

No. 16018

**GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC
and
POLAND**

**Treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance.
Signed at Berlin on 28 May 1977**

Authentic texts: Polish and German.

*Registered by the German Democratic Republic and Poland on
18 November 1977.*

**RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE ALLEMANDE
et
POLOGNE**

**Traité d'amitié, de coopération et d'assistance mutuelle.
Signé à Berlin le 28 mai 1977**

Textes authentiques : polonais et allemand.

Enregistré par la République démocratique allemande et la Pologne le 18 novembre 1977.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

TREATY¹ OF FRIENDSHIP, CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Polish People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic,

Considering that the establishment of the socialist order in the two States marked a historic turning-point in the lives of their peoples and brought about an indissoluble alliance of fraternal friendship and comprehensive co-operation between them on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism,

Affirming that the fulfilment of the Potsdam Agreement² by the German Democratic Republic and the conclusion of the Zgorzelec Agreement between the Polish Republic and the German Democratic Republic of 6 July 1950³ concerning the Demarcation of the established and existing Polish-German State frontier are cornerstones of the development of fraternal, good-neighbourly co-operation between the two States and peoples,

Resolved to develop reciprocal friendly relations in a comprehensive manner for the benefit of the two States and their peoples and in the interests of the strengthening of the socialist community of States and the further drawing together of the socialist nations in accordance with their development,

Attaching great importance to collaboration between the two States in accordance with the principles and purposes of socialist foreign policy in order to ensure the most favourable international conditions for the creation of a developed socialist society,

Reaffirming their fixed intention to fulfil strictly the obligations arising from the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of 14 May 1955,⁴

Resolved to continue consistently to strengthen the unity and solidarity of the fraternal, equal and sovereign States joined together in the socialist community and to ensure the protection of their territorial integrity and sovereignty against aggression, and affirming that the consolidation and resolute defence of the achievements of socialism, which were gained through the heroic struggle and self-sacrificing toil of the workers, peasants and intelligentsia, is an international obligation of the socialist States,

Desiring to enhance political and ideological co-operation and constantly develop and intensify socialist economic integration,

Resolved to work for the further strengthening of peace and security in Europe and throughout the world and to make their contribution to the development, on the basis of the collectively formulated principles concerning relations between States with different social systems, of fruitful and mutually advantageous co-operation on the European continent,

¹ Came into force on 13 July 1977 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Warsaw, in accordance with article 13.

² *American Journal of International Law, Supplement*, vol. 39, 1945, p. 245.

³ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 319, p. 93.

⁴ *Ibid.*, vol. 219, p. 3.

Convinced that the system of treaties concluded between socialist States and capitalist States and its further expansion is of fundamental importance for the safeguard of peace and international security and for the inviolability of the existing frontiers in Europe,

Having regard to the fact that the German Democratic Republic has become, as a sovereign independent socialist State, a full Member of the United Nations,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and having regard to the common desire to strengthen them,

Considering the intensive development of comprehensive co-operation, particularly in recent years, and desiring to develop further the treaty foundations of their reciprocal relations, taking into account the changes which have occurred in Europe and throughout the world,

Have decided to conclude this Treaty and for that purpose have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The High Contracting Parties shall continue, in accordance with the principles of socialist internationalism, to strengthen and intensify their relations of lasting and indissoluble friendship and of reciprocal fraternal assistance in all fields.

They shall systematically and consistently develop mutually advantageous co-operation and shall render to each other comprehensive assistance and support on the basis of equality of rights, respect for sovereignty and non-intervention in the domestic affairs of the other Party.

Article 2. The High Contracting Parties shall constantly endeavour to safeguard European security, the most important prerequisite of which is the inviolability and immutability of the State frontiers established as a result of the Second World War and of post-war developments, including the State frontier between the Polish People's Republic and the German Democratic Republic on the Oder and the Western Neisse and the State frontier between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany.

They express their resolve to safeguard the inviolability of the frontiers on the basis of the obligations arising from the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of 14 May 1955.

The High Contracting Parties shall make every effort resolutely to counter manifestations of revanchism, revisionism and militarism and attempted violations of international treaties which were concluded for the purpose of strengthening European security.

Article 3. The High Contracting Parties shall continue to strengthen their ideological and political links and to improve the modes of ideological and political co-operation.

They shall consistently promote co-operation between the organs of State authority and between political and social organizations.

Article 4. The High Contracting Parties shall combine their efforts to make effective use of the material and intellectual potential of their States and peoples for the creation of a developed socialist society, thereby contributing to the strengthening of the socialist community of States.

With a view to the progressively improved satisfaction of the constantly growing material and cultural needs of the two peoples, the two Parties shall, bilaterally and

within the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance, systematically develop and intensify socialist economic integration, particularly through the co-ordination of long-term national economic plans, and of prospective measures in major economic, scientific and technological fields, through specialization and co-operation in production and research, through co-operation in the field of environmental protection and planning and through ever-closer collaboration between the economies of the two countries.

Article 5. The High Contracting Parties shall further develop and strengthen co-operation in the fields of science, culture, general and higher education, literature and art, the press, radio, television, film, public health, tourism, physical culture and sport and in other fields.

Article 6. The High Contracting Parties shall promote the development of good-neighbourly co-operation in all fields of social life and the constant expansion of direct relations between voievodships and districts, towns, trade union organizations, workers in enterprises and institutions of higher education.

They shall continue to create favourable conditions for the development of direct contacts between the citizens of the two countries, according special importance to the strengthening of friendship between young people.

Article 7. The High Contracting Parties shall do their utmost to contribute to the intensification of friendship and the further development of fraternal relations between the countries of the socialist community in all fields and also to the strengthening of their unity and strength, to the consolidation and protection of their historic achievements in the building of socialism and to the safeguarding of their security and independence.

Article 8. The High Contracting Parties shall continue in the future to collaborate consistently with a view to the realization of the principle of peaceful coexistence between States with different social systems and to the broadening and intensification of the process of détente in international relations; in that connexion, they shall contribute actively to the final elimination of war from international life.

They shall make every effort to ensure the protection and strengthening of the peace and security of peoples against the actions of the aggressive forces of imperialism and the universal realization of the prohibition of the threat or use of force in international relations, the cessation of the arms race and the achievement of general and complete disarmament.

They shall support the efforts of countries liberated from colonial oppression to strengthen their independence and sovereignty and shall contribute to the final elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations.

Article 9. In accordance with the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971,¹ the High Contracting Parties shall maintain and develop their ties with West Berlin on the basis that it is not a constituent part of the Federal Republic of Germany and continues not to be governed by it.

Article 10. In the event of an armed attack by any State or group of States on one of the High Contracting Parties, the other High Contracting Party shall regard this as an attack on itself and shall immediately afford the first-mentioned Party every assistance, including military assistance, and support it with all the means at its

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 880, p. 115.

disposal, in exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence, in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

In such an event, the High Contracting Parties shall act in accordance with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and shall immediately report to the Security Council the measures taken.

Article 11. The High Contracting Parties shall continue to contribute to the activities of the United Nations and, in so doing, shall attach particular importance to the strengthening of peace and security in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

Article 12. The High Contracting Parties shall inform each other of major international problems and shall engage in consultations with a view to ensuring concerted action which takes into account the interests of the two States.

Article 13. This Treaty shall be ratified and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Warsaw.

Article 14. This Treaty is concluded for a term of 25 years. It shall be automatically renewed for successive terms of 10 years unless one of the High Contracting Parties gives notice, 12 months before the expiry of the term of validity, that it wishes to denounce it.

DONE at Berlin on 28 May 1977, in duplicate in the Polish and German languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Polish People's Republic:

[EDWARD GIEREK]

For the German Democratic Republic:

[ERICH HONECKER]