

N° 1869.

GRÈCE ET NORVÈGE

Convention de commerce et de navigation, avec protocole final. Signés à Athènes, le 29 juin 1927.

GREECE AND NORWAY

Convention of Commerce and Navigation, with Final Protocol. Signed at Athens, June 29, 1927.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 1869. — CONVENTION² OF COMMERCE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN GREECE AND NORWAY. SIGNED AT ATHENS, JUNE 29, 1927.

French official text communicated by the Norwegian Minister for Foreign Affairs, and the Chargé d'Affaires of the Hellenic Republic at Berne. The registration of this Convention took place December 1st, 1928.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF NORWAY and THE PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK REPUBLIC, being desirous of promoting economic relations between the two countries, have decided to conclude a Convention of Commerce and Navigation, and have for this purpose appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries :

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF NORWAY :

His Excellency M. Johannes IRGENS, His Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary to the Greek Republic ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GREEK REPUBLIC :

His Excellency M. André MICHALAKOPOULOS, Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

Who, being duly authorised to that effect, have agreed to the following provisions :

Article 1.

1. Nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties shall, in the territory of the other Party, receive treatment at least as favourable as that accorded to nationals of the most favoured nation, in all respects and particularly as regards establishment and the exercise of trades, professions, commerce, industry or navigation, the right to acquire and own movable or immovable property and to dispose of the same, and also as regards their legal status, rights and interests.

2. They shall be at liberty to conduct their business in the territory of the other Party, either in person or by an agent of their own choice, without being subjected in this respect to restrictions other than those provided for in the stipulations of the ordinary law in force in the said territory. They shall, provided they conform to the laws of the country, be entitled to appear before the courts and shall have free access to all authorities.

3. They shall not be required to pay, in the territory of the other Party, either in respect of their person, or for the exercise of their trade or profession, commerce or industry, nor on their movable or immovable property, any charges, taxes or duties of any kind other or higher than those which are or may hereafter be levied on nationals of the most favoured nation.

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 The exchange of ratifications took place at Rome, November 14, 1928.

4. The provisions of the present Article shall in no way restrict the right of either Party to refuse authorisation to reside in its territory to nationals of the other Party, in certain specified cases, either in virtue of a judicial decision, or for reasons of public security and social welfare, or in the interests of public health or morals.

Article 2.

Nationals of each of the High Contracting Parties shall, in the territory of the other, be exempt from all compulsory military service and from all taxes or contributions in lieu thereof.

In respect of other contributions and requisitions for the needs of the armed forces, and all forced loans and levies necessitated by exceptional circumstances, they shall in no wise, either in time of peace or war, be treated less advantageously than the nationals of the most favoured nation.

Article 3.

1. Joint-stock and other commercial, industrial, agricultural and financial companies, including navigation and insurance companies, having their seat in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties and having been legally constituted therein, shall also be recognised as having juridical existence in the territories of the other Party and shall be entitled to appear before the courts, provided that they comply with the relevant laws and ordinances in force in the territory of the other Party.

2. The admission, in the territory of one of the High Contracting Parties, of the companies specified above, shall be governed by the laws and ordinances in force in the State concerned, and they shall in all respects enjoy most-favoured-nation treatment in the territory of the other Party.

Article 4.

1. Products of the Norwegian soil and industry on importation into Greece, and products of the Greek soil and industry, on importation into Norway, shall not be subject to duties or taxes of any kind other or higher than those levied on like products of the most favoured nation.

2. Products exported to the territory of one of the Parties shall not be subject, in the other State, to the payment of duties or taxes of any kind other or higher than those levied upon like products exported to the nation most favoured in this respect.

3. Articles subject to import duty shall, when imported from one country to the other as samples, enjoy exemption from import and export duties upon the same terms as like articles imported from the territory of the most favoured nation.

4. It is understood that, as regards products of the Norwegian soil and industry, the total amount of surtaxes of all kinds, including the octroi duties levied generally on foreign goods upon importation into Greece, shall in no case be higher than that payable on goods of the most favoured nation.

It is also agreed that products of the Norwegian soil and industry shall be exempt in Greece from the octroi duty to which like products or manufactured articles would be subject upon their entry into each commune.

Further, it is understood that, as regards products of the Greek soil and industry, the total amount of surtaxes and coefficients of all kinds levied generally upon foreign goods imported into Norway, shall in no case be higher than that imposed upon the goods of the most favoured nation.

Article 5.

Without prejudice to the provisions of the preceding Article, the internal duties and taxes levied on behalf of the State, provinces, communes or public bodies which are or may hereafter be imposed upon the production, manufacture, transport or consumption of any article, shall on no account be levied on the produce of the other State to a greater extent or in a more burdensome manner than on like products of the most favoured nation.

Article 6.

The two Contracting Parties undertake not to establish or maintain any prohibition or restriction in respect of their reciprocal imports and exports, which will not, in the same circumstances be applied to like imported or exported products originating in or consigned to any other country.

Exceptions may, however, be made in the case of prohibitions or restrictions concerning :

- (a) Public security ;
- (b) Public health or the protection of animals and useful plants against diseases, noxious insects or parasites.

Article 7.

As regards conditions of transit, the Contracting Parties undertake to apply, in their mutual relations, the provisions of the Convention and Statute on Freedom of Transit¹, signed at Barcelona on April 20, 1921, and to grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment in this respect.

Article 8.

1. Vessels and boats flying the flag of one of the Contracting Parties, and their cargoes, shall in all respects enjoy in the ports and territorial waters of the other Party, the same treatment as national vessels and their cargoes, irrespective of the point of departure or destination of such vessels, and the place of origin and destination of their cargoes. They shall accordingly not be required, in the territory of the other Party, to pay any dues or fees of whatever kind or denomination which are or may hereafter be levied on behalf of the State, provinces, communes, or bodies of any kind, other or higher than the dues or fees levied on national vessels and their cargoes.

2. In regard to the berthing of vessels and ships, their loading and unloading in ports, roadsteads, harbours and basins, and in general, all formalities and regulations whatever to which vessels, their crews and cargoes may be subjected, it is agreed that no privilege shall be granted to national vessels which is not also granted to vessels of the other State.

3. All privileges and exemptions which either Contracting Party may grant to any third Power in any of the respects mentioned above, shall be granted simultaneously and unconditionally to the other Party.

¹ Vol. VII, page 11 ; Vol. XI, page 406 ; Vol. XV, page 304 ; Vol. XIX, page 278 ; Vol. XXIV, page 154 ; Vol. XXXI, page 244 ; Vol. XXXV, page 298 ; Vol. XXXIX, page 166 ; Vol. LIX, page 344 ; and Vol. LXIX, page 70, of this Series.

4. The provisions of this Article shall not, however, apply to the coasting trade, or to privileges which are or may hereafter be granted in either of the two countries to national fisheries and their products.

Article 9.

1. The nationality of vessels shall be recognised by both Parties as established by the documents and certificates issued for that purpose by the competent authorities of the respective States, in accordance with the laws and regulations of each country.

2. Tonnage certificates issued by one of the Contracting Parties shall be recognised by the other Party in accordance with the special Arrangement concluded between Norway and Greece on May 12-24, 1894.

Article 10.

1. Each of the Contracting Parties grants to the other the right to station consuls-general, consuls and vice-consuls in all its seaports and commercial centres in which consular representatives of any third Power may be appointed.

2. Consular representatives appointed by one of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy in the territory of the other, subject to reciprocity, the same privileges, rights and immunities as are or may hereafter be enjoyed by consular representatives of the same rank and class of a third Power.

Article 11.

Except as otherwise provided in the present Convention, the two Contracting Parties undertake to grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment in all matters connected with the various administrative or other formalities necessitated by the application of the said Convention.

Article 12.

The provisions of the present Convention relating to most-favoured-nation treatment shall not be applicable in the case of privileges which are or may hereafter be granted to conterminous States with a view to facilitating local frontier traffic.

Similarly, the stipulations of the present Convention shall not be applicable to the special concessions which are or may hereafter be granted by Norway to Sweden, Denmark and Iceland.

Article 13.

The provisions of the present Convention shall not apply to Svalbard (Spitzbergen).

Article 14.

The two Contracting Parties agree to submit to arbitration any dispute concerning the interpretation or application of the provisions of the present Convention which may arise between them and which it has not been found possible to settle through the diplomatic channel.

Disputes thus submitted for arbitration shall be settled by the Permanent Court of International Justice established by the Protocol¹ of December 16, 1920.

¹ Vol. VI, page 379; Vol. XI, page 404; Vol. XV, page 304; Vol. XXIV, page 152; Vol. XXVII, page 416; Vol. XXXIX, page 165; Vol. XLV, page 96; Vol. L, page 159; Vol. LIV, page 387; Vol. LXIX, page 70; Vol. LXXII, page 452; and Vol. LXXVIII, page 435, of this Series.

Article 15.

The present Convention shall be ratified for Norway by His Majesty the King of Norway subject to the approval of the Storting, and for Greece by the President of the Greek Republic after approval by the Greek Parliament. The instruments of ratification shall be exchanged as soon as possible.

The Convention shall come into force fifteen days after the exchange of ratifications and shall remain operative for one year reckoned from the date of its entry into force and thereafter until the expiry of three months after the date of its denunciation by either of the Contracting Parties.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Convention and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Athens, in duplicate, on June the twenty-ninth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven.

(Signed) J. IRGENS.

(Signed) A. MICHALAKOPOULOS.

FINAL PROTOCOL.

When proceeding on this day to sign the Convention of Commerce and Navigation between Norway and Greece, the undersigned Plenipotentiaries have agreed as follows :

(1) The Norwegian Government undertakes not to subject dry black currants and white currants (known as sultanas), stoned, to an import duty higher than 8 öre per kilogramme.

(2) The Greek Government undertakes not to subject the articles specified below on their import into Greece to duties higher than those quoted, namely :

Number	Section		Unit	Duties in metallic drachmae
159	d 2	Azotate of soda (Chili saltpetre) and nitrate of lime		exempt
3	b 2	Margarite	100 kg.	50
168	d	Oxide of zinc and titanium white	100 kg.	5
4	g	Salt cod-dried cod (Stockfisch)	100 kg.	4

(3) The Greek Government declares that Norwegian fish called "brisling" or "sild" of the genus "clupea sprattus" and "clupea harengus", in oil or tomato sauce, headless, in airtight tins, shall be assimilated to sardines and classed under the following head of the Greek tariff at present in force :

Category A.

Class 4. — Alimentary fish products : (e) Sardines and the like, preserved in any manner, in tins (no tare allowance for the immediate receptacles).

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol which constitutes an integral part of the Convention.

ATHENS, *June the twenty-ninth, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-seven.*

(Signed) J. IRGENS.

(Signed) A. MICHALAKOPOULOS.