

No. 10295

BULGARIA
and
GREECE

Agreement regulating the transport of goods and passengers by road between the two countries and in transit through their territories. Signed at Athens on 9 July 1964

Authentic texts: Bulgarian and Greek.

Registered by Bulgaria on 6 February 1970.

BULGARIE
et
GRÈCE

Accord réglementant les transports routiers de marchandises et de voyageurs entre les deux pays, ainsi que le transit à travers leurs territoires respectifs. Signé à Athènes le 9 juillet 1964

Textes authentiques : bulgare et grec.

Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 6 février 1970.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF GREECE REGULATING THE TRANSPORT OF GOODS AND PASSENGERS BY ROAD BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES AND IN TRANSIT THROUGH THEIR TERRITORIES

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the Kingdom of Greece, desiring to facilitate the transport of goods and passengers by road between the two countries and in transit through their territories, have agreed as follows:

I. TRANSPORT OF GOODS
between the two contracting parties and in transit

Article 1

1. In order to carry out international goods transport operations by road between the Contracting Party in which the vehicle is registered and the other Contracting Party and in transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party, carriers having their head office in one of the two countries and authorized to carry out goods transport operations by road must have a special permit issued by the competent authorities of the country in which the vehicle is registered.

2. The above-mentioned permit shall be drawn up in the two languages of the Contracting Parties.

Article 2

1. No permit shall be required for the transport of:
- (a) Household effects and luggage, carried by vans specially equipped for the purpose, and human remains;
 - (b) Articles intended for fairs and exhibitions;

¹ Came into force on 9 July 1964 by signature, in accordance with article 19 (2).

- (c) Racehorses, circus animals and vehicles, and racing cars and other equipment intended for sports events;
- (d) Stage scenery and properties;
- (e) Equipment for making radio and television recordings and cinematographic films.

2. The exceptions provided for in subparagraphs (b) to (e) shall apply only in cases where the articles in question are to be returned to the country from which they were removed.

Article 3

1. The above-mentioned permit shall be issued to Bulgarian motor transport enterprises only where such enterprises are entitled to carry out international goods transport operations by road in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in Bulgaria.

2. The above-mentioned permit shall be issued to Greek motor transport enterprises only where such enterprises are entitled to carry out international goods transport operations by road in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in Greece.

Article 4

1. Each permit shall be valid only for one goods vehicle or for one vehicle with a trailer or semi-trailer.

2. The permit shall specify the vehicle for which it is valid. In particular, it must indicate:

- (a) The name and address of the transport enterprise;
- (b) The particulars of the vehicle (registration number, engine number, chassis number, length of the vehicle and transverse dimensions, i.e. height and width);
- (c) The make of the vehicle;
- (d) The maximum permissible over-all weight of the vehicle, the weight of the vehicle unladen and the maximum load capacity;
- (e) The maximum permissible load per most heavily loaded axle and, if applicable, per tandem axle;
- (f) The type of transport operation (public or not);
- (g) The date of expiry of the permit;

(h) Any special conditions applying to the goods transport operation.

3. The over-all weight of the goods carried by the vehicle and the over-all gross weight of the vehicle must not exceed the limits specified in the permit.

Article 5

Permits may be:

- (a) Long-term (for one calendar year);
- (b) Short-term (for one or more journeys).

Article 6

1. A permit shall be valid only for the transport enterprise for which it is issued and shall not be transferable.

2. Permits for the transport of goods in transit shall bear a special distinguishing mark.

3. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall, at six-month intervals, exchange lists of the permits they have issued. The lists must indicate the number and period of validity of each permit, the name and address of the transport enterprise for which the permit has been issued and the registration number of the vehicle for which the permit is valid.

Article 7

1. The holders of journey permits shall be entitled to take on, in the territory of the other Contracting Party, return loads bound for their own country.

2. Carriers having their head office in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall not be entitled to carry out transport operations between a third country and the other Contracting Party without a special permit from the competent authorities of the latter Party.

Article 8

Every vehicle used for the transport of goods by road must carry the necessary international documents (triptych or *carnet*) issued by the appropriate authorities of the Contracting Party concerned.

Article 9

1. In the case of consignments of perishable foodstuffs or *grande vitesse* consignments, the customs and public health authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall give priority to the completion of the necessary formalities.

2. In the cases referred to in the preceding paragraph, a special notation shall be made in the permit in accordance with the provisions of article 4, paragraph 2 (*h*).

II. PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Article 10

1. A regular service for the transport of passengers by bus shall be established between the two Contracting Parties on the basis of payment of a fare for each passenger and of prearranged time-tables and tariffs.

2. In the case of Bulgaria, the operation of the bus lines provided for in the preceding paragraph shall be undertaken by enterprises of the Department of Automobile Transport of the Ministry of Transport and Communications, and, in the case of Greece, by the General Directorate of the Greek State Railways (SEK).

3. The two operations shall be independent of each other. The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall, however, agree on the routes, the stops, the tariffs, the description of the buses to be used, the type of frontier-crossing permits and any other matters essential to the conduct of transport operations in accordance with the foregoing provisions.

4. The carriers referred to in paragraph 2 above may also be permitted to undertake special journeys — *inter alia*, to meet the needs of tourism — by agreement between the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties. Applications for permission to undertake special transport operations shall be considered by the competent authorities within a period of one month.

Article 11

Tourist buses belonging to third countries which pass in transit through the territory of the two Contracting Parties shall be accorded all possible facilities by the two Parties.

III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 12

1. The road link between the two Contracting Parties shall be via Kulata-Sidhirokastron.

2. For the improvement of the above-mentioned road link a new road bridge shall be constructed over the frontier river Bistritsa by the end of 1965. The studies and plan for the new bridge shall be prepared by mutual agreement by one of the competent technical agencies of the two Contracting Parties within a period of three months from the entry into force of this Agreement; after the plan has been approved by both Parties, the responsibility and cost of constructing the bridge shall be borne by each Contracting Party in respect of the section situated within its territory. The costs of maintaining the bridge shall be apportioned in the same manner.

3. Pending completion of the new road bridge in accordance with the foregoing provisions, the existing railway bridge across the river Bistritsa shall be used temporarily for road as well as rail transport.

Article 13

1. The Contracting Parties, having regard, *inter alia*, to the Convention on Road Traffic, signed at Geneva on 19 September 1949,¹ and the supplementary agreements of 16 September 1950,² agree that in the conduct of all transport operations (transport of passengers and goods and accompanying crew) transport enterprises must comply with the laws in force in the other Contracting Party concerning the weight and dimensions of vehicles and concerning road traffic.

2. The special restrictions with regard to weight applicable to the road from Kulata to Sidhirokastron shall cease to have effect within six months after the entry into force of this Agreement.

Article 14

All transport (of passengers and goods) within the territory of one Contracting Party using motor vehicles belonging to the other Contracting Party shall be prohibited.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 125, p. 3.

² *Ibid.*, vol. 133, p. 368; vol. 182, p. 286, and vol. 189, p. 366.

Article 15

The crews of vehicles used for transport operations under the provisions of this Agreement shall enter the territory of the other Contracting Party with ordinary passports. The drivers of vehicles must, in addition, carry an international driving permit.

Article 16

Where an offence is committed by a member of the crew of a vehicle, the competent authorities of the Contracting Party in whose territory the offence was committed may request the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party to punish the offender in accordance with the provisions in force in that country.

Article 17

In the event of an accident, crash or other incident, the competent authorities of the country in which the incident occurred shall send the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party all the records or findings of the investigation or any other relevant data obtained either at the time of the incident or subsequently.

Article 18

1. The competent authorities for the application of this Agreement shall be, in the case of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, the Department of Automobile Transport of the Ministry of Transport and Communications and, in the case of the Kingdom of Greece, the General Directorate of Transport of the Ministry of Communications.

2. All disputes arising in connexion with the application and interpretation of this Agreement shall be settled by the above-mentioned competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

3. Any disputes not settled by the procedure referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be settled through the diplomatic channel.

Article 19

1. This Agreement shall remain in force for one year and shall be automatically extended from year to year unless one of the Contracting Parties denounces it three months before the expiry of the current term.

2. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

DONE at Sofia and signed at Athens on 9 July 1964 in four copies, two in the Bulgarian and two in the Greek language, both texts being equally authentic.

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

IV. POPOV

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Greece:

P. E. GOURAS
