

No. 3005

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**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS  
and  
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**Protocol concerning the discontinuance of German reparations payments and other measures to alleviate the financial and economic obligations of the German Democratic Republic arising in consequence of the war. Signed at Moscow, on 22 August 1953**

*Official texts: Russian and German.*

*Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 14 November 1955.*

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**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES  
SOVIÉTIQUES  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE D'ALLEMAGNE**

**Protocole concernant la cessation des paiements allemands au titre des réparations et d'autres mesures destinées à réduire les obligations financières et économiques de la République démocratique allemande qui sont liées aux conséquences de la guerre. Signé à Moscou, le 22 août 1953**

*Textes officiels russe et allemand.*

*Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 14 novembre 1955.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3005. PROTOCOL<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE DISCONTINUANCE OF GERMAN REPARATIONS PAYMENTS AND OTHER MEASURES TO ALLEVIATE THE FINANCIAL AND ECONOMIC OBLIGATIONS OF THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC ARISING IN CONSEQUENCE OF THE WAR. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, ON 22 AUGUST 1953

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Considering that Germany has already fulfilled towards the USSR, the United States, the United Kingdom and France a considerable proportion of the financial and economic obligations incurred by it in consequence of the war,

Considering the need to alleviate the economic situation of Germany,

Considering further that the Soviet Government, in its note of 15 August, proposed to the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and France that the financial and economic obligations incurred by Germany towards the four Powers in consequence of the war should be substantially reduced and that acceptance of these proposals by the Governments of the said Western Powers would secure the implementation of these measures in respect of Germany as a whole,

Recognizing, at the same time, that irrespective of the decision taken on this question by the Governments of the United States, the United Kingdom and France, the implementation of these proposals in respect of the German Democratic Republic would give the German people substantial assistance not only in the economic sphere but also with regard to the establishment of the necessary conditions for the reunification of Germany as a peaceful and democratic State and for accelerating the conclusion of a Treaty of peace with Germany,

The Governments of the Soviet Union and of the German Democratic Republic have entered into negotiations and have agreed to give effect to the following arrangements:

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The Soviet Government, by agreement with the Government of the Polish People's Republic (in respect of its share in the reparations), shall, as

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 22 August 1953 by signature.

from 1 January 1954, cease completely to require the payment of reparations by the German Democratic Republic, wheter in the form of goods or in any other form.

The German Democratic Republic shall accordingly be released from payment of the reparations still outstanding after 1 January 1954, which, in accordance with the Soviet Government's declaration of 15 May 1950 concerning the reduction of reparations paid by Germany to the Soviet Union, amount to \$2,537 million at 1938 world prices.

## II

The Soviet Government as from 1 January 1954 shall without compensation transfer to the ownership of the German Democratic Republic the thirty-three machine, chemical, metallurgical and other works, situated in Germany and having a total value of 2,700 million marks, which had been transferred to USSR ownership as reparations.

A Soviet-German mixed commission shall be established to effect this transfer.

The Soviet Government shall also release the German Democratic Republic from the debt, amounting to 430 million marks, incurred in connexion with the transfer by the Soviet Government of sixty-six Soviet industrial plants in Germany to the Government of the German Democratic Republic in 1952.

## III

The costs borne by the German Democratic Republic in connexion with the presence of Soviet armed forces in the territory of the German Democratic Republic shall be reduced by the Soviet Government so that the annual amount of such costs will not exceed 5 per cent of the receipts under the national budget of the German Democratic Republic and in no case the amount of the occupation costs for 1949.

The expenditure by the German Democratic Republic for the maintenance of Soviet armed forces in Germany in 1954 shall accordingly be 1,600 million marks as against 1,950 million marks in 1953 and 2,182 million marks in 1949.

## IV

The Soviet Government declares that it fully releases the German Democratic Republic from the payment of debts in foreign currencies representing occupation costs which have been incurred since 1945.

In this connexion, the Soviet Government further declares that Germany is released from the payment of national post-war debts to the Soviet Union.

DONE in duplicate at Moscow on 22 August 1953 in the Russian and German languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:  
(Signed) V. MOLOTOV

For the Government of the German Democratic Republic:  
(Signed) O. GROTEWOHL