

N° 1819.

**BELGIQUE
ET TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE**

Echange de notes comportant un accord relatif à l'abolition du visa obligatoire des passeports entre les deux pays. Bruxelles, le 26 juin 1928.

**BELGIUM
AND CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

Exchange of Notes constituting an Agreement regarding the mutual Abolition of Compulsory Passport Visas between the two Countries. Brussels, June 26, 1928.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 1819. — EXCHANGE OF NOTES ² BETWEEN THE BELGIAN AND CZECHOSLOVAK GOVERNMENTS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT REGARDING THE MUTUAL ABOLITION OF COMPULSORY PASSPORT VISAS BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES. BRUSSELS, JUNE 26, 1928.

French official text communicated by the Belgian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Exchange of Notes took place August 4, 1928.

DIRECTION C5 P — No. 5928 Pr.
2nd Section — Bureau No. 5.

VERY URGENT.
BRUSSELS, June 26, 1928.

MONSIEUR LE MINISTRE,

With reference to the negotiations which have recently taken place regarding the abolition of the compulsory passport visa for Belgian nationals proceeding to Czechoslovakia and for Czechoslovak nationals proceeding to Belgium, I have the honour to inform you that the Belgian Government hereby agrees to the following settlement of the question :

Article 1.

Nationals of either State may at any time, provided that they are in possession of a valid national passport clearly establishing the holder's nationality, enter and leave the territory of the other State at the frontier points officially designated for the purpose, without a visa from the diplomatic or consular representatives of the other State being required.

It is clearly understood :

(a) That only holders of national passports shall enjoy this privilege, which shall not be granted to persons to whom either of the Governments may have issued passports such as are granted to foreigners, provisional passports, etc.

(b) That national passports shall only be issued to persons whose nationality is indisputably established.

Groups of nationals belonging to one of the two countries who desire to cross the frontier as a party may do so if, in place of a passport, they are provided with a collective list made out by the competent authority of one State and *visé* by a diplomatic or consular representative of the other State. Every such person must, however, carry an official identity document bearing a photograph.

¹ Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

¹ Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.

² Came into force July 15, 1928.

The collective diplomatic or consular visa shall be issued free of charge.
Collective lists may not, however, be made out for the conveyance of workmen.

Article 2.

The present Agreement shall in no affect the provisions in force in the territory of the two countries relating to police registration of aliens (entry, residence in and expulsion from the country), or those relating to the protection of the home labour market against the immigration of foreign labour.

Article 3.

Either Government may expel from its territory nationals of the other State :

- (a) Who do not comply with the police regulations concerning foreigners (entry and residence) ;
- (b) Whose activities as workmen or employees are contrary to the regulations in force for the protection of the home labour market ;
- (c) For any other reason valid in law.

Each of the two States shall ensure that its nationals are informed, when they apply for a passport to proceed to the other country for the purpose of taking up employment, that they must obtain authorisation to exercise their trade or profession in that country.

Article 4.

The present Agreement shall come into force on July 15, 1928 ; it shall cease to have effect one month after denunciation by either of the two States.

I would request Your Excellency to be good enough to transmit to me a note similar to the present one with a view to placing on formal record the Agreement on the aforesaid subject, and I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) HYMANS.

His Excellency
M. František Havlísek,
Minister of Czechoslovakia,
Brussels.

LEGATION
OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC,
BRUSSELS.

No. 2682/28.

BRUSSELS, June 26, 1928.

SIR,

With reference to the negotiations which have recently taken place regarding the abolition of the compulsory passport visa for Czechoslovak nationals proceeding to Belgium and for Belgian nationals proceeding to Czechoslovakia, I have the honour to inform you that the Czechoslovak Government hereby agrees to the following settlement of the question :

Article 1.

Nationals of either State may at any time, provided that they are in possession of a valid national passport clearly establishing the holder's nationality, enter and leave the territory of the other State at the frontier points officially designated for the purpose, without a visa from the diplomatic or consular representatives of the other State being required.

It is clearly understood :

(a) That only holders of national passports shall enjoy this privilege, which shall not be granted to persons to whom either of the Governments may have issued passports such as are granted to foreigners, provisional passports, etc.

(b) That national passports shall only be issued to persons whose nationality is indisputably established.

Groups of nationals belonging to one of the two countries who desire to cross the frontier as a party may do so if, in place of a passport, they are provided with a collective list made out by the competent authority of one State and *visé* by a diplomatic or consular representative of the other State. Every such person must, however, carry an official identity document bearing a photograph.

The collective diplomatic or consular visa shall be issued free of charge.

Collective lists may not, however, be made out for the conveyance of workmen.

Article 2.

The present Agreement shall in no way affect the provisions in force in the territory of the two countries relating to police registration of aliens (entry, residence in and expulsion from the country), or those relating to the protection of the home labour market against the immigration of foreign labour.

Article 3.

Either Government may expel from its territory the nationals of the other State :

(a) Who do not comply with the police regulations concerning foreigners (entry and residence) ;

(b) Whose activities as workmen or employees are contrary to the regulations in force for the protection of the home labour market ;

(c) For any other reason valid in law.

Each of the two States shall ensure that its nationals are informed, when they apply for a passport to proceed to the other country for the purpose of taking up employment, that they must obtain authorisation to exercise their trade or profession in that country.

Article 4.

The present Agreement shall come into force on July 15, 1928 ; it shall cease to have effect one month after denunciation by either of the two States.

I would request Your Excellency to be good enough to transmit to me a note similar to the present one with a view to placing on formal record the Agreement on the aforesaid subject, and I have the honour to be, etc.

(Signed) HAVLISEK.

His Excellency,
M. Paul Hymans,
Minister for Foreign Affairs,
Brussels.