

**No. 1498**

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**BELGIUM  
and  
FINLAND**

**Arrangement (with exchange of letters) concerning the  
admission of student employees. Signed at Brussels,  
on 20 March 1951**

*Official text: French.*

*Registered by Belgium on 21 November 1951.*

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**BELGIQUE  
et  
FINLANDE**

**Arrangement (avec échange de lettres) relatif à l'admission  
des stagiaires. Signé à Bruxelles, le 20 mars 1951**

*Texte officiel français.*

*Enregistré par la Belgique le 21 novembre 1951.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 1498. ARRANGEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN BELGIUM AND  
FINLAND CONCERNING THE ADMISSION OF  
STUDENT EMPLOYEES. SIGNED AT BRUSSELS, ON  
20 MARCH 1951

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The Belgian Government and the Finnish Government,

Considering the advantages of encouraging the exchange of student employees between their countries and the need for establishing rules to govern such exchanges,

Desirous of concluding an arrangement to that end,

Have agreed upon the following provisions :

*Article 1*

(a) The present Arrangement shall apply to student employees, that is to say, to nationals of one of the two countries who proceed to the other country to perfect their linguistic and professional knowledge while working for an employer.

(b) Student employees may be of either sex and may be employed in manual or non-manual work. As a general rule, they shall not be over the age of 30 years.

*Article 2*

Subject to the provisions of the present Arrangement, each of the two countries undertakes to grant the necessary work permits and residence permits to student employees.

*Article 3*

(a) The number of student employees to be admitted into either of the two countries under the present Arrangement shall not exceed fifty in any one year.

(b) This quota shall be valid for the year 1951 until 31 December, and for each succeeding year from 1 January to 31 December. Student employees already residing in the territory of the other country on 1 January shall not be included in the quota for the current year. The quota of fifty student employees a year may be filled irrespective of the period for which the permits granted during the preceding year are to run.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 27 July 1951, by the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Helsinki, in accordance with article 13. This Arrangement applies to the territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

(c) The quota may be subsequently modified in pursuance of an agreement which shall be concluded on the proposal of one of the two countries not later than 1 December for the following year.

(d) If the prescribed quota is not reached in the course of a year by the student employees of one of the two countries, that country shall not be entitled to reduce the number of permits granted to student employees of the other country, or to carry over to the following year the unused balance of its own quota.

#### *Article 4*

(a) Student employment permits shall be granted as a rule for a period not exceeding one year. This period may be prolonged for six months in special cases.

(b) As a general rule, at the end of their period of training student employees shall not remain in the territory of the country where they underwent their training, with a view to holding employment.

#### *Article 5*

Student employment permits may be granted on the understanding that the student employees will not engage in any gainful occupation or hold any employment other than that for which the permit was granted.

#### *Article 6*

Work permits shall be granted to student employees on the following conditions :

(a) When a student employee is permitted to perform work normally done by an ordinary workman, he shall be entitled to the normal current wage for the occupation and the district in which he is employed.

(b) All other student employees may receive a reasonable subsistence remuneration from their employer.

#### *Article 7*

The two countries undertake not to issue work permits in respect of student employees before ascertaining that the latter will have adequate means of support during their period of employment.

#### *Article 8*

(a) Student employees shall receive the same treatment as nationals of the country in which they are employed in all matters relating to the application of the laws, regulations and customs concerning safety, hygiene and conditions of work.

(b) Student employees and their employers shall be required to comply with the social security regulations in force.

### *Article 9*

(a) Persons wishing to take advantage of the provisions of the present Arrangement shall make application to the authority appointed in their country to centralize applications from student employees. They shall, at the same time, supply all the information necessary for the consideration of their request.

(b) It will be for the above-mentioned authority to consider whether the application shall be forwarded to the corresponding authority of the other country, bearing in mind the annual quota to which it is entitled.

(c) The Ministry of Labour and Social Insurance in Belgium shall undertake to receive the applications of Belgian candidates for student employment; the Ministry of Social Affairs in Finland shall do likewise for Finnish candidates. The two administrations shall transmit directly to each other any applications which they may accept.

(d) The competent authorities in the two countries shall make every effort to ensure that applications are dealt with as speedily as possible.

(e) As soon as the competent authority has decided to accept an application transmitted to it, it shall so inform the competent authority of the other country.

### *Article 10*

(a) In order to achieve the purpose of the present Arrangement and as far as possible to assist candidates for student employment who may be unable by their own efforts to find an employer willing to accept them as student employees, the two countries undertake to take the necessary steps to find suitable posts.

(b) To that end, candidates for student employment shall apply to the authorities of their respective country, which shall transmit their applications to the competent authorities of the country in which the candidate wishes to enter student employment.

(c) Student employees shall not be charged any fee in respect of formalities in connexion with the finding of posts.

### *Article 11*

The provisions of the present Arrangement shall not exempt student employees from complying with the laws and regulations in force in each country governing the entry, residence and departure of foreigners.

*Article 12*

Any dispute arising between the countries with regard to the interpretation or application of the present Arrangement shall be settled by means of direct negotiation.

*Article 13*

(a) The present Arrangement shall be ratified. The instruments of ratification shall be exchanged as soon as possible at Helsinki.

(b) It shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

(c) It shall remain in force until 31 December 1951.

(d) It shall thereafter be renewed by tacit agreement from year to year, unless it is denounced by one of the Parties before 1 July with effect as from the end of the year.

(e) Nevertheless, in the case of denunciation, permits granted under the present Arrangement shall remain valid for the period for which they were granted.

DONE at Brussels, in duplicate, on 20 March 1951.

For Belgium :

(Signed) Paul VAN ZEELAND

For Finland :

(Signed) T. VOIONMAA

## EXCHANGE OF LETTERS

## I

## MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Brussels, 20 March 1951

Your Excellency,

On the occasion of the signature of the Agreement between Belgium and Finland on the exchange of student employees, I have the honour to state that the 30-year age limit laid down in article 1, second paragraph, of the agreement is established in principle only and that it may be exceeded in special cases.

Since, in view of events in Finland in recent years, it is likely that a relatively large number of Finnish nationals over 30 years of age will submit applications as student employees within the meaning of the above-mentioned Agreement,

the Belgian authorities agree to apply in favour of such applicants the discretionary power provided in exceptional cases by article 1.

It is understood, however, that such treatment will be granted only to applicants not over the age of 40 years.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) Paul VAN ZEELAND

His Excellency Mr. Tapio Voionmaa  
Minister of Finland  
at Brussels

## II

### FINNISH LEGATION

Brussels, 20 March 1951

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date on the occasion of the signature of the Agreement between Belgium and Finland on student employees; the letter reads as follows :

[See letter I]

The Finnish authorities are in entire agreement with these provisions.

I have the honour, etc.

(Signed) T. VOIONMAA

His Excellency Mr. P. van Zeeland  
Minister for Foreign Affairs  
Brussels