

TREATY OF TRADE AND NAVIGATION BETWEEN THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA. SIGNED AT SOFIA, ON 8 MARCH 1963

The President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and

The Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

Desiring to strengthen and further develop co-operation and constantly to expand economic and commercial relations between the two friendly countries with a view to the continuing economic development and improvement of the living standards of the peoples of the two countries,

Have resolved to conclude this Treaty of Trade and Navigation. For this purpose they have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The President of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:

Mr. Josef Chalupa, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic to the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

The Presidium of the National Assembly of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

Mr. Nikola Gavrilov, Minister Plenipotentiary,

who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall take all necessary measures to strengthen and develop trade relations between the two States in a spirit of friendly co-operation and mutual assistance and on the basis of equality and mutual benefit.

To this end, the Governments of the Contracting Parties shall conclude agreements concerning their economic relations, including long-term trade agreements, whereby the development of trade in accordance with the economic requirements of both States will be ensured.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall grant each other unrestricted and unconditional most-favoured-nation treatment in all matters relating to trade, navigation, industry and other economic relations between the two countries.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall grant each other most-favoured-nation treatment in all customs matters, in particular as regards duties, taxes or other charges, the warehousing of goods under customs control, and the regulations and formalities applied in the customs clearance of goods.

Article 4

Agricultural and manufactured products imported from the territory of one Contracting Party into the territory of the other Contracting Party shall not be liable to any duties, taxes

or similar charges other or higher, or to regulations stricter or formalities more burdensome, than those imposed on similar products of any third State.

Similarly, agricultural and manufactured products of one Contracting Party exported to the territory of the other Contracting Party shall not be liable to any duties, taxes or similar charges other or higher, or to regulations stricter or formalities more burdensome, than those imposed on similar products on exportation to the territory of any third State.

The provisions of this article shall also apply to agricultural and manufactured products from either Contracting Party which, while in transit through the territory of one or more third States, have been subjected to trans-shipment, repacking or warehousing.

Article 5

The provisions of articles 2, 3 and 4 shall not apply to advantages which have been or may hereafter be granted by either Contracting Party to adjacent States for the purpose of facilitating frontier relations.

Article 6

With a view to simplifying formalities for the import and export of goods and on the basis of reciprocity, neither Contracting Party shall require consular invoices for the import of goods from the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Likewise, on the basis of reciprocity, neither Contracting Party shall require a certificate of origin, as such, for the import of goods from the territory of the other Contracting Party.

The provisions of the preceding paragraph shall not apply to certificates of origin required under the regulations of the Contracting Parties concerning plant and animal health.

Article 7

Without prejudice to the regulations of the Contracting Parties concerning temporary importation and temporary exportation, and subject to their being re-exported or re-imported, the following articles shall be exempt from duties, taxes or other charges on importation and exportation:

- (a) Articles intended for fairs, exhibitions or competitions;
- (b) Articles intended for experiments or tests;
- (c) Articles imported for repair and re-exported following such repair;
- (d) Agricultural and manufactured products imported for transformation or processing and re-exported in their transformed or processed form;
- (e) Fitting equipment and instruments imported or exported by fitters or sent to them and re-exported;
- (f) Marked containers imported in order to be filled, and containers which are used for the import of goods and are re-exported within a specified period;
- (g) Other articles agreed upon by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

Merchandise samples intended for use only as such and exported to the territory of the other Contracting Party in quantities normal in the trade, and catalogues, price-lists, prospectuses and advertising material, including advertising films, shall be exempt in the territory of the other Contracting Party from duties, taxes or other charges on importation and re-exportation.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall levy no charges on the exportation, and shall return any duties, taxes or other charges already paid on the importation, of goods which are re-exported because they are unsatisfactory or because the transaction was not completed, provided that the reason for re-export is shown.

Article 9

Agricultural and manufactured products of one Contracting Party transported through the territory of the other Contracting Party from or to the territory of a third State shall enjoy freedom of transit and shall not be liable to any duties, taxes or other charges.

With respect to transit regulations and formalities, the treatment accorded to such products shall not be less favourable than that accorded to the transit consignments of any third State.

Article 10

Neither Contracting Party shall impose on imports from or exports to the territory of the other Contracting Party any prohibitions or restrictions which are not applicable to all other States.

The Contracting Parties nevertheless reserve the right to prohibit or restrict the importation or exportation of specified articles for reasons of State security, the maintenance of law and order or of public health, the protection of plant and animal life, or the preservation of works of art or cultural and historical treasures, provided that such prohibitions or restrictions are applied under the same conditions to all other States.

Article 11

The Contracting Parties shall promote the exchange of experience in all sectors of the national economy, particularly by sending and admitting specialists, fellowship holders and trainees, by exchanging technical documentation, by organizing exhibitions and by other means likely to contribute to the economic development of the two States.

Article 12

The vessels of each of the Contracting Parties and their cargoes shall be accorded the same treatment in the ports of the other Contracting Party and in its inland and territorial waters as the vessels and cargoes of any third State.

Most-favoured-nation treatment shall also be accorded to the vessels of each of the Contracting Parties and their cargoes in all matters relating to navigation on the Danube.

Article 13

If a vessel of one of the Contracting Parties is wrecked or in distress on the coast of the other Contracting Party, the latter shall take the same action that it would take for its own vessels and cargoes in similar circumstances. The necessary aid and co-operation shall be afforded to the master, crew and passengers and to the vessel and its cargo in the same measure as in the case of vessels and cargoes of the home nationality in similar circumstances.

Article 14

The nationality of vessels of one Contracting Party shall be recognized by the other Contracting Party on the basis of papers carried on board the vessel and issued by the

competent authorities in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Contracting Party under whose flag the vessel is sailing.

Tonnage certificates, other ship's papers and papers relating to the crew which are issued in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Contracting Party under whose flag the vessel is sailing shall be recognized by the authorities of the other Contracting Party.

Vessels of one Contracting Party carrying a valid tonnage certificate shall be exempt from remeasurement in the ports of the other Contracting Party, and the tonnage of the vessels as entered in the certificate shall be taken as the basis for computing harbour dues where such dues are based on tonnage.

Article 15

Bodies corporate having their head office in the territory of one Contracting Party and established in accordance with that Party's laws shall be accorded recognition in the territory of the other Contracting Party as well.

Bodies corporate of one Contracting Party shall be entitled to carry on economic activity in the territory of the other Contracting Party subject to the conditions laid down by the laws of that Party. In their economic activity in the territory of the other Contracting Party, bodies corporate shall be accorded the same treatment as that accorded to similar bodies corporate of any third State.

Bodies corporate of one Contracting Party shall enjoy the protection of the law and have free access to the courts, and their legal capacity shall be recognized, in the territory of the other Contracting Party in accordance with the laws of that Party and the provisions of relevant agreements in force between the Contracting Parties.

Article 16

The Contracting Parties shall reciprocally recognize awards of courts of arbitration and settlements arrived at in such courts in any disputes arising between bodies corporate of the two States in respect of the exercise of trade, provided that the parties to the dispute agreed that the dispute should be settled by a permanent or an ad hoc court of arbitration. They shall also ensure the enforcement of such awards and settlements.

The enforcement of an arbitral award shall be governed by the laws of the Contracting Party in whose territory the award is to be enforced.

Article 17

This Treaty shall be ratified and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Prague.

The Treaty shall remain in force until the expiry of a period of six months from the date on which either Contracting Party notifies the other Contracting Party in writing of its intention to terminate the Treaty.

The Treaty has been drawn up at Sofia on 8 March 1963, in duplicate in the Czech and Bulgarian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Czechoslovak
Socialist Republic:

J. CHALUPA

For the People's Republic
of Bulgaria:
N. GAVRILOV

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