

No. 8729

**AUSTRIA
and
BULGARIA**

**Agreement concerning the abolition of the visa requirement.
Signed at Sofia, on 21 April 1967**

Official texts: German and Bulgarian.

Registered by Austria on 22 August 1967.

**AUTRICHE
et
BULGARIE**

**Accord relatif à la suppression des visas. Signé à Sofia, le
21 avril 1967**

Textes officiels allemand et bulgare.

Enregistré par l'Autriche le 22 août 1967.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

NO. 8729. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA CONCERNING THE ABOLITION OF THE VISA REQUIREMENT. SIGNED AT SOFIA, ON 21 APRIL 1967

The Federal Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, desiring to facilitate travel between Austria and Bulgaria and thus to promote relations between the two States, have agreed on the following:

Article 1

Nationals of either Contracting State who are in possession of one of the travel documents referred to in article 4 may, without holding a visa of the other Contracting State, travel through the latter's territory or enter the said territory and stay there for three months or, if they are in possession of a diplomatic passport, for six months.

Article 2

Nationals of either Contracting State holding a diplomatic passport or service passport and serving in the other Contracting State with a diplomatic or consular mission of their own State, and members of their families who are in possession of one of the travel documents referred to in article 4, may stay in the territory of the other Contracting State for the duration of the service of the diplomatic or service passport-holder.

Article 3

Nationals of either Contracting State who enter the territory of the other Contracting State for the purpose of accepting employment or for a stay exceeding three months—or, in the case of holders of diplomatic passports, six months—shall require a visa. The said consular visa shall be issued free of charge.

¹ Came into force on 21 May 1967, thirty days after the date of signature, in accordance with article 9 (2).

Article 4

(1) The right to cross the frontier on the basis of this Agreement shall be granted to holders of the following valid travel documents: diplomatic passports, service passports, ordinary passports, collective passports and seamen's books. The right to cross the frontier on the basis of this Agreement shall also be granted to holders of the customs permits (*passavants*) issued to Bulgarian nationals, but only for transit purposes.

(2) The frontier may be crossed at any frontier crossing point designated for international passenger traffic.

Article 5

(1) Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the legal provisions of the Contracting States relating to the residence and exit of aliens.

(2) Similarly, nothing in the Agreement shall affect the right of either Contracting State to deny nationals of the other Contracting State access to its territory or to terminate their stay in its territory for reasons of public security and order or by reason of a threat to other public interests.

Article 6

Each Contracting State shall at all times permit the return to its territory of persons who have crossed the Austrian or Bulgarian frontier with one of the travel documents referred to in article 4 on the basis of this Agreement.

Article 7

Either Contracting State may temporarily suspend the application of this Agreement for reasons of public security, public order or health. Notice of such suspension and of its termination shall be communicated to the other Contracting State in advance through the diplomatic channel.

Article 8

Upon the entry into force of this Agreement, the Agreement of 12 July 1965 between the Republic of Austria and the People's Republic of Bulgaria concerning the Mutual Abolition of Visas for Holders of Diplomatic Passports shall cease to have effect.

Article 9

(1) This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period of time. It may be denounced by either Contracting State on three months' notice.

(2) This Agreement shall enter into force thirty days after its signature.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

DONE at Sofia on 21 April 1967, in duplicate in the German and Bulgarian languages, both texts being authentic.

For the Federal Government of the Republic of Austria:

NEZBEDA

For the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

GROSEW
