No 545.

PRINCIPAUTE DE LIECHTENSTEIN ET SUISSE

Traité concernant la réunion de la Principauté de Liechtenstein au territoire douanier suisse, signé à Berne le 29 mars 1923.

PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN AND SWITZERLAND

Treaty regarding the inclusion of the Principality of Liechtenstein in the Swiss customs-area, signed at Berne, March 29, 1923.
TEXTE ALLEMAND. — GERMAN TEXT.

No. 545. — VERTRAG 1 ZWISCHEN DER SCHWEIZ UND DEM FÜRSTENTUM LIECHTENSTEIN ÜBER DEN ANSCHLUSS DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN AN DAS SCHWEIZERISCHE ZOLLGEBIET, GEZEICHNET IN BERN DEN 29. MÄRZ 1923.

Texte officiel allemand communiqué par le Conseil Fédéral Suisse. L‘enregistrement de ce traité a eu lieu le 5 janvier 1924.

Official German text communicated by the Swiss Federal Council. The registration of this Treaty took place January 5, 1924.

DER SCHWEIZERISCHE BUNDESRAT und Seine Durchlaucht der regierende Fürst von Liechtenstein vom Wunsche beseelt, die zwischen der Schweiz und dem Fürstentum Liechtenstein bestehenden freundschaftlichen Beziehungen fester und inniger zu gestalten,

und in der Absicht, einen Vertrag über den Anschluss des Fürstentums Liechtenstein an das schweizerische Zollgebiet, unter Vorbehalt der souveränen Hoheitsrechte Seiner Durchlaucht des Fürsten von Liechtenstein, zu schliessen,

haben zu diesem Zwecke als Bevollmächtigte ernannt:

DER SCHWEIZERISCHE BUNDESRAT:

Herrn Bundesrat Dr. jur. Giuseppe Motta, Vorsteher des Eidgenössischen Politischen Departements;

SEINE DURCHLAUCHT DER REGIERENDE FÜRST VON LIECHTENSTEIN:

Herrn Dr. jur. Emil Beck, fürstlich liechtensteinischer Geschäftsträger in der Schweiz,

die, nachdem sie ihre Vollmachten in guter und gehöriger Form befunden haben, über folgende Bestimmungen übereingekommen sind:

ERSTER ABSCHNITT.

ALLGEMEINE BESTIMMUNGEN.

Artikel 1.

Das Gebiet des Fürstentums Liechtenstein wird an das schweizerische Zollgebiet angeschlossen und bildet einen Bestandteil des Schweizerischen Zollgebietes.


1 L‘échange des ratifications a eu lieu à Berne le 28 décembre 1923.

1 The exchange of ratifications took place at Berne, December 28, 1923.
1Traduction.


Le Conseil fédéral suisse et Son Altesse Sérénissime Le Prince Régnant de Liechtenstein, animés du désir de rendre plus étroites et plus intimes les relations d’amitié existant entre la Suisse et la Principauté de Liechtenstein, et ayant l’intention de conclure un traité en vue de la réunion de la Principauté de Liechtenstein au territoire douanier suisse, sous réserve des droits de souveraineté de Son Altesse Sérénissime le Prince de Liechtenstein, ont désigné dans ce but leurs plénipotentiaires, savoir :

Le Conseil fédéral suisse,

M. Giuseppe Motta, Conseiller fédéral, Chef du Département politique fédéral ;

Son Altesse Sérénissime Le Prince Régnant de Liechtenstein :

M. Emile Beck, Chargé d’Affaires de la Principauté de Liechtenstein en Suisse,

lesquels, après s’être fait connaître leurs pleins pouvoirs reconnus en bonne et due forme, sont convenus des dispositions suivantes :

CHAPITRE PREMIER.

Dispositions générales.

Article premier.

Le territoire de la Principauté de Liechtenstein est réuni au territoire douanier suisse, et en constitue une partie intégrante.

Il s’ensuit que, pendant la durée du présent traité, aucun droit ne pourra, d’un côté comme de l’autre, être perçu à la frontière entre la Suisse et Liechtenstein et qu’aucune restriction ou interdiction des importations et exportations ne pourra être édictée, à moins que des restrictions et interdictions de ce genre ne soient considérées comme admissibles dans le trafic de canton à canton.

Article 2.

Tous les droits perçus en application, et de la législation fédérale en vigueur dans la Principauté conformément à l’article 4 du présent traité, et des traités en vigueur visés par l’article 7, ainsi que les amendes prononcées en application du droit fédéral seront acquittés en monnaie suisse.

1Communiquée par le Conseil fédéral suisse. 1Communicated by the Swiss Federal Council.
1 Translation.


The Swiss Federal Council and His Serene Highness the Reigning Prince of Liechtenstein, inspired by the desire to render closer and more cordial the friendly relations existing between Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein, and with the object of concluding a treaty with regard to the union of the Principality of Liechtenstein with the Swiss Customs Territory, without prejudice to the sovereign rights of His Serene Highness the Prince of Liechtenstein, have appointed for this purpose as their plenipotentiaries:

The Swiss Federal Council:
Dr. Giuseppe Motta, Head of the Federal Political Department;

His Serene Highness the Reigning Prince of Liechtenstein:
M. Emil Beck, Chargé d’Affaires of the Principality of Liechtenstein in Switzerland;

who, after communicating their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following provisions:

SECTION I.

General Provisions.

Article 1.

The territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein shall be united with the Swiss Customs territory and shall constitute an integral part of the Swiss Customs territory. No duties may therefore be levied on the Swiss-Liechtenstein frontier by either Party as long as the present Treaty remains in force, nor may any import or export restrictions and prohibitions be imposed which are not declared to be authorised in the traffic between one canton and another.

Article 2.

All duties which are levied in pursuance of the Federal laws in force in the Principality under Article 4 of the present Treaty or of the international Treaties in force under Article 7, as well as all fines imposed in pursuance of the law of the Confederation, shall be paid in Swiss currency.

1 Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.
1 Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.
The Swiss Confederation, on its side, shall also pay all sums due to the Principality in accordance with the provisions of the present Treaty in Swiss currency.

Article 3.

Written communications between the authorities of the Confederation and the authorities of the Principality of Liechtenstein may be made direct and need not pass through the diplomatic channel, in so far as they refer to the application of the present Treaty.

SECTION II.

Federal Laws applicable in Liechtenstein.

Article 4.

In consequence of the Customs Union, the provisions in force at the time of the coming into force of the present Treaty and the provisions which take legal effect during the validity thereof:

(1) of the whole of the Swiss Customs laws;
(2) of other Federal laws, the application of which may be necessitated by the Customs Union;

shall be applicable in the Principality of Liechtenstein under the same conditions as in Switzerland.

All provisions of Federal laws whereby the duty of paying a contribution is imposed upon the Confederation shall, however, be excepted from the application of this provision.

Article 5.

In respect of the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Principality shall, in so far as the Swiss Federal Council may regard it as necessary:

(1) put into force in the territory of the Principality the Federal laws regarding industrial, literary and artistic property, together with all other Federal legislative decrees applicable in a subsidiary measure in connection with the administration thereof, and recognise the competence of the Federal authorities resulting from these laws and the regulations of the Confederation connected therewith in respect of the territory of Liechtenstein also;

(2) apply, in accordance with Article 7 of the present Treaty, the international conventions regarding industrial, literary and artistic property to which Switzerland is a party, together with the special agreements concluded by Switzerland with other countries in respect of these branches of law.

The Swiss Confederation shall, if the Principality of Liechtenstein should express beforehand the desire to recognise, in respect of the territory of Liechtenstein, the validity of the legal provisions referred to in the present Article and to apply the aforementioned international agreements in the Principality, co-operate at any time in settling the matter in a suitable manner.

Article 6.

In relation to the laws to be applied in the Principality in accordance with Articles 4 and 5, the legal status of the Principality of Liechtenstein shall be the same as that of the Swiss cantons.
Article 7.

By virtue of the present Treaty, the Commercial and Customs Treaties concluded by Switzerland with third States shall apply in the Principality of Liechtenstein under the same conditions as in Switzerland, but without prejudice to the fulfilment of the obligations imposed upon Switzerland under existing treaties.

Article 8.

The Principality of Liechtenstein shall not conclude any Commercial or Customs Treaties with a third State independently during the period of validity of the present Treaty.

The Principality of Liechtenstein empowers the Swiss Confederation to represent it in any negotiations with third States regarding the conclusion of Commercial and Customs Treaties which may take place during the period of validity of the present Treaty and to insert in such treaties provisions making them applicable to the Principality.

The Government of the Principality shall have an opportunity of expressing its views before Commercial and Customs Treaties with Austria are concluded.

Article 9.

The Federal legislative decrees which will become applicable in the Principality of Liechtenstein on the coming into force of the present Treaty are given in Annex I of the present Treaty and the international Treaties in Annex II.

The Government of the Principality will publish these stipulations in a suitable manner before the coming into force of the present Treaty.

Article 10.

All additions and amendments to the Federal laws mentioned in Annex I and the international Treaties mentioned in Annex II shall be communicated by the Swiss Federal Council to the Government of the Principality and shall also be published by the latter.

The same procedure shall apply in the case of the Federal laws, decisions and decrees which come within the terms of Article 4 of the present Treaty and which take legal effect during the period of validity of the Treaty, and also in the case of international Treaties which the Swiss Confederation, acting on behalf of the Principality of Liechtenstein, may conclude with third States during the period of validity of the present Treaty.

SECTION III.

CUSTOMS.

Article II.

The Customs control on the Liechtenstein-Austrian frontier shall be taken over by the Swiss Customs Administration and exercised by the authorities of the IIIrd Customs area at Chur (Coire).

Article 12.

The Government of the Principality shall take steps, at the request of the Swiss Customs authorities, to arrange that the frontier line in the direction of Vorarlberg be made clearly visible by means of frontier stones and similar contrivances.
Article 13.

The Customs offices to be set up in the Principality of Liechtenstein shall be called "Swiss Customs Offices in the Principality of Liechtenstein", and shall bear the arms of both States.

Article 14.

The Customs offices and guard posts to be set up in the Principality of Liechtenstein, as well as the Customs routes, shall be determined by the Swiss Customs Administration and notified to the Government of the Principality.

Article 15.

For the purpose of the Customs examination of the railway traffic to and from the Principality, Customs offices shall be established at the stations of Schaan-Vaduz and Nendeln.

The Swiss Customs Administration shall determine the powers to be attributed to these Customs offices in respect of Customs examination according to traffic requirements.

In the case of express trains which do not stop within the territory of the Principality, the Customs examination shall take place at Buchs.

The station at Schaanwald shall be abolished.

Article 16.

The Government of the Principality shall provide the necessary premises for the Customs offices and shall maintain them in a proper condition.

The cost of installing, heating and lighting the Customs premises shall be borne by the Swiss Customs Administration.

Article 17.

The Swiss Customs Administration shall bear the cost of housing the frontier guards.

If the Swiss Customs Administration should be unable to obtain the necessary housing accommodation for the frontier guard staff, the Government of the Principality shall take steps to provide for such accommodation. In this case, the Swiss Customs Administration shall pay a sum in compensation for the premises employed corresponding to the rents ordinarily paid in the locality.

Article 18.

All the authorities of the Principality of Liechtenstein shall accord the same assistance to the Swiss Customs officials and employees in the exercise of their duties as is accorded by the cantonal authorities on Swiss territory.

SECTION IV.

CUSTOMS STAFF.

Article 19.

The Customs officials and employees in the Principality of Liechtenstein shall be appointed, paid and dismissed by the Swiss authorities. They shall be subject exclusively to the authority of the Swiss authorities in all matters of service, especially as regards discipline.
The Government of the Principality shall furnish the Customs officials and employees serving in the territory of the Principality with passes.

Article 20.

The Swiss frontier guards shall wear the uniform and arms of the Swiss frontier guard corps, even when in the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Article 21.

Any alteration in the constitution of the Swiss staff employed in the Principality of Liechtenstein shall be communicated to the Government of the Principality. Reasoned objections expressed by the latter to the presence of an official or employee on the territory of the Principality shall receive due consideration at the hands of the Swiss Customs Administration.

Similarly, the Swiss authorities shall take into consideration as far as possible any requests put forward on public grounds by the Government of the Principality for the removal of officials and employees stationed in the territory of the Principality.

Article 22.

The Swiss officials and employees stationed in the Principality of Liechtenstein shall, provided that they possess the rights of Swiss citizenship, be exempt from all taxes and any kind of personal service or contributions in kind, with the exception of:

(r) indirect taxes; and

(2) land taxes.

Article 23.

The Swiss officials and employees stationed in the Principality of Liechtenstein, together with their relatives living with them in the same household, shall, provided that they are Swiss citizens, have their legal domicile at Buchs.

Article 24.

Cases of punishable offences committed in the Principality of Liechtenstein by Swiss officials or employees of Swiss nationality stationed there, or by relatives of Swiss nationality living with them in the same household, shall be heard and determined by the authorities who would be competent to hear and determine them if such offences had been committed in the district (Bezirk) of Werdenberg. In these cases, the penal code and the code of criminal procedure in force in the Canton of St. Gall shall be applicable.

The Government of the Principality shall cause the accused or condemned person to be arrested at the request of the competent Swiss authorities or, if necessary, of its own authority; it must, however, in all cases, hand such person over without delay to the Swiss authorities.

The authorities of the Principality must also take the measures required for public safety and must give the competent Swiss authorities any legal assistance which may be asked for.

The Swiss authorities competent to take proceedings in respect of such punishable offences shall be entitled, after giving notice to the Government of the Principality, to enter the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein and to carry out their official duties there.

This Article shall not apply to the relatives of the members of the Swiss frontier guard corps, subject to the provisions of paragraph 4 of Article 25.
Article 25.

Cases of punishable offences committed in the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein by members of the Swiss frontier guard corps stationed within that territory shall be heard and determined by such Swiss military court as the Swiss Federal Council may declare to be competent in the matter.

On previous notice being given to the Government of the Principality, agents of the Swiss military judicial authorities may enter the territory of the Principality for the purpose of apprehending persons suspected of having committed such punishable offences and may carry out their official duties there.

The judicial authorities of the Principality shall give the Swiss military courts such legal assistance as is given by the cantonal courts within Swiss territory.

As regards punishable offences not dealt with in the military penal code of the Confederation, Article 24 shall also apply to the relatives of the members of the frontier guards corps.

Article 26.

Nationals of Liechtenstein may be employed in the Swiss Customs service, excluding the frontier guard corps, to an extent to be determined by the Customs administration.

The Swiss Customs Administration retains the right to employ nationals of Liechtenstein serving in the Swiss Customs service outside the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein.

SECTION V.

Prosecution and Punishment of Persons Contravening Federal Laws Applicable in Liechtenstein.

Article 27.

Any person contravening a Federal law, which by virtue of this Treaty is applicable in the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein, shall be prosecuted and tried in accordance with the Federal Law of June 30, 1849, on the procedure to be adopted in regard to offences against Federal, fiscal and police laws, if such procedure is provided for in Federal legislation.

The central court of the Canton of St. Gall shall exercise jurisdiction as the court of appeal provided for in Article 17, paragraph 5, of the Federal Law of June 30, 1849, and the Supreme Court of Appeal of the Swiss Federal Court shall exercise jurisdiction at the final Court of Appeal provided for in Article 18.

Article 28.

Any person contravening a Federal law applicable by virtue of this Treaty in the Principality of Liechtenstein, who cannot be prosecuted in accordance with the Federal Law of June 30, 1849, on the procedure to be adopted in cases of offences against Federal, fiscal and police laws, shall be tried before the Provincial Court of the Principality, provided that the right to try such cases is either directly conferred upon the cantonal courts by Federal legislation or is transferred to the Provincial Court of the Principality by a decision of the Federal Council or of an authority named by it.
Any appeal to the cantonal court of the Canton of St. Gall against a judgment pronounced by the Provincial Court of the Principality shall be made in accordance with the provisions of the criminal procedure code of St. Gall.

Nothing in the present Treaty shall affect the right to lodge an appeal, in accordance with Article 166 et seq. of the Federal Law on the Organisation of the Administration of Justice of March 22, 1893-October 6, 1911.

Article 29.

The rights and duties of the authorities of the Principality in the cases specified in Articles 27 and 28 shall be the same as the rights and duties of the cantonal authorities.

Article 30.

The Federal Criminal Court shall continue to exercise jurisdiction, provided that such jurisdiction is in accordance with the Federal laws in force in the Principality of Liechtenstein by virtue of Article 4 of this Treaty.

Article 31.

As regards the carrying out of sentences passed in accordance with the Federal laws applicable in the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein by virtue of the present treaty, the legal status of the Principality shall be the same as that of the Swiss cantons.

Article 32.

The Swiss Federal authorities shall alone possess the right to pardon persons sentenced under the provisions of Federal laws in force in the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein by virtue of the present Treaty.

SECTION VI.

THE CARRYING OUT OF POLICE MEASURES RELATING TO FOREIGNERS.

Article 33.

So long as the Principality of Liechtenstein takes precautions to prevent any evasion of the Swiss regulations relating to the police supervision of foreigners, the taking up of permanent or temporary residence, etc., the Swiss Confederation declares its willingness to waive its right to carry out frontier police measures of control in regard to foreigners on the Liechtenstein-Swiss frontier.

In that case, the Swiss Customs authorities shall carry out, free of charge, the frontier police measures of control in regard to foreigners on the Liechtenstein-Vorarlberg frontier in accordance with agreements between the two Governments.

Should, however, the Customs staff required to carry out the frontier control have to be increased in consequence of special measures taken by the Liechtenstein Government and not demanded by the Swiss Federal Council, the Government of the Principality shall be responsible for the extra cost thus incurred.

The final decision as to whether the measures adopted by the Principality of Liechtenstein are adequate shall rest with the Swiss Federal Council alone.
The two Governments shall take steps to arrive at an agreement in regard to the execution of this Article, both in general and in individual cases, in the event of a dispute.

Article 34.

The Swiss Confederation reserves the right to re-introduce the frontier police control in regard to foreigners on the Swiss-Liechtenstein frontier if the measures adopted by the Principality of Liechtenstein are, in the opinion of the Federal Council, inadequate.

The Principality of Liechtenstein undertakes in that event to refund to the Swiss Confederation the expenses incurred by reason of the necessity for carrying out the frontier police measures of control in regard to foreigners on the Swiss-Liechtenstein frontier.

SECTION VII.

Payments by the Confederation to the Principality of Liechtenstein.

Article 35.

A sum of 150,000 francs will be paid yearly out of Swiss federal funds to the Principality of Liechtenstein as the latter's share of the yield of the Customs duties and charges collected in accordance with the provisions of the Federal laws in force in the Principality of Liechtenstein by virtue of the present Treaty.

The above-mentioned sum shall, subject to the provisions of Article 37 of the present Treaty, include any contributions which should be made by the Confederation by virtue of the Federal laws hereinafter to be enforced in Liechtenstein, but which in accordance with Article 4, paragraph 2, have not, heretofore, been paid in the Principality.

Article 36.

The question of the amount due to Liechtenstein under the terms of Article 35 shall be reconsidered if, at least one year before the expiration of a period of three years to be reckoned from the coming into force of this Treaty, one of the two Contracting Parties submits a request to that effect.

Article 37.

The Federal fiscal authorities shall keep special accounts showing the receipts obtained from the Principality of Liechtenstein under the Federal Law on stamp duties of October 4, 1917, and the Federal Law on the stamp duty on dividend warrants of June 25, 1921. The accounts for these receipts shall be made up at the close of each calendar year and the net receipts (receipts after deduction of repayments and share of premiums paid to persons denouncing infractions) will be paid over to the Government of the Principality. The expenses of administration shall be reckoned at 10 per cent of the net receipts.

SECTION VIII.

Temporary and Final Clauses.

Article 38.

Before the coming into force of this Treaty the Principality of Liechtenstein shall enact such executive regulations as may be necessary to give effect to the Federal laws which will be applicable
in Liechtenstein. These regulations shall be subject to the approval of the Federal Council in so far as such approval is required in the case of corresponding cantonal executive regulations.

Article 39.

The Swiss Customs Administration shall enact the executive regulations necessary for the purpose of this Treaty.

Article 40.

During the period of transition the Government of the Principality undertakes to adopt all the precautionary measures required by the Swiss Customs authorities to prevent the importation of goods into the Principality for purposes of speculation and the evasion of the Federal regulations regarding the prohibition of the importation of foreign silver coin and notes.

Article 41.

The present Treaty shall be concluded for a period of five years. If neither of the High Contracting Parties notifies its intention, one year before the expiration of the above period, to denounce the present Treaty, it shall, after the expiration of the five years, continue in force without formal renewal, subject to the right of either Party to denounce it at any time on giving one year’s notice.

Article 42.

Amendments may also be made to this Treaty by mutual agreement without formal notice being necessary.

Article 43.

Disputes as to the interpretation of the present Treaty which cannot be settled through the diplomatic channel shall be submitted for decision to a court of arbitration. In that case, each of the Contracting Parties shall appoint an arbitrator. If the two arbitrators cannot reach agreement on the question at issue, they shall themselves appoint an umpire.

Article 44.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged as soon as possible at Berne.

Article 45.

The present Treaty shall come into force on January 1, 1924. In faith whereof the plenipotentiaries have signed this Treaty and have affixed their seals thereto.

Done in duplicate at Berne on the twenty-ninth day of March one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (March 29, 1923).

For the Swiss Confederation: (L. S.) (Signed) MOTTAl. For the Principality of Liechtenstein: (L. S.) (Signed) E. BECK.
FINAL PROTOCOL

to the Customs Union Treaty between Switzerland and Liechtenstein.

I. The Contracting Parties agree that so long as the foregoing Treaty remains in force no gambling establishment will be permitted to be opened or will in fact be opened within the territory of the Principality of Liechtenstein, and that the Government of the Principality will take the necessary steps to give effect to this undertaking.

II. The Contracting Parties further agree that the grazing of Liechtenstein cattle in the Vorarlberg Alps shall, in principle, be permitted in accordance with Article 75, paragraph 3, of the decree for giving effect to the Federal law concerning the prevention of epizootic diseases of August 30, 1920, subject to the execution of the provisions of the Federal laws accepted by the Principality of Liechtenstein in accordance with the foregoing Treaty.

If in pursuance of these provisions Liechtenstein cattle taken to graze in the Vorarlberg Alps has to be subjected to quarantine measures on the homeward journey, the Contracting Parties agree that, provided the necessary veterinary supervision can adequately be exercised, such measures may be carried out in the territory of Liechtenstein.

III. The Parties agree that stamp duties leviable in accordance with Federal stamp laws shall not be imposed in the Principality of Liechtenstein whenever their imposition would be inconsistent with definite engagements entered into by the Government of the Principality before January 27, 1923.

IV. The Government of the Principality shall, within a reasonable period, furnish the supreme Customs authorities of the Confederation with the necessary proof that the obligations imposed upon it by Articles 16, 38 and 40 of the foregoing Treaty will be fulfilled not later than January 1, 1924. If at this date the conditions specified in the three above-mentioned articles have not, in the opinion of the Swiss Federal Council, been complied with, the latter shall be entitled to postpone the coming into force of the Treaty until they have been duly fulfilled.

Berne, the twenty-ninth day of March, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three (March 29, 1923).

For the Swiss Confederation: (L. S.) (Signed) Motta.

For the Principality of Liechtenstein: (L. S.) (Signed) E. Beck.