

N° 3956.

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**UNION ÉCONOMIQUE  
BELGO-LUXEMBOURGEOISE  
ET LETTONIE**

Convention pour favoriser les échanges commerciaux entre l'Union économique belgo - luxembourgeoise et la Lettonie. Signée à Riga, le 22 février 1936.

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**ECONOMIC UNION OF  
BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG  
AND LATVIA**

Convention for facilitating Commercial Exchanges between the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg and Latvia. Signed at Riga, February 22nd, 1936.

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

No. 3956. — CONVENTION <sup>2</sup> FOR FACILITATING COMMERCIAL EXCHANGES BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC UNION OF BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG AND LATVIA. SIGNED AT RIGA, FEBRUARY 22ND, 1936.

*French official text communicated by the Latvian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Convention took place August 21st, 1936.*

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA  
and

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS, acting both on his own behalf and on that of HER ROYAL HIGHNESS THE GRAND DUCHESS OF LUXEMBURG, in virtue of existing agreements, Being desirous of promoting commercial exchanges between their respective countries, have resolved to conclude a Convention for this purpose and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries :

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA :

M. Ludvigs ĒĶIS, Minister of Finance ;

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE BELGIANS :

Baron Florent DE SELYS-FANSON, his Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary in Latvia ;

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

*Article 1.*

The High Contracting Parties agree that the ratio between the value of Latvian imports into the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union and the value of imports from the Economic Union into Latvia shall be 100 : 70.

The High Contracting Parties shall avail themselves of all the means at their disposal to maintain the said ratio of 100 : 70 between Latvian imports into the Economic Union and imports from the Economic Union into Latvia. Nevertheless, if, at any time, such measures notwithstanding the said ratio is not maintained, the High Contracting Parties shall, at the request of either of them, immediately enter into consultation with a view to its restoration.

The Latvian Government agrees to place 70 per cent of the foreign exchange derived from Latvian exports to the Economic Union at the disposal of Latvian importers to be used solely

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

<sup>2</sup> Came into force March 9th, 1936.

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

in payment for imports from the Economic Union ; the said foreign exchange to be made available in such a manner that it can actually be utilised to pay for imports from the Economic Union to Latvia, in conformity with paragraph 1 of the present Article.

*Article 2.*

In order to ensure an equitable apportionment of imports of the various goods produced by Latvia on the one hand and the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union on the other hand, the High Contracting Parties shall have due regard to the normal currents of trade between their respective territories.

For this purpose they may, if they so desire, exchange lists of the products in which each of them is specially interested.

Should commercial exchanges decline, each Government shall give sympathetic consideration to any requests which the other Government may make for quotas in respect of such goods as may be of interest to it.

*Article 3.*

The value of the Latvian goods imported into the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union shall be calculated free at frontier or c.i.f. Belgian ports, according to the Belgo-Luxemburg statistical returns.

The value of the goods of the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union imported into Latvia shall be calculated free at frontier or c.i.f. Latvian ports, according to the Latvian statistical returns.

Each month the appointed authorities shall exchange returns of the imports of each country to the other. Either Party shall be entitled to request the other to rectify the statistics, provided always that documents are produced in support. Rules for the application of the present provision shall be laid down by agreement between the aforesaid authorities.

*Article 4.*

The necessary permits for the transfer of payments arising out of exchanges of goods between Latvia and the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union for which application is made in conformity with the regulations in force shall be issued in time for the payments to be made as they fall due.

*Article 5.*

The respective Governments or such authorities as they may appoint for the purpose may by common consent authorize private compensation transactions in goods (barter) after due consideration of each particular case.

Nevertheless, up to a total amount of 5,000 lats per month, such transactions may be carried out without such common consent, subject to the regulations in force in each country.

*Article 6.*

The present Convention shall not apply to goods from a third State merely conveyed in transit across the territory of either High Contracting Party to that of the other, nor to goods upon which sufficient work has not been done to give them Latvian, Belgian or Luxemburg nationality.

*Article 7.*

The Latvian, Belgian and Luxemburg Governments agree to examine the results of the application of the present Convention at the request of either High Contracting Party, without prejudice to Article 12 of the present Convention.

*Article 8.*

Any difficulties arising out of the application of the present Convention shall be settled by common agreement between the competent Latvian authority and the Belgo-Luxemburg Clearing Office.

Each Government shall take the necessary steps, in so far as it is concerned, to compel its importers and exporters to make use of the system of settlement provided for in the present Convention.

*Article 9.*

It is understood that the present Convention shall apply to payments for goods supplied prior to its entry into force, if the due dates of such payments are subsequent thereto.

*Article 10.*

All commercial debts incurred before the denunciation (if any) of the present Convention shall be settled in conformity with its provisions, even should payment not be due until after its expiry.

*Article 11.*

Should the Convention be denounced by either of them, it is understood that the High Contracting Parties shall continue to take the measures therein laid down to ensure the working of or settlement of any balance still standing to the credit of the Belgo-Luxemburg Economic Union in Latvia or of any sums owing, but not yet due, from the Economic Union to Latvia on the date of the expiry of the Convention.

*Article 12.*

The present Convention shall come into force on March 9th, 1936, and shall remain in force for three months.

Should neither of the High Contracting Parties have denounced it thirty days before its expiry, the said Convention shall be prolonged by tacit consent for successive periods of three months, until such time as either Contracting Party shall signify its desire to terminate it at thirty days' notice.

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

Done in duplicate at Riga, this 22nd day of February, 1936.

(L. S.) (Signed) L. ĒKIS.

(L. S.) (Signed) Baron F. DE SELYS-FANSON.