

No. 12140. CONVENTION ON THE TAKING OF EVIDENCE ABROAD IN CIVIL OR COMMERCIAL MATTERS. OPENED FOR SIGNATURE AT THE HAGUE ON 18 MARCH 1970¹

RATIFICATION

Instrument deposited with the Government of the Netherlands on:

12 May 1976

CZECHOSLOVAKIA

(With effect from 11 July 1976. Signature affixed on 6 February 1975.)

With the following declarations:

[TRANSLATION² — TRADUCTION³]

In adopting this Convention we declare according to Article 16 that evidence may be taken in the territory of the Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia without prior permission provided the principle of reciprocity is applied. In connection with Article 18 of the said Convention we declare that a diplomatic officer, consular agent or commissioner authorized to take evidence under Articles 15, 16 and 17 may request the competent Czechoslovak court or the Czechoslovak state notary to carry out procedural action and that such a diplomatic officer, consular agent or commissioner will transmit the dossier to that court or notary through the intermediary of the Minister of Justice of the Czech Socialist Republic in Prague or the Minister of Justice of the Slovak Socialist Republic in Bratislava, provided the principle of reciprocity is applied.

The Socialist Republic of Czechoslovakia wishes to state that the provisions of Article 40 of the Convention on the taking of evidence abroad in civil or commercial matters, concluded at The Hague on March 18, 1970,⁴ under which any State may apply the Convention to all territories for the international relations of which it is responsible, are out of date and in contradiction with the United Nations Declaration on the granting of independence to colonial countries and peoples (Resolution No. 1514/XV of December 14, 1960⁵).

Certified statement was registered by the Netherlands on 28 June 1976.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 847, p. 231, and annex A in volumes 861, 949 and 1003.

² Translation supplied by the Government of the Netherlands.

³ Traduction fournie par le Gouvernement des Pays-Bas.

⁴ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 847, p. 231.

⁵ United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Fifteenth Session, Supplement No. 16 (A/4684)*, p. 66.