

No. 3141

**SWEDEN, DENMARK, FINLAND,
ICELAND and NORWAY**

**Convention (with Final Protocol) respecting reciprocity in
the granting of maternity assistance. Signed at Reykjavik,
on 20 July 1953**

*Official texts: Swedish (two texts, one for Sweden and one for Finland), Danish,
Finnish, Icelandic and Norwegian.*

Registered by Sweden on 3 February 1956.

**SUÈDE, DANEMARK, FINLANDE,
ISLANDE et NORVÈGE**

**Convention (avec Protocole final) relative à l'assistance
réciproque en cas de maternité. Signée à Reykjavik, le
20 juillet 1953**

*Textes officiels suédois (deux textes, l'un pour la Suède et l'autre pour la Finlande),
danois, finnois, islandais et norvégien.*

Enregistrée par la Suède le 3 février 1956.

[TRANSLATION¹ — TRADUCTION]

No. 3141. CONVENTION² BETWEEN SWEDEN, DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND AND NORWAY RESPECTING RECIPROCITY IN THE GRANTING OF MATERNITY ASSISTANCE. SIGNED AT REYKJAVIK, ON 20 JULY 1953

His Majesty the King of Sweden, His Majesty the King of Denmark, the President of the Republic of Finland, the President of the Republic of Iceland and His Majesty the King of Norway, having decided to conclude a convention respecting reciprocity in the granting of maternity assistance, have appointed as their plenipotentiaries :

His Majesty the King of Sweden :

Mr. G. E. Sträng, Cabinet Minister and Head of the Ministry of Social Affairs;

His Majesty the King of Denmark :

Mr. Poul Sørensen, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs;

The President of the Republic of Finland :

Mr. Vieno Simonen, Minister of Social Affairs;

The President of the Republic of Iceland :

Mr. Steingrímur Steinthórsson, Prime Minister and Minister of Social Affairs;

His Majesty the King of Norway :

Mr. Aaslaug Aasland, Minister of Social Affairs,

who, having been duly furnished with full powers for that purpose, have agreed on the following :

Section 1

Each contracting country hereby undertakes, in accordance with the provisions of this Convention, to provide a woman who is staying in that country and is a national of another contracting country with maternity assistance.

For the purposes of this Convention a woman who is not herself a national of a contracting country but who is or was last married to a national of such country shall be treated as a national of a contracting country.

¹ Translation by International Labour Office (International Labour Office, *Legislative Series*, May-June 1955), with the exception of the preamble of the Convention and the sixth paragraph of the Final Protocol.

² Came into force on 1 September 1954, in accordance with section 7, the instruments of ratification having been deposited in Reykjavik by Sweden on 29 January 1954, by Denmark on 9 February 1954, by Finland on 1 June 1954, by Iceland on 22 January 1954, and by Norway on 13 May 1954.

A woman who was formerly a national of one of the contracting countries and has not acquired the nationality of any other country shall also be treated as a national of a contracting country.

Section 2

In this Convention the term “maternity assistance” means relief and care provided in respect of pregnancy and confinement under the general provisions in force at the time in the countries concerned.

Section 3

The provisions of the country of residence respecting the granting of maternity assistance to the nationals of that country shall apply as regards the conditions for entitlement to maternity assistance under this Convention.

The Convention shall not apply to a person who belongs to the foreign service of any of the other contracting countries.

Section 4

The cost of providing maternity assistance under this Convention shall be defrayed in full by the country of residence.

Section 5

This Convention shall in no way limit the right of each contracting country to make general provisions respecting the right of aliens to stay in the country :
Provided that such provisions shall not make it possible for this Convention to be evaded.

Section 6

The competent authorities in the contracting countries shall have power to conclude agreements respecting the detailed rules necessary for the administration of this Convention.

Section 7

This Convention shall be ratified, and the instruments of ratification shall be deposited as soon as possible at the Iceland Foreign Ministry.

This Convention shall come into operation on the first day of the month following the expiration of two calendar months from the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

Section 8

If any of the contracting countries wishes to denounce the Convention, it shall notify in writing the Government of Iceland, which shall forthwith inform the other contracting countries of the fact and of the date on which notification was received.

Such denunciation shall only apply as regards the denouncing country and shall take effect from the first day of January falling not less than six months after notification of denunciation is received by the Government of Iceland.

The Convention shall be deposited in the archives of the Iceland Foreign Ministry, and certified copies shall be sent by the Iceland Foreign Ministry to the government of each contracting country.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this Convention.

MADE in Reykjavik in one copy, in Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish (in two texts, one for Finland and one for Sweden) on 20 July 1953.

(Signed) G. E. STRÄNG

(Signed) Poul SÖRENSEN

(Signed) Vieno SIMONEN

(Signed) Steingrímur STEINTHÓRSSON

(Signed) Aaslaug AASLAND

FINAL PROTOCOL

In connection with the signature this day of the Convention between Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden respecting the reciprocal provision of maternity assistance, the plenipotentiaries of the contracting States have made the following declaration :

It has been the intention of each of the contracting countries to bring about equality between the nationals of the other countries and its own nationals as regards the publicly financed payments and services to persons entitled to maternity assistance.

For the purpose of defining the scope of the Convention, the individual countries have declared that the Convention shall cover the following payments and services under the legislation in force at the time :

Denmark

Assistance under Act No. 119 of 15 March 1939 respecting maternity assistance institutions, as amended by Act No. 150 of 30 March 1942 and Act No. 112 of 23 March 1948.

Assistance under Act No. 85 of 31 March 1937 respecting the prevention of disease and mortality among children in the first years of life (cf. Act No. 107 of 13 March 1943 and Act No. 44 of 20 February 1948).

Assistance under Act No. 472 of 1 October 1945 respecting health care during pregnancy, as amended by Act No. 182 of 20 May 1952.

Assistance under Act No. 236 of 30 April 1946 respecting the medical examination of children.

Assistance under Act No. 362 of 4 July 1946 respecting the supply of milk to mothers.

Finland

Grants under the Act of 13 June 1941 respecting maternity relief.

Maternity care under the Act of 31 March 1944 respecting commune midwives.

Instruction, advice and assistance which the commune advice bureaux for maternity and child welfare are required to give to mothers and children under the Act of 31 March 1944 respecting commune advice bureaux for maternity and child welfare.

Iceland

Grants under article 34 (first and fourth paragraphs) of Act No. 50 of 7 May 1946 respecting national insurance (cf. article 10 (1) of Act No. 1 of 12 January 1952) and grants or maintenance in a hospital or maternity institution under article 33 (fourth paragraph) of Act No. 104 of 30 December 1943.

Norway

Assistance under Act No. 2 of 10 April 1915 respecting child welfare.

Sweden

Maternity allowances under the Order of 11 June 1937 respecting maternity allowances.

Maternity assistance under the Ordinance of 11 June 1937 respecting maternity assistance.

Preventive maternity care and child care for persons resident in Sweden, under the Order of 15 June 1944 respecting state grants towards preventive maternity care and child care.

Free medical supplies under the Order of 22 June 1939 respecting the free issue of prophylactics to certain women and children and the Order of 15 June 1944 respecting the free issue of medical supplies to certain women suffering from diseases due to pregnancy.

Midwife care under the Ordinance of 30 June 1943 respecting the appointment of district midwives, etc.

Confinement care in state and state-aided institutions.

Care in state-aided homes for infants or maternity homes.

The contracting countries undertake to inform each other within two months whenever the legislation covered by this Convention is amended or supplemented.¹

This Final Protocol shall come into operation simultaneously with the foregoing Convention and shall have the same effect and currency as the Convention.

The Final Protocol shall be deposited in the archives of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Iceland, and certified copies shall be delivered by the Ministry to the Government of each contracting country.¹

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the respective plenipotentiaries have signed this Final Protocol.

MADE in Reykjavik in one copy in Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish (in two texts, one for Finland and one for Sweden) on 20 July 1953.

(Signed) G. E. STRÅNG
(Signed) Poul SÖRENSEN
(Signed) Vieno SIMONEN
(Signed) Steingrímur STEINTHÓRSSON
(Signed) Aaslaug AASLAND

¹ This paragraph does not appear in the Danish and Icelandic texts.