

No. 5960

**UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND
and
NORWAY**

**Exchange of notes constituting an agreement concerning
the acceptance of the British Visitor's Passport for
travel between the United Kingdom and Norway. Oslo,
6 and 10 May 1961**

Official text: English.

*Registered by the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland on 20 November
1961.*

**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD
et
NORVÈGE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord relatif à l'accepta-
tion du passeport de visiteur britannique pour les
voyages entre le Royaume-Uni et la Norvège. Oslo,
6 et 10 mai 1961**

Texte officiel anglais.

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 20 novembre
1961.*

No. 5960. EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY CONCERNING THE ACCEPTANCE OF THE BRITISH VISITOR'S PASSPORT FOR TRAVEL BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND NORWAY. OSLO, 6 AND 10 MAY 1961

I

Her Majesty's Ambassador at Oslo to the Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs

May 6, 1961

Your Excellency,

You will be aware that in connexion with the question of the simplification of frontier formalities the Council of Europe and the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation have recommended that member countries of the Organisation should admit each other's nationals to their territory for visits of not more than three months on presentation of identity cards based on the standard form recognised by the Tourism Committee of the Organisation.

2. I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that as identity cards are not issued to residents of the United Kingdom, a simplified form of passport known as the British Visitor's Passport is available for issue to British subjects, citizens of the United Kingdom and Colonies. A British Visitor's Passport is valid for one year from the date of issue. An applicant for a British Visitor's Passport is not required by the United Kingdom authorities to produce documentary evidence of his identity and national status, but he is required to sign a declaration that he is a British subject, citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies. A specimen of the British Visitor's Passport is attached as an Annex² to this Note.

3. I now have the honour to propose, on the instructions of Her Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs, that the Government of the United Kingdom and the Government of the Kingdom of Norway conclude an Agreement in the following terms :

¹ Came into force on 1 June 1961, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

² Not reproduced in the copies of the Agreement transmitted for registration.

(a) The Government of the Kingdom of Norway undertake to accept the British Visitor's Passport as a valid passport and to permit holders to enter and stay in Norway without the necessity of obtaining a visa subject to the following conditions :

- (i) A visit to Norway shall not exceed three months and shall not be for employment. This period of three months shall be calculated from the date of entry into any Nordic State being a party to the Convention of the 12th of July, 1957¹ concerning the waiver of passport control at the inter-Nordic frontiers, (that is to say at present Norway, Denmark, Finland and Sweden). Any sojourn in any of these States during the six months preceding the entry into Norway shall be included in the above period of three months.
- (ii) A visitor who enters Norway on presentation of a British Visitor's Passport and who subsequently obtains leave to stay longer than three months shall be required to obtain a passport bearing on the cover the inscription "British Passport" before the expiry of the three months' period.
- (iii) Holders of British Visitor's Passports proceeding to Norway shall not be exempt from the necessity of complying with the laws and regulations of Norway relating to the entry and residence of foreigners. Travellers who are unable to satisfy the competent authorities that they comply with these laws and regulations may be refused leave to enter or to land.
- (iv) The right is reserved to the competent authorities of Norway to refuse any person leave to enter or stay in Norway in any case where that person is regarded as undesirable by those authorities or is otherwise ineligible under the general policy of the Government of Norway relating to the entry or stay of foreigners.
- (v) The Government of Norway may suspend the foregoing provisions in whole or in part temporarily for reasons of public policy and/or national security, and the suspension shall be notified immediately to the Government of the United Kingdom through the diplomatic channel.

(b) The Government of the United Kingdom undertake to take back into their territory at any time holders of British Visitor's Passports who have entered Norway.

4. If the above proposals are acceptable to the Government of the Kingdom of Norway, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note, together with Your Excellency's reply in that sense, should be regarded as constituting an Agreement between the two Governments which shall enter into force on the 1st of June, 1961 and remain in force for a period of one year and thereafter until either Government shall have given six months' written notice of termination to the other.

I avail, &c.

John WALKER

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 322, p. 245.

II

The Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs to Her Majesty's Ambassador at Oslo

MINISTÈRE ROYAL DES AFFAIRES ÉTRANGÈRES¹

Oslo, May 10, 1961

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your Note of the 6th of May, 1961 embodying an Agreement between Norway and the United Kingdom, concerning the "British Visitor's Passport", in the following terms :

[See note I]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of Norway accept the foregoing provisions and agree that your Note and the present reply shall be regarded as constituting an Agreement between our two Governments, which shall take effect on the 1st of June, 1961.

I avail, &c.

Halvard LANGE

¹ Royal Ministry of Foreign Affairs.