

No. 2945

**UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
and
SWITZERLAND**

**Agreement concerning the Trade Delegation of the Union
of Soviet Socialist Republics in Switzerland. Signed
at Moscow, on 17 March 1948**

Official texts: Russian and French.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 27 September 1955.

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES
SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES
et
SUISSE**

**Accord concernant la représentation commerciale de
l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques en
Suisse. Signé à Moscou, le 17 mars 1948**

Textes officiels russe et français.

Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 27 septembre 1955.

[RUSSIAN TEXT — TEXTE RUSSE]

№ 2945. СОГЛАШЕНИЕ МЕЖДУ СОЮЗОМ СОВЕТСКИХ
СОЦИАЛИСТИЧЕСКИХ РЕСПУБЛИК И ШВЕЙЦАРСКОЙ
КОНФЕДЕРАЦИЕЙ О ТОРГОВОМ ПРЕДСТАВИ-
ТЕЛЬСТВЕ СОЮЗА ССР В ШВЕЙЦАРИИ

Принимая во внимание, что по законам Союза Советских Социалистических Республик монополия внешней торговли принадлежит государству, Правительство Союза ССР и Правительство Швейцарской Конфедерации согласились о нижеследующем:

Статья 1

Союз Советских Социалистических Республик будет иметь в Швейцарии свое Торговое Представительство.

Статья 2

Торговое Представительство Союза Советских Социалистических Республик в Швейцарии выполняет следующие функции:

- а) содействие развитию торговых отношений между СССР и Швейцарией;
- б) представительство интересов СССР в Швейцарии в области внешней торговли;
- в) ведение торговли между СССР и Швейцарией.

Статья 3

Торговое Представительство является составной частью Миссии Союза Советских Социалистических Республик в Швейцарии и имеет свое местопребывание в Берне. Вследствие этого, права и привилегии, предоставленные Миссии СССР в Швейцарии, распространяются равным образом на Торговое Представительство, в частности в том, что касается неприкосновенности помещений и права пользования шифром.

Торговый Представитель СССР в Швейцарии и его два заместителя пользуются всеми правами и привилегиями, присвоенными членам дипломатической Миссии СССР, аккредитованным при Правительстве Швейцарской Конфедерации.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 2945. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE SWISS CONFEDERATION CONCERNING THE TRADE DELEGATION OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS IN SWITZERLAND. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 17 MARCH 1948

In view of the fact that, under the laws of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, foreign trade is a State monopoly, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the Swiss Confederation have agreed as follows :

Article 1

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall maintain a Trade Delegation in Switzerland.

Article 2

The Trade Delegation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Switzerland shall exercise the following functions; it will :

- (a) Promote the development of commercial relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Switzerland;
- (b) Represent the interests of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Switzerland in matters of foreign trade;
- (c) Carry on trade between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Switzerland.

Article 3

The Trade Delegation shall form an integral part of the Legation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to Switzerland and shall have its headquarters at Berne. Consequently, the rights and privileges accorded to the Legation of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Switzerland shall also be extended to the Trade Delegation, in particular the right of immunity of premises and the right to use a cipher.

The Trade Delegate of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in Switzerland and his two deputies shall enjoy all the rights and privileges accorded to the members of the diplomatic mission of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics accredited to the Government of the Swiss Confederation.

¹ Came into force on 1 April 1948, after being approved by the Governments of both Contracting Parties, in accordance with article 8.

In addition to the persons referred to in the foregoing paragraph, the employees of the Trade Delegation who are citizens of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall be exempt from Swiss taxation on the emoluments which they receive in the service of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Article 4

The Trade Delegation shall act on behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics. The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall be responsible only for commercial contracts concluded or guaranteed in Switzerland by the Trade Delegation and signed by authorized persons.

The Trade Delegation shall not be subject to the Swiss regulations governing commercial registration.

The Trade Delegation shall publish in the Swiss Government publication the names of the persons authorized to take legal action on its behalf and information concerning the extent to which each such person is empowered to sign commercial contracts on its behalf.

Article 5

The rights and privileges accorded to the Trade Delegation under article 3 above shall extend also to its commercial activities, with the following exceptions :

(a) Disputes regarding commercial contracts concluded or guaranteed in the territory of Switzerland by the Trade Delegation under article 4 of this Agreement shall, in the absence of a reservation regarding arbitration or any other jurisdiction, be subject to the competence of the Swiss courts. No interim orders may, however, be made against the Trade Delegation.

(b) Final judicial decisions against the Trade Delegation in the aforementioned disputes may be enforced by execution; nevertheless, such execution may be levied only on the assets of the Trade Delegations and the goods which are its property.

Article 6

This Agreement shall apply to the Principality of Liechtenstein so long as the Principality remains linked to the Swiss Confederation by a treaty of customs union.

Article 7

The establishment of the Trade Delegation shall in no way affect the right of Swiss commercial firms to maintain direct relations with Soviet foreign trade organizations with a view to concluding and carrying out commercial transactions.

Article 8

This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 April 1948, subject to approval by the two Governments, and shall remain in force for two years.

If neither of the Parties gives three months' notice in writing, before the expiration of the said period of two years, of its desire to terminate the Agreement, it shall remain in force until either of the Parties gives notice of termination, such notice to be given six months before the Agreement is to terminate.

DONE in duplicate, at Moscow, on 17 March 1948, in the Russian and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Union
of Soviet Socialist Republics :

A. MIKOYAN

[L.S.]

For the Government of the Swiss
Confederation :

TROENDLE

[L.S.]