

No. 753

**BELGIUM
and
FINLAND**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning
the mutual abolition of passport visas. Helsinki, 9 Feb-
ruary 1950**

Official text : French.

Registered by Belgium on 29 March 1950.

**BELGIQUE
et
FINLANDE**

**Echange de lettres constituant un accord relatif à la suppres-
sion des visas de passeports entre les deux pays. Hel-
sinki, 9 février 1950**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 29 mars 1950.

TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 753. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF BELGIUM AND FINLAND CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ CONCERNING THE MUTUAL ABOLITION OF PASSPORT VISAS. HELSINKI, 9 FEBRUARY 1950

I

No. 31/125

Helsinki, 9 February 1950

Your Excellency,

With reference to the exchange of views between the Belgian Legation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs concerning the abolition of passport visas with a view to facilitating travel between Belgium and Finland, I have the honour to inform you that the Belgian Government is prepared to agree with the Finnish Government on the following provisions :

(1) Belgian nationals may proceed to Finland from any point of departure and by any route and may stay there for a period of not more than two consecutive months, without being required to obtain a travel visa in advance, provided that they hold a valid passport.

(2) Belgian nationals wishing to settle in Finland or to stay there for a period of more than two consecutive months must first apply to the competent Finnish diplomatic or consular authorities and obtain from them the endorsement on their travel permit of a visa stating that they are authorized to settle or reside in Finland.

(3) Finnish nationals who hold valid passports may proceed to Belgium from any point of departure and by any route, and may stay there for a period of not more than two consecutive months, without being required to obtain a travel visa in advance.

(4) Finnish nationals wishing to settle in Belgium or to stay there for a period of more than two consecutive months must apply to the competent Belgian diplomatic or consular authorities for a visa for temporary residence in Belgium, and must obtain such visa before their entry into the country. This paragraph covers the case of persons wishing to engage in any gainful occupation (whether for wages or on their own account).

¹ Came into force on 1 March 1950, by the exchange and according to the terms of the said letters.

(5) The exemption from the travel visa requirement does not relieve Belgian nationals proceeding to Finland and Finnish nationals proceeding to Belgium of the obligation to observe the laws and regulations in force in either country concerning the entry, departure, residence and employment of aliens. Persons unable to satisfy the competent authorities that they meet the requirements of these laws and regulations may be refused authorization to enter.

(6) Persons desiring to enter the Belgian Congo and the African territories now held under mandate must first obtain a visa.

(7) The present provisions do not apply to holders of aliens' passports or special documents, who are still required in all cases to obtain visas in advance.

(8) This agreement will come into force on 1 March 1950. Either party may denounce it on giving one month's notice.

I should be glad if you would be so good as to inform me of the Finnish Governments' agreement to the foregoing.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Marcel Gallet

His Excellency Mr. C. Enckell
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Helsinki

II

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF FINLAND

No. 19398

Helsinki, 9 February 1950

Monsieur le Ministre,

In a letter of today's date you were so good as to inform me of the following :

[See letter I]

I have the honour to inform you that the Finnish Government agrees to the foregoing.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) C. ENCKELL

His Excellency Mr. Marcel Gallet
Envoy Extraordinary and
Minister Plenipotentiary of Belgium
Helsinki