

No. 1097

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
ITALY**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement for the mutual abolition
of visas. London, 6 December 1947**

Official texts: English and Italian.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 20 March
1951.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
ITALIE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la suppression réci-
proque des visas. Londres, 6 décembre 1947**

Textes officiels anglais et italien.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 20 mars
1951.*

No. 1097. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ITALY FOR THE MUTUAL ABOLITION OF VISAS. LONDON, 6 DECEMBER 1947²

I

Mr. Ernest Bevin to Duke Tommaso Gallarati Scotti

FOREIGN OFFICE

Your Excellency

6th December, 1947

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, as a first step towards the eventual restoration of freedom of travel to Italy and to British territories, His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom are prepared to conclude with the Government of Italy an agreement in the following terms:—

- (1) Italian citizens shall be free to travel from any place whatever to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance provided that they are furnished with valid Italian passports.
- (2) Holders of valid passports bearing, on the cover, the inscription "British Passport" and, inside, the description of the holder's national status as "British subject" shall be free to travel from any place whatever to Italy without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance.
- (3) It is understood that the waiver of the visa requirement does not exempt Italian citizens and British subjects coming respectively to the United Kingdom and to Italy from the necessity of complying with the British and the Italian laws and regulations concerning the entry, residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation of foreigners, and that travellers who are unable to satisfy the immigration authorities that they comply with these laws and regulations are liable to be refused leave to enter or land.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1948, according to the terms of the said notes.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 77, p. 129 (extension of the Agreement of 6 December 1947 to certain territories).

- (4) As regards travel to British colonies and overseas territories, protectorates or territories under mandate or trusteeship, it is understood that visas will continue to be required.

2. If the Italian Government are prepared to accept the foregoing provisions, I have the honour to suggest that the present note and Your Excellency's reply in similar terms should be regarded as placing on record the agreement between the two Governments, which shall take effect on the 1st January, 1948.

I have, &c.

(Signed) Ernest BEVIN

II

Duke Tommaso Gallarati Scotti to Mr. Ernest Bevin

ITALIAN TEXT — TEXTE ITALIEN

TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION²

AMBASCIATA D'ITALIA

ITALIAN EMBASSY

Londra, li 6 dicembre 1947

London, 6th December, 1947

Signor Segretario di Stato,

Signor Segretario di Stato,

In risposta alla Nota del 6 dicembre 1947, ho l'onore di informare Vostra Eccellenza che, come primo passo verso l'auspicato ritorno alla libertà di viaggio per i territori britannici e per l'Italia, il Governo italiano è disposto a concludere con il Governo di Sua Maestà nel Regno Unito il seguente accordo:—

In reply to the note of the 6th December, 1947, I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that, as a first step towards the eventual restoration of freedom of travel to British territories and to Italy, the Italian Government are prepared to conclude with His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom the following agreement:—

- (1) I cittadini italiani, muniti di passaporto valido italiano, avranno la facoltà di recarsi nel Regno Unito di Gran Bretagna ed Irlanda del Nord, senza dover sottostare all'obbligo di previamente ottenere un visto di ingresso, qualunque sia la località di partenza.
- (1) Italian citizens, provided with valid Italian passports, shall be permitted to travel to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland without the necessity of previously obtaining an entry visa, whatever may be the place of departure.

¹ Translation by the Government of the United Kingdom.

² Traduction du Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni.

- (2) I titolari di passaporto valido recante sulla copertina la dicitura "British Passport" ed all'interno la indicazione "British Subject" saranno liberi di recarsi nel territorio metropolitano della Repubblica Italiana, partendo da qualsiasi località, senza dover previamente ottenere un visto di ingresso.
- (3) Resta inteso che l'esenzione dal visto non dispensa i sudditi britannici e i cittadini italiani che si recano rispettivamente in Italia e nel Regno Unito dall'osservanza delle leggi e dei regolamenti italiani e britannici concernenti l'ingresso, il transito, la residenza (temporanea o permanente), l'assunzione di un impiego e l'esercizio di una professione o di un mestiere da parte degli stranieri; e che a quei viaggiatori, i quali non fossero in grado di provare alle autorità competenti che il loro caso rientra in quelli contemplati da tali leggi e regolamenti, potrà essere rifiutato il permesso di ingresso o di sbarco.
- (4) È inteso che l'obbligo del visto rimane in vigore per quanto concerne i viaggi per le Colonie britanniche ed i possedimenti d'oltre mare, i protettorati o i territori sotto mandato o "trusteeship" del Regno Unito.
- (2) Holders of valid passports bearing, on the cover, the inscription "British Passport" and, inside, the indication "British subject" shall be free to travel from any place whatever to the metropolitan territory of the Italian Republic without having previously to obtain an entry visa.
- (3) It is understood that exemption from the visa requirement does not relieve British subjects and Italian citizens travelling respectively to Italy and to the United Kingdom from the obligation to comply with the Italian and British laws and regulations concerning the entry, transit, residence (temporary or permanent) of foreigners, or concerning the taking up of employment and the exercise of a profession or of a trade by foreigners, and that those travellers who are not able to prove to the competent authorities that they comply with those laws and regulations may be refused permission to enter or to land.
- (4) It is understood that the visa requirement remains in force as regards travel to British colonies and overseas possessions, protectorates or territories under United Kingdom mandate or trusteeship.

2. Ho l'onore di informare l'E.V. che il mio Governo è disposto a dare corso quanto prima alle misure sopra

2. I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that my Government are prepared to put into effect forth-

descritte e che pertanto il Governo italiano conviene con quello di V.E. che la presente Nota e quella di V.E. in data 6 dicembre 1947, redatta in termini analoghi, faranno fede dell'accordo intervenuto tra i due Governi che entrerà in vigore a partire dal giorno 1° gennaio 1948.

with the measures described above, and that therefore the Italian Government agree with that of Your Excellency that the present note and Your Excellency's note of 6th December, 1947, in similar terms shall place on record the agreement reached between the two Governments, which shall enter in force on 1st January, 1948.

La prego gradire, &c.

(*Firmato*) T. GALLARATI SCOTTI

Please accept, &c.

(*Signed*) T. GALLARATI SCOTTI