No. 742

UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS and FINLAND

Treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance. Signed at Moscow, on 6 April 1948

Official texts: Russian and Finnish.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 15 March 1950.

UNION DES REPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES SOVIETIQUES et FINLANDE

Traité d'amitié, de coopération et d'assistance mutuelle. Signé à Moscou, le 6 avril 1948

Textes officiels russe et finnois.

Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 15 mars 1950.

Translation — Traduction

No. 742. TREATY¹ OF FRIENDSHIP, CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 6 APRIL 1948

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the President of the Republic of Finland,

With a view to the further development of friendly relations between the USSR and Finland,

Being convinced that the strengthening of good-neighbourly relations and co-operation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Republic of Finland is in accordance with the vital interests of both countries,

Considering Finland's endeavours not to be involved in clashes between the interests of the great Powers, and

Being inflexibly resolved to co-operate in the interests of maintaining international peace and security in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations,

Have decided for this purpose to conclude the present Treaty and have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics: Vyacheslav Mihailovich Molotov, Vice-President of the Council of Ministers and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the USSR;

The President of the Republic of Finland: Mauno Pekkala, Prime Minister of the Republic of Finland,

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

Article 1

Should either Finland, or the Soviet Union through the territory of Finland, become the object of military aggression on the part of Germany or any Power allied with Germany, Finland will carry out its duty as a sovereign State and

¹ Came into force on 31 May 1948, by the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Helsinki, in accordance with article 8.

will fight to repel aggression. In so doing, Finland will direct all the forces at its disposal towards defending the integrity of its territory on land, sea and air, acting within the limits of its boundaries, in accordance with its obligations under the present Treaty, with the help, if necessary, of the Soviet Union or together with the Soviet Union.

In the above-mentioned cases the Soviet Union will extend to Finland any necessary assistance, this to be supplied as mutually agreed between the Parties.

Article 2

The High Contracting Parties will consult together in case there is found to be a threat of the military aggression referred to in Article 1.

Article 3

The High Contracting Parties affirm their intention to participate, in the sincerest fashion, in all action for the maintenance of international peace and security in conformity with the purposes and principles of the United Nations.

Article 4

The High Contracting Parties confirm the undertaking contained in article 3 of the Treaty of Peace signed at Paris on 10 February 1947¹ not to enter into any alliance or take part in any coalition directed against the other High Contracting Party.

Article 5

The High Contracting Parties affirm their resolve to act in a spirit of cooperation and friendship for the further development and strengthening of the economic and cultural ties between the Soviet Union and Finland.

Article 6

The High Contracting Parties agree to act in accordance with the principles of mutual respect for their national sovereignty and independence and of non-interference in the internal affairs of the other State.

Article 7

The present Treaty will be implemented in conformity with the principles of the United Nations.

¹ See page 203 of this volume.

Article 8

The present Treaty will be subject to ratification and will remain in force for ten years from the date of its coming into force. The Treaty will come into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which will take place at Helsinki as soon as possible.

If neither of the High Contracting Parties gives notice one year before the expiration of the said ten-year period that it wishes to denounce the Treaty, it will remain in force for a further five years, until such time as either High Contracting Party gives notice in writing one year before the expiration of the current five-year period of its intention to terminate the Treaty.

In faith whereof the plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and attached their seals thereto.

Done at Moscow on 6 April 1948, in two copies, each in the Russian and Finnish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

By authorization of the Presidium of the By authorization of the President of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR: (Signed) V. MOLOTOV [SEAL]

Republic of Finland: (Signed) Mauno Pekkala

[SEAL]