

No. 132

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**BELGIUM  
and  
FRANCE**

**Agreement on passenger traffic. Signed at Paris, on 30 March  
1945**

*French official text communicated by the Officer in charge of the Permanent  
Delegation of Belgium to the United Nations. The filing and recording took  
place on 16 December 1948.*

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**BELGIQUE  
et  
FRANCE**

**Accord sur le mouvement des personnes. Signé à Paris, le  
30 mars 1945**

*Texte officiel français communiqué par le Chargé de la gestion de la délégation  
permanente de Belgique auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. Le  
classement et l'inscription au répertoire ont eu lieu le 16 décembre 1948.*

## TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 132. FRANCO-BELGIAN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> ON PASSENGER TRAFFIC. SIGNED AT PARIS, ON 30 MARCH 1945

The Government of the French Republic and the Royal Government of Belgium,

Desirous of facilitating travel by their nationals between France and Belgium and *vice versa*, resolved to conclude an agreement for that purpose and appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

For the Provisional Government of the French Republic: Mr. Georges Bidault, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

For the Royal Government of Belgium: His Excellency Baron Guillaume, Belgian Ambassador to France,

Who, after exchanging their plenary powers, recognized to be in good and due form, agreed on the application of the following regulations, which shall enter into force on the date of signature of this agreement.

*Article 1*

Visas for the entry of French and Belgian nationals into the metropolitan territories of either country shall be granted, without reference to Paris or Brussels, to holders of:

- (a) diplomatic passports;
- (b) passports issued for Belgian missions or official duties;
- (c) French service passports;
- (d) ordinary French or Belgian passports bearing a duly authenticated French or Belgian ministerial mission order.

*Article 2*

On presentation of documentary proof of the serious illness or death of a close relative (husband, wife, father, mother, brother, sister, children), visas for a return journey with a maximum validity of 5 days, permitting entry of the

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 30 March 1945, as from the date of signature, in accordance with the preamble.

French and Belgian nationals concerned into the metropolitan territory of either country, shall be granted without reference to Paris or Brussels and without presentation of a mission order or ministerial authorization.

The two Governments shall facilitate, to the fullest possible extent, the granting of exit and re-entry visas to the persons referred to in the previous paragraph.

### *Article 3*

Within the limits of monthly quotas to be fixed by the French Embassy and consulates in Belgium and by the Belgian Embassy and consulates in France, Belgian or French nationals holding ordinary passports for whom the heads of diplomatic or consular missions consider it necessary to facilitate travel to the metropolitan territory of either country, shall enjoy the advantages of the following special regulations:

(a) they shall be exempted from the requirement of a mission order or ministerial authorization;

(b) applications shall be transmitted to Paris or Brussels by telegraph, at the applicant's expense;

(c) if no reply is received from the authorities in Paris or Brussels within a period of 20 days following receipt of the telegraphed applications by the Ministries of Foreign Affairs concerned, the heads of diplomatic or consular missions may issue the required visa for a return journey on their own responsibility. The telegrams referred to in paragraph (b) shall indicate the date after which the visa will be issued automatically by the head of the diplomatic or consular mission;

(d) this article concerns only visas for entry into France from Belgium and into Belgium from France.

### *Article 4*

The Belgian Embassy in Paris and the French Embassy in Brussels may, by authority of their respective Ministries of Foreign Affairs and in order to expedite the obtaining of exit visas in France and Belgium, issue certificates attesting that the journey is being made in the interest of one of the two countries:

(a) to Belgian nationals residing in France and desirous of going to Belgium;

(b) to French nationals residing in Belgium and desirous of going to France.

These certificates, after being duly authenticated by the respective embassies, shall be deposited by the person concerned:

(a) in France, at the Prefecture of his place of residence, together with his application for an exit and re-entry visa;

(b) in Belgium, with the competent provincial authority, together with his application for an exit and re-entry visa.

The competent Ministries in France and Belgium shall, on completion of the regulation enquiries and within the shortest possible time, make known their decision:

(a) in France, to the Prefect;

(b) in Belgium, to the competent provincial authority.

In urgent cases, this decision may be requested and announced by telegram.

#### *Article 5*

Belgian nationals residing in France and French nationals residing in Belgium who wish to proceed to a country other than their country of origin, and, if necessary, to return, may, in order to expedite the obtaining of exit visas in France and Belgium, avail themselves of the certificates referred to in article 4. However, instead of being delivered:

(a) in France, to the Prefecture of the place of residence;

(b) in Belgium, to the competent provincial authority, these certificates shall be deposited at the French Ministry of Foreign Affairs or the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Office of the Minister).

Upon presentation of the certificates referred to in article 4, these two Ministries shall issue ministerial authorizations to the applicants. Such ministerial authorizations must be duly authenticated.

#### *Article 6*

The provisions of article 3 above shall apply to requests from French or Belgian nationals holding ordinary passports, for transit visas for the metropolitan territory of either country. The period of 20 days provided for in paragraph (c) of article 3 shall, however, be reduced to 8 days. Moreover, the provisions of this article shall apply regardless of any quota.

*Article 7*

This agreement shall remain in force at least until the cessation of hostilities in Europe and thereafter may only be denounced with one month's notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the aforementioned plenipotentiaries signed the present agreement and affixed their seals thereto.

DONE at Paris, on 30 March 1945, in two copies.

(Signed) BIDAULT

(Signed) GUILLAUME

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