

No. 1398

**BELGIUM
and
PORTUGAL**

Exchange of notes constituting an agreement for the abolition of the requirement of travel visas. Lisbon, 21 June and 3 July 1951

Official texts: French and Portuguese.

Registered by Belgium on 7 September 1951.

**BELGIQUE
et
PORTUGAL**

Échange de notes constituant un accord pour la suppression de l'obligation du visa de voyage. Lisbonne, 21 juin et 3 juillet 1951

Textes officiels français et portugais.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 7 septembre 1951.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 1398. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND PORTUGAL FOR THE ABOLITION OF THE REQUIREMENT OF TRAVEL VISAS. LISBON, 21 JUNE AND 3 JULY 1951

I

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Department of Economic and Consular Questions

Proc. 517/G/50
No. 9

Lisbon, 21 June 1951

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that the Portuguese Government, in response to the desire expressed by the Belgian Government, is prepared, through an exchange of notes, to conclude an agreement for the mutual abolition of passport visas on the following conditions :

1—Belgian subjects holding valid passports issued by the competent Belgian authorities may freely enter continental Portugal and the Madeira Archipelago and reside therein temporarily, either in transit or on business or pleasure, without having to have a diplomatic or consular visa on their passports.

2—Conversely, Portuguese citizens holding valid passports issued by the competent Portuguese authorities may freely enter Belgian territory (except the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi) and reside therein temporarily, either in transit, on business or pleasure without having to have a diplomatic or consular visa on their passports.

3—By temporary residence is meant a period not exceeding two months which may, in exceptional cases, be extended on reasonable grounds at the sole discretion of the competent local authorities of both countries.

4—Belgian subjects shall however, remain subject to the laws, regulations and other provisions concerning residence and paid or unpaid employment, applicable to foreigners in Portugal, in force at the time they enter Portuguese territory; and conversely, Portuguese citizens shall remain subject to the laws, regulations and other provisions concerning residence and paid or unpaid em-

¹ Came into force on 1 August 1951, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes. This Agreement applies to the Archipelago of Madeira and does not apply to the territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

ployment, applicable to foreigners in Belgium, in force at the time they enter Belgian territory.

Exemption from the visa requirement shall not give the nationals of either country any right to establish their residence or to work in the other country.

5—If the Belgian Government is in agreement on the foregoing matter, I have the honour to suggest that the present note and Your Excellency's reply, couched in similar terms, should be considered as instruments of the Agreement between our two Governments to come into force on 1 August 1951 and to remain in force until two months following its denunciation by either of the contracting parties.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Paulo CUNHA

His Excellency Baron van der Elst
Minister of Belgium
Lisbon

II

Lisbon, 3 July 1951

File : 505
No. 2164

Your Excellency,

In reply to your letter No. 9 of 21 June last, Proc. 517/G/50, in which you informed me that the Government of the Republic of Portugal, in response to the desire expressed by the Belgian Government, was prepared to conclude an agreement for the abolition of travel visas through an exchange of notes—the above-mentioned document being considered as such—I have the honour to inform you that my Government is in agreement on the text which you have submitted to it and which reads as follows:

1.—Belgian nationals holding valid passports issued by the competent Belgian authorities may freely enter continental Portugal and the Madeira Archipelago and reside therein temporarily, either in transit or on business or pleasure, without having to obtain beforehand a diplomatic or consular visa.

2.—Conversely, Portuguese nationals holding valid passports issued by the competent Portuguese authorities may freely enter Belgium (except the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi) and reside therein temporarily, either in transit or on business or pleasure, without having to obtain beforehand a diplomatic or consular visa.

3.—By temporary residence is meant a stay not exceeding two successive months which may, in exceptional cases, be extended by the competent local authorities of either of the two countries on grounds of which they shall be the sole judge.

4.—Belgian nationals shall remain subject to the laws, regulations and other provisions concerning residence and paid or unpaid employment, applicable to foreigners in Portugal, and in force at the time they enter Portuguese territory; and conversely, Portuguese nationals shall remain subject to the laws, regulations and other provisions concerning residence and paid or unpaid employment, applicable to foreigners in Belgium, and in force at the time they enter Belgian territory.

Exemption from the visa requirement shall not give the nationals of either country any right to establish their residence or to work in the other country.

5.—The present agreement shall come into force on 1 August 1951 and shall cease to apply two months after its denunciation by either of the two Governments.

I have the honour to be, sir.

(Signed) J. VAN DER ELST

His Excellency Mr. Paulo Cunha
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Portuguese Republic
Lisbon
