

N° 679.

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## NORVÈGE ET SUISSE

Echange de notes concernant l'application à la principauté de Liechtenstein, des dispositions en vigueur réglant les relations commerciales entre la Norvège et la Suisse. Stockholm, le 26 mars et Christiania, le 15 avril 1924.

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## NORWAY AND SWITZERLAND

Exchange of Notes respecting the application to the Principality of Liechtenstein, of the regulations governing the commercial relations in force between Norway and Switzerland. Stockholm, March 26, and Christiania, April 15, 1924.

<sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 679. — EXCHANGE OF NOTES BETWEEN THE NORWEGIAN AND SWISS GOVERNMENTS RESPECTING THE APPLICATION TO THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN OF THE REGULATIONS GOVERNING THE COMMERCIAL RELATIONS IN FORCE BETWEEN NORWAY AND SWITZERLAND. STOCKHOLM, MARCH 26, AND CHRISTIANIA, APRIL 15, 1924.

*French official text communicated by the Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this exchange of Notes took place July 28, 1924.*

SWISS LEGATION :

IV. B. 9. — LF/SJ/581/24.

STOCKHOLM, March 26, 1924.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In the spring of 1919 the Principality of Liechtenstein, which was then in a very difficult situation, requested Switzerland to assist it in safeguarding its economic interests. Switzerland did not refuse the assistance asked for by its small neighbour, which has an area of 159 sq. kilometres and contains less than 12,000 inhabitants. Negotiations were opened for the conclusion of postal and customs agreements between the two countries. Under a convention<sup>2</sup> signed on November 10, 1920, the Swiss Confederation undertook to operate the postal, telegraphic and telephone services in the Principality.

Subsequently, on March 29, 1923, a treaty<sup>3</sup> was concluded between the Principality of Liechtenstein and Switzerland whereby the Principality was included in the Swiss customs area. This treaty came into force on January 1, 1924, since when all arrangements governing commercial relations between Norway and Switzerland have applied to the Principality. As long as the treaty of March 29, 1923, remains in force, the Principality of Liechtenstein cannot negotiate independently any commercial or customs convention with a third State, but the Swiss Confederation may conclude such agreements, having full effect as regards Liechtenstein.

In conformity with instructions from my Government I have the honour to bring the above to Your Excellency's notice, and venture to express the hope that, in view of the special situation occupied by the Principality of Liechtenstein, the Royal Government will consent to apply to it, so long as it remains an integral part of the Swiss customs area, the arrangements governing commercial relations between Norway and Switzerland.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) SCHREIBER,  
*Swiss Minister in Norway.*

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs,  
Christiania.

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

<sup>2</sup> Vol. II, page 306 of this Series.

<sup>3</sup> Vol. XXI, page 231 of this Series.

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

MINISTRY FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

CHRISTIANIA, *April* 15, 1924.

YOUR EXCELLENCY,

In a letter dated March 26 last you were good enough to inform me that on March 29, 1923, a treaty was concluded between Switzerland and the Principality of Liechtenstein whereby the Principality was included in the Swiss Customs area. You further stated that this treaty came into force on January 1, 1924, since when all arrangements governing commercial relations between Norway and Switzerland have applied to the Principality of Liechtenstein. At the same time you pointed out that, as long as the treaty of March 29, 1923, remains in force, the Principality of Liechtenstein cannot negotiate independently any commercial or customs convention with a third State, but that the Swiss Confederation may conclude such agreements, having full effect as regards the Principality. Lastly, in conformity with instructions from your Government, you expressed the hope that the Norwegian Government would consent to apply to the Principality of Liechtenstein, so long as it remains an integral part of the Swiss Customs area, the provisions governing commercial relations between Norway and Switzerland.

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your communication, and to inform you that the Norwegian Government consents to apply to the Principality of Liechtenstein, so long as it remains an integral part of the Swiss Customs area, the provisions governing commercial relations between Norway and Switzerland.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) C. F. MICHELET.

Monsieur SCHREIBER,  
Swiss Minister,  
etc., etc., etc.