

**No. 19504**

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**GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC  
and  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

**Treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance.  
Signed at Berlin on 3 October 1977**

*Authentic texts: German and Czech.*

*Registered by the German Democratic Republic on 23 January 1981.*

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**RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE ALLEMANDE  
et  
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE**

**Traité d'amitié, de coopération et d'assistance mutuelle.  
Signé à Berlin le 3 octobre 1977**

*Textes authentiques : allemand et tchèque.*

*Enregistré par la République démocratique allemande le 23 janvier 1981.*

[TRANSLATION<sup>1</sup> — TRADUCTION<sup>2</sup>]

## TREATY<sup>3</sup> OF FRIENDSHIP, CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC

The German Democratic Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

Considering that during the historically short period since the liberation from Hitlerite fascism by the glorious Soviet army, strong bonds of fraternal friendship and all-round co-operation, based on Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism, have been established between the German Democratic Republic and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the process of socialist construction,

Firmly resolved to further develop their close and friendly relations in all fields for the benefit of both states, their peoples and the community of socialist countries, and to promote the law-governed process of the continuing convergence of the socialist countries and nations,

Attaching great importance to the further improvement of political and ideological co-operation and to the development and intensification of socialist economic integration,

Manifesting their aspiration to ensure, in accordance with the principles and objectives of socialist foreign policy, optimum international conditions for building socialism and communism,

Attaching primary importance to the protection of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the two states from any assault,

Firmly resolved strictly to fulfil the obligations arising from the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of 14 May 1955,<sup>4</sup>

Resolutely endeavouring to contribute towards the strengthening of the cohesion of all countries of the socialist community, which is based on a common social system and on common ultimate goals,

Affirming that it is the common internationalist duty of the socialist countries to strengthen, develop further and protect the socialist gains achieved by the peoples through their heroic efforts and dedicated work,

Expressing the firm resolve to promote the further strengthening of peace and security in Europe and the world at large and to make their contribution to the application of the principles of peaceful coexistence in the relations between states having different social systems and to the development, on this basis, of fruitful and mutually beneficial co-operation between them, and resolutely to oppose all forces that are hostile to détente,

Convinced that the system of treaties created between socialist and capitalist states and its further elaboration are of basic importance for guaranteeing security and for the inviolability of the existing frontiers in Europe,

<sup>1</sup> Translation supplied by the Government of the German Democratic Republic.

<sup>2</sup> Traduction fournie par le Gouvernement de la République démocratique allemande.

<sup>3</sup> Came into force on 20 April 1978 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Prague, in accordance with article 11.

<sup>4</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 219, p. 3.

Considering that the German Democratic Republic, having lived up to the principles of the Potsdam Agreement, as a sovereign and independent socialist state became a full-fledged member of the United Nations,

Taking account of the remarkable results which the two states have reached in shaping the advanced socialist society,

Attaching great importance to the further development and perfection of the contractual basis underlying their mutual relations and taking into account the changes that have taken place in Europe and the world at large, and

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,  
Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1.* The High Contracting Parties, in accordance with the principles of socialist internationalism, shall continue to strengthen their relations of lasting and indestructible friendship and of fraternal mutual assistance in all fields. In this spirit they shall systematically and steadily develop their all-round co-operation and render each other assistance on the basis of mutual respect for state sovereignty and independence and of equal rights and non-interference in internal affairs.

*Article 2.* The High Contracting Parties shall make ever more effective use of the material and spiritual potential of their peoples and states for the purpose of building a socialist and communist society and strengthening the socialist community.

In accordance with the principles and aims of socialist economic integration and with a view to every better satisfying the constantly growing material and spiritual needs of their peoples, they shall make use of all existing possibilities to expand and intensify mutually advantageous bilateral and multilateral economic, scientific and technological co-operation, including co-operation within the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

The two Parties shall continue to coordinate and harmonize their national economic plans on a long-term basis, extend the scope of specialization and co-operative arrangements in production and research, coordinate long-range measures in key branches of the economy, of science and technology, exchange knowledge and experience acquired in building socialism and communism, and achieve an ever closer co-operation of the two national economies with a view to enhancing the efficiency of social production.

*Article 3.* The High Contracting Parties shall promote co-operation between their organs of state power and between the social organizations of working people.

Both Parties shall encourage the development of good-neighbourly socialist co-operation in all fields of social activity and the further systematic development of direct contacts between staffs of enterprises to exchange job-related experience, and between counties, districts, towns, institutes of higher learning, and other institutions. They shall promote friendly contacts between working people and all other citizens of the two countries, and attach special importance to developing contacts between their youths.

*Article 4.* The High Contracting Parties shall systematically develop and intensify co-operation between the two countries in the fields of science, culture, education, literature, the arts, the press, radio, television, cinema, public health, environmental protection, tourism, physical culture and sports, and in other areas.

*Article 5.* The High Contracting Parties shall in every respect promote the further development of fraternal relations between all states of the socialist community and shall always act so as to strengthen their unity and cohesion. They shall take the necessary steps for the protection and defence of the historic accomplishments of socialism and the security and independence of the two countries.

*Article 6.* The High Contracting Parties shall also in future work for the consistent application of the principles of peaceful coexistence of states having different social systems and of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,<sup>1</sup> and for widening and deepening the process of détente, and they shall play an active part in the endeavour to banish war forever from the life of nations. They shall spare no effort to protect international peace and the security of peoples from assaults of aggressive forces of imperialism and reaction, to halt the arms race, to promote general and complete disarmament, to bring about the final elimination of colonialism in all its forms and manifestations, and to assist the states liberated from colonial oppression in consolidating their national independence and sovereignty.

*Article 7.* The High Contracting Parties regard the inviolability of the state frontiers in Europe, including the frontiers that have emerged as a result of the Second World War and of post-war developments, as the most important prerequisite for safeguarding European security. They are firmly resolved to assure, jointly and in concert with the other states parties to the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of 14 May 1955 and in conformity with it, the inviolability of the frontiers of the states parties to that Treaty, including the frontier between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The two Parties shall make joint efforts to counteract any manifestations of revanchism and militarism and they shall seek to ensure strict compliance with the treaties concluded with a view to strengthening European security.

*Article 8.* In conformity with the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971<sup>2</sup> the High Contracting Parties shall maintain and develop their ties with West Berlin on the understanding that it is not a constituent part of the Federal Republic of Germany and continues not to be governed by it.

*Article 9.* In the event of an armed attack on one of the High Contracting Parties by any state or group of states, the other High Contracting Party shall consider such event to be an attack upon itself and shall immediately render the first-mentioned Party every kind of assistance, military included, and support it, with all the means at its command, in the exercise of the right of individual or collective self-defence under Article 51 of the Charter of the United Nations.

The High Contracting Parties shall immediately notify the Security Council of the United Nations of the measures taken pursuant to this article and shall act in conformity with the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations.

*Article 10.* On all major international and other issues the High Contracting Parties shall inform and consult with each other and proceed in their actions from the positions agreed.

<sup>1</sup> *International Legal Materials*, vol. 14, 1975, p. 1292.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 880, p. 115.

*Article 11.* This Treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification, which will take place in Prague in the near future.

*Article 12.* This Treaty is concluded for a period of 25 years and shall thereafter be automatically extended for successive periods of ten years unless one of the High Contracting Parties, twelve months before the expiry of the current term of validity, gives notice of its desire to terminate it.

DONE in Berlin on 3 October 1977, in two copies, each in the German and Czech languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the German Democratic  
Republic:

ERICH HONECKER

For the Czechoslovak Socialist  
Republic:

GUSTÁV HUSÁK

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