

N° 3373.

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**ROUMANIE  
ET YOUGOSLAVIE**

Convention relative au règlement des  
écoles primaires minoritaires dans  
le Banat. Signée à Beograd, le  
10 mars 1933.

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**ROUMANIA  
AND YUGOSLAVIA**

Convention regulating the Question  
of the Primary Minority Schools  
in the Banat. Signed at Belgrade,  
March 10th, 1933.

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

No. 3373. — CONVENTION <sup>2</sup> BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF ROUMANIA AND THE KINGDOM OF YUGOSLAVIA REGULATING THE QUESTION OF THE PRIMARY MINORITY SCHOOLS IN THE BANAT. SIGNED AT BELGRADE, MARCH 10TH, 1933.

*French official text communicated by the Permanent Delegate of the Kingdom of Yugoslavia accredited to the League of Nations. The registration of this Convention took place March 3rd, 1934.*

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF YUGOSLAVIA

and

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ROUMANIA,

Desirous of regulating, between the Kingdom of Yugoslavia and the Kingdom of Roumania, the question of the Serb-Croat minority elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and the Roumanian minority elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat,

Have decided to conclude a Convention for this purpose and have appointed as their respective Plenipotentiaries :

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF YUGOSLAVIA :

Monsieur Bogoljub D. JEVTIĆ, Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ROUMANIA :

Monsieur Alexandre N. IACOVAKY, Minister Plenipotentiary, Director at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Bucharest ;

Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed on the following provisions :

*Article 1.*

The Serb-Croat minority elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and the Roumanian minority elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat shall be State public schools in conformity with the laws and regulations concerning schools in force in the Kingdom of Roumania and the Kingdom of Yugoslavia respectively.

*Article 2.*

The language of instruction in the Serb-Croat minority elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and the Roumanian minority elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat shall be Serb-Croat and Roumanian respectively.

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

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

<sup>2</sup> The exchange of ratifications took place at Bucharest, September 26th, 1933.

From the third year onwards, six hours per week shall be devoted to the teaching of the Roumanian or Serb-Croat language, as the case may be, and, in addition, three hours per week to the teaching, in the Roumanian and Serb-Croat languages respectively, of Roumanian or Yugoslav history and geography.

*Article 3.*

Teachers in the Serb-Croat minority elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and in the Roumanian minority elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat shall be of the same creed and language as the majority of the pupils, but shall be subjects of Roumania or Yugoslavia respectively.

*Article 4.*

Religious instruction on the matters included in the curriculum shall be given, in schools of all categories, in the mother-tongue of the pupils, by priests appointed by the competent State authorities on the proposal of the ecclesiastical authorities.

Should there be no priest in the district, or should the priest not be available, religious instruction shall be given by the teachers.

The detailed syllabus for this subject shall be drawn up by the Minister of Education in agreement with the ecclesiastical authorities.

*Article 5.*

In districts where there are twenty Serb-Croat or Roumanian children, as the case may be, of school age, a minority elementary school with one teacher shall be established.

It shall rest with the children's parents to ask that such a school be established, and the nationality of the children shall be proved by a declaration by the parents or guardians.

*Article 6.*

The two Governments shall be required to train an adequate number of qualified teachers, whose mother-tongue shall be Serb-Croat and Roumanian respectively, to teach in the Serb-Croat minority elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat or the Roumanian minority elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat, as the case may be.

Until such time as all the vacancies in the Serb-Croat schools in the Roumanian Banat have been filled by teachers trained at the teachers' training colleges in Roumania and all the vacancies in the Roumanian public schools in the Yugoslav Banat by teachers trained at the teachers' training colleges in Yugoslavia, teachers of Roumanian or Yugoslav nationality, as the case may be, who have completed their training at the teachers' training colleges in Yugoslavia and Roumania respectively, shall be permitted to teach in those schools. Such teachers shall take a supplementary examination in national studies within three years, and a year later shall take a practical examination, after which they shall acquire the same rights as duly qualified teachers.

Teachers in the Serb-Croat elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and in the Roumanian elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat who completed their training at a training college before November 1st, 1918, under the former Austro-Hungarian regime, and have passed an examination in national studies shall be definitively recognised, irrespective of whether or not they entered the teaching profession after that date.

*Article 7.*

The remuneration (salary) of teachers in the Serb-Croat minority elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and professors at the Timisoara Teachers' Training College, and of teachers in

the Roumanian minority elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat and professors at the Vrsac Teachers' Training College, shall be paid by the Governments of the respective States, in conformity with the provisions of their laws.

In communes with a mixed population, the commune shall be required to provide a building and furniture and to pay for the upkeep of the school ; the expense shall be divided up among the population in proportion to the number of inhabitants concerned and the taxes paid by them.

In districts where there are sufficient children to warrant the establishment of a school, but where, notwithstanding, the minority has no school because for the time being no building or teachers are available, the children may attend the State school. If, however, the number of children of school age is less than is required for the establishment of a Serb-Croat or Roumanian minority elementary school, the children shall be required to attend the Roumanian or Yugoslav State elementary school, as the case may be.

#### *Article 8.*

The necessary professors shall be appointed, for the training of future teachers, at the Timisoara and Vrsac Teachers' Training Colleges, and shall give the following courses, in Serb-Croat and Roumanian respectively : Serb-Croat and Roumanian language and literature, religion, didactics, methodology, sacred vocal music and practical teaching.

The professors responsible for such courses at the Timisoara Teachers' Training College shall be selected primarily from among Roumanian subjects of Serb-Croat nationality. The professors giving such courses at the Vrsac Teachers' Training College shall be selected primarily from among Yugoslav subjects of Roumanian nationality.

Should such professors not be available, the two Governments shall for the time being engage under contract professors selected from among qualified nationals of Yugoslavia and Roumania respectively.

The students attending the Timisoara and Vrsac Teachers' Training Colleges shall be Roumanian and Yugoslav nationals respectively, familiar with the Roumanian or Serb-Croat language, as the case may be, and of the same creed as the Serb-Croat or Roumanian minority.

In order that students may be prepared for the Timisoara and Vrsac Teachers' Training Colleges, a post shall be created for optional instruction in Serb-Croat and Roumanian languages respectively in the first four classes of the Timisoara and Vrsac High Schools.

#### *Article 9.*

Until a sufficient number of duly qualified teachers for the Serb-Croat minority elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and the Roumanian minority elementary schools in the Yugoslav Banat have been trained, the Ministries of Education of the two Kingdoms undertake to engage, under contract, the requisite number of teachers.

Such teachers shall be selected from among Yugoslav nationals for the Roumanian Banat and from among Roumanian nationals for the Yugoslav Banat.

#### *Article 10.*

With a view to completing and maintaining the requisite supply of teachers for the elementary schools of the Serb-Croat minority in the Roumanian Banat and for the elementary schools of the Roumanian minority in the Yugoslav Banat, the Yugoslav Government shall, if necessary, assist students of Roumanian nationality, who are Yugoslav subjects, selected from among students of the Vrsac Teachers' Training College, and similarly the Roumanian Government shall assist students of Yugoslav nationality, who are Roumanian subjects, selected from among the students of the Timisoara Teachers' Training College.

*Article 11.*

The two Governments shall be entitled to prepare text-books for the elementary schools of the Serb-Croat minority in the Roumanian Banat and the Roumanian minority in the Yugoslav Banat respectively. For this purpose, they may consult Serb-Croat or Roumanian experts, as the case may be, with regard to secular subjects and the respective ecclesiastical authorities with regard to religious text-books.

Notwithstanding, books published in the Kingdom of Yugoslavia and the Kingdom of Roumania respectively may be used as text-books, provided that permission is obtained beforehand from the respective Ministries of Education.

*Article 12.*

In communes where there are two schools, Yugoslav and Roumanian, these shall have separate budgets and be under separate management ; they shall have school committees which shall draw up and administer their budgets in conformity with the legislative provisions in force.

The Serb-Croat elementary schools in the Roumanian Banat and Roumanian schools in the Yugoslav Banat shall be represented *ipso facto* by their delegate on the regional education committee. Such delegate shall be elected in the same way as the other elected members of the committee.

*Article 13.*

The Serb-Croat special denominational schools existing in virtue of the Roumanian Law of December 22nd, 1925, shall be maintained at the request of the parents and the representatives of the existing competent authorities. New special denominational schools may be established and maintained by the competent ecclesiastical authorities throughout the territory of the Roumanian Banat, including the territory of Klissura, in conformity with the laws in force in Roumania.

The Serb-Croats in the Roumanian Banat and the Roumanians in the Yugoslav Banat, including the inhabitants of the territory of Klissura, may, should they so desire, open and manage, at their own expense, private minority schools for elementary education. The language of instruction in these schools shall be the mother-tongue of the pupils. The schools shall be under direct State control and shall be entitled to public recognition.

The pupils shall be examined by their own teachers, and the certificates conferred by the latter shall be valid and shall be equivalent to those granted by the State.

*Article 14.*

Any group of Serb-Croats in the Roumanian Banat or of Roumanians in the Yugoslav Banat that desires to establish a private minority elementary school shall constitute a school commune.

Each school commune shall have its own school committee, consisting of ten members elected, at a meeting of the pupils' parents, from among the parents and other persons.

After the meeting, the school committee shall constitute itself and shall elect a president, treasurer and secretary. The president elected shall duly inform the political commune and shall hand over to it all documents connected with the election. Provided that no objection is raised to the election on grounds of irregularity, the school committee shall forthwith assume all the duties imposed upon it by this Convention and by the school regulations in force.

*Article 15.*

In addition to the obligations prescribed by the laws in force, the school committee's competence shall extend also to the following matters :

- (1) The provision of a school building, furniture, teaching material and everything necessary for the regular functioning of the school ;
- (2) The preparation of data with regard to the number of pupils of school age and the necessary action to obtain from the Minister of Education permission to open the school in conformity with the provisions laid down in the present Convention ;
- (3) The appointment of the teachers and the necessary action to obtain the approval of the Ministry of Education ;
- (4) The payment of the teachers, whose remuneration may not be less than that of the State teachers, and the payment of the whole of the school staff ;
- (5) The application, in the first instance, of disciplinary measures in respect of the teaching staff ;
- (6) The upkeep of the school and school buildings and the preparation of the school budget ;
- (7) The provision of the fuel required by the school, the principal of the school and the staff living on the school premises ;
- (8) The enrolling of new pupils at the beginning of each school year, and the submission of the list to the Ministry of Education ;
- (9) The inscription of the school buildings in the land registers of the competent courts ;
- (10) The duty of ensuring that none of the school buildings shall be alienated or mortgaged for purposes other than those laid down in the laws in force, except with the approval of the Minister of Education ;
- (11) The submission, to the Ministry of Education at the beginning of the school year, of the names of the members of the school committee.

*Article 16.*

Teachers in the private minority schools must be subjects of the Kingdom of Roumania or the Kingdom of Yugoslavia, as the case may be, and must have the same qualifications as teachers in the public elementary schools.

Should such teachers not be available during the first five years, while a suitable teaching staff is still undergoing training, the private minority schools may, with the approval of the Ministry of Education, engage under contract teachers possessing the necessary qualifications. These teachers shall be required, within three years, to pass an examination, before a commission, in the group of national subjects (State language, literature, history and geography) on a syllabus drawn up by the Ministry of Education, and to take, within the following year, a practical examination in teaching.

In order to facilitate such examinations, the Ministry of Education may organise vacation courses, attendance at which shall be compulsory for all teachers engaged under contract.

Teachers in the private minority schools shall be required to follow the curriculum prescribed for this type of school and to comply with all the regulations and provisions applicable to public elementary schools in general.

The principal of the school, who shall be nominated by the school committee, the appointment being confirmed by the Minister of Education, shall be responsible for all correspondence with the Ministry of Education.

*Article 17.*

At the request of the school committees, kindergartens, in which the teaching shall be given in Serb-Croat or Roumanian, as the case may be, may be established, provided that there is a sufficient number of children, as laid down in the present Convention.

*Article 18.*

Should teachers of Serb-Croat nationality teaching in Serb-Croat denominational schools in the Roumanian Banat, with the previous authorisation of the competent ecclesiastical authorities, enter the service of the Roumanian State schools, they shall receive the same salary and allowances as State teachers in Roumania. Account shall be taken of their length of service in the denominational schools, for purposes of promotion and pension rights, in accordance with the laws in force in Roumania.

*Article 19.*

The present Convention shall enter into force after the instruments of ratification have been exchanged by the respective Governments.

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

Done in duplicate, in French, at Belgrade, March 10th, 1933.

(L. S.) B. D. JEVIĆ, *m. p.*

(L. S.) Alexandre N. IACOVAKY, *m. p.*

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