

No. 2474

**BELGIUM
and
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning
the abolition of passport visa requirements in relations
between the two countries. Bonn, 19 December 1953**

Official texts: French and German.

Registered by Belgium on 4 February 1954.

**BELGIQUE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à la suppression
de l'obligation du visa des passeports dans les
relations entre les deux pays. Bonn, 19 décembre 1953**

Textes officiels français et allemand.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 4 février 1954.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 2474. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY CONCERNING THE ABOLITION OF PASSPORT VISA REQUIREMENTS IN RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. BONN, 19 DECEMBER 1953

I

BELGIAN EMBASSY

D. 3038/3
No. 5612 (53)

NOTE VERBALE

The Belgian Embassy at Bonn presents its respects to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Federal Republic of Germany and has the honour to state that, pursuant to resolution No. 20 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, dated 19 March 1952, regarding the abolition of passport visas for nationals of member countries of the Council of Europe, and with the aim of facilitating relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and Belgium, the Belgian Government is prepared to enter into a reciprocal agreement with the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany along the following lines :

1. The Belgian Government and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany agree that Belgian or German nationals holding official valid passports issued by the Belgian authorities or by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Germany, respectively, or travelling under a collective passport issued by either of those authorities, shall be free to enter from any country whatever the territory of the other Party without having to obtain passport visas in advance as has been required hitherto.

Belgian and German nationals holding seamen's paybooks issued by the Belgian authorities or by the authorities of the Federal Republic of Germany shall be granted the same facilities.

Persons benefiting from the provisions of this agreement may not, however, stay in the territory of the other Party for more than three months.

2. Belgian and German nationals wishing to stay in the territory of the other Party for more than three months must apply to the competent authorities for a visa before entering that country.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1954 in accordance with the terms of the said notes. This Agreement is not applicable to the territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi; it is applicable to Berlin.

3. Belgian and German nationals wishing to go to the territory of the other Party in order to carry on a gainful occupation there must obtain a visa and any requisite authorization in advance from the competent authorities of that country.

4. The Belgian authorities and the authorities of the Federal Republic of Germany reserve the right to refuse leave to enter or stay in the territories under their jurisdiction to persons considered undesirable or persons who do not comply with the laws and regulations in force in those territories.

5. The regulations governing entry into the Belgian Congo or Ruanda-Urundi shall not be affected by this agreement.

6. The Government of either Party may suspend the application of the new regulations temporarily for reasons of public order; the suspension shall be notified immediately to the other Government through the diplomatic channel.

7. This agreement shall apply to Berlin if within three months after its entry into force the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has not notified the Belgian Government to the contrary.

8. Either of the Governments concerned may denounce this agreement at any time, subject to three months' notice.

9. The foregoing provisions shall enter into force on 1 January 1954.

If the German Federal Government is prepared to accept the foregoing provisions, the Belgian Embassy suggests that the present note and the reply of the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs, reproducing the provisions of articles 1 to 9, should be considered as confirming the agreement arrived at in the matter by the two Governments.

Bonn, 19 December 1953

Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Bonn

II

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

524-16/7-V-55454/53

NOTE VERBALE

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Belgian Embassy's Note Verbale of 19 December 1953 and to state the following :

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany is grateful to the Belgian Government for its desire to abolish passport visas for holders of official German passports and announce that it has arrived at an understanding with

the Belgian Government on the following provisions of an agreement to abolish passport visas between the two countries :

[*See note I*]

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Belgian Government also agree that this note and the Belgian Embassy's note of 19 December 1953 shall constitute an agreement between the two States.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs has the honour to be, etc.

Bonn, 19 December 1953.

[SEAL]

Belgian Embassy
Friedrich-Wilhelm Str. 10
Bonn
