shall allow the convoys of Latvian refugees, re-evacuated from other countries which have been detached from the former Russian Empire, to pass through its territories.

*Article 7.*

The Government of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic shall, within a period of three months from the date of publication of this Agreement, remit the sentences of Latvian refugees convicted for disciplinary or political misdemeanours or crimes. The refugees who have been set free must immediately leave Ukrainian territory with such members of their families as desire to accompany them.

When sentence has not yet been passed in cases of the kind mentioned above, the proceedings shall be stopped. The amnesty shall not apply to refugees committing the aforesaid offences after the publication of this Agreement.

*Note.* In cases where the release of the persons to be liberated might constitute a menace to public order, they shall not be liberated, but may, at the request of the other Contracting Party, be extradited.

*Article 8.*

Latvian refugees residing in the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic shall be entitled on their return to Latvia to liquidate or take with them the property belonging to them.

The total weight of the baggage belonging to refugees travelling by rail or sea shall not exceed 10 poods per head in addition to hand baggage.

*Note.* Persons who exercise a special profession, such as doctors, artists, professors, engineers, artisans, musicians, etc., shall be entitled to take with them the articles which they require for their professional work, such as instruments, books and other articles according to their special requirements, in excess of the weight stated above, subject to a special permit from the People's Commissariat for Foreign Trade of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic in each particular case.

*Annex. Refugees shall not be allowed to remove:*

- (1) Printed matter which has not been approved by the military censor.

*Note.* School books and books in the Latvian language may be removed in conformity with lists approved by the Government Education Department without endorsement by the military censor.

- (2) Photographs, deeds, documents and other papers, except those mentioned in paragraphs 16 and 17 of this Annex, unless marked with the stamp of the military censor.

- (3) Arms, military equipment and fieldglasses.

*Note.* Professional hunters proceeding to Latvia shall be entitled, on obtaining a special permit for this purpose, to take with them a shot-gun, in the event of the gun having been brought into the country during the evacuation.

- (4) Manufactured goods, articles of clothing, metals and articles manufactured with these metals, furs and leather goods, millinery, etc., if intended for commercial purposes and not for personal use.

*Note.* Homespun cloth brought from Latvia during the evacuation may be taken out without formalities.

- (5) Food exceeding 40 pounds per person, comprising 18 pounds of flour or bread, 8 pounds of meat products, 4 pounds of dairy produce and 10 pounds of other provisions in which there must not be more than 1 pound of sugar and a quarter-of-a-pound of tea.

- (6) Live stock and poultry.

*Note.* Refugees not travelling by rail or sea shall be entitled to take with them live stock and poultry evacuated from Latvia and acquired before August 1, 1921, provided that the total number of live stock and poultry does not exceed the number brought out of Latvia during the evacuation.

*Note 2.* Refugees travelling by land shall be entitled to take with them any increase in the live stock and poultry brought out of Latvia.

- (7) Bulky furniture transported without being taken to pieces, motor-cars, motor-bicycles, bicycles, carriages, and all kinds of vehicles and sledges.

*Note.* The note to paragraph 6 of this Annex shall apply to bulky furniture, vehicles, carriages, sledges and bicycles.

- (8) Unset and uncut jewels, and gold and silver coins.

- (9) Articles made of gold and platinum weighing more than 16 zolotniks each, gold and platinum articles exceeding a total weight of 25 zolotniks per head, and silver articles exceeding 3 pounds per head.

*Note.* Every adult leaving the country shall be allowed to take a gold or silver watch and chain, a wedding ring, a silver cigar case, or a lady's purse. The weight of these articles shall not be included in the maximum weight laid down in this paragraph.

- (10) Articles made with jewels (diamonds, brilliants, sapphires, emeralds and rubies, etc.) and with pearls, the total weight of which exceeds 1 carat.

- (11) All kinds of machines, and parts of machines, physical apparatus, surgical instruments and musical instruments, subject to such exceptions as are mentioned in Note 1 of Article 8 of the present Agreement.

*Note.* One sewing machine per family may be taken. Persons who are not professional musicians may take with them musical instruments, if these instruments were taken from Latvia during the evacuation.

(12) Tobacco (more than 500 cigarettes or half-a-pound of tobacco per person over 18 years of age).

(13) More than one piece of toilet soap per person and more than one pound of household soap per family.

(14) Paper money of any issue which is legal tender in the territory of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic in excess of one hundred thousand roubles per head.

*Note.* In addition to the sum indicated in paragraph 14, one thousand roubles per person may be taken.

(15) Currency of other States, without special permission from the People's Finance Commissariat of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic.

(16) Title deeds, securities on property, dividend warrants of every kind and also bills of exchange, transfers, warrants and insurance policies, except those the export of which is authorised by the People's Finance Commissariat of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic.

*Note.* Such securities, financial papers and other documents enumerated in paragraph 16, as concern solely Latvian territory may be removed without formality.

(17) Articles possessing artistic or antiquarian value, the removal of which has not been authorised by the People's Public Education Commissariat of the Ukrainian Socialist Soviet Republic.

#### *Article 9.*

The present Agreement, which does not require ratification, shall enter into force immediately upon signature.

In faith whereof, the Plenipotentiaries of the two Contracting Parties have signed the present Agreement.

The original is done in duplicate.

Moscow, *August 3, 1921.*

ERIC FELDMANS.  
Ev. SCHKIPSNA.  
A. CHARITONOVSKI.

KOTSIUBINSKO.