

N° 1626.

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**FINLANDE ET GRÈCE**

Traité de commerce et de navigation.  
Signé à Helsinki, le 18 décembre  
1926.

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**FINLAND AND GREECE**

Treaty of Commerce and Navigation.  
Signed at Helsinki, December 18,  
1926.

<sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.No. 1626. — TREATY<sup>2</sup> OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN GREECE AND FINLAND. SIGNED AT HELSINKI, DECEMBER 18, 1926.

*French official text communicated by the Chargé d'Affaires of the Hellenic Republic at Berne and by the Finnish Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Treaty took place January 23, 1928.*

GREECE, of the one part, and FINLAND, of the other part, being desirous of strengthening still further the economic relations between the two countries, have resolved to conclude a Treaty of Commerce and Navigation, and have appointed for this purpose as their Plenipotentiaries :

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK REPUBLIC :

M. Nicolas XYDAKIS, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary, Director of Political Affairs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs ;

## THE PRESIDENT OF THE FINNISH REPUBLIC :

M. Väinö VOIONMAA, Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following provisions :

*Article 1.*

The nationals of each of the Contracting Parties shall be entitled in the territory of the other Party, under the same conditions as the nationals of the most favoured nation and subject to the laws and regulations which are or may hereafter be in force in the said territory, to enter freely, to settle and to engage in trade, industry, manual labour, or any other vocation therein, and to acquire movable and immovable property therein by inheritance, gift, bequest, purchase, exchange or in any other legal manner, and to own, hold and dispose of such property.

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to abstain from levying upon nationals of the other Party any taxes, dues, or imposts whatsoever other or higher than those which are or may hereafter be levied upon its own nationals or upon nationals of the most favoured nation.

*Article 2.*

Commercial, industrial, financial, insurance, or other companies, cooperative societies, shipping companies, and economic associations which have their headquarters in the territory of one of the two countries and are duly constituted therein, shall have their legal constitution and existence recognised in the other country. They may, unless prohibited by the laws of the other country, and provided that they satisfy and observe all the formalities required by those laws, extend their

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

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

<sup>2</sup> The exchange of ratifications took place at Berlin, December 28, 1927.

operations to the territory of the latter country and may acquire and enjoy rights and engage in industry therein. They shall enjoy treatment as favourable as that which is or may hereafter be granted to similar companies of any third Power and shall have the same right as companies of the most favoured nation to acquire, own, hold and dispose of movable and immovable property therein.

They shall not be subject to taxes, dues or imposts of any kind or denomination whatsoever higher than those imposed on the firms, cooperative societies, companies or associations of the most favoured nation.

*Article 3.*

Nationals of either Contracting Party and firms, cooperative societies, companies or associations domiciled in either country, shall not be taxed in the other country on any capital which is not situated within the country in question, or on any income derived from elsewhere.

*Article 4.*

Nationals of either Contracting Party and firms, cooperative societies, companies and associations domiciled in the territory of such Party, shall have ready access to the courts and to the various authorities of the other Party on the same conditions as nationals of that Party. In the exercise of this right, they shall not be required to pay charges other or higher than those imposed on nationals or on the above-mentioned companies of that country.

*Article 5.*

Nationals of either Contracting Party in the territory of the other Party shall be exempt from all military service and from the payment, whether in money or in kind, of any taxes or charges in lieu thereof. As regards forced loans, military requisitions and contributions imposed in time of war or in exceptional circumstances, the Contracting Parties undertake reciprocally to grant most-favoured-nation treatment. Nevertheless, as owners, tenants, or occupiers of property or commercial or industrial enterprises, they shall be subject to the same treatment as nationals and shall then be entitled to the same compensation as is granted to nationals or to the subjects of the most favoured nation.

*Article 6.*

Commercial travellers of either Contracting Party together with their patterns and samples, shall, provided that they satisfy and observe the existing laws and regulations in force in the territory of the other Party, enjoy the same treatment therein as is or may hereafter be granted in this connection to the most favoured nation.

*Article 7.*

Finnish nationals, not being domiciled in Greece, and Finnish firms, cooperative societies, companies or associations engaging in export trade from Finland to Greece, shall, so long as they have no establishment in the latter country, be exempted therein from taxes on the profits of such export trade. The same treatment shall apply in the case of export trade to Finland by Greek nationals, firms, cooperative societies, companies and associations.

Nationals, firms, cooperative societies, companies or associations of either Contracting Party established in the territory of the other shall only be liable to imposts or taxes to an extent proportionate to the business carried on by their establishments in the said territory.

*Article 8.*

If either Contracting Party should impose prohibitions or restrictions on the import or export of goods, it shall grant to the other Party the same treatment as has been or may hereafter be granted to the same or similar goods imported from or exported to any third country.

If any import or export prohibition or restriction has been or shall hereafter be removed or relaxed, even temporarily, by one of the Contracting Parties in favour of any third Power, the benefit of such removal or relaxation shall be extended immediately under like conditions to the same or similar goods coming from or proceeding to the territory of the other State.

The provisions of this Article shall not apply to import or export prohibitions or restrictions which are imposed or maintained :

- (1) For the security of the country, or because they are considered necessary by the country concerned owing to the existence of a state of war ;
- (2) As sanitary measures or preventive measures against epizooties and epiphyties ;
- (3) Upon seeds which, in view of their origin, may reasonably be considered unsuitable in the importing country.

*Article 9.*

Should either of the Contracting Parties make the importation or exportation of certain goods dependent upon prices or conditions of purchase or sale controlled by the Government or by any organisation authorised by the Government, the general conditions applicable to the other Party shall be the most favourable that are or may hereafter be applied to any third Power.

*Article 10.*

As regards import duties and charges and any additional charges, coefficients or supercharges in connection therewith which are or may hereafter be levied on the importation of goods, the Contracting Parties undertake to grant each other without reservation and automatically, all privileges, reductions or exemptions which they have granted or may hereafter grant to any third Power in respect of the goods enumerated in the lists annexed to the present Treaty.

The Contracting Parties undertake to grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment as regards duties and all other charges levied on exportation, irrespective of their kind or denomination.

The Contracting Parties further undertake to grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment as regards Customs operations and formalities, Customs refunds, the deposit and safe keeping of goods in Customs warehouses and the charges in connection therewith.

*Article 11.*

In matters relating to taxes on consumption, production, transactions, monopolies, excise and to all other internal taxes, goods originating in or imported from either country shall enjoy in the other country, treatment as favourable as that which is granted to the goods of the most favoured nation.

*Article 12.*

The Contracting Parties agree to grant one another freedom of transit, and they undertake to apply in their mutual relations the provisions of the Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit<sup>1</sup>, signed at Barcelona on April 20, 1921, and to accord each other most-favoured-nation treatment in this matter.

Nevertheless, the Contracting Parties agree that the above provision concerning most-favoured-nation treatment shall not apply to restrictions which may be placed on the right of transit :

- (1) For reasons of public safety.
- (2) As a sanitary or precautionary measure against diseases of animals or plants.

*Article 13.*

Goods of any origin which are conveyed in transit across either country, being consigned to or despatched from the other country, shall not be subject, in the country of transit, to any Customs import or export duty, tax or similar impost, or to any internal duty other than the cost of supervision and transit formalities.

Goods of any origin which are conveyed in transit across either country, whether warehoused or not in free ports, bonded warehouses, transit warehouses or other Customs establishments shall enjoy, on importation into the other country, treatment at least as favourable as regards duties and other charges, and in all other respects, as that which they would enjoy if they were imported direct from the country of origin.

*Article 14.*

Natural or manufactured products of either of the Contracting Parties shall, provided conditions remain unchanged, enjoy the same treatment in all respects as regards transport by public transport undertakings of the other Party as is enjoyed by like native products or products of the most favoured nation. Similarly, the products of either country consigned to the other, shall enjoy in the latter country treatment as favourable, as regards transport by public transport undertakings, as that which is granted to products consigned to the most favoured nation.

*Article 15.*

In order to reserve the benefits of the above provisions for products originating in their respective countries and to prevent irregularities through the despatch of goods by circuitous routes, the Contracting Parties may require that products and goods imported into their territory should be accompanied by certificates of origin.

The Contracting Parties agree to grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment as regards the form, contents and employment of these certificates.

*Article 16.*

Each of the Contracting Parties undertakes to adopt all necessary measures to safeguard natural or manufactured products having their origin in the territory of the other Party against

<sup>1</sup> Vol. VII, page 11 ; Vol. XI, page 406 ; Vol. XV, page 304 ; Vol. XIX, page 278 ; Vol. XXIV, page 154 ; Vol. XXXI, page 244 ; Vol. XXXV, page 298 ; Vol. XXXIX, page 166 ; Vol. LIX, page 344 ; and Vol. LXIX, page 70, of this Series.

any unfair competition in commercial transactions, to repress and prevent by seizure or by other appropriate penalties, the importation, warehousing and exportation, as well as the manufacture, sale and home distribution of any products bearing on their outer wrappings marks, names, inscriptions or signs of any kind whatsoever which might directly or indirectly give rise to an erroneous conception of the origin, kind, nature or specific characteristics of the products or commodities.

The Contracting Parties undertake to give effective application to the Paris International Convention<sup>1</sup> of March 20, 1883, for the Protection of Industrial Property, revised<sup>2</sup> at Washington, on June 2, 1911.

*Article 17.*

The documents and certificates issued for the purpose by the competent authorities of the respective States, in accordance with their laws and regulations, shall be recognised by both Parties as establishing the nationality of vessels.

Tonnage measurement certificates and other documents regarding tonnage measurement issued by one of the Contracting Parties shall be recognised by the other Party in conformity with such special agreements as may hereafter be concluded between the two countries.

*Article 18.*

Except where otherwise provided in the present Treaty, Finnish vessels and their cargoes in Greece, and Greek vessels and their cargoes in Finland shall enjoy the same treatment in every respect as national vessels and their cargoes irrespective of the place of departure or the destination of the said vessels and irrespective also of the place of origin and destination of their cargoes. Consequently, the vessels and their cargoes belonging to one of the Contracting Parties shall not be subject, in the territory of the other Party, to any tax or charge of any kind or denomination whatsoever, whether levied on behalf of the State or on behalf of any communes or institutions authorised by the Government, other or higher than those applicable to national vessels and their cargoes.

Any privilege or exemption which either of the Contracting Parties may accord to any third Power in regard to any of the above matters shall also be granted simultaneously and unconditionally to the other Party.

Exceptions shall, however, be made to the provisions of the present Article in the case of :

(1) Favours which have been, or may hereafter, be granted in either country to national fisheries and their products ;

(2) The coasting trade, in regard to which the Contracting Parties shall, on condition of reciprocity, grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment ;

(3) Navigation on navigable inland waterways whether natural or artificial in regard to which the vessels of the two Contracting Parties and their cargoes shall be subject to the same conditions as the vessels of the most favoured nation and their cargoes. The duties leviable on the vessels and their cargoes must not, however, exceed the rate applicable to national vessels and their cargoes.

Without prejudice to the other provisions of the present Article and subject to the provisions of paragraph 1, in so far as they concern pilotage dues, it is understood that the laws and regulations in force in each country regarding the obligation to employ pilots, shall apply to the vessels of the other Contracting Party to the same extent as to other foreign vessels.

<sup>1</sup> *British and Foreign State Papers*, Vol. 74, page 44.

<sup>2</sup> *British and Foreign State Papers*, Vol. 104, page 116.

*Article 19.*

Finnish vessels entering a Greek port and Greek vessels entering a Finnish port with the sole object of completing their cargoes or of unloading a part thereof shall be entitled, provided that they conform to the laws and regulations of the State concerned, to retain on board any part of the cargo which may be consigned to another port or to another country and to re-export it without being obliged to pay any duties or charges thereon with the exception of supervision fees ; the latter, however, must be levied at the lowest rate payable by national shipping or by shipping of the most favoured nation.

*Article 20.*

If a vessel of one of the two Contracting Parties should be wrecked, run aground, be damaged at sea or compelled through stress of weather or accident to put into harbour in the territorial waters of the other Party, the vessel and its cargo shall enjoy the same benefits and immunities as are granted by the laws and regulations of the country concerned in similar circumstances to national vessels or to those of the most favoured nation. Assistance and relief shall be given to the master, the crew and the passengers, both for themselves and for the vessel and its cargo, to the same extent as would be afforded to the nationals of the country in question.

As regards salvage charges, the law of the country where salvage takes place shall be applicable.

Goods salvaged from a stranded or wrecked vessel shall not be subject to any Customs duties unless they are admitted into the country for consumption therein.

*Article 21.*

The Contracting Parties shall grant each other the right to appoint consular representatives in all ports, towns and places in the territory of the other Party to which consular representatives of any third country are admitted.

When they have received the exequatur from the Government of their country of residence, consular representatives of each of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territory of the other all the privileges, immunities and powers which are or may hereafter be granted to the consular representatives of any third Power. The privileges, immunities and powers thus granted to the consular representatives of either country in the territory of the other shall not, however, exceed the privileges, immunities and powers granted to the consular representatives of the latter country in the territory of the former.

*Article 22.*

Neither of the Contracting Parties may invoke the provisions of the present Treaty as a reason for claiming privileges which either Contracting Party has granted or may hereafter grant to contiguous States to facilitate frontier traffic or for claiming advantages which result from a Customs Union.

Neither shall Greece invoke the present Treaty in order to claim :

- (1) Privileges which Finland has granted or may hereafter grant to Estonia ;
- (2) Privileges which Finland has granted or may hereafter grant to Russia in respect of fishing and seal hunting in Finnish maritime territories in the Arctic Ocean ;
- (3) Privileges which Finland has granted or may hereafter grant to neighbouring States with respect to navigation in the Baltic Sea and its gulfs north of latitude 58° N. ;
- (4) Privileges which have been granted to France in virtue of Article 6 of the Commercial Convention<sup>1</sup> between Finland and France of July 13, 1921.

<sup>1</sup> Vol. XXIX, page 445, of this Series.

*Article 23.*

The present Treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Berlin as soon as possible.

It shall come into force fifteen days after the exchange of ratifications and shall remain in force for one year ; it shall be prolonged thereafter by tacit agreement until three months after the date on which it is denounced by either of the Contracting Parties.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries, being duly authorised for this purpose, have signed the present Treaty and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Helsingfors in duplicate on December 18, 1926.

(L. S.) N. XYDAKIS.

(L. S.) V. VOIONMAA.

## LIST A.

List of Categories of the Greek tariff showing products originating in and coming from Finland which are given most-favoured-nation treatment on being imported into Greece.

- A. Animals, animal and fishery products.
- Γ. Horticultural and colonial products.
- Z. Sugar and confectionery.
- H. Hides, skins and articles thereof. Fur goods.
- Θ. Forest products—articles of wood.
- I. Minerals.
- K. Metals and articles of metal.
- M. Pottery — glass.
- N. Chemical and pharmaceutical products.
- Π. Paper — paper articles and products of the typographic art.
- P. Indiarubber and gutta-percha. Waterproof materials.
- Σ. Textile materials, fabrics and articles of fabric.
- T. Games and toys — sporting articles.
- Ω. Miscellaneous articles.

## LIST B.

List of categories of the Finnish tariff showing products originating in and coming from Greece which are given most-favoured-nation treatment on being imported into Finland.

- I.B.2. Fruits, berries, vegetables, living plants, etc.
- I.C. Articles of food for consumption not specially mentioned.
- II.A. Textile materials.
- II.B.7. Spun silk, combined or not with any other textile materials.
- II.C.3. Tissues of wool combined or not with other textile materials except silk ; fulled (unwoven) felt.
- II.C.5. Tissues of silk.
- V. Bristles, feathers, horsehair, bone, horn and other carving and turning materials not specially mentioned, and manufactures thereof.
- VI. Hides and skins, leather goods, fur manufactures, etc.
- VIII.D. Lead, alloys of lead and manufactures thereof.
- X. Manufactures of stone, clay or glass.
- XI.A. Oils, fats, wax and products of these materials.
- XI.D. Ethers, esters and alcohols not specially mentioned, volatile (ethereal) oils, perfumes, cosmetics, etc.
- XI.H. Raw materials ; preparations and medicines not specially mentioned.