

No. 4860

BELGIUM
and
SPAIN

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement abolishing
the travel visa requirement between the two countries.
Madrid, 27 May 1959**

Official texts: French and Spanish.

Registered by Belgium on 9 September 1959.

BELGIQUE
et
ESPAGNE

**Échange de lettres constituant un accord supprimant
l'obligation du visa de voyage entre les deux pays.
Madrid, 27 mai 1959**

Textes officiels français et espagnol.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 9 septembre 1959.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 4860. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND SPAIN ABOLISHING THE TRAVEL VISA REQUIREMENT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. MADRID, 27 MAY 1959

I

D. 9/905
N° 2709 CS

Madrid, 27 May 1959

Your Excellency,

With reference to the conversations which have taken place between this Embassy and your Ministry of Foreign Affairs regarding the abolition of visas, I have the honour to inform you that the Belgian Government, desiring to encourage travel between Belgium and Spain, is prepared to put into force the following regulations :

(1) Belgian nationals holding a valid Belgian passport may enter Spain by any route and from any country, and remain for a period not exceeding three months, without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance.

(2) Belgian nationals wishing to remain in Spain for a period exceeding three months must apply to the competent Spanish diplomatic or consular authority and obtain the required visa before departure.

(3) Spanish nationals holding a valid Spanish passport may enter Belgium by any route and from any country, and remain for a period not exceeding three months, without the necessity of obtaining a visa in advance.

(4) Spanish nationals wishing to remain in Belgium for a period exceeding three months must apply to a Belgian diplomatic or consular officer of the career service for a temporary residence visa for Belgium and obtain it before departure.

(5) it is agreed that the waiver of the visa requirement shall not exempt Spanish and Belgian nationals visiting Belgium and Spain respectively from the necessity of complying with local laws and regulations concerning the entry, sojourn and residence of aliens and the granting of authorization to them to carry on an independent or salaried gainful occupation.

(6) The Belgian and Spanish authorities reserve the right to refuse admission to their respective territories to nationals of the other country whom they regard as undesirable or who appear to lack adequate means of subsistence.

(7) Each Party undertakes to readmit at any time and without formalities any persons who have entered the territory of the other Party under the provisions of this Agreement.

This principle shall be applied even in the event of their nationality being called in question.

¹ Came into force on 1 June 1959, in accordance with paragraph 10 of the said letters. This Agreement is not applicable to the Territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

(8) This Agreement shall not apply to the Belgian Congo or to territories at present under Belgian trusteeship. Possession of a Belgian visa shall continue to be a requirement for entry into the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

(9) This Agreement shall apply solely to Spanish and Belgian nationals, excluding nationals of the Belgian Congo and Trust Territories, i.e., Belgian subjects having Congolese status and indigenous inhabitants of Ruanda-Urundi.

(10) This Agreement shall come into force on 1 June 1959. Each of the Parties may suspend it temporarily for reasons of public order, and the suspension shall be notified to the other Party immediately through the diplomatic channel.

Either Party may denounce this Agreement on one month's notice.

This letter and your reply conveying an acceptance on the part of the Spanish Government shall be regarded as constituting an agreement between the two Governments.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Viscount BERRYER
Ambassador of Belgium

His Excellency Mr. Fernando María de Castiella
Minister of Foreign Affairs
Madrid

II

SPANISH MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your note of today's date in which you stated, with reference to the conversations which had taken place between this Ministry and your Embassy, that the Belgian Government, desiring to encourage travel between Belgium and Spain, was prepared to put into force the following regulations, which had been agreed to in principle :

[*See letter I*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Spanish Government is in agreement with the foregoing provisions, it being understood, in connexion with article 8 above, that this Agreement applies to continental Spain, the Canary and Balearic Islands, Ceuta and Melilla.

I have the honour to be, etc.

Fernando María DE CASTIELLA

His Excellency Viscount Berryer
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary
of Belgium
Madrid