

No. 11235

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**NETHERLANDS  
and  
BULGARIA**

**Agreement concerning international road transport. Signed  
at Sofia on 21 January 1970**

*Authentic text: French.*

*Registered by the Netherlands on 1 August 1971.*

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**PAYS-BAS  
et  
BULGARIE**

**Accord concernant les transports internationaux par route.  
Signé à Sofia le 21 janvier 1970**

*Texte authentique: français.*

*Enregistré par les Pays-Bas le 1<sup>er</sup> août 1971.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE  
KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS AND THE GOVERN-  
MENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL ROAD TRANSPORT

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The Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and  
The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria,  
Having regard to the desire to regulate and facilitate the transport  
of passengers and goods between the two countries and in transit  
through their territories by commercial road vehicles registered in their  
countries as well as transport between their countries and third countries,  
Have agreed as follows:

I. PASSENGER TRANSPORT

*Article 1*

The transport of passengers by motor bus and motor coach between the  
two countries and in transit through their territories shall, with the  
exception of the transport operations referred to in article 4 be subject  
to authorization.

*Article 2*

1. Scheduled motor-bus services between the two countries or in  
transit through their territories shall be approved by agreement between  
the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

2. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall, on the  
basis of reciprocity, issue authorizations for sections of route passing  
through their territory except in cases where the competent authorities of the  
Contracting Parties decide otherwise.

3. The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall establish

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 14 January 1971, the date of the exchange of notes signifying its  
approval under the constitutional provisions in force in each of the two States, in accordance  
with article 20 (1).

by agreement between them the conditions under which authorizations are to be issued, including the period of validity of authorizations.

4. Applications for authorizations must be accompanied by the necessary documentation (the proposed itinerary, time-table and fare schedule, the annual programme of operations, and the proposed date for the commencement of service). In addition, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may request such other information as they deem useful.

#### *Article 3*

1. Applications for authorizations pursuant to article 2, paragraph 4, must be submitted to the competent authorities of the country in which the applicant has his head office.

2. The competent authorities of each Contracting Party shall transmit applications for authorizations to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party, together with their views thereon and all necessary documentation.

3. Applications for authorizations must be submitted at least two months before the proposed date for the commencement of service.

#### *Article 4*

The transport of passengers, with the exception of the transport operations referred to in article 2, shall not be subject to authorization by the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party.

## II. GOODS TRANSPORT

#### *Article 5*

1. Save in the cases enumerated in article 6, an authorization from the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party shall be required for the transport of goods between the two countries, in transit through their territories and to and from third countries. Such authorizations shall be issued by the competent authorities of the Contracting Party in whose country the vehicle is registered.

The measures required for the application of the authorization system shall be agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

2. The competent authorities of the two countries shall exchange the number of blank authorization forms required in order to carry out the transport operations subject to this Agreement. Authorizations shall be issued by the competent authorities to the carriers of the country in which the vehicle is registered.

3. The transport of goods in transit shall be subject to authorization, but there shall be no restriction on the number of such authorizations.

#### *Article 6*

No authorization shall be required for:

- (a) The removal of household effects by vehicles specially equipped for the purpose;
- (b) The transport of articles intended for fairs, exhibitions or displays;
- (c) The transport of racehorses, racing cars and other sports requisites intended for sports events;
- (d) The transport of stage scenery and properties;
- (e) The transport of musical instruments and of equipment for radio recordings and cinematographic or television productions;
- (f) The transport of goods by motor vehicles whose carrying capacity, including that of trailers, does not exceed 1,000 kg;
- (g) The occasional transport of goods to or from airports in the event of rerouting of services;
- (h) The transport of luggage in trailers attached to passenger vehicles and the transport of luggage in vehicles of all types to and from airports;
- (i) The transport of postal matter;
- (j) The transport of damaged vehicles;
- (k) The transport of bees and fish fry.

However, the goods transport operations referred to in subparagraphs (b) to (e) shall be exempt from authorization only if the articles or animals in question are imported temporarily.

*Article 7*

Where goods are transported pursuant to this Agreement on behalf of a third party, an international consignment note shall be required.

## III. GENERAL PROVISIONS

*Article 8*

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall issue authorizations for the transport of passengers or goods pursuant to this Agreement only to carriers who are authorized under the national legislation of their country to engage in international road transport operations.

*Article 9*

The customs treatment accorded to vehicles and goods shall be governed by the provisions of the international conventions to which the two Contracting Parties are parties.

*Article 10*

The transport of passengers and goods between two points situated in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall not be permitted without special authorization by the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party.

*Article 11*

The competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall determine by agreement between them the procedure for the exchange of the required documents and of statistical data.

*Article 12*

1. If any provisions of this Agreement are violated in the territory of either Contracting Party, the competent authorities of the country in which the vehicle is registered shall take the measures prescribed by its national legislation.

2. The said authorities shall, if requested to do so, inform the authorities of the other Contracting Party of any penalties they have imposed.

*Article 13*

Payments to be made in virtue of obligations arising from the provisions of this Agreement shall be effected in conformity with the payments agreement in force between the two countries at the time of the payment in question.

*Article 14*

The transport of passengers and goods by carriers of one Contracting Party in the territory of the other Contracting Party in accordance with articles 2, 4, 5 and 6 of this Agreement shall be exempt in the territory of the other Contracting Party from all specific taxes and charges applicable thereto. Vehicles used for the said transport shall be exempt in the territory of the other Contracting Party from the tax on motor vehicles. The issuance of authorizations to engage in such transport operations shall also be exempt from fees.

*Article 15*

The Contracting Parties shall inform each other of the authorities competent to settle questions relating to the application of this Agreement.

*Article 16*

1. The Contracting Parties shall deal through negotiation and consultation with any questions arising in connexion with the interpretation and application of this Agreement.

2. The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to ensure a reasonable measure of participation by Bulgarian and Dutch carriers in road transport operations between the territories of the two Contracting Parties.

*Article 17*

1. At the request of either Contracting Party, a Mixed Commission composed of representatives of the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall be established to settle questions relating to the application of this Agreement, including:

(a) Measures required for the application of the authorization systems for the transport of passengers and goods;

(b) Measures to ensure a reasonable measure of participation by Bulgarian and Dutch carriers in road transport operations between the territories of the two Contracting Parties;

(c) Such other questions as may arise.

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

#### *Article 18*

The national legislation of the Contracting Parties, particularly that relating to customs, road traffic and public administration, shall remain unaffected.

#### *Article 19*

1. Fuel contained in the tanks of road vehicles shall, where the tanks are those designed by the manufacturer for the type of road vehicle in question, be exempt from customs duty and from all taxes and charges.

2. The same exemption shall apply to spare parts imported temporarily for necessary repairs to a road vehicle previously imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party.

3. Replaced parts shall be re-exported or destroyed under the supervision of a customs authority.

#### *Article 20*

1. This Agreement shall be approved in accordance with the constitutional provisions in force in each of the two States and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of notes through the diplomatic channel signifying such approval.

2. As regards the Kingdom of the Netherlands, this Agreement shall apply only to the Kingdom in Europe.

3. This Agreement shall remain in force for a term of one year from the date of its entry into force and shall be automatically extended from year to year unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties at least six months before the expiry of its current term.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized for the purpose, have signed this Agreement.

SIGNED at Sofia, on 21 January 1970, in duplicate in the French language.

For the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands:

[Signed]

Dr. JOSEPH LUNS

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

[Signed]

IVAN BACHEV

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