

No. 30175

**FRANCE
and
RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**Treaty of friendship and cooperation. Signed at Paris on
7 February 1992**

Authentic texts: French and Russian.

Registered by France on 3 August 1993.

**FRANCE
et
FÉDÉRATION DE RUSSIE**

**Traité d'amitié et de coopération. Signé à Paris le 7 février
1992**

Textes authentiques : français et russe.

Enregistré par la France le 3 août 1993.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

TREATY¹ BETWEEN FRANCE AND RUSSIA

The French Republic and the Russian Federation,

On the basis of long-standing traditions of understanding, friendship and co-operation;

Noting that the Russian Federation is the successor State to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Wishing to give a new dimension to their relationship;

Convinced of the need to base their improved relations on partnership, mutual trust and a commitment to the values of freedom, democracy, justice and solidarity which they hold in common;

Having resolved to put definitively behind them the consequences of the division of the world and of Europe into opposing blocs;

Faithful to their obligations arising from international law, in particular the Charter of the United Nations, and confirming the commitments they have entered into within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe;²

Aware of their special responsibility for the maintenance of peace and international security by reason of their capacity as permanent members of the Security Council of the United Nations;

Taking account of the decision of the States members of the European Community to create a European Union;

Taking into consideration the creation of the Commonwealth of Independent States;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The French Republic and the Russian Federation, faithful to the traditional friendship and sympathetic feeling between their peoples, shall develop their new understanding on the basis of trust, solidarity and cooperation.

Article 2

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall combine their efforts to contribute to the maintenance of international security and the prevention of conflicts, and also to the effective implementation of the provisions of the Charter of the United Nations and the upholding of the primacy of international law.

The two Parties shall act jointly in defence of human rights and the promotion of democratic values, in particular within the competent international organizations.

¹ Came into force on 1 April 1993, i.e., 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, in accordance with article 26.

² *International Legal Materials*, vol. XIV (1975), p. 1292 (American Society of International Law).

Article 3

The French Republic and the Russian Federation agree to expand and develop the consultations between their two Governments.

Such consultations shall cover the strengthening of security and cooperation in Europe and throughout the world, the search for solutions to the major international problems, the development of bilateral relations and any other issue of common interest.

The Parties shall endeavour as far as possible to harmonize their positions in those areas with a view to reaching agreement, wherever they deem it necessary, on joint or concerted action.

Should a situation arise which, in the opinion of one of the Parties, would create a threat to peace or a breach of the peace, or give rise to international tension, the French and Russian Governments shall enter into contact without delay in order to consult on all aspects of such situations and, as far as possible, to harmonize their positions with a view to reaching agreement on measures which would improve the situation or bring it under control, and to take joint action.

If one of the Parties considers that a situation threatens its major security interests, it may contact the other Party with a request that consultations should be held between them on that matter without delay.

Article 4

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall combine their efforts with a view to establishing security relations of a new kind between all European States and building a peaceful and interdependent Europe equipped with permanent machinery for security and cooperation.

The two Parties emphasize the role to be played in that connection by the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. They shall act jointly to strengthen its institutions and to provide it with appropriate means, in particular at the legal level, to guarantee stability and security throughout the continent.

The French Republic and the Russian Federation acknowledge the respective contributions made to European security by the various international institutions, in particular the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Western European Union and the North Atlantic Alliance.

The two Parties shall cooperate with each other and with other States concerned with a view to the conclusion of a treaty on European security.

The French Republic emphasizes the importance of the formation of the European Union which, in particular through the implementation of a common foreign and security policy, will lead to the strengthening of cooperation between European States and will make an essential contribution to the stability of the continent and of the whole world. The Russian Federation takes note thereof.

France shall promote the establishment of cooperative relations between Russia and the Western European Union, and with other international organizations that contribute to European security.

Article 5

The French Republic and the Russian Federation are convinced of the decisive importance of the agreements on disarmament to European and international security. They agree on the need to ensure that weapons, in particular nuclear weapons, are established at a minimum level of sufficiency.

The two Parties shall continue to participate, within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, in the process of the balanced reduction in conventional weapons and shall contribute to the development of new measures to build confidence among all its member States.

The two Parties shall contribute to the conclusion of similar agreements in other regions of the world.

They attach particular importance to measures designed to avoid the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and, to that end, they shall act in a concerted manner in international forums.

Article 6

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall promote the development of Europe into a common area of law and democracy. They shall contribute to the prevention of new divisions in the European continent and to the strengthening — oth between themselves and among all European States — of a network of solidarity within the framework of a confederal approach.

Noting the commitment of the Russian Federation to respect the standards established by the Council of Europe in the field of democracy and human rights, the French Republic shall support the application of the Russian Federation for membership in that organization.

France undertakes to promote, in particular through the conclusion of agreements, a rapprochement between the European Communities and Russia in order to facilitate the latter's integration into the European economy. The commitments undertaken by the French Republic in Franco-Russian bilateral agreements shall respect the competence of the European Communities and the provisions adopted by their institutions.

Article 7

The French Republic and the Russian Federation undertake to develop their cooperation within the framework of the international economic system.

The two Parties shall cooperate, in particular within the various international economic organizations and financial institutions of which they are members, to bring about the establishment of effective machinery for the stabilization of the prices of raw materials.

France shall support the participation or membership of Russia in the international financial institutions and economic organizations of which the latter is not a member.

The two Parties shall cooperate closely within the framework of the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development.

Article 8

The French Republic and the Russian Federation are agreed that meetings at the highest level shall take place at least once a year, and whenever the need arises, *inter alia* in the form of informal working meetings.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs shall hold consultations as often as necessary, and at least twice a year. Close cooperation shall be established between their ministerial departments.

The other members of the Governments of the two States shall meet regularly to address issues of common interest.

Article 9

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall develop and expand their contacts in the military field. To that end, the Parties shall establish bilateral exchange programmes. They shall, on both a bilateral and a multilateral basis, regularly engage in exchanges of views on their concepts of defence and on the organization of their armed forces.

Article 10

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall develop cooperation in the field of democratic institutions and the status of law. Such cooperation shall be established, *inter alia*, in the following areas:

- Constitutional, legislative and regulatory standards;
- The monitoring of constitutionality and legality;
- The rights of the citizen vis-à-vis the administration;
- Public freedoms; human rights, the rights of national minorities;
- Electoral systems.

Article 11

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall develop their cooperation in the fields of the economy, industry, science and technology.

Close cooperation shall take place in the sectors of particular importance to the future of the two States and in the context of the creation of a European community, in particular in the following fields:

- The agri-foodstuffs sector;
- Energy;
- The utilization of nuclear energy for peaceful purposes, particularly with respect to nuclear security;
- Transport, infrastructure and related equipment;
- Telecommunications and high-definition television;
- Outer space;
- Industrial reconversion;
- Distribution networks.

The Parties shall encourage the establishment of direct cooperative links between participants in economic activities in the two countries.

Article 12

Wishing to promote the transition of the Russian Federation to a market economy based on the principles of free enterprise, social justice and solidarity, and being convinced that there is a close relationship between the material progress of societies and their democratization, the French Republic and the Russian Federation agree to develop cooperation and training programmes.

To that end, they attach particular importance to support for the modernization of public administrations, enterprises and trade union and social organizations. The two Parties shall promote training programmes suitable for incorporation in the framework of action undertaken at the European and international levels.

The Parties shall also develop their cooperation in the fields of social affairs and health.

Article 13

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall endeavour to create conditions favourable to the activities of the enterprises of the partner country; each Party shall encourage and protect, within its own territory, the investments of the other Party.

They shall organize the broadest possible exchange of economic information and ensure that the business people and scientists of the two countries have access to such information.

Article 14

The French Republic and the Russian Federation attach the utmost importance to the protection of the environment. In that field, they commit themselves to strengthening their bilateral cooperation and promoting the development of joint action at the European and international levels.

Article 15

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall develop their cooperation in the fields of fundamental and applied research, bearing in mind, *inter alia*, their economic and industrial implications. The two Parties shall endeavour to promote joint projects suitable for incorporation into European or international programmes.

In the field of advanced technologies, the Parties, while respecting their national regulations, shall encourage partnerships and joint ventures, in particular with a view to enhancing the competence and efficiency of their participants in industrial activity.

Article 16

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall organize close cooperation between research institutions, *inter alia* through the form of exchanges of research workers.

Article 17

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall develop their exchanges in the fields of culture, art, education and communication, in particular audio-visual communication.

The two Parties shall place particular emphasis on projects which could contribute to the creation of a common European cultural area.

They shall support, by all appropriate means, the teaching and dissemination of the French language in Russia and of the Russian language in France.

Direct relations between higher educational establishments, research centres, organizations and individuals participating in cultural life shall be encouraged.

New cooperative initiatives shall also be encouraged, in particular those involving training in the fields of culture and the national heritage, translation, publishing and co-publishing, as well as cooperation between universities.

The Parties shall facilitate the establishment and operation of cultural centres in their territories.

Article 18

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall encourage contacts between their peoples, in particular exchanges between French and Russian youth.

Article 19

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall promote contacts and cooperation between the Parliaments and parliamentarians of the two States.

Article 20

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall encourage decentralized cooperation between local communities, in particular twinning arrangements, in accordance with the objectives specified in this Treaty.

They shall develop humanitarian cooperation, in particular by facilitating the activities of the charitable organizations of the two countries.

Article 21

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall promote cooperation between judicial institutions in the two States, in particular with respect to mutual assistance in civil judicial matters.

The Parties shall organize cooperation between the competent bodies responsible for public safety, *inter alia* to combat organized crime, illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs, and smuggling, including the illegal trade in *objets d'art*. The Parties shall endeavour to establish appropriate cooperation in combating international terrorism.

Article 22

The French Republic and the Russian Federation undertake to reach agreement, with the least possible delay, on the settlement of claims brought up by either Party in connection with the financial and material aspects of the property and interests of individuals and bodies corporate in the two countries.

Article 23

The French Republic and the Russian Federation undertake to take the necessary measures to simplify, on a reciprocal basis, the procedures for the granting and extension of visas.

Each Party shall, on a reciprocal basis, give all necessary assistance to the activities within its territory of the diplomatic missions and consulates of the other Party.

Article 24

The French Republic and the Russian Federation shall conclude such special agreements and arrangements as may be necessary to give effect to the provisions of this Treaty.

They shall continue to apply the existing bilateral agreements and shall review them as necessary.

Article 25

The provisions of this Treaty shall in no way affect the commitments of the Parties vis-à-vis third States and are not directed against any of them.

Article 26

This Treaty, which shall be subject to ratification in accordance with the constitutional procedures of each Party, shall enter into force 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

This Treaty is concluded for a period of 10 years. It shall be automatically renewed for successive five-year periods, unless one of the Parties gives the other Party written notice of its decision to denounce the Treaty one year prior to the expiry of the current period of validity.

DONE at Paris, on 7 February 1992, in duplicate in the French and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the French Republic:

[FRANÇOIS MITTERRAND]
President of the French Republic

[EDITH CRESSON]
Prime Minister

[ROLAND DUMAS]
Minister of State
Minister for Foreign Affairs

For the Russian Federation:

[BORIS YELTSIN]
President of the Russian Federation

[A. KOSSYGIN]
Minister for Foreign Affairs