

No. 2504

**GREECE
and
LEBANON**

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement concerning
the abolition of the Mixed Courts in Lebanon. Beirut,
1 and 10 September 1947**

Official text: French.

Registered by Greece on 18 March 1954.

**GRÈCE
et
LIBAN**

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord concernant la sup-
pression des tribunaux mixtes au Liban. Beyrouth,
1^{er} et 10 septembre 1947**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par la Grèce le 18 mars 1954.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 2504. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN GREECE AND LEBANON CONCERNING THE ABOLITION OF THE MIXED COURTS IN LEBANON. BEIRUT, 1 AND 10 SEPTEMBER 1947

I

ROYAL GREEK LEGATION IN SYRIA AND LEBANON

No. 1187 D/2

Beirut, 1 September 1947

Sir,

On the instructions of my Government, I have the honour to inform you of the following :

The Royal Greek Government considers that on the abolition of the Mixed Tribunals in Lebanon, the capitulatory jurisdiction of the Greek Consular Tribunals should, from the purely theoretical standpoint, have been restored and maintained until the conclusion of an agreement for the abolition of that jurisdiction.

However, having regard to the fact that the Lebanese Government does not accept this principle, the Greek Government, not wishing to insist on the acceptance of its own point of view, agrees to the abolition of the Mixed Tribunals as from 1 January 1947, subject to the following conditions :

With respect to the legal status of Greek nationals in Lebanon, the Royal Greek Government naturally agrees that they should in future be subject to the full and entire jurisdiction of the Lebanese national courts at all stages of procedure. On the other hand, the Greek Government is confident that the Lebanese Government is willing to adopt with respect to the personal status of Greek nationals, subject to reciprocity, the principle accepted by most countries, i. e. the application to those persons of their national law.

The acceptance of this principle would entail the application of Greek laws to Greek nationals in Lebanon in all matters relating to personal status in general, such as marriage, matrimonial rights and obligations, divorce, judicial separation, matrimonial regime, paternity, filiation, legitimation, adoption, legal capacity and majority, interdiction, testamentary or intestate succession, the partition and settlement of estates, etc.

¹ Came into force on 10 September 1947, with retroactive effect from 1 January 1947, by the exchange, and in accordance with the terms, of the said letters.

Similarly, Lebanese law would be applied in Greece to Lebanese nationals, subject to the same conditions.

It is understood that the competent authorities of the country of the person concerned will where necessary furnish the judicial authorities of the other country with information regarding the laws relating to the matters referred to above.

It is also understood that Greek nationals in Lebanon will automatically enjoy any benefit which is maintained, recognized or granted *de facto* or *de jure* in respect of jurisdiction over aliens.

I should be grateful if you would communicate the agreement of the Lebanese Government to the foregoing proposals as soon as possible.

I have the honour to be etc.

N. HADJIVASSILIOU
Acting Greek Chargé d'Affaires in Lebanon

Mr. Hamid Frangie
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Beirut

II

LEBANESE REPUBLIC

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND OF LEBANESE OVERSEAS

Political Department

No. 798/S

Beirut, 10 September 1947

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1187 D/2 of 1 September 1947 by which, on the instructions of your Government, you communicated the following :

[See letter I]

I have the honour to inform you that the Lebanese Government consents to the foregoing proposals.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) Riad SOLH
President of the Council of Ministers
Acting Minister of Foreign Affairs

Mr. Hadjivassiliou
Greek Chargé d'Affaires
Beirut