

No. 10297

**BULGARIA
and
GREECE**

**Agreement concerning the establishment of a direct airway
connecting Sofia and Athens. Signed at Athens on 9 July 1964**

Authentic texts: Bulgarian and Greek.

Registered by Bulgaria on 6 February 1970.

**BULGARIE
et
GRÈCE**

**Accord concernant l'établissement d'une route aérienne directe
entre Sofia et Athènes. Signé à Athènes le 9 juillet 1964**

Textes authentiques : bulgare et grec.

Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 6 février 1970.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT ¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE
GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF GREECE CON-
CERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A DIRECT
AIRWAY CONNECTING SOFIA AND ATHENS

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the Kingdom of Greece, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties", desiring to facilitate and promote the operation of commercial air services between their two capitals and international air navigation between their two countries, have agreed to establish an international airway connecting their two capitals, as follows:

Article 1

1. The airway shall extend:

(a) In the territory of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

From the Greek-Bulgarian frontier and the Kulata radio beacon, at position 412040 N (North)–232508 E (East), to the Sofia terminal control area (TMA) and radio beacon BR, at position 424520 N (North)–231012 E (East) (Bozhurishte). The width of the airway shall be fifteen kilometres (7.5 kilometres on either side of the axis of the airway). The lower limit of the airway shall be the minimum possible safe height for VFR or IFR flights as determined by the regulations in force in the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and the upper limit shall be 12,000 metres above sea level.

(b) In the territory of the Kingdom of Greece:

From the Athens terminal control area (TMA) to the Thessaloniki terminal control area (TMA) over international airway BI/UBI and then from radio beacon SWC at Thessaloniki, position 403448 N (North)–225639 E (East), and VOR SWC, at position 402729 N (North) – 225930 E (East), and in the direction of the Kulata radio beacon, at position 412040 N (North) – 232508 E (East), to the Greek-Bulgarian frontier. The width of the airway shall be ten nautical miles (five nautical miles on either side of the axis of the airway).

¹ Came into force on 9 July 1964 by signature, in accordance with article 8, (1).

The lower limit of the airway shall be 700 feet above ground level, and the upper limit shall be flight level 400.

Article 2

Each Contracting Party shall provide aircraft travelling on the portion of the airway (referred to in article 1 above) within its territory with the requisite navigational aids and facilities described in the aeronautical information publications (AIP) and similar circulars of the respective Contracting Parties.

In addition to providing the said facilities and aids, Bulgaria shall in good time, on its own initiative and at its own expense, establish, put into operation and maintain near the village of Kulata, at position 412040 N (North) - 232512 E (East), a radio beacon (NDB) suited, in accordance with domestic standards, to international aviation requirements.

Article 3

1. Aircraft flying the airway provided for in this Agreement shall, when communicating with the competent services during flights over the territory of each Contracting Party, use the international frequencies established for the purpose and specified in the aeronautical information publications and similar circulars of the respective Contracting Parties.

2. The competent air traffic control and telecommunications services of each Contracting Party shall select, from among the frequencies existing in the two countries, the ones most suitable for their AFTN radiotelegraph and radiotelephone communications for purposes of air traffic control.

3. The existing link via Belgrade shall be used for AFTN teletype communications between the above-mentioned competent services, which are established at the airports of Athens and Sofia respectively.

4. For the transmittal of commercial telegrams the aeronautical enterprises designated by each of the Contracting Parties and/or by SITA or by any other competent organization duly authorized by the Contracting Party concerned may, in accordance with international conditions and practice, use the AFTN telecommunications links existing between the air traffic control and telecommunications services established at the airports of Athens and Sofia respectively until they decide—and are able—to establish an independent telecommunications link. If such a telecommunications link should pass through

a third country, the consent of that country shall, of course, be obtained where necessary.

5. The aeronautical authorities of the two Parties shall, in the future, consider the need and the necessity of establishing a direct teletype and/or telephone link between the competent air traffic control and/or telecommunications services established at the airports of Athens and Sofia.

Such a direct link may be established whenever it is deemed necessary, subject to the limitations of the means available and to agreement between the aeronautical authorities of the two Contracting Parties.

Article 4

All questions relating to air traffic control, flight safety, telecommunications, technical and other matters connected with operations, hours of operation and the establishment of common frequencies and any other relevant questions and procedures shall be considered and decided upon jointly by the aeronautical authorities of the two Contracting Parties, subject to the international principles and practice applicable to such questions in civil aviation.

Agreement on the said questions shall be reached by direct mutual understanding, through correspondence or negotiations, between the aeronautical authorities of the two Contracting Parties.

This principle shall also apply in the cases relating to telecommunications referred to in article 3 of this Agreement.

Article 5

All costs of the construction, operation and maintenance of the necessary facilities connected with the establishment and operation of the airway shall, in accordance with international principles and practice, be borne by the Contracting Party in whose territory they are incurred.

Article 6

The airway shall be open for use within two months after the signing of this Agreement. However, it may not be used by any civil aircraft of any country until the air and navigational aids and telecommunications facilities and all appropriate procedures and details have been established, arranged, decided and agreed upon and until the above-mentioned authorities have ascertained

that they are functioning satisfactorily and that they fully meet the needs and requirements of air traffic safety and flight safety in general.

Article 7

1. The Athens-Sofia airway provided for in this Agreement shall be made available by the two Contracting Parties for use by all aircraft which engage in international air transport and are permitted, under the laws and regulations of the two Contracting Parties, to fly in their territory or pass over it.

2. A one-year trial period, beginning on the date of the opening of the above-mentioned airway in accordance with article 6 of this Agreement, shall be set, under this Agreement, for the purpose of verifying the suitability, reliability and precision of the navigational aids and telecommunications facilities to be used for the airway.

3. During the above-mentioned one-year trial period, the airway shall be used exclusively by civil aircraft of the two Contracting Parties.

4. During the above-mentioned period, civil aircraft of third countries may use the airway only after receiving official authorization from the aeronautical authorities of the two Contracting Parties.

5. After the expiry of the trial period, paragraph 1 of this article shall be applied fully and in its entirety.

Article 8

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

2. This Agreement may be denounced by either Contracting Party and shall cease to have effect six months after the date on which notice of such denunciation is received by the other Contracting Party.

DONE at Sofia and signed at Athens on 9 July 1964 in four copies, two in the Bulgarian language 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