

No. 16914

---

**DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND, NORWAY  
and SWEDEN**

**Convention concerning the recognition and enforcement of  
judgements in civil cases. Signed at Copenhagen on  
11 October 1977**

*Authentic texts: Danish, Finnish, Swedish (for Finland), Icelandic,  
Norwegian and Swedish (for Sweden).*

*Registered by Denmark on 21 August 1978.*

---

**DANEMARK, FINLANDE, ISLANDE, NORVÈGE  
et SUÈDE**

**Convention relative à la reconnaissance et à l'exécution des  
jugements en matière civile. Signée à Copenhague le  
11 octobre 1977**

*Textes authentiques : danois, finnois, suédois (pour la Finlande), islandais,  
norvégien et suédois (pour la Suède).*

*Enregistrée par le Danemark le 21 août 1978.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN CONCERNING THE RECOGNITION AND ENFORCEMENT OF JUDGEMENTS IN CIVIL CASES

*Article 1.* Judgements rendered and settlements reached in civil cases in one Contracting State shall be recognized and enforced in another Contracting State in accordance with the law of that State.

*Article 2.* Judgements rendered in a State which is not a party to this Convention against a person who is a resident of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway or Sweden may not, if the person concerned objects thereto, be recognized or enforced in these countries provided that the jurisdiction of the authority handing down the judgement is based, and in the circumstances could only be based, on one or more of the following criteria:

- (a) The fact that property belonging to the defendant is situated in the State in which the judgement was rendered or that precautionary measures were taken with regard to such property at the request of the plaintiff, provided that the suit does not relate to right of ownership or possession of the property or to any other dispute concerning the property and is not related to a claim for which the property has been pledged as security;
- (b) The citizenship of the plaintiff;
- (c) The fact that the plaintiff is domiciled or resident or has an address in the State in which the judgement was rendered, unless this criterion is accepted for the purposes of certain contractual obligations, in view of the special nature of the case;
- (d) The fact that the plaintiff has engaged in a business activity in the State in which the judgement was rendered, unless the dispute relates to such business activity;
- (e) The fact that a writ was served on the defendant in the State in which the judgement was rendered while he was temporarily staying there, or
- (f) Unilateral specification of a venue by the plaintiff, particularly in an invoice.

These rules shall apply only to judgements in cases covered by the uniform Nordic laws concerning the recognition and enforcement of judgements in civil cases. However, the rules shall not affect obligations which the Contracting States have assumed under existing agreements. The same shall apply to obligations under agreements signed by the Contracting States at the time of the entry into force of this Convention and under future agreements in special areas.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force in respect of the following States on 1 January 1978, i.e., the first day of the month following a period of two months from the time of definitive signature or of the deposit of an instrument of ratification with the Government of Denmark by three of the Contracting States, in accordance with article 4:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of definitive signature (s) or the deposit of the instrument of ratification</i>	<i>State</i>	<i>Date of definitive signature (s) or the deposit of the instrument of ratification</i>
Denmark .....	11 October 1977s	Norway .....	31 October 1977
Finland .....	11 October 1977s	Sweden .....	11 October 1977s

*Article 3.* With respect to those States which become Party to it, this Convention shall supersede the Convention of 16 March 1932 between Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden regarding the recognition and enforcement of judgements.<sup>1</sup> The latter Convention shall, however, continue to apply to judgements rendered and settlements reached prior to the entry into force of this Convention.

*Article 4.* The Contracting States may become Parties to this Convention by:  
(a) Signing it without reservation as to ratification, or by  
(b) Signing it subject to ratification and with subsequent ratification.

The instruments of ratification shall be deposited with the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

The Convention shall enter into force on the first day of the month following a period of two months after three States became Parties to the Convention. In the case of a Contracting State becoming Party to the Convention at a later date, it shall enter into force two months after such State accedes to the Convention.

Each Contracting State may denounce the Convention with respect to any of the other States subject to six months' notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned plenipotentiaries have signed this Convention.

DONE at Copenhagen on 11 October 1977, in one copy in the Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish languages, there being two Swedish texts, one for Finland and one for Sweden.

LISE ØSTERGAARD

ERIK BREHMER

AGNAR KL. JÓNSSON

PAUL KOHT (subject to ratification)

ERIK TENNANDER

---

<sup>1</sup> League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. CXXXIX, p. 165.