

N° 33638

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**ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE  
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD  
et  
RÉPUBLIQUE TCHÈQUE**

**Échange de notes constituant un accord concernant l'interprétation de la Convention consulaire entre le Royaume-Uni et le Gouvernement de la République socialiste de la Tchécoslovaquie, conclu à Prague le 3 avril 1975 aux fins du paragraphe 3 de l'article 31 de la Convention de Vienne de 1969 relative au droit des traités et concernant les Consuls honoraires et les Postes consulaires honoraires de la République tchèque dans le Royaume-Uni. Londres, 4 juillet et 5 novembre 1996**

*Texte authentique : anglais.*

*Enregistré par le Royaume-Uni de Grande-Bretagne et d'Irlande du Nord le 25 mars 1997.*

EXCHANGE OF NOTES CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC REGARDING THE INTERPRETATION OF THE CONSULAR CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNITED KINGDOM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC, DONE AT PRAGUE ON 3 APRIL 1975, FOR THE PURPOSES OF PARAGRAPH 3, ARTICLE 31 OF THE 1969 VIENNA CONVENTION ON THE LAW OF TREATIES, CONCERNING HONORARY CONSULS AND HONORARY CONSULAR POSTS OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

I

*The Embassy of the Czech Republic  
to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office*

London  
4 July 1996

No. 4979/96

The Embassy of the Czech Republic present their compliments to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and have the honour to refer to recent discussions between representatives of the Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland concerning the Consular Convention between the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, which was signed in Prague on 3 April 1975 (“the 1975 Convention”).<sup>2</sup>

As a result of these discussions the Embassy of the Czech Republic have the honour to propose the following interpretation of the 1975 Convention:

The 1975 Convention shall regulate the status, legal regime, appointment and functions of Career Consular Officers and Consular Posts headed by Career Consular Officers.

Since the 1975 Convention does not apply to Honorary Consular Officers and Consular Posts headed by such Officers, all such matters concerning such officers and posts shall be governed by the Vienna Convention on Consular Relations, which was opened for signature in Vienna on 24 April 1963.<sup>3</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 5 November 1996, in accordance with the provisions of the said notes.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1037, p. 319.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 596, p. 261.

If the above interpretation is acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Embassy of the Czech Republic have the honour to suggest that this note and the reply of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office to that effect shall constitute an agreement between the two Governments regarding the interpretation of the 1975 Convention for the purposes of par. 3, Art. 31 of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties,<sup>1</sup> which shall enter into force on the date of the Foreign and Commonwealth Office's reply.

The Embassy of the Czech Republic have the honour to use this opportunity to express to the Foreign and Commonwealth Office the assurance of their highest consideration.

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<sup>1</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1155, p. 331.

## II

*The Foreign and Commonwealth Office  
to the Embassy of the Czech Republic at London*

London  
5 November 1996

TXX 400/669/1  
Note No. A2391/96

The Foreign and Commonwealth Office present their compliments to the Embassy of the Czech Republic and have the honour to acknowledge receipt of the Embassy's Note No. 4979/96 of 4 July 1996 which reads as follows:

*[See note I]*

In reply, the Foreign and Commonwealth Office have the honour to inform the Embassy that the foregoing proposal is acceptable to the Government of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, who therefore agree that the Embassy's Note and this reply shall constitute an Agreement between the two governments in this matter for the purposes of Paragraph 3, Article 31, of the 1969 Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, which shall enter into force on today's date.

The Foreign and Commonwealth office have the honour to convey to the Embassy of the Czech Republic the assurance of their highest consideration.

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