

**No. 19833**

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**BULGARIA  
and  
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**Treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance.  
Signed at Sofia on 14 September 1977**

*Authentic texts: Bulgarian and German.*

*Registered by Bulgaria on 9 June 1981.*

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**BULGARIE  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE ALLEMANDE**

**Traité d'amitié, de coopération et d'entraide mutuelle. Signé  
à Sofia le 14 septembre 1977**

*Textes authentiques : bulgare et allemand.*

*Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 9 juin 1981.*

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

TREATY<sup>3</sup> OF FRIENDSHIP, CO-OPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE BETWEEN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

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The People's Republic of Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic,

Proceeding from the fraternal friendship and all-round co-operation existing between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the German Democratic Republic on the basis of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism;

Desiring to continue to develop their friendly relations in a comprehensive manner for the benefit of the two States and the two peoples and of the community of socialist countries and to promote the natural process of creating increasing unity of action in political, economic, cultural and social life with a view to drawing the socialist countries and nations closer together;

Resolved to develop and intensify political and ideological co-operation and socialist economic integration, which are of decisive importance for further joint successes;

Endeavouring to ensure the most favourable international conditions for the building of socialism and communism in accordance with the principles and purposes of socialist foreign policy established by proletarian internationalism;

Attaching paramount importance to the protection of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of the two States against any encroachment;

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

Steadfastly and consistently supporting the strengthening of solidarity between all countries of the socialist community, based on a common social system and common goals;

Confirming that the consolidation, expansion and protection of the socialist gains won by the peoples at the cost of decades of struggle and of selfless labour are a common internationalist duty of the socialist countries;

Expressing their firm resolve to promote the further strengthening of peace and security in Europe and the whole world, to contribute to the implementation of collectively formulated principles governing relations between States with different social systems and on that basis to develop fruitful and mutually advantageous co-operation on the European continent and resolutely to oppose all forces inimical to détente;

Considering the fact that the German Democratic Republic, having implemented the principles of the Potsdam Agreement, has, as a sovereign, independent socialist State, become a full Member of the United Nations;

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<sup>1</sup> Translation supplied by the Government of Bulgaria.

<sup>2</sup> Traduction fournie par le Gouvernement bulgare.

<sup>3</sup> Came into force on 19 January 1978 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Berlin, in accordance with article 10.

<sup>4</sup> Nations Unies, *Recueil des Traités*, vol. 219, p. 3.

Attaching great importance to the further development and perfection of the juridical basis of their mutual relations and having regard to the changes that have occurred in Europe and in the world;

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations;

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

*Article 1.* The High Contracting Parties shall continue, in accordance with the principles of socialist internationalism, to strengthen relations of lasting and indissoluble friendship and of fraternal mutual assistance in all fields. They shall systematically and steadfastly develop and intensify all-round co-operation and shall render to each other comprehensive assistance and support on the basis of mutual respect for State sovereignty and independence, of equality of rights and non-interference in internal affairs.

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

In accordance with the principles and aims of socialist economic integration and in the interests of the progressively improved satisfaction of the constantly growing material and cultural needs of their peoples, they shall expand and intensify their bilateral and multilateral economic, scientific and technical co-operation, including co-operation within the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance.

The two Parties shall continue the long-term co-ordination and harmonization of their national economic plans, shall broaden specialization and co-operation in production and research, shall exchange the experience accumulated in the building of socialism and communism and shall ensure increasingly close interaction between their national economies, in the interests of enhancing the effectiveness of social production.

*Article 3.* The High Contracting Parties shall promote co-operation between their State organs and public organizations and shall develop and intensify relations in the fields of science and culture, education, literature and art, the mass media, the cinema, public health, environmental protection, tourism, physical culture and sports and in other areas of social life. At the same time they shall encourage contacts between working people with a view to a better mutual acquaintance and closer ties between the two States and the two peoples.

*Article 4.* The High Contracting Parties shall promote to the utmost the further development of fraternal relations between all States of the socialist community and shall work continuously for the strengthening of their unity and solidarity. They confirm their willingness to take the necessary measures for the preservation and protection of socialist achievements and the security and independence of the two countries.

*Article 5.* The High Contracting Parties shall continue to work consistently for the full implementation of the principles of peaceful coexistence of States with different social systems, and for the broadening and intensification of the process of détente, and shall do all in their power to bring about the final elimination of war from the life of the peoples. They shall work indefatigably for the protection of inter-

national peace and the security of the peoples from the encroachments of the aggressive forces of imperialism and reaction. They shall steadfastly strive for the cessation of the arms race, for general and complete disarmament and for the final elimination of colonialism and shall support the States freed from colonial oppression in strengthening their sovereignty and national independence.

*Article 6.* The High Contracting Parties regard the inviolability of State frontiers in Europe as the main prerequisite for ensuring European security and express their firm determination, jointly and in alliance with the other States parties to the Warsaw Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of 14 May 1955 and in conformity with that Treaty to guarantee the inviolability of the frontiers of the States parties to the Treaty as they came into being as a result of the Second World War and of post-war developments, including the frontiers between the German Democratic Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany.

The two Parties shall make concerted efforts to oppose any manifestation of revanchism or militarism, and to ensure strict compliance with the treaties concluded with a view to strengthening European security.

*Article 7.* In accordance with the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971, the High Contracting Parties shall maintain and develop their links with West Berlin on the basis of the principle that West Berlin is not an integral part of the Federal Republic of Germany and will not be administered by the latter in the future.

*Article 8.* 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 regard it as an attack on itself and shall forthwith extend to it all possible assistance, including military assistance, and shall also support it by all means at its disposal in 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 inform the United Nations Security Council of any measures taken on the basis of this article and shall act in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations.

*Article 9.* The High Contracting Parties shall inform and consult one another and act in all important international questions in accordance with the joint position agreed upon in accordance with the interests of the two States.

*Article 10.* 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 Berlin in the near future.

*Article 11.* This Treaty is concluded for a term of 25 years and shall be automatically extended for successive 10-year terms, if neither of the High Contracting Parties gives notice 12 months before the expiry of the current term of its intention to terminate it.

DONE at Sofia on 14 September 1977, in duplicate in the Bulgarian and German languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

[Signed]

T. ZHIVKOV

For the German Democratic Republic:

[Signed]

ERICH HONECKER

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