

No. 10556

**FRANCE
and
BULGARIA**

**Agreement concerning international road transport. Signed at
Sofia on 27 March 1969**

Authentic texts: French and Bulgarian.

Registered by France on 22 June 1970.

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et
BULGARIE**

**Accord concernant les transports routiers internationaux. Signé à
Sofia le 27 mars 1969**

Textes authentiques: français et bulgare.

Enregistré par la France le 22 juin 1970.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA CONCERNING
INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, desiring to promote the transport of passengers and goods by road between the two States and in transit through their respective territories, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Enterprises which have their head office in France or in Bulgaria shall be entitled to carry passengers or goods, by means of vehicles registered in either of the two States, between the territories of the two Contracting Parties or in transit through the territory of either, subject to the conditions laid down in this Agreement.

PASSENGER TRANSPORT

Article 2

All passenger transport operations between the two States or in transit through their Territory, carried out by means of motor coaches, shall require prior authorization, with the exception of the transport operations referred to in article 3 of this Agreement.

Article 3

1. Prior authorization shall not be required for occasional tourist transport operations which fulfil the following conditions:

(a) The vehicle must carry the same group of passengers throughout the journey and must return to the starting point without taking up or setting down passengers on the way;

(b) The transport operation must not take place at night and the daily stages must not exceed 500 kilometres.

¹ Came into force on 1 May 1969, in accordance with article 25.

2. Carriers engaged in occasional tourist transport operations which fulfil the above conditions must prepare a statement, the form of which shall be established by agreement between the competent authorities of the two States.

Article 4

1. Applications for authorization for regular services shall be submitted to the competent authority of the State in which the applicant is domiciled. The application must be accompanied by the following information:

- (a) The proposed time-table;
- (b) The proposed tariff;
- (c) The proposed itinerary;
- (d) The proposed starting date of operations.

2. If the competent authority of the State in which the applicant is domiciled intends to grant the authorization referred to in paragraph 1, it shall transmit a copy of the application to the competent authority of the other Contracting Party.

3. The competent authority of each Contracting Party shall issue an authorization for its own territory. The competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties shall transmit to each other without delay the authorizations issued.

4. The competent authorities shall, in principle, issue authorizations on a basis of reciprocity.

Article 5

Applications for authorization for passenger transport operations which do not fulfil the conditions specified in articles 3 and 4 of this Agreement shall be submitted by the carrier to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party.

GOODS TRANSPORT

Article 6

All goods transport operations between the two States or in transit through their territory shall require prior authorization.

Article 7

1. Authorizations shall be of two types:

(a) Journey authorizations, valid for one or more journeys and for a period not exceeding three months;

(b) Time authorizations, valid for an unspecified number of journeys and for a period of one year.

2. Authorizations shall entitle the carrier to take on a return load of goods.

Article 8

Authorizations shall be issued to enterprises by the competent authority of the country in which the vehicles belonging to the enterprises are registered, within the limits of quotas to be agreed upon annually by the competent authorities of the two States.

Article 9

Nevertheless, the competent authorities shall issue authorizations, regardless of the quota, for the following transport operations:

(a) The transport of human remains by vehicles specially equipped for the purpose;

(b) The removal of household effects;

(c) The transport of articles intended for fairs or exhibitions;

(d) The transport of animals, vehicles or sports articles intended for sporting events;

(e) The transport of stage scenery and theatrical properties;

(f) The transport of musical instruments and equipment intended for radio, cinematographic or television recordings or for any other artistic presentation.

Article 10

1. Authorizations shall be printed in the languages of the two Contracting Parties in conformity with models to be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties.

2. These competent authorities shall send each other as many blank permits as are required in order to carry out transport operations under this Agreement.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 11

Enterprises of one Contracting Party shall not be authorized to engage in transport operations between two points in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Article 12

Enterprises of one Contracting Party may carry out transport operations between the territory of the other Contracting Party and a third State provided that such transport operations are carried out in transit through the country in which the vehicle is registered.

Article 13

1. Where the weight or dimensions of a vehicle or load exceed the limit permitted in the territory of the other Contracting Party, the vehicle must be provided with a special authorization issued by the competent authority of that Contracting Party.

2. Where this authorization restricts the vehicle to a specified route, the transport operations may be carried out only over that route.

Article 14

1. The competent authorities shall issue free of charge the authorizations required under this Agreement. They may impose on carriers subject to their authority an obligation to prepare a report on each transport operation carried out.

2. Authorizations and statements shall be carried on board vehicles and shall be produced whenever required by inspection officials.

3. Statements and reports shall be stamped by the customs authorities on entry into and departure from the State in which they are valid.

Article 15

Enterprises engaged in transport operations covered by this Agreement shall, in respect of transport operations carried out in the territory of the other Contracting Party, pay the duties and taxes levied in that territory, on the scale established in the Protocol referred to in article 24 of this Agreement.

Article 16

Members of the crew of vehicles may import, free of duty and without an import licence, their personal effects and such equipment as may be needed for the performance of their duties for the length of their stay in the country of importation. They may re-export the said articles without a licence.

Article 17

Spare parts required for the repair of vehicles carrying out transport operations covered by this Agreement shall be exempt from customs duty and import restrictions.

Article 18

The mutual settlement of debts and claims arising from the provisions of this Agreement shall be effected in accordance with the Franco-Bulgarian Financial Protocol in force.

Article 19

Transport enterprises and their personnel shall be required to comply with the provisions of this Agreement and with the laws and regulations concerning transport and road traffic in force in the territory of the Contracting Parties.

Article 20

The domestic legislation of each Contracting Party shall apply to all matters not regulated by this Agreement.

Article 21

1. If the provisions of this Agreement are violated in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties, the competent authorities of the State in which the vehicle is registered shall, at the request of the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party, apply one of the following penalties:

(a) Delivery of a warning;

(b) The withdrawal, temporarily or permanently, partially or completely, of the right to undertake transport operations in the territory of the State in which the violation was committed.

2. The authorities applying the penalty shall inform the requesting authorities of the action taken.

Article 22

The Contracting Parties shall inform each other which authorities are competent to take measures set out in this Agreement and to exchange all necessary statistical or other information.

Article 23

1. The two Contracting Parties shall establish a Mixed Commission for the purpose of ensuring the proper application of the provisions of this Agreement.

2. The said Commission shall meet, at the request of either Contracting Party, alternately in the territory of each Contracting Party.

Article 24

The Contracting Parties shall determine the procedures for the application of this Agreement in a protocol signed at the same time as the Agreement. The Mixed Commission established under article 23 of this Agreement shall be competent to make any necessary amendment to the said protocol.

Article 25

This Agreement shall enter into force on 1 May 1969.

Either Contracting Party may denounce this Agreement on notice of not less than ninety days.

DONE at Sofia on 27 March 1969, in two original copies, each in the French and Bulgarian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of the French Republic:

M. FONTAINE

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

N. SIMEONOV
