

No. 26255

**BULGARIA
and
CHINA**

**Agreement on a visa-free system and the facilitation of travel
by nationals of the two countries. Signed at Sofia on
18 June 1987**

Authentic texts: Bulgarian and Chinese.

Registered by Bulgaria on 1 November 1988.

**BULGARIE
et
CHINE**

**Accord sur la suppression des visas et les mesures propres à
faciliter les voyages des ressortissants des deux pays.
Signé à Sofia le 18 juin 1987**

Textes authentiques : bulgare et chinois.

Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 1^{er} novembre 1988.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S
REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA ON A VISA-FREE SYSTEM
AND THE FACILITATION OF TRAVEL BY NATIONALS OF THE
TWO COUNTRIES

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the People's Republic of China, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties",

Wishing to facilitate travel by the nationals of the two countries and thereby contribute to the further development of bilateral relations,

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

Article 1

Nationals of either Contracting Party, holding a valid diplomatic passport, service passport or ordinary passport for official purposes, may enter or leave the territory of the other Contracting Party or travel through it in transit without a visa.

Article 2

Nationals of either Contracting Party who are exempt from the visa requirement under article 1 of this Agreement may stay in the territory of the other Contracting Party without registering, provided that they do not remain there more than 30 days. Otherwise they shall be required, in accordance with the applicable regulations of the other Contracting Party, to complete the formalities for registration with the competent local authorities.

Members of the diplomatic or consular mission, or of other permanent missions of either Contracting Party on which agreement is reached (as well as their accompanying spouses and minor children), who are exempt from the visa requirement, may remain in the territory of the other Contracting Party for the duration of their tour of duty.

Article 3

Nationals of either Contracting Party who are not exempt from the visa requirement under article 1 of this Agreement shall, if they wish to enter, travel in transit through or leave the territory of the other Contracting Party, be required to complete the formalities for the issue of visas on the basis of a valid passport for foreign travel or other document in lieu thereof.

The competent authorities of the other Contracting Party shall facilitate the issue of visas and shall issue the visas as soon as possible.

¹ Came into force on 18 July 1987, i.e., 30 days after the date of signature, in accordance with article 9.

Article 4

The competent authorities of one Contracting Party shall exempt nationals of the other Contracting Party from payment of fees for the issue or extension of visas, for registration or for an extension of their stay.

Article 5

Nationals of either Contracting Party shall enter, leave and travel in transit through the territory of the other Contracting Party only at the checkpoints designated for foreigners (international passenger traffic).

Article 6

Nationals of one Contracting Party staying in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall be required to comply with its legislation.

Each Contracting Party shall have the right to prohibit the entry, or shorten or terminate the stay in its territory, of nationals of the other Contracting Party whom it considers unacceptable or undesirable, without stating the grounds for its decision.

Article 7

In exceptional cases, such as epidemics, natural disasters and the like, where one Contracting Party is obliged temporarily to introduce restrictive measures, that Party shall be required, as far as possible, to notify the other Contracting Party through the diplomatic channel at least 24 hours before the introduction of such measures.

Article 8

Either Contracting Party may propose amendments and additions to this Agreement. The articles to which amendments or additions are made, and also any new articles that are adopted, shall enter into force upon a mutually agreed date, the two Contracting Parties signifying their agreement by an exchange of notes.

Article 9

This Agreement shall enter into force 30 days after the date of its signature. On the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the agreements concerning visas concluded between the Governments of the two Parties by exchange of notes in 1953, 1956 and 1957, shall cease to have effect.

This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period.

Either Contracting Party may terminate this Agreement by giving 90 days' notice of denunciation in writing through the diplomatic channel.

DONE at Sofia on 18 June 1987 in duplicate, in the Bulgarian and Chinese languages, both texts being equally authentic.

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

[ALEXANDER STREZOV]

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

[TZIAN TZITCHAN]