

N° 686.

**BELGIQUE
ET GRAND-DUCHÉ DE
LUXEMBOURG**

Déclaration concernant l'assistance
et le rapatriement des indigents
des deux pays. Bruxelles, le 17
juillet 1923.

**BELGIUM
AND GRAND-DUCHY OF
LUXEMBURG**

Declaration concerning the granting
of public assistance to and the
repatriation of poor nationals of
the two countries. Brussels, July
17, 1923.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 686. — DECLARATION² EXCHANGED BETWEEN BELGIUM AND THE GRAND-DUCHY OF LUXEMBURG CONCERNING THE GRANTING OF PUBLIC ASSISTANCE TO, AND THE REPATRIATION OF, POOR NATIONALS OF THE TWO COUNTRIES. BRUSSELS, JULY 17, 1923.

French official text communicated by the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Declaration took place August 7, 1924.

THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS and THE GOVERNMENT OF HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GRAND DUCHESS OF LUXEMBURG, being desirous of laying down rules for the treatment and repatriation of poor nationals of the two countries, have agreed as follows :

Article 1.

Each of the two Contracting Parties undertakes to grant, within its territory, to poor nationals of the other Party, the assistance which it affords to its own poor nationals by virtue of the laws concerning public assistance.

Article 2.

Poor persons who are incapacitated by their state of health or age from providing for their essential needs, or orphans, deserted children and lunatics, shall, if they are being treated or maintained at the public expense, only be repatriated after a request has been made to that effect through the diplomatic channel by one of the two Governments to the other.

Article 3.

In cases in which a lunatic is repatriated, a copy of the medical health sheet of the patient shall be sent to the authorities of the country of which he is a national, and the number of attendants required on the journey shall be indicated.

Article 4.

No application for repatriation shall be refused on the ground that the person in question has lost his nationality, unless he has acquired another nationality.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

² The provisions of this Declaration came into force August 1, 1923.

Article 5.

Poor persons of Belgian origin who are to be repatriated shall be handed over by the competent authorities of the Grand-Duchy at the head police station at Arlon, Namur or Liege.

Poor persons of Luxemburg origin who are to be repatriated shall be handed over by the competent Belgian authorities to the official in charge of the Asylum of Ettelbrück in the case of lunatics or epileptics, or to the official in charge of the Hospice du Rham in Luxemburg, in the case of other persons.

The place where the persons are to be handed over may be changed with the consent of the two Parties.

The Government which has asked for repatriation shall bear all costs thereof up to the day when the person concerned is handed over.

Article 6.

Repayment of expenditure incurred in pursuance of the preceding Articles under the head of relief, maintenance, medical treatment or repatriation of poor persons cannot be demanded from the Treasury of the State to which the poor persons concerned belong, or from the commune in which they were resident or from any other public authority in the country. This shall also apply, in case of death, to the costs of burial.

Article 7.

Repatriation need not take place if it is agreed between the parties concerned that the poor person will continue to receive relief at the place of his residence, subject to repayment by the proper persons or authorities of the costs incurred.

Article 8.

If persons receiving relief, or other persons placed under obligation on their behalf by the provisions of the civil law, in particular, relatives who are required to supply them with food are in a position to pay the costs in question, the right to claim repayment is reserved. Each of the two Governments undertakes to employ its good offices in favour of the other, within the limits of its legislation, with a view to facilitating the repayment of such costs to those who have advanced them.

Article 9.

Each of the two Contracting Parties reserves the right to denounce the present Convention by giving six months' notice.

Article 10.

The foregoing provisions shall become effective as from August 1, 1923.

In faith whereof the undersigned, M. Henri Jaspar, Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and Count Gaston de Marchant et d'Ansebourg, Chargé d'Affaires *ad int.* for the Grand-Duchy of Luxemburg, duly authorised, have signed the present Declaration and have affixed thereto their seals.

Done in duplicate at Brussels, July 17, 1923.

(Signed) H. JASPAR.

(Signed) G. DE MARCHANT ET D'ANSEMBOURG.