No. 3514

BELGIUM, DENMARK, FRANCE, FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY, GREECE, etc.

Agreement on the exchange of war cripples between member countries of the Council of Europe with a view to medical treatment. Signed at Paris, on 13 December 1955

Official texts: English and French.

Registered on 10 September 1956 by the Council of Europe acting on behalf of the Contracting Parties, in accordance with resolution 54 (6) of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted on 3 April 1954.

BELGIQUE, DANEMARK, FRANCE, RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE, GRÈCE, etc.

Accord sur l'échange des mutilés de guerre entre les pays membres du Conseil de l'Europe aux fins de traitement médical. Signé à Paris, le 13 décembre 1955

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistré le 10 septembre 1956 par le Conseil de l'Europe, agissant au nom des Parties contractantes, conformément à la résolution 54 (6) du Comité des Ministres du Conseil de l'Europe adoptée le 3 avril 1954.

No. 3514. AGREEMENT ON THE EXCHANGE OF WAR CRIPPLES BETWEEN MEMBER COUNTRIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE WITH A VIEW TO MEDICAL TREATMENT. SIGNED AT PARIS, ON 13 DECEMBER 1955

The Governments signatory hereto, being Members of the Council of Europe,

Considering that the improvement of therapeutic methods is an important aspect of social progress the development of which among member countries is mentioned in the Preamble and Article 1 of the Statute of the Council of Europe[2] as being one of the primary aims of the Council ;

Having regard to the principle of equal social and medical treatment for nationals of member countries which governed the signing of the Interim Agreements on Social Security[3] and the European Convention on Social and Medical Assistance,[4]

Desirous of making available to any war cripple, being a national of a member country, all existing therapeutic methods in any member country, and hoping therefore that the European nations will introduce a system of mutual exchanges, covering not only cripples but also technical methods and medical personnel ;

Considering that such exchanges would greatly contribute to the promotion among the peoples of Europe of a spirit of solidarity and general understanding,

Have agreed as follows :

Article 1

The term "cripples", for the purpose of this Agreement, shall include all persons, military or civilian who, as a result of war, have suffered an amputation or who are suffering from impairment of the power of movement.

The provisions of the present Agreement may in due course be extended to other categories of invalids following an exchange of letters between two or more of the Contracting Parties.

[1] In accordance with article 8, the Agreement came into force on 1 January 1956 for France, the Federal Republic of Germany and Ireland, on behalf of which it was signed on 13 December 1955 without reservation in respect of ratification. This Agreement came into force subsequently for Sweden on 1 April 1956 following the signature without reservation in respect of ratification on 3 March 1956, and for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 1 August 1956 following the deposit of the instrument of ratification on 13 July 1956.

[2] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 87, p. 103 ; Vol. 100, p. 302, and Vol. 196, p. 347.

[3] See European Interim Agreement of 11 December 1953 on social security other than schemes for old age, invalidity and survivors : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 218, p. 153 ; and European Interim Agreement of 11 December 1953 on social security schemes relating to old age, invalidity and survivors : United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 218, p. 211.

[4] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 218, p. 255.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall, through the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe, exchange technical information on medical treatment afforded to cripples in their respective countries.

They shall, in particular, indicate those specific forms of treatment which it is possible to give in their countries to the various categories of cripples and also the possibilities of receiving cripples who are nationals of the other Parties.

Article 3

Any Contracting Party shall receive in its territory, within the limits specified in the second paragraph of the preceding Article, crippled nationals, duly sponsored, of the other Parties, in order that they may benefit by any special treatment of which they stand in need and which is not available in their own country.

The appropriate Ministry in the country responsible for the requesting cripple shall transmit such request for entry directly to the appropriare Ministry in the country able to provide the necessary treatment. Each case shall be treated individually between the said Parties.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall facilitate the delivery between themselves of artificial limbs and of orthopaedic equipment where these are lacking and of urgent need to their cripples.

Article 5

A Contracting Party shall endeavour to receive in its territory medical personnel and skilled technicians from any other Party in order that these may complete their training in therapy, in the manufacture of artificial limbs and in the functional re-education of cripples.

Article 6

The costs arising from the provisions contained in Articles 3 and 5 of the present Agreement shall be borne exclusively by the requesting country.

The receiving country will, as far as possible, reduce the amount of these costs.

Article 7

The present Agreement shall be open to the signature of the Members of the Council of Europe who may accede to it either by :

1. Signature without reservation in respect of ratification.
2. Signature with reservation in respect of ratification.

Instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe.

Article 8

The present Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date on which three Members of the Council shall, in accordance with Article 7, have signed the Agreement without reservation in respect of ratification or shall have ratified it.

In the case of any Member of the Council who subsequently shall sign the Agreement without reservation in respect of ratification or who shall ratify it, the Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following such signature or deposit of the instrument of ratification.

Article 9

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe may invite any non-Member State to accede to the present Agreement. Such accession shall take effect on the first day of the month following the deposit of the instrument of accession.

Article 10

The Secretary-General of the Council of Europe shall notify Members of the Council :

(*a*) of the date of entry into force of this Agreement and the names of any Members who have signed without reservation in respect of ratification or who have ratified it ;

(*b*) of the deposit of any instrument of accession in accordance with Article 9 ;

(*c*) of any notification received in accordance with Article 11 and its effective date.

Article 11

The present Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely.

Any Contracting Party may terminate its own application of the Agreement by giving one year's notice to that effect to the Secretary-General of the Council of Europe.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorised to that effect, have signed the present Agreement.

DONE at Paris, this 13th day of December, 1955, in English and in French, both texts being equally authoritative, in a single copy which shall remain deposited in the archives of the Council of Europe. The Secretary-General shall send certified copies to each of the signatory and acceding Governments.

For the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium :

Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume de Belgique :

sous réserve de ratification[1]

P. H. SPAAK

For the Government of the Kingdom of Denmark :

with reservation in respect of ratification

Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume de Danemark :

sous réserve de ratification

Ernst CHRISTIANSEN

For the Government of the French Republic :

Pour le Gouvernement de la République française :

Antoine PINAY

For the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany :

Pour le Gouvernement de la République Fédérale d'Allemagne :

v. BRENTANO

For the Government of the Kingdom of Greece :

Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume de Grèce :

sous réserve de ratification[1]

Spiro THEOTOKY

For the Government of the Icelandic Republic :

Pour le Gouvernement de la République islandaise :

For the Government of Ireland :

Pour le Gouvernement d'Irlande :

Liam COSGRAVE

For the Government of the Italian Republic :

Pour le Gouvernement de la République italienne :

sous réserve de ratification[1]

Vittorio BADINI

[1] Subject to ratification.

For the Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg :

with reservation in respect of ratification

Pour le Gouvernement du Grand Duché de Luxembourg:

sous réserve de ratification

BECH

For the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands :

with reservation in respect of ratification

Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume des Pays-Bas :

sous réserve de ratification

J. W. BEYEN

For the Government of the Kingdom of Norway :

Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume de Norvège :

For the Government of the Saar :

[*in application of Resolution (31) 55 of the Committee of Ministers*]

with reservation in respect of ratification

Pour le Gouvernement de la Sarre :

[*par application de la Résolution (31) 55 du Comité des Ministres*]

sous réserve de ratification

Liam COSGRAVE

For the Government of the Kingdom of Sweden :

Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume de Suède :

For the Government of the Turkish Republic :

with reservation in respect of ratification

Pour le Gouvernement de la République turque :

sous réserve de ratification

N. MENEMENCIOGLU

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland :

Pour le Gouvernement du Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord :

John HOPE

subject to ratification[1]

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[1] Sous réserve de ratification.