

No. 20436

**SPAIN
and
BULGARIA**

**Long-term Trade Agreement. Signed at Madrid on
24 January 1979**

Authentic texts: Spanish and Bulgarian.

Registered by Spain on 27 October 1981.

**ESPAGNE
et
BULGARIE**

**Accord commercial à long terme. Signé à Madrid le
24 janvier 1979**

Textes authentiques : espagnol et bulgare.

Enregistré par l'Espagne le 27 octobre 1981.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

LONG-TERM TRADE AGREEMENT¹

The Government of the Kingdom of Spain, on the one hand, and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, on the other,

Desiring to promote and facilitate their trade and economic relations to the maximum,

Striving for the fuller utilization of the possibilities offered by the progress of their economies for the promotion of trade exchanges,

Convinced that favourable possibilities exist for the further development of trade and economic relations between their two countries on the basis of equality and mutual benefit,

Taking into consideration the Long-term Agreement on trade, navigation, transport and economic, industrial and technical co-operation dated 2 June 1971,²

Guided by the principles of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe, signed in Helsinki on 1 August 1975,³

Have agreed as follows:

Article I. In order to accomplish the aims of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties declare their readiness to achieve, in a spirit of equality and mutual benefit, such a harmonious and nationally balanced development of their trade relations as may enable the possibilities offered by the economic development of their two countries to be used to the maximum.

Article II. In order to ensure mutually beneficial conditions for the promotion of trade relations between the two countries, the Contracting Parties agree to accord imported goods and/or services originating in the territory of the other Party no less favourable treatment than that accorded, or that may in future be accorded, to any other country in all matters relating to customs duties, to any kind of levies or taxes on exports or imports or in connection with them, to the methods of collecting such duties, levies or taxes, and to the regulations or formalities connected with the customs clearance of goods originating in or destined for the other Party.

Article III. Spain shall apply to the import of goods originating in and/or exported from Bulgaria the same treatment that it applies to similar goods imported from other countries that enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment.

Bulgaria shall apply to the import of goods originating in and/or exported from Spain the same treatment that it applies to similar goods imported from other countries that enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment.

In the cases cited, as also in related transactions and transactions deriving from industrial, technical and market co-operation agreements, the competent authorities of the two countries shall issue import and/or export licences on application by the firms and/or enterprises concerned.

Article IV. Both Parties agree to grant each other no less favourable treatment in respect of the trade régime and licensing system than that applicable to any other country.

¹ Came into force on 11 January 1980, the date of the last of the notes (2 October 1979 and 11 January 1980) by which the Parties informed each other of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article XIV.

² See p. 7 of this volume.

³ *International Legal Materials*, vol. 14 (1975), p. 1292 (American Society of International Law).

Both Parties shall take action, in accordance with the legislation and regulations in force in their respective countries,

- (a) To assist the export and facilitate the import of goods of interest to the other Party;
- (b) To issue the necessary import and export licences for such goods, taking into account the development of reciprocal trade exchanges.

Article V. The provisions contained in articles 2 and 3 shall not be applicable to:
— Preferential treatment which either Contracting Party has granted or may in future grant for the purpose of facilitating frontier trade with adjacent countries;
— Preferential treatment enjoyed by either Contracting Party by virtue of its current or future participation in a customs union or free trade area.

Article VI. Trade exchanges between the Contracting Parties shall be carried out at the international prices current for such goods in major markets, on the basis of contracts concluded between individuals and corporations of both countries authorized to engage in foreign trade.

In the exercise of activities envisaged in this Agreement, most-favoured-nation treatment shall be accorded to individuals and corporations of each of the Contracting Parties in the territory of the other Contracting Party with regard to access to courts and administrative institutions at all levels of jurisdiction, both for the pursuit of claims and the protection of their rights.

The Contracting Parties, in accordance with the aims and needs of their economic development and the provisions of their domestic legislation and regulations, shall encourage and facilitate the travel of trade missions and of missions to promote industrial, technical and market co-operation between firms and enterprises of the two countries.

Article VII. The Contracting Parties shall make the necessary efforts to channel trade exchanges directly between the two countries, thus facilitating mutual awareness of their respective markets.

In addition, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties may encourage and facilitate the conduct of re-export transactions and other similar operations, according to the mutual agreement to be reached by the Spanish and Bulgarian firms and enterprises concerned.

Article VIII. The Contracting Parties shall grant each other, within the framework of their legislation and regulations, the facilities necessary for participating in fairs and organizing trade exhibitions.

Article IX. Both Contracting Parties shall authorize, in conformity with their legislation and regulations in force, the import and export of articles for use in fairs and exhibitions and other goods and articles with temporary exemption, and also trade shows, on terms no less favourable than those established for any third country.

Article X. Each Contracting Party shall recognize the trade documents, visas and certificates of quality, of contents and of other kinds issued by the competent bodies of the other Party in conformity with its domestic provisions.

Article XI. Payments arising out of trade exchanges between the Kingdom of Spain and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and also other payments between the two countries, shall be made in freely convertible currencies and in accordance with the exchange control regulations in force in each country.

Article XII. The two Contracting Parties shall establish a joint commission composed of representatives of the two Governments, which shall meet in plenary session at Madrid and Sofia, alternately once a year or when both Parties so agree.

The joint commission shall have the following functions:

- To supervise and facilitate the practical application of this Agreement;
- To assist and facilitate the development of trade exchanges;
- To formulate suggestions and prepare the necessary measures for the progressive development of trade exchanges between the two countries;
- to draw up the annual protocols on trade exchanges and their accompanying lists of goods.

Article XIII. The provisions of this Agreement shall be applicable also to outstanding contracts that have not been completed by the date when the validity of the Agreement expires.

Article XIV. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which the two Parties inform one another that they have completed their constitutional formalities in force.

This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five years and shall be automatically renewed for each succeeding year if neither of the Parties informs the other in writing and by the diplomatic channel, six months before the expiry of the appropriate relevant one-year period, of its wish to revoke the validity of the Agreement.

On the date on which this Agreement enters into force, the validity of the Long-term Agreement on trade, navigation, transport and economic, industrial and technical co-operation dated 2 June 1971 shall cease.

DONE at Madrid on 24 January 1979, in two original copies in the Spanish and Bulgarian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Spain:

[Signed]

JUAN ANTONIO GARCÍA DÍEZ
Minister of Trade and Tourism

For the Government
of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

[Signed]

BELCHO BELCHEV
Minister of Finance