

No. 14192

**CANADA
and
BULGARIA**

Trade Agreement. Signed at Sofia on 12 February 1973

*Authentic texts: English, French and Bulgarian.
Registered by Canada on 18 August 1975.*

**CANADA
et
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Accord de commerce. Signé à Sofia le 12 février 1973

*Textes authentiques : anglais, français et bulgare.
Enregistré par le Canada le 18 août 1975.*

TRADE AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN CANADA AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

The Government of Canada and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, desirous of regulating and facilitating trade between the two countries upon the basis of equality and reciprocal advantage, have agreed as follows:

Article I. Each Contracting Party shall accord to the other Contracting Party unconditional most-favoured-nation treatment in all matters with respect to customs duties and charges of any kind imposed on or in connection with importation or exportation and with respect to the method of levying such duties and charges, with respect to the rules and formalities connected with importation or exportation, and with respect to all internal taxes or internal charges of any kind and with respect to all laws, regulations and requirements affecting internal sale, offering for sale, purchase, distribution or use of imported goods within the territory of such Contracting Party.

Accordingly, products of each Contracting Party imported into the territory of the other Contracting Party shall not be subject, in regard to the matters referred to in the first paragraph of this Article, to any duties, taxes or charges other or higher, or to any rules or formalities more burdensome, than those to which like products of any third country are or may hereafter be subject.

Similarly, products exported from the territory of a Contracting Party and consigned to the territory of the other Contracting Party shall not be subject, in regard to matters referred to in the first paragraph of this Article, to any duties or formalities more burdensome, than those to which like products when consigned to the territory of any third country are or may hereafter be subject.

Any advantage, favour, privilege or immunity which has been or may hereafter be granted to either Contracting Party, in regard to the matters referred to in the first paragraph of this Article, to any product of any third country shall be accorded immediately and without compensation to like products originating in the territory of the other Contracting Party, and irrespective of the nationality of the carrier.

Each Contracting Party shall accord to the other Contracting Party most-favoured-nation treatment with respect to sales or purchases involving exports or imports.

Article II. Each Contracting Party shall accord to the products of the other Contracting Party, which have been in transit through the territory of any third country receiving most-favoured-nation treatment from the importing country, treatment no less favourable than that which would have been accorded to such products had they been transported from their place of origin to their destination without going through the territory of such third country. Each Contracting Party shall, however, be free to maintain its requirements of direct consignment existing on the date of signature of the present Agreement in respect of any goods in regard to which such direct consignment has relation to the Contracting Party's prescribed method of valuation for duty purposes.

¹ Came into force provisionally on 12 February 1973 by signature, with retroactive effect from 8 October 1969, and definitively on 7 January 1974 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Ottawa, in accordance with article VIII.

Article III. The advantages accorded by Canada exclusively to countries and their dependent overseas territories entitled to the benefits of the British Preferential Tariff shall be expected from the operation of this Agreement.

The provisions of this Agreement shall not be construed to prevent advantages accorded by Bulgaria to adjacent countries in order to facilitate frontier traffic.

Article IV. No prohibitions or restrictions shall be applied by either Contracting Party on the importation or exportation of any product from or to the territory of the other Contracting Party which are not similarly applied to the importation or exportation of the like product from or to the territories of all third countries except for import or exchange restrictions applicable to all countries in like circumstances for the purpose of safeguarding the external financial position and balance of payments.

The provisions of the present Agreement shall not limit the right of either Contracting Party to apply prohibitions or restrictions of any kind directed to the protection of its essential security interests.

Article V. The merchant vessels of each Contracting Party and the cargoes of such vessels shall upon arrival at and departure from the seaports of the other Contracting Party and during the time spent in such seaports enjoy the treatment accorded to the most-favoured-nation.

The provisions of this Article shall not apply to the performance of harbour services including pilotage and towing, nor to coastal shipping.

Article VI. The Contracting Parties will facilitate visits for business purposes between the two countries.

Article VII. The Government of each Contracting Party shall give sympathetic consideration to any representation which the Government of the other Contracting Party may make in respect of the implementation of the present Agreement. If necessary, representatives of the Contracting Parties will meet once a year, alternately in Ottawa and Sofia, to consult each other on the implementation of this Agreement.

Article VIII. Upon signature, this Agreement shall enter into force provisionally from October 8, 1969. It shall be ratified by the Contracting Parties as soon as possible and shall enter into force definitely on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification which shall take place in Ottawa.

The Agreement shall remain in force until October 7, 1974, and after this date it shall be automatically extended from year to year unless either Contracting Party, not less than 6 months before its date of expiry, has given written notice of its desire to terminate it.

DONE in Sofia on 12th of February, 1973 in two original copies in each of the English, French and Bulgarian languages, each version of which is equally authentic.

R. L. ROGERS
For the Government of Canada

ANDREI LOUKANOV
For the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria