

**No. 21746**

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**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS  
and  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

**Convention for the avoidance of cases of dual citizenship.  
Signed at Moscow on 6 June 1980**

*Authentic texts: Russian and Czech.*

*Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 18 March 1983.*

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**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES  
SOVIÉTIQUES  
et  
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE**

**Convention tendant à éviter les cas de double nationalité.  
Signée à Moscou le 6 juin 1980**

*Textes authentiques : russe et tchèque.*

*Enregistrée par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 18 mars 1983.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC FOR THE AVOIDANCE OF CASES OF DUAL CITIZENSHIP

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

Desiring to avoid cases of dual citizenship,

Have decided to conclude this Convention and, to that end, have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:  
Viktor Fedorovich Maltsev, First Deputy Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

The President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic: Jaromír Obzina, Minister of the Interior of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

who, after exchanging their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

*Article 1.* (1) Parents of whom one is a citizen of one Contracting Party and the other a citizen of the other Contracting Party may opt for the citizenship of one of the Contracting Parties on behalf of a child born after the entry into force of this Convention. The parents shall submit a joint declaration of option not later than three months after the birth of the child.

(2) If, after the entry into force of this Convention, it is established that the father of a minor child who was born to an unmarried female citizen of one Contracting Party is a citizen of the other Contracting Party, the parents may opt on the child's behalf for the citizenship of one of the Contracting Parties not later than three months after the date of the establishment of paternity. A joint declaration of option by the parents on behalf of a minor child over the age of 14 years, shall be valid only with the written consent of the child.

(3) Parents who have opted on behalf of a child born in the territory of one Contracting Party for the citizenship of the other Contracting Party shall submit the joint declaration to the diplomatic mission or consular post of the Contracting Party for whose citizenship they have opted.

(4) The parents of a child born in the territory of a third State shall submit the joint declaration in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2) to the diplomatic mission or consular post of the Contracting Party for whose citizenship they have opted.

(5) The joint declaration of the parents and the consent of the minor child over the age of 14 years shall be submitted in writing in two copies. If the joint declaration provided for in paragraphs (3) and (4) is not submitted personally by the parents, their signatures must be authenticated by the competent authority.

(6) The diplomatic mission or consular post to which the declaration of option has been submitted shall confirm receipt thereof to the persons submitting it.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 5 July 1981, i.e., 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Prague on 4 June 1981, in accordance with article 8.

(7) The declaration of option and the documents issued in connection therewith shall be exempt from all charges.

(8) A child's citizenship chosen in accordance with paragraph (1) shall be deemed to have been acquired on the date of the child's birth. A child's citizenship chosen in accordance with paragraph (2) shall be deemed to have been acquired on the date of submission of the declaration.

*Article 2.* (1) If parents living together of whom one is a citizen of one Contracting Party and the other a citizen of the other Contracting Party have not submitted a joint declaration of option on behalf of a child in accordance with article 1, paragraph (1), the child shall be deemed to be a citizen solely of the Contracting Party in whose territory he was born. If the child was born in the territory of a third State, he shall be deemed to be a citizen of the Contracting Party in whose territory his parents last had their joint domicile before their departure for the third State. If they had no such domicile, the child shall be deemed to be a citizen of the Contracting Party of which his mother is a citizen.

(2) If the parents have not submitted a declaration of option on behalf of a child in accordance with article 1, paragraph (2), the child shall be deemed to be a citizen of the Contracting Party of which his mother is a citizen.

(3) If a child's citizenship is determined in accordance with paragraphs (1) and (2), it shall be deemed to have been acquired on the date of the child's birth.

*Article 3.* (1) If a child's parents reside separately and have not submitted a declaration of option in accordance with article 1, the child shall be deemed to be a citizen of the Contracting Party of which the parent having custody of the child on the date of expiry of the time-limit specified in article 1 is a citizen.

(2) If on the date of expiry of the time-limit specified in article 1, one parent of a child born after the entry into force of this Convention is dead or the whereabouts of one parent is unknown or one parent has been deprived of parental rights, the child shall acquire the citizenship of the Contracting Party of which his other parent is a citizen.

(3) A child whose parents are dead or the whereabouts of whose parents is unknown or whose parents have been deprived of parental rights on the date of the expiry of the time-limit specified in article 1 shall be deemed to be a citizen of the Contracting Party in whose territory he was born. A child born in the territory of a third State shall be deemed to be a citizen of the Contracting Party of which his mother is or was a citizen.

*Article 4.* The Contracting Parties shall exchange through the diplomatic channel, during the first three months of each year, lists of children whose parents have filed declarations of option during the preceding year in accordance with article 1. One copy of each parental declaration shall be attached to the list, together with one copy of the child's written consent in each case of choice of citizenship on behalf of a minor child over the age of 14 years.

*Article 5.* As from the date of entry into force of this Convention, the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties shall render decisions concerning acquisition of the citizenship of one of the Contracting Parties subject to the submission of a certificate attesting to renunciation of the citizenship of the other Contracting Party.

*Article 6.* (1) Any questions which may arise between the Contracting Parties in connection with the application of this Convention shall be settled through the diplomatic channel.

(2) The Contracting Parties shall prepare a uniform model for the joint declaration of option.

*Article 7.* As from the date of the entry into force of this Convention, article 5 of the Convention between the Czechoslovak Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics Regulating the Citizenship of Persons Having Dual Citizenship, signed at Prague on 5 October 1957,<sup>1</sup> shall cease to have effect.

*Article 8.* (1) This Convention is subject to ratification and shall enter into force upon the expiry of 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Prague.

(2) This Convention is concluded for a term of five years. The validity of the Convention shall be extended for further terms of five years unless one of the Contracting Parties denounces it not later than six months before the expiry of its term of validity.

DONE at Moscow on 6 June 1980, in duplicate in the Russian and Czech languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics:

[Signed]

V. F. MALTSEV

For the Czechoslovak  
Socialist Republic:

[Signed]

J. OBZINA

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 320, p. 111.