

No. 12184

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**BELGIUM**  
**and**  
**YUGOSLAVIA**

**Convention concerning the issuance of civil registration documents  
and the waiver of authentication requirements. Signed at  
Belgrade on 24 September 1971**

*Authentic texts: French and Serbo-Croatian.*

*Registered by Belgium on 11 December 1972.*

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**BELGIQUE**  
**et**  
**YOUGOSLAVIE**

**Convention relative à la délivrance des actes de l'état civil et à la  
dispense de la légalisation. Signée à Belgrade le 24 septembre  
1971**

*Textes authentiques: français et serbo-croate.*

*Enregistrée par la Belgique le 11 décembre 1972.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE SOCIALIST FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA CONCERNING THE ISSUANCE OF CIVIL REGISTRATION DOCUMENTS AND THE WAIVER OF AUTHENTICATION REQUIREMENTS

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia, desiring to regulate by mutual agreement certain questions relating to the issuance of civil registration documents and the waiver of authentication requirements, have agreed on the following provisions :

*Article 1.* For the purposes of this Convention, the term “civil registration document” shall be understood to cover :

- Birth certificates;
- Declarations of stillbirths;
- Certificates or decisions concerning voluntary acknowledgement or judicial establishment of filiation of children born out of wedlock;
- Marriage certificates;
- Death certificates;
- Certificates or decisions relating to civil status : divorce, adoption, legitimation by adoption, etc.

*Article 2.* 1. Each Contracting Party undertakes to issue to the other Party, free of charge, copies of or extracts from any civil registration document relating to nationals of the requesting State in cases where such documents are requested for administrative purposes or on behalf of indigent persons.

2. Each Contracting Party undertakes also to issue to the other Party, free of charge, copies of or extracts from any civil registration document relating to persons of nationalities other than Belgian or Yugoslav nationality in cases where such documents are requested for administrative purposes.

3. The request shall be submitted by the diplomatic mission or consular office of the requesting Party to the competent authority. The reason for the request shall be briefly specified therein : “administrative purposes” or “indigence of the applicant”.

*Article 3.* Issuance of a copy of or an extract from a civil registration document shall be without prejudice to the nationality of the person concerned.

*Article 4.* The copies of or extracts from the civil registration documents of one of the Contracting Parties shall not require authentication or endorsement in order to be valid in the territory of the other Party, provided that they bear the signature and seal of the issuing authority.

*Article 5.* 1. In cases of serious doubt, any person concerned or any authority of one Contracting Party may arrange for the authenticity of a document in respect of

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 1 December 1972, the first day of the second month after the date (24 October 1972) of the last of the notifications by which each Contracting Party had notified the other of the completion of the procedures prescribed by its Constitution, in accordance with article 6.

which authentication or endorsement has been waived pursuant to this Convention be verified by the competent authority of the other Party.

2. The competent authority mentioned in the preceding paragraph shall be, in the case of Belgium, the Ministry of Justice, and, in the case of Yugoslavia, the Secretariats of Justice of the Socialist Republics of Bosnia and Hercegovina, Croatia, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia and Slovenia.

3. For the purposes of the application of this article, each Contracting Party shall use one of its national languages. These languages are, in the case of Belgium, French, Dutch and German, and, in the case of Yugoslavia, Serbo-Croat, Croato-Serb, Macedonian and Slovene.

*Article 6.* Each Contracting Party shall notify the other of the completion of the procedures prescribed by its Constitution for the entry into force of this Convention. The latter shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date of the second such notification.

*Article 7.* 1. This Convention is concluded for an indefinite period of time.

2. Either Contracting Party may, however, denounce it by giving six months' notice.

DONE at Belgrade on 24 September 1971, in duplicate in the French and Serbo-Croat languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the Kingdom of Belgium :

[Signed]  
C. MULLER

For the Government  
of the Socialist Federal Republic  
of Yugoslavia :

[Signed]  
M. RAKIC

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