

No. 22123

**BELGIUM
and
NETHERLANDS**

**Convention concerning bridge E-39 over the Meuse River and
the Juliana Canal. Signed at The Hague on 24 April
1980**

Authentic texts: French and Dutch.

Registered by Belgium on 30 July 1983.

**BELGIQUE
et
PAYS-BAS**

**Convention relative au pont E-39 sur la Meuse et le canal
Juliana. Signée à La Haye le 24 avril 1980**

Textes authentiques : français et néerlandais.

Enregistrée par la Belgique le 30 juillet 1983.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS CONCERNING BRIDGE E-39 OVER THE MEUSE AND THE JULIANA CANAL

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of the Kingdom of the Netherlands,

Considering the Convention concluded on 31 August 1973 at Maastricht between the Netherlands State and the Belgian Intercommunal Association for the E-39 motorway to Hasselt, concerning the construction and maintenance of a bridge E-39 over the Meuse and the Juliana Canal in the territory of the communes of Stein, Elslee and Beersem (hereinafter referred to as "the bridge"),²

Desiring to regulate both the jurisdiction over the bridge and the maintenance and operation of the bridge,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. With a view to exercising national jurisdiction over the bridge and operating the bridge, the frontier line on the bridge between the Netherlands and Belgium shall be deemed to run along the perpendicular line passing through the longitudinal axis of the bridge at the point where that axis intersects thalweg of the Meuse, according to the joint mensuration of 19 August 1970, as indicated on the map annexed³ to this Convention and as marked on the bridge itself by agreement of the Parties.

Article 2. The national jurisdiction of each of the Parties over the bridge shall extend up to the frontier line defined in article 1.

Article 3. The two Parties shall be responsible for the operation of the bridge, each on the part designated in article 1.

Article 4. 1. The Netherlands Government shall be responsible for maintenance of the bridge with the exception of its lighting.

2. The Belgian Government shall be responsible for operating and maintaining the lighting of the bridge.

Article 5. The maintenance costs of the bridge, including the cost of lighting, shall be defrayed by the Netherlands to the amount of 76.37 per cent and by Belgium to the amount of 23.63 per cent.

Article 6. The payments for maintaining and lighting the bridge, referred to in article 5, shall be advanced by the Netherlands and by Belgium respectively and shall be disbursed, if necessary, directly by them to third parties.

¹ Came into force on 20 October 1982, i.e., one month after the Parties notified each other (on 22 October 1980 and 21 September 1982) of the completion of their respective constitutional formalities, in accordance with article 11.

² The Government of Belgium informed the Secretariat that the said Convention does not constitute an international agreement since Belgium is not a Party thereto.

³ See insert in a pocket at the end of this volume.

Article 7. Each Party shall submit each year a statement regarding the share, referred to in article 5, of the other Party, in respect of the costs of maintaining and lighting the bridge.

Article 8. The two Parties undertake to pay within two months after the submission by the other Party of the statement referred to in article 7.

Article 9. 1. Should either Party contest the amounts specified in a statement of account, it shall advise the other Party within the time-limit stipulated in article 8. In that case, consultations on the matter shall be held as soon as possible.

2. The Parties shall be required to pay the amounts established at such consultations as soon as possible once they have reached agreement on the matter.

3. So far as the amounts regarding which no objection has been made in good time are concerned, the provisions of article 8 shall apply in their entirety.

Article 10. 1. If either Party exceeds the time-limit referred to in article 8, it shall be liable for the payment of interest at the fixed rate of 8 per cent per year for the period of delay.

2. With regard to amounts contested under article 9, paragraph 1, the aforesaid interest rate shall be payable on the amounts established at the consultations referred to in article 9, paragraph 1, for the period beyond the time-limit established in article 8, such period to begin on the date of the initial statement of account.

Article 11. This Convention shall enter into force one month after the date on which the two Parties have notified each other of the completion of their respective constitutional formalities.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized for the purpose, have signed this Convention.

DONE at The Hague on 24 April 1980 in duplicate, in the French and Dutch languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Belgium:
[J. LODEWYCK]

For the Government
of the Kingdom of the Netherlands:
[C. VAN DER KLAUW]