No 913.

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EMPIRE BRITANNIQUE, FRANCE, GRÈCE, ITALIE, JAPON, ROUMANIE ET TURQUIE

Déclaration relative à l’amnistie et Protocole, signés à Lausanne, le 24 juillet 1923.

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BRITISH EMPIRE, FRANCE, GREECE, ITALY, JAPAN, ROUMANIA AND TURKEY

Declaration of Amnesty and Protocol, signed at Lausanne, July 24, 1923.
1 Traduction. — Translation.

No. 913. — Declaration of Amnesty, Signed at Lausanne, July 24, 1923.

French official text communicated by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the French Republic. The registration of this Declaration took place July 11, 1925.

The Powers signatory of the Treaty of Peace signed this day being equally desirous to cause the events which have troubled the peace in the East to be forgotten, The Undersigned, acting in virtue of their full powers, have agreed to make the following Declaration:

I.

No person who inhabits or who has inhabited Turkey, and reciprocally no person who inhabits or who has inhabited Greece, shall be disturbed or molested in Turkey and reciprocally in Greece, under any pretext whatsoever, on account of any military or political action taken by him, or any assistance of any kind given by him to a foreign Power signatory of the Treaty of Peace signed this day, or to the nationals of such Power, between the 1st August, 1914, and the 20th November, 1922.

II.

Similarly no inhabitant of the territories detached from Turkey under the said Treaty of Peace shall be disturbed or molested either on account of his political or military attitude against or in favour of Turkey during the period from the 1st August, 1914, to the 20th November, 1922, or of the determination of his nationality under the said Treaty.

III.

Full and complete amnesty shall be respectively granted by the Turkish Government and by the Greek Government for all crimes or offences committed during the same period which were evidently connected with the political events which have taken place during that period.

IV.

Turkish nationals, and reciprocally nationals of the other Powers signatory of the Treaty of Peace signed this day, who may have been arrested, prosecuted or sentenced by the authorities of the said Powers or by the Turkish authorities respectively, for reasons of a political or military

1 Communiqué par le Ministère des Affaires étrangères de Sa Majesté Britannique.

1 Communicated by His Britannic Majesty’s Foreign Office.
nature previous to the 20th November, 1922, on territory which remains Turkish in accordance with the said Treaty of Peace, shall benefit from the amnesty, and, if they are detained, shall be handed over to the authorities of the States of which they are the nationals. This stipulation is similarly applicable to Turkish nationals arrested, prosecuted or sentenced by the authorities of the Powers who have occupied a portion of the above-mentioned territory even for a transgression of the ordinary law committed before that date, and even if they have been removed from Turkey, excepting those who have committed, against a person belonging to the armies of occupation, an assault which has entailed death or a grievous wound.

V.

All sentences pronounced for the above reasons shall be annulled and any proceedings already instituted shall be stayed.

VI.

The Turkish Government, sharing the desire for general pacification with which all the Powers are animated, declare their intention not to contest the measures carried out under the auspices of the Allied Powers during the period between the 20th October, 1918, and the 20th November, 1922, with the object of re-establishing families scattered owing to the war and of replacing legitimate proprietors in possession of their goods.

However, this intention does not exclude the possibility of any revision of the above-mentioned measures in the event of a request to that effect being made by the interested parties. Claims respecting persons and goods shall be examined by a Commission composed of a delegate of the Red Crescent and a delegate of the Red Cross. In the event of a dispute, these delegates will choose an umpire; if they are unable to agree as to such choice, the umpire will be appointed by the Council of the League of Nations.

VII.

The British, French, and Italian Governments, acknowledging the importance of the measure of pacification which forms the subject of Article 5 of the Agreement concluded on the 30th January, 1923, between the Greek Government and the Turkish Government relating to the return of interned civilians and to the exchange of prisoners of war, declare that they are prepared to adopt, subject to reciprocity on the part of the Turkish Government, the same measures for the benefit of such Turkish prisoners of war and interned civilians as may still be in their hands, with the exception of those who may have committed crimes and offences against the ordinary law since the 20th November, 1922.

Done at Lausanne, the 24th July, 1923.

HORACE RUMBOLD.
PELLE.
GARRONI.
G. C. MONTAGNA.
K. OTCHIAI.
E. K. VENISELOS.
D. CAACLAMANOS.
CONST. DIAMANDY.
CONST. CONTZESCO.
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M. ISMET.
Dr. RIZA NOUR.
HASSAN.
PROTOCOL.

It is understood that, in spite of the terms of paragraph 1 of the Amnesty Declaration, the Turkish Government reserves to itself the right to prohibit sojourn in and access to Turkey to 150 persons included in the category of persons referred to in the said paragraph. Consequently, the Turkish Government will be entitled to expel from its territory such of the persons in question as may be there at the present time and to prohibit such as are abroad from returning. The names of these persons shall be annexed to the Amnesty Proclamation which, on the coming into force of the Treaty of Peace signed this day, shall be promulgated by the said Government in order to give effect, in so far as that Government is concerned, to the above-mentioned declaration. It is further understood that, in the event of the Turkish Government deciding, as it has expressed the intention, that the said persons must liquidate their property and other goods in Turkey, they shall be granted a period of nine months as from the date of the above-mentioned proclamation to effect this liquidation of their own accord, and in the event of liquidation by the Turkish Government after the expiry of this period the whole of the proceeds shall be paid to the said persons.

It is similarly understood that paragraph 1 of the Amnesty Declaration in no way affects the right of the Greek Government to prosecute non-Moslem Greek subjects belonging or having belonged to its army for acts which constituted failure in respect of their military duties during the hostilities between Greece and Turkey.

Done at Lausanne, the 24th July, 1923.

HORACE RUMBOLD.
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