

No. 11027

FRANCE
and
YUGOSLAVIA

**Agreement to facilitate the application of The Hague Convention of
1 March 1954 relating to civil procedure. Signed at Belgrade
on 29 October 1969**

Authentic texts: French and Serbo-Croatian.

Registered by France on 5 April 1971.

FRANCE
et
YOUGOSLAVIE

**Accord en vue de faciliter l'application de la Convention de La Haye
du 1^{er} mars 1954 relative à la procédure civile. Signé à
Belgrade le 29 octobre 1969**

Textes authentiques: français et serbo-croate.

Enregistré par la France le 5 avril 1971.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND
THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGO-
SLAVIA TO FACILITATE THE APPLICATION OF
THE HAGUE CONVENTION OF 1 MARCH 1954
RELATING TO CIVIL PROCEDURE²

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, desiring, in relations between the two States, to facilitate the application of certain provisions of the Hague Convention of 1 March 1954 relating to civil procedure,² have, in virtue of the rights provided for in the said Convention, agreed as follows:

Article 1

Nationals of either Contracting Party, whether individuals or bodies corporate and whatever their place of domicile or residence, shall have free access to the courts of the other Contracting Party and may appear before them under the same conditions as nationals of the latter Party, particularly in so far as relates to exemption from the obligation to deposit security for legal costs and entitlement to free legal assistance.

Article 2

1. One copy of judicial and extrajudicial documents in civil and commercial matters intended for persons residing in the territory of one of the Contracting Parties shall be transmitted:

- (a) In the case of the French Republic, through the Ministry of Justice;
- (b) In the case of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, through the Secretariats of Justice of the Socialist Republics of Bosnia and Hercegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia or, where there is doubt as to which is the competent territorial authority, through the Federal Council of Justice.

¹ Came into force on 1 January 1971, i.e. the first day of the second month following the exchange of the notifications, effected on 18 November 1970, by which the Contracting Parties notified each other of the completion of their required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 8.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 286, p. 265.

2. Receipts or certificates of service shall be transmitted in the same manner.

Article 3

1. The documents referred to in the preceding article shall be accompanied by a translation in the language or one of the languages of the State applied to if the addressee is not a national of the applicant State.

2. The translation provided for in paragraph 1 of this article shall be certified by a sworn translator of the applicant State.

Article 4

1. Applications for legal assistance in civil and commercial matters shall be executed in the two States by the judicial authorities.

2. They shall be transmitted:

(a) In the case of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, through the Secretariats of Justice of the Socialist Republics of Bosnia and Hercegovina, Montenegro, Croatia, Macedonia, Slovenia and Serbia or, where there is doubt as to which is the competent territorial authority, through the Federal Council of Justice;

(b) In the case of the French Republic, through the Ministry of Justice.

3. They shall be accompanied by a translation in the language or one of the languages of the State applied to, certified by a sworn translator of the applicant State.

Article 5

The provisions of article 4 of this Agreement shall not deprive the Contracting Parties of the right to have applications for legal assistance executed, directly and without the application of measures of compulsion, by their diplomatic or consular representatives acting within the limits of their functions.

Article 6

For purposes of the application of the preceding article, diplomatic and consular representatives may, directly and without the application of measures of compulsion, interrogate their own nationals, the nationality of the person to be interrogated being determined in accordance with the law of the State in which he resides.

Article 7

The Federal Council of Justice, in the case of Yugoslavia, and the Ministry of Justice, in the case of France, shall provide each other on request with information on laws currently or formerly in force in their territory or judicial decisions relating to particular matters and with any other necessary legal information where such information cannot be obtained from the usual publications.

Article 8

Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the procedures required under its Constitution for the entry into force of this Agreement. The Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date of the second such notification.

Article 9

1. This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period of time.

2. Either Contracting Party may denounce it at any time, and such denunciation shall take effect six months after the date on which notice thereof is received by the other Contracting Party unless the Parties agree on another effective date.

DONE at Belgrade on 29 October 1969, in duplicate in the Serbo-Croat and French languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

P. FRANCFORT

For the Government
of the Socialist Federal Republic
of Yugoslavia:

MILORAD PESIC
