

N° 219.

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**BELGIQUE ET FRANCE**

Convention sur l'équivalence des services militaires, signée à Paris le 4 octobre 1921.

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**BELGIUM AND FRANCE**

Convention with regard to reciprocal recognition of military service signed at Paris, October 4, 1921.

<sup>1</sup>TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

## No. 219. — CONVENTION BETWEEN FRANCE AND BELGIUM WITH REGARD TO RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF MILITARY SERVICE, SIGNED AT PARIS OCTOBER 4, 1921.

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*French official text communicated by the «Service Français de la Société des Nations». The registration of this Convention took place on January 9, 1922.*

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The Government of the FRENCH REPUBLIC and the Government of HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, being alike desirous of diminishing, by means of reciprocal recognition of military service the hardships which might be involved by a strict application of the French and Belgian laws relating to military service in the case of those of their respective nationals who served during the war in the Belgian and French armies, have agreed to the following provisions :

*Article 1.*

French subjects who served during the war in the Belgian Army (before completing their period of service with the colours in France) will be exempt from all obligation to serve with the colours in France provided the length of their period of service in the Belgian Army was at least two years.

*Article 2.*

Belgian subjects who during the war served in the French Army (before fulfilling their obligation in regard to service with the colours in their national army) and who completed at least one year of service in that army shall be released from any obligation in regard to service with the colours in the Belgian Army.

*Article 3.*

French subjects who have fulfilled the prescribed formalities with regard to the recruiting law in Belgium, and Belgian subjects who have fulfilled the prescribed formalities with regard to the recruiting law in France and were exempted from service owing to physical incapacity or were discharged, shall possess the same legal status as persons exempted or discharged in their own country.

*Article 4.*

French and Belgian subjects who come within the terms of the present Convention shall be struck off the strength of the army in which they served during the war and carried on the strength

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<sup>1</sup> Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations.

<sup>1</sup> Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations.

of their national army, as far as possible in the unit selected by them. Their situation as regards their national army shall be regularised by the mere fact of their being placed on the strength, and service completed in the Allied Army shall be reckoned as though performed in the national army. They shall retain the rank which they have reached ; but those who reached commissioned rank can only be placed on the strength as non-commissioned officers.

*Article 5.*

Persons with a bad military record and deserters shall only be placed on the strength of their national army after their position has been considered by their respective national Governments which shall decide what military service (if any) with the colours they shall be obliged to perform.

In faith whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised for this purpose, have signed and sealed the present Convention.

Done in duplicate at Paris October 4th, 1921.

(L. S.) (Signed) A. BRIAND

(L. S.) (Signed) E. DE GAIFFIER.