

No. 4263

**NETHERLANDS
and
GREECE**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning
the abolition of visas. Athens, 28 July and 26 September
1953**

Official text: French.

Registered by the Netherlands on 26 March 1958.

**PAYS-BAS
et
GRÈCE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord concernant l'aboli-
tion des visas. Athènes, 28 juillet et 26 septembre 1953**

Texte officiel français.

Enregistré par les Pays-Bas le 26 mars 1958.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 4263. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND GREECE CONCERNING THE ABOLITION OF VISAS. ATHENS, 28 JULY AND 26 SEPTEMBER 1953

I

KINGDOM OF GREECE
MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

37539 E.9

Athens, 28 July 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform you that, pursuant to resolution No. 20 of 19 March 1952 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe regarding the abolition of passport visas for nationals of countries members of the Council of Europe, the Greek Government is prepared to conclude with the Netherlands Government an agreement in the following terms :

1. Netherlands and Greek nationals travelling as tourists or on business connected with commerce and with industrial and economic undertakings shall be free to proceed from any country whatever to Greece and the Netherlands respectively without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance, provided that they are in possession of a valid passport of the country of which they are nationals. It is understood that the maximum duration of the visit on each entry may not exceed two months. Netherlands and Greek nationals wishing to remain in Greece and the Netherlands respectively for a period exceeding this time-limit must obtain the necessary authorization from the local authorities, which shall have discretion to grant or to refuse such authorization. Such extension shall in no case be granted for a period exceeding one month.

2. It is understood that nationals of either country who have once enjoyed the privilege of admission to the territory of the other without a visa may not re-enter without a visa until a period of at least three months has elapsed since the date of their departure. This restriction shall not, however, apply to any person who has procured in advance from the local authorities of the country which he intends to visit a permit releasing him from this obligation.

This three months' restriction shall not apply to transit visas.

¹ Came into force on 22 December 1953, as from the date of receipt of a note from the Government of the Netherlands informing the Government of Greece that the approval required in the Netherlands under the Constitution had been obtained, in accordance with the terms of the said notes.

Netherlands nationals established and residing in Greece and Greek nationals established and residing in the Netherlands may travel from one country to the other without restriction.

3. It is agreed that the waiver of the visa requirement shall not exempt Netherlands and Greek nationals proceeding to Greece and the Netherlands respectively from the necessity of complying with the Netherlands and Greek laws and regulations concerning the entry, residence and employment of aliens.

The competent authorities of each Party reserve the right to refuse authorization to enter or stay in their respective countries to persons considered undesirable.

The security authorities of both countries shall collaborate in applying the provisions of the second paragraph of this article.

4. The provisions of article 1 of this agreement shall not apply to Netherlands and Greek nationals wishing to proceed to Greece and the Netherlands respectively in order to carry on a trade, profession or other occupation, who must in all cases obtain the requisite visa in advance from the consulate of the country concerned.

5. Seamen nationals of either country shall be granted the facilities provided for in article 1 upon presentation of their seamen's paybook.

6. If a visa is required, the current tariff of consular fees shall apply.

7. This agreement shall enter into force on the date on which the Royal Government of the Netherlands informs the Greek Government that it has obtained the necessary constitutional approval.

8. Either Party may suspend this agreement temporarily for reasons of public order; notice of such suspension shall be conveyed to the other Party immediately through the diplomatic channel. Either Party may denounce this agreement by giving six months' notice.

If the Netherlands Government is prepared to accept the foregoing provisions, I have the honour to suggest that this note and your reply in similar terms should be regarded as constituting an agreement between our two Governments.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) STEPHANOPOULOS

His Excellency Mr. W. C. Posthumus Meyjes
Minister of the Netherlands
Athens

II

EMBASSY OF THE NETHERLANDS

No. 3445

Athens, 26 September 1953

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of letter No. 37539.E.9 of 28 July 1953, which His Excellency Mr. Stephanopoulos was good enough to address to me.

I am instructed by my Government to reply as follows :

The Royal Government of the Netherlands is prepared to conclude with the Royal Greek Government an agreement in the following terms :

[*See note I*]

The Netherlands Government accepts with pleasure the suggestion of His Excellency Mr. Stephanopoulos that the aforementioned Greek note and my present reply in similar terms should be regarded as constituting an agreement between our Governments.

I have the honour to be, etc.

(*Signed*) W. C. POSTHUMUS MEYJES

His Excellency Mr. P. Kanellopoulos
Minister of Foreign Affairs ad interim
Athens
