

N° 4040.

DANEMARK ET
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES
SOVIÉTIQUES SOCIALISTES

Arrangement concernant l'échange
des colis postaux. Signé à Mos-
cou, le 29 juin 1936.

DENMARK
AND UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Agreement concerning the Exchange
of Postal Parcels. Signed at Mos-
cow, June 29th, 1936.

¹ TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 4040. — AGREEMENT² BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING THE EXCHANGE OF POSTAL PARCELS. SIGNED AT MOSCOW, JUNE 29TH, 1936.

French official text communicated by the Chargé d'Affaires p. i. of the Permanent Delegation of Denmark to the League of Nations. The registration of this Agreement took place January 21st, 1937.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF DENMARK, of the one part, and THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS, of the other part,

Desirous of co-operating in the consolidation and development of postal relations between their two countries,

Have decided to conclude an Agreement concerning the exchange of postal parcels coming from those countries or conveyed in transit through their territories, and have with this object appointed the following Plenipotentiaries :

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF DENMARK :

M. Ove ENGELL, Danish Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary at Moscow ;

THE CENTRAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS :

M. N. KRESTINSKI, Member of the Central Executive Committee, Deputy People's Commissary for Foreign Affairs.

The above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries, duly authorised thereto, have agreed as follows :

Article I.

1. A regular exchange of postal parcels (ordinary and insured) shall be established between the Kingdom of Denmark, of the one part, and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, of the other part.

2. This exchange may be carried out :

(a) Direct by the sea route Copenhagen-Leningrad ;

(b) By the land route, that is to say, in transit through intermediate countries.

3. The routes to be followed for the conveyance of postal parcels and the offices for the exchange of parcels shall be specified by the Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties.

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 Copenhagen, December 7th, 1936. Came into force January 7th, 1937.

Article 2.

Each of the Contracting Parties shall guarantee to the other freedom of land and sea transit for postal parcels. Nevertheless, the Kingdom of Denmark shall allow the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics transit through its territory for parcels coming from or despatched to countries with which it maintains a parcel post service. The Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall grant freedom of transit through its territory only for parcels coming from or despatched to countries with whose Governments it has concluded a parcel post Agreement.

Article 3.

Each of the Contracting Parties shall have the right, in accordance with its domestic law, to introduce restrictions regarding the conditions of despatch and transport, and also regarding the contents of postal parcels. Such restrictions shall be duly communicated by each of the Contracting Parties to the other.

Article 4.

1. Postal parcels exchanged between the Contracting Parties may not exceed ten kilogrammes in weight and may not be insured for a value exceeding 1,000 francs.

Parcels conveyed in transit through the territory of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics may not exceed five kilogrammes in weight.

2. The dimensions of the parcels conveyed from one country to the other may not exceed 150 cm. in any one direction, since the sum of the length and of the greatest girth measured in a direction other than that of the length does not exceed 300 cm.

3. The declared value of the parcel may not exceed the real value of its contents and must be expressed in the currency of the country of origin. Furthermore, the amount of the declared value must be converted into francs by the office at which the parcel was handed in or by the sender, at the actual rate of exchange.

4. The Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties shall have the right to modify by joint agreement the stipulations regarding the weight, dimensions and insurance of parcels laid down in paragraphs 1 and 2 of the present Article.

5. As regards the handing in and delivery of parcels and the treatment of articles whose entry is prohibited or subject to certain conditions of admission, the internal provisions and regulations in force in the contracting countries shall be applied in so far as they are not incompatible with the present Agreement.

6. The following shall not be accepted for exchange between the Contracting Parties :

- (a) Parcels whose dimensions exceed those laid down in paragraph 2 of the present Article and parcels which may be regarded as cumbersome ;
- (b) Parcels insufficiently packed ;
- (c) Urgent parcels ;
- (d) Trade-charge parcels ;
- (e) Parcels for delivery free of charges.

Article 5.

Each of the Contracting Parties shall be bound to accept in transit through its territory, in conformity with Article 2, only such postal parcels as fulfil the conditions laid down in the foregoing Article, provided the other countries concerned do not apply more severe restrictions to parcels exchanged with the Contracting Parties.

Article 6.

The Contracting Parties reserve the right temporarily to suspend, wholly or in part, the exchange of postal parcels in one or other direction in the event of exceptional circumstances. The Postal Administration adopting such a measure shall be bound to notify the other immediately. Should the measure be introduced at short notice, the Postal Administration concerned shall be informed immediately by telegram.

Article 7.

1. Postal parcels must be fully prepaid by the sender on being handed in. The postage is made up of the sums accruing to each Postal Administration taking part in the conveyance by land or sea.

2. The terminal charges accruing to the Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties are specified hereunder :

(a) Terminal charges accruing to Denmark :		Fr.
For postal parcels not exceeding 1 kg.		0.60
For postal parcels from 1 to 5 kg.		0.90
For postal parcels from 5 to 10 kg.		1.75
(b) Terminal charges accruing to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics :		
	Not exceeding 5 kg.	From 5 to 10 kg.
For postal parcels despatched from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to Denmark and <i>vice versa</i> conveyed through the European part of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	Fr. 2.—	Fr. 4.—
For postal parcels despatched from the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to Denmark and <i>vice versa</i> conveyed through both parts (European and Asiatic) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics	4.—	8.—

3. In addition to the charges specified in the foregoing paragraph, the Postal Administration of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics shall be authorised to collect for its own account a fee for conveyance by sea which may not exceed 50 centimes per parcel despatched by sea. The Danish Postal Administration shall collect the sea rates laid down in the International Parcel Post Agreement (without increase).

4. The insurance fee for insured postal parcels exchanged between the Contracting Parties may not exceed 50 centimes per 300 francs of declared value ; 5 centimes of this amount shall be credited to the country of destination.

5. The Postal Administration of the country in which the parcel is handed in shall be authorised to collect for its own account from senders of insured parcels a despatch fee not exceeding 50 centimes per parcel.

6. The Postal Administration of the country of destination shall be authorised to collect from the addressees for the Customs clearance of parcels a charge not exceeding 50 centimes per parcel. It may collect, for the delivery of the parcels to the specified address, a charge equal to that which is fixed in its internal service, up to the maximum amount of 50 centimes per parcel. The delivery charge shall be due for each presentation at the house of the addressee. The Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties shall have the right to modify by joint agreement the amount of the charges mentioned in this paragraph.

Article 8.

1. Senders of parcels shall be required to state on the back of the despatch note the manner in which their parcel is to be disposed of in case of non-delivery.

2. Only the following instructions shall be accepted :

- (a) Immediate return of the postal parcel to the country of origin ;
- (b) Redirection of the parcel to the same addressee at a new address ;
- (c) Delivery of the parcel to another addressee ;
- (d) Abandonment of the parcel ;
- (e) Despatch of a notice of non-delivery.

Article 9.

The Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties shall have the right not to accept written communications on the detached portion of the despatch notes.

Article 10.

1. When, for any reason whatsoever, it has been found impossible to deliver or redirect postal parcels and when the senders have not requested their immediate return or a notice of non-delivery at the time of despatch (see Article 8 of the present Agreement), the parcels shall be kept during the period laid down by the internal regulations of the countries of destination. On the expiry of that period the parcels shall be returned to the country of origin without a notice of non-delivery being sent beforehand.

2. Parcels which, at the sender's request, have been reported as undelivered shall be kept for a like period if the notice of non-delivery has remained unanswered ; in such cases the period shall be counted as from the date of despatch of the notice of non-delivery.

3. In the case of the return of parcels, the sender shall be liable for the redirection charges (transport charges) and, if necessary, the warehousing, Customs clearance and other charges due on the parcels.

Article 11.

The payment of Customs duties and other non-postal charges on postal parcels returned to the country of origin or redirected to third countries shall not be required in the Kingdom of Denmark or in the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

Article 12.

The charges for the conveyance of postal parcels in transit through the territories of the Contracting Parties shall be fixed as follows :

1. In favour of the Danish Postal Administration,	Fr.
For postal parcels not exceeding 1 kg. in weight	0.30
" " from 1 to 5 kg. in weight	0.50
" " from 5 to 10 kg. in weight.	1.—

2. In favour of the Postal Administration of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, for each parcel up to 5 kg. :

- (a) 4 francs for conveyance through one part (European or Asiatic) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, and

(b) 8 francs for conveyance through both parts (European and Asiatic) of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The charge for the carriage of parcels by sea shall be fixed in accordance with the rates stipulated in the International Parcel Post Agreement.

Article 13.

Out of the insurance fee on insured parcels conveyed through the territories of the Contracting Parties the country of transit shall receive 5 centimes per 300 francs of the declared value in the case of overland carriage and 10 centimes in the case of carriage by sea.

Article 14.

1. Should a postal parcel in transit be so badly damaged that it cannot be sent on farther without repacking, the Postal Administration of the country of transit shall be authorised to claim from the next Postal Administration the cost of repacking up to an amount not exceeding 50 centimes, payable by the addressee. If the parcel is returned to the country of origin, this charge shall be paid by the sender.

2. The Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties shall have the right also to apply the provisions of the present Article to parcels exchanged direct between their two countries.

Article 15.

1. The conveyance, both direct and in transit, of postal parcels and of the documents relating thereto by land or sea routes shall be *à découvert* (not in closed mails).

2. The Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties reserve the right to modify by joint agreement the method of forwarding parcels and the documents relating thereto.

Article 16.

Every postal parcel must be accompanied by a despatch note and by Customs declarations drawn up in French. One copy of the declaration shall be at the disposal of the country of transit. The number of declarations shall be fixed by joint agreement by the Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties.

Article 17.

Postal parcels containing articles whose importation or conveyance in transit is prohibited may not be confiscated if their inclusion is regularly specified in the Customs declarations, but shall be returned to the country of origin.

Article 18.

1. If, during conveyance, a postal parcel has been lost or damaged, or if the contents have been completely or partially abstracted, the sender shall have the right to compensation up to the actual amount of the loss, damage or theft, provided always that the damage has not been caused by the sender's fault or negligence and that it is not due to the nature of the articles despatched. Such compensation shall be paid in the case of ordinary parcels at the rates laid down in the

International Parcel Post Agreement ; in the case of insured parcels, the compensation may not exceed the declared value.

2. Compensation shall be paid in the country of despatch in the currency of that country at the equivalent rate specified in paragraph 3 of Article 4 of the present Agreement.

3. When the compensation is paid by the Postal Administration of one country on behalf of another Postal Administration, the latter shall be required to refund the amount at latest within two months of the date of notification of payment.

4. The Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties will assume no responsibility for the loss of postal parcels or for the abstraction of or damage to their contents in cases of *force majeure*.

Article 19.

1. The accounts for the exchange of postal parcels, whether direct or in transit, shall be established monthly in conformity with the provisions of the Detailed Regulations for the Execution of the International Parcel Post Agreement. The accounts, with all the relevant documents, shall be sent to the Postal Administration of the other Contracting Party, if possible within one month, and at latest six weeks, after the month to which the accounts refer. The said accounts shall be audited and returned within one month of the date of receipt.

2. The totals of the monthly accounts established and approved by the Postal Administrations of the Contracting Parties shall be included by the creditor Postal Administration in a general account drawn up quarterly. The balance of this general account shall be payable within one month of the date on which it was received. If the balance has not been paid within the aforesaid period, the sums due shall bear interest at 5 % per annum, counting from the day of expiry of the said period. The above-mentioned payment shall take place within two months at latest after the aforesaid time-limit.

3. The balance resulting from the settlement of the above-mentioned accounts shall be paid to the creditor Postal Administration through banks established in the capital of the creditor country, in the latter's currency or, by mutual agreement, in the currency of another country.

4. Any expenses in connection with payment shall be borne by the debtor Postal Administration.

Article 20.

The franc taken as a monetary unit in the present Agreement is the gold franc, as defined by the Universal Postal Convention now in force.

Article 21.

The reciprocal exchange of postal parcels, whether ordinary or insured, between the Contracting Parties and in transit through their territory shall be effected, as regards anything not specified in the present Agreement and not incompatible with its clauses, on the basis of the provisions of the International Parcel Post Agreement and of the Final Protocol and Detailed Regulations for the Execution of the said Agreement.

Article 22.

1. The present Agreement shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Copenhagen at the earliest possible date.

2. The provisions of the Agreement shall come into force one month after the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

Article 23.

The present Agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period. Nevertheless, either Contracting Party may cancel it on giving six months' notice in advance to the other Contracting Party.

In faith whereof the above-mentioned Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Moscow, in duplicate, this 29th day of June, 1936.

(L. S.) (Signed) Ove ENGELL.

(L. S.) (Signed) N. KRESTINSKI.