

**No. 19728**

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**SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC  
and  
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

**Treaty of friendship and co-operation. Signed at Moscow  
on 8 October 1980**

*Authentic texts: Arabic and Russian.*

*Registered by the Syrian Arab Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics on 27 March 1981.*

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**RÉPUBLIQUE ARABE SYRIENNE  
et  
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES  
SOVIÉTIQUES**

**Traité d'amitié et de coopération. Signé à Moscou le 8 oc-  
tobre 1980**

*Textes authentiques : arabe et russe.*

*Enregistré par la République arabe syrienne et l'Union des Républiques  
socialistes soviétiques le 27 mars 1981.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

TREATY<sup>1</sup> OF FRIENDSHIP AND CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE  
SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC AND THE UNION OF SOVIET  
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

The Syrian Arab Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Inspired by the desire to strengthen and develop the relations of friendship and all-round co-operation existing between them in the interests of the peoples of the two States, the cause of peace and security throughout the world, the consolidation of international détente and the development of peaceful co-operation among States,

Determined to deal a strong rebuff to the policy of aggression pursued by imperialism and its accomplices, to continue the struggle against colonialism, neo-colonialism and racism in all their forms and manifestations, including zionism, and to support national independence and social progress,

Attaching particular importance to the continuation of co-operation between the two countries aimed at establishing a just and durable peace in the Middle East,

Reaffirming their loyalty to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including the principles of respect for sovereignty, national independence, territorial integrity and non-intervention in internal affairs,

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

*Article 1.* The High Contracting Parties declare their determination steadily to develop and strengthen friendship and co-operation between the two States and peoples in the political, economic, military, scientific, technical, cultural and other fields on the basis of the principles of equal rights, mutual benefit, respect for sovereignty, national independence, territorial integrity and non-intervention in each other's internal affairs.

*Article 2.* The High Contracting Parties shall contribute in every way possible to the strengthening of international peace and the security of peoples, the reduction of international tension and its embodiment in specific forms of co-operation among States, the settlement of disputes by peaceful means, and the elimination of any manifestations of a policy of hegemonism and aggression from the practice of international relations.

The Parties shall actively co-operate with each other in tackling the problems of putting an end to the arms race and achieving general and complete disarmament, including nuclear disarmament, under effective international control.

*Article 3.* The High Contracting Parties, guided by their faith in the equality of all peoples and States, independent of race and religion, condemn colonialism, racism and zionism, which is one of the forms and manifestations of racism, and reaffirm their determination to wage a steadfast struggle against them. The Parties

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 2 December 1980 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Damascus, in accordance with article 15.

shall co-operate with other States in providing support for the just striving of peoples to combat imperialism, eliminate colonialism and racial domination once and for all, and achieve freedom and social progress.

*Article 4.* The Syrian Arab Republic respects the peace-loving foreign policy pursued by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, which is designed to strengthen friendship and co-operation with all countries and peoples.

The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics respects the non-aligned policy pursued by the Syrian Arab Republic, which is an important factor in the maintenance and consolidation of international peace and security and the reduction of international tension.

*Article 5.* The High Contracting Parties shall develop and expand the practice of mutual exchanges of views and regular consultations on matters concerning bilateral relations and on international problems of interest to both Parties, foremost among them being the problems of the Middle East. The consultations and exchanges of views shall continue at various levels, primarily by means of meetings between leading State officials of both Parties.

*Article 6.* In the event of situations arising which threaten the peace or security of one of the Parties or constitute a threat to the peace or a breach of international peace and security, the High Contracting Parties shall immediately contact each other for the purpose of co-ordinating their positions and co-operating in order to remove the said threat and to restore peace.

*Article 7.* The High Contracting Parties shall co-operate closely and in every way possible to ensure conditions favourable to the maintenance and development of the social and economic achievements of their peoples and to the respect for the sovereignty of each of them over their natural resources.

*Article 8.* The High Contracting Parties shall promote the steady consolidation and expansion of mutually advantageous economic, scientific and technical co-operation and the exchange of experience between them in industry, agriculture, irrigation and water resources, as well as in communications, utilization of oil and other natural resources, transport and other areas of the economy, and in the training of national specialists. The Parties shall expand trade and shipping between them on the basis of the principles of equality, mutual advantage and most-favoured-nation treatment.

*Article 9.* The High Contracting Parties shall continue to develop co-operation and the exchange of experience in science, art, literature, education, health, information, the cinema, tourism, sport and other fields.

The Parties shall promote the expansion of contacts and co-operation between State bodies, mass organizations, including trade unions and other social organizations, enterprises and cultural and scientific institutions, so that the peoples of the two countries may become better acquainted with each other's life, work, experience and achievements.

*Article 10.* The High Contracting Parties shall continue to develop co-operation in military matters on the basis of appropriate agreements concluded between them for the purpose of strengthening their defence capability.

*Article 11.* Each of the High Contracting Parties declares that it will not enter into any alliances, join any group of States or participate in any actions or measures directed against the other High Contracting Party.

*Article 12.* Each of the High Contracting Parties declares that its obligations under international treaties currently in force do not conflict with the provisions of this Treaty, and undertakes not to conclude any international agreements which are not consistent therewith.

*Article 13.* Any differences that may emerge between the High Contracting Parties regarding the interpretation or application of any provision of this Treaty shall be settled bilaterally, in a spirit of friendship, mutual understanding and respect.

*Article 14.* This Treaty shall be valid for a term of 20 years from the date of its entry into force.

If neither of the High Contracting Parties gives notice, six months before the expiry of the above-mentioned term, of its desire to terminate the Treaty, it shall be extended for successive five-year terms until such time as one of the High Contracting Parties gives written notice, six months before the expiry of the current five-year term, of its intention to terminate it.

*Article 15.* This Treaty is subject to ratification and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Damascus.

DONE at Moscow on 8 October 1980, in two copies, each in the Arabic and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics:

[L. I. BREZHNEV]

For the Syrian Arab Republic:

[HAFEZ AL-ASSAD]