

**No. 32425**

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**SPAIN  
and  
BULGARIA**

**Treaty on friendship and cooperation. Signed at Sofia on  
23 May 1993**

*Authentic texts: Spanish and Bulgarian.*

*Registered by Spain on 27 December 1995.*

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**ESPAGNE  
et  
BULGARIE**

**Traité d'amitié et de coopération. Signé à Sofia le 23 mai 1993**

*Textes authentiques : espagnol et bulgare.*

*Enregistré par l'Espagne le 27 décembre 1995.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

## TREATY<sup>1</sup> OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN AND THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

The Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Bulgaria, hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties,

Considering the deep friendship and mutual respect between their two peoples,

Firmly committed to the task of building a more just, humane, peaceful and democratic international order,

Convinced of the need to overcome definitively the division of Europe,

Mindful of their responsibility for the maintenance of peace in Europe and in the world, determined to promote the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and reaffirming their fidelity to their obligations arising under international law,

Bearing in mind the importance of the commitments made in the Helsinki Final Act,<sup>2</sup> the Charter of Paris for a New Europe<sup>3</sup> and subsequent documents of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and, taking into account their common responsibility in this task, of cooperating in the future design of what is known as the “architecture of Europe”,

Taking into account the prospect of the establishment of a European Union and expressing the hope that it will contribute decisively to the establishment of a united Europe,

Expressing their satisfaction at the entry of the Republic of Bulgaria into the Council of Europe,

Reaffirming the importance of developing cooperation between the Republic of Bulgaria and the European Communities,

Have agreed as follows:

### *Article I*

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate actively in all areas on the basis of mutual respect and trust, in accordance with the democratic principles and values which they both share, and shall actively strive to draw their peoples closer together within the framework of a united Europe.

Should the need arise, the Contracting Parties shall conclude other conventions and agreements to give effect to the provisions of this Treaty.

### *Article II*

In accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act and the Charter of Paris for a New Europe, the

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 5 October 1995, i.e., 30 days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Sofia on 5 September 1995, in accordance with article XVIII.

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

<sup>3</sup> United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth session*, document A/45/859.

Contracting Parties shall develop their bilateral relations as friendly States, on the basis of the principles of sovereign equality, territorial integrity, the inviolability of frontiers, the political independence of States, the non-use of force, or of the threat of force, the peaceful settlement of international disputes, equal rights and self-determination of peoples, respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms, cooperation among States and the fulfilment in good faith of obligations under international law.

### *Article III*

Within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe process, the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Bulgaria shall contribute to the overall strengthening of democracy, political pluralism, the rule of law and the protection of human rights.

Taking into account the goal of the gradual integration of the Republic of Bulgaria into the European Communities, the Kingdom of Spain shall contribute to the effective implementation of the European Agreement of Association concluded between them.

The two Parties shall establish close cooperation in fields of particular importance from the standpoint of the European integration process.

Moreover, the Kingdom of Spain shall support the efforts of the Republic of Bulgaria to establish the conditions for its full integration into the European Communities.

### *Article IV*

Within the framework of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Contracting Parties shall work to promote stability in the European continent, taking into account the security interests of each. They also shall work to achieve a balanced reduction in conventional weapons and to build confidence and transparency, on the basis of the effective application by all States of the principle of sufficient defence and taking into consideration security conditions in Europe as a whole.

The Parties shall contribute to the establishment and enhanced operation of appropriate institutional structures and mechanisms to strengthen the effectiveness of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe process.

The two Parties express their satisfaction at the establishment of the North Atlantic Cooperation Council and pledge themselves to support its efforts to overcome the division between European States and establish a new type of relations between them. In this connection, the Kingdom of Spain also shall promote contacts between the Republic of Bulgaria and the Western European Union.

### *Article V*

The Contracting Parties shall hold regular consultations at various levels with a view to facilitating the development of their bilateral relations and, as far as possible, harmonizing their positions on international issues of common interest.

Meetings at the highest political level shall take place whenever it is deemed necessary.

The Ministers for Foreign Affairs shall meet at least once a year.

Meetings between other members of the two Governments shall take place whenever it is deemed necessary.

Periodic expert consultations shall be held regularly.

#### *Article VI*

The Contracting Parties shall develop and deepen their relations in the area of defence. To this end, they shall promote contacts between their Ministries of Defence and their armed forces.

#### *Article VII*

Should any situation arise which, in the opinion of one of the Parties, would pose a threat to peace and security and thereby increase international tension, the Governments of the Kingdom of Spain and of the Republic of Bulgaria shall contact one another on an emergency basis, by whatever means they consider appropriate, with a view to exchanging views regarding what action might be taken in order to alleviate the tension and resolve the situation.

If one of the Parties considers that its security interests are affected, it may propose to the other Party that bilateral consultations should be held immediately.

#### *Article VIII*

The Contracting Parties shall take steps to promote security and cooperation in the Mediterranean and the Black Sea.

#### *Article IX*

The Contracting Parties shall develop bilateral economic cooperation and shall create favourable conditions to that end, emphasizing its importance for the success of economic reforms in the Republic of Bulgaria and for the latter's gradual integration into European structures.

Each Party undertakes, within the framework of its national legislation and bilateral agreements, to create conditions favourable to the promotion and protection in its territory of investments by the other Party, with a view to improving conditions for the activities in its territory of companies of the other Party.

In order to create conditions favourable to the execution of joint initiatives and projects, the Parties shall encourage direct contacts between Spanish and Bulgarian companies and new types of economic cooperation, especially in the area of investments and joint ventures.

The Contracting Parties shall promote the exchange of economic information and access to such information by experts from both countries, as well as the development of cooperation between the organizations and business associations of the two countries.

In order to facilitate the transition by the Republic of Bulgaria to a market economy, the Kingdom of Spain shall collaborate by providing technical assistance and training for specialists and managers in this field.

### *Article X*

The Contracting Parties undertake to expand their cooperation in the fields of agriculture, foodstuffs, infrastructures, construction, transport, telecommunications, services and tourism.

### *Article XI*

Taking into account the importance of environmental protection, the Contracting Parties shall endeavour to broaden their cooperation in that field, at both the bilateral and the multilateral levels, and above all at the European level.

### *Article XII*

On the basis of the long tradition of cultural contacts between their peoples and prompted by a desire to collaborate in a fuller exchange of their respective artistic heritages in the process of building a European cultural area, the Contracting Parties shall develop their cultural, scientific and educational cooperation to the maximum.

The Parties recognize the fundamental importance of instruction in languages as a prerequisite for lasting cooperation and for the mutual understanding of the cultures of their peoples. Each Party shall encourage the teaching of the languages and literature of the other Party in its territory.

The two Parties shall promote direct cooperation and exchanges between government agencies, universities and other higher educational institutions, scientific research centres, private organizations and individuals in the fields of culture, science and education, and shall assist in the implementation of joint scientific projects.

The Contracting Parties attach considerable importance to the establishment and activities of cultural centres dedicated to the teaching of languages and the dissemination of the cultures of their respective countries.

They shall, in particular, assist in the training of teachers and shall take all necessary measures to ensure access to educational materials, specialized literature and audio-visual and computer techniques.

Each Party shall encourage cooperation with respect to the mass media and the dissemination of works published in the other Party.

### *Article XIII*

The Contracting Parties shall develop and facilitate cooperation in the fields of public health, social welfare, physical education, sports and tourism, and shall encourage youth exchanges.

### *Article XIV*

The Parties shall pay particular attention to strengthening relations between the Parliaments of Spain and Bulgaria.

Taking into account the constitutional systems of the two States, the Parties shall support direct contacts and cooperation between their regional and local authorities.

In the same spirit, the Parties shall facilitate cooperation between the political, social and trade-union organizations of the two countries.

*Article XV*

The Contracting Parties shall cooperate in the international legal field in accordance with existing international agreements.

*Article XVI*

The Parties shall cooperate in combating organized crime and illicit trafficking in drugs, through the exchange of experience and operational information between their competent authorities.

The Parties also undertake to cooperate in combating terrorism, the hijacking of ships and aircraft and smuggling, including the illicit import, export and transfer of cultural property.

*Article XVII*

The provisions of this Treaty shall not affect the rights and obligations arising under any international bilateral or multilateral treaty entered into by the Kingdom of Spain and the Republic of Bulgaria with a third State.

*Article XVIII*

This Treaty shall be ratified by each of the Parties and shall enter into force 30 days after the exchange of the respective instruments of ratification.

This Treaty shall remain in force for a period of ten years, and shall be automatically renewed for successive periods of five years. Should one of the Parties wish to denounce the Treaty, it shall so notify the other Party in writing through the diplomatic channel one year prior to the expiry of the current period of validity.

DONE at Sofia, on 23 May 1993, in two copies, in the Spanish and Bulgarian languages, both copies being equally authentic.

For the Kingdom of Spain:

CLAUDIO ARANZADI  
Minister of Industry, Trade and Tourism

For the Republic of Bulgaria:

LIUBEN BEROV  
Prime Minister

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