

N° 4275.

---

UNION ÉCONOMIQUE  
BELGO-LUXEMBOURGEOISE  
ET ESTONIE

Arrangement commercial et de trans-  
fert. Signé à Tallinn, le 13 janvier  
1938.

---

ECONOMIC UNION OF  
BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG  
AND ESTONIA

Agreement regarding Commercial  
Relations and Transfers. Signed  
at Tallinn, January 13th, 1938.

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

No. 4275. — AGREEMENT<sup>2</sup> REGARDING COMMERCIAL RELATIONS AND TRANSFERS BETWEEN THE ECONOMIC UNION OF BELGIUM AND LUXEMBURG AND ESTONIA. SIGNED AT TALLINN, JANUARY 13TH, 1938.

*French official text communicated by the Estonian Minister for Foreign Affairs. The registration of this Agreement took place February 7th, 1938.*

THE ESTONIAN GOVERNMENT and THE BELGIAN GOVERNMENT, acting both on its own behalf and on behalf of THE LUXEMBURG GOVERNMENT in virtue of existing agreements, being desirous of developing to the greatest possible extent commercial relations between the two Parties, have decided to supplement the Treaty<sup>3</sup> of Commerce and Navigation between Estonia and the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg of September 28th, 1926, by the following Agreement :

I.

The High Contracting Parties agree that it shall be their object to achieve equilibrium in their commercial exchanges, this being a fundamental principle in their economic relations.

If, not less than six months after the signature of the present Agreement, the value of the imports from one of the Parties into the territory of the other exceeds by 20 % the value of the imports of the other Party into the territory of the first, the second Party shall have the right to demand the immediate opening of negotiations. Should the negotiations not lead to a satisfactory solution within thirty days, the second Party shall have the right to denounce the present Agreement, which shall lapse thirty days after such denunciation.

II.

The Eesti Pank, being duly authorised for the purpose, undertakes to supply in free foreign currencies, without delay or restriction, the requisite means of payment for the settlement of commercial debts in respect of Belgian or Luxemburg goods imported into Estonia, provided that the importers of such goods have previously obtained an import licence from the Ministry of National Economy (carrying with it authorisation to obtain foreign currency) or an authorisation for foreign currency from the Eesti Pank.

The Estonian Government undertakes to grant without delay or restrictions, within the limits laid down in Article I, the authorisations specified in the foregoing paragraph for importation and payment in respect of all Belgian and Luxemburg products, taking duly into account the normal movement of trade between the two Parties and the conditions of the market for the said products in Estonia.

<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> Came into force January 13th, 1938.

<sup>3</sup> Vol. LXII, page 433, of this Series.

## III.

The Estonian Government undertakes, further, on the entry into force of the present Agreement, to ensure the immediate transfer in foreign currency of sums which were due for payment before the date of the entry into force of the Agreement and are owed to creditors in the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg for imports of Belgo-Luxemburg goods into Estonia, but the transfer of which has not been effected by reason of the fact that the debtors could not obtain the necessary foreign currency from the Eesti Pank.

New debts shall be held to mean debts in respect of goods imported after the entry into force of the present Agreement.

Debts in respect of goods imported before the entry into force of the present Agreement which are not payable until after that date shall be assimilated to new debts.

## IV.

Before export, vendors in the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg shall be required to submit a copy of the invoice to the Office de Compensation belgo-luxembourgeois for visa.

Similarly, the Estonian Government shall make exports of Estonian goods to the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg conditional on the previous issue of a visa for the invoices relating to the said exports.

The Office de Compensation belgo-luxembourgeois shall have the right to make the aforesaid visa conditional on the production of a certificate proving the issue of an import licence or previous authorisation by the Eesti Pank, as stipulated in Article II.

The importation of Estonian goods into the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg shall be conditional on the production of a copy of the invoice.

Invoices bearing this visa shall automatically be substituted for certificates of origin or for any other documents that may be required on the importation of goods under the laws and regulations in Estonia and in the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg.

Copies of the above-mentioned invoices must be certified by the vendors to be true copies and must contain the name and address of the vendor and purchaser, the date on which payment is due and any other conditions of payment.

## V.

The transfer of the requisite foreign currency in Estonia by the Eesti Pank for commercial debts described as new may be effected only on production of a copy of the invoice bearing the visa of the Office de Compensation belgo-luxembourgeois.

The Eesti Pank and the Office de Compensation shall communicate to one another on the 15th of each month a summary statement for the preceding month of the invoices which have been presented to them, on the one hand, before the export of the goods, and, on the other, in Estonia at the time of payment and in the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg on importation.

## VI.

The value of Belgo-Luxemburg products imported into Estonia shall be calculated on the basis of the export invoices bearing the visa of the Office de Compensation belgo-luxembourgeois as stipulated above. The value of Estonian products imported into the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg shall be calculated on the basis of the invoices bearing the visa of the Eesti Pank presented to the Belgian Customs.

The value of goods exchanged under the provisions of the present Agreement shall be calculated on the basis of c. i. f. prices for Estonian or Belgian ports.

It is understood that if Estonian goods are presented at the Belgian Customs without an invoice bearing the visa of the Estonian Government, they shall nevertheless be taken into account

when calculating the value of Estonian products imported into the Economic Union, as stated above. In that event, the Office de Compensation will duly communicate to the Eesti Pank any useful evidence regarding the nationality of the said goods.

Should the Estonian Government, within the scope of the present Agreement, desire to pay for Belgian or Luxemburg goods unaccompanied by an invoice bearing the visa of the Office de Compensation belgo-luxembourgeois, it shall request the importer in Estonia to instruct the vendor to obtain a visa for a copy of the invoice and shall immediately advise the Office de Compensation, so that the said invoice can be taken into account when determining the value of Belgo-Luxemburg exports to Estonia.

#### VII.

Each Government, in so far as it is concerned, will take such measures as may be necessary to enforce the provisions of the present Agreement.

#### VIII.

The procedure for the application of this Agreement and any difficulties connected therewith shall be settled by mutual consent between the Eesti Pank and the Office de Compensation belgo-luxembourgeois, subject to intervention by the Governments, should this prove necessary.

#### IX.

The present Agreement shall not apply to goods which are simply passing in transit through the territory of one or other of the contracting States or to goods which have not been the object of sufficient work to confer on them Estonian, Belgian or Luxemburg nationality, respectively.

#### X.

The present Agreement, which supplements the Treaty of Commerce and Navigation between Estonia and the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg of September 28th, 1926, shall supersede the Convention<sup>1</sup> for facilitating Commercial Exchanges and Commercial Payments between Estonia and the Economic Union of Belgium and Luxemburg, signed on June 19th, 1935. It shall come into force on the day of signature and shall expire on December 31st, 1938.

Unless it has been denounced three months before its expiry, it shall be prolonged by tacit consent, each Party reserving the right to denounce it at any time with effect three months later.

Done at Tallinn in duplicate, this 13th day of January, 1938.

Fr. AKEL.

Baron F. DE SELYS-FANSON.

---

<sup>1</sup> Vol. CLXX, page 243, of this Series.