

No. 10836

**BULGARIA
and
TURKEY**

Agreement concerning the international transport of passengers and goods by road. Signed at Sofia on 15 December 1967

Authentic text: French.

Registered by Bulgaria on 25 November 1970.

**BULGARIE
et
TURQUIE**

Accord relatif aux transports internationaux de voyageurs et de marchandises par route. Signé à Sofia le 15 décembre 1967

Texte authentique : français.

Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 25 novembre 1970.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY CONCERNING INTERNATIONAL TRANSPORT OF PASSENGERS AND GOODS BY ROAD

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the Republic of Turkey,

Desiring to regulate the transport of passengers and goods between the two countries by road vehicles, including trailers, as well as transit through their territory,

Have agreed as follows:

A. TRANSPORT OF PASSENGERS

1. *TRANSPORT BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES*

REGULAR LINES

Article 1

For the purposes of this Agreement, a regular line means a passenger transport service running over a fixed route and according to time-tables and tariffs fixed in advance.

Article 2

1. The regular lines between the two countries shall be established by agreement between the competent authorities of the High Contracting Parties.

2. The competent authorities of the High Contracting Parties shall determine by agreement, at the time these lines are established, the itinerary for the service, the time-table, the applicable fare schedules, the number of operations in a specified period and other questions that may seem necessary.

Article 3

1. A special authorization shall be required for the transport of passengers between the two countries according to the provisions of

¹ Came into force on 16 April 1969 by the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which took place at Ankara, in accordance with article 32.

article 2. Companies and undertakings situated in the territory of either Contracting Party shall apply to the competent authorities of their own country for such authorization. The application should be accompanied by the necessary information, such as the proposed itinerary, the approximate date that operations will begin and the duration of the operations.

2. The authorization shall be given by the competent authority of each Contracting Party for the section of the route in its own territory. Consequently, the competent authorities of each Contracting Party shall transmit to the competent authorities of the other Contracting Party the applications which they have approved, together with a copy of the special authorization covering the section of the route situated in their territory.

3. The competent authority of the other Contracting Party shall complete the necessary formalities within a period not exceeding two months and shall transmit its decision to the other Contracting Party.

CONSECUTIVE TOURS

Article 4

For the purposes of this Agreement, a service organized to transport parties of passengers for a specific period to a specific holiday resort or place of tourist interest shall be considered a "consecutive tour". Each party shall be brought back to its starting point. Passengers in these parties shall travel together on both the outward and the return journey. The first return journey and the last outward journey of a series of consecutive tours shall be made empty.

Article 5

A special authorization shall be required for consecutive tours. The procedure for obtaining such authorization shall be that laid down in article 3.

OCCASIONAL SERVICES

Article 6

Permission for occasional or regular tours shall be granted by the frontier authorities; no special advance authorization shall be necessary, provided that :

- (a) The tours start and end in the territory of the country where the transport vehicle is registered;
- (b) The passengers are transported by the same vehicle.

Article 7

The domestic legislation of the High Contracting Parties shall continue to apply to other occasional passenger transport operations between the two countries.

2. *TRANSPORT OF PASSENGERS IN TRANSIT*

Article 8

With respect to the transport of passengers in transit through the territory of either country, the High Contracting Parties shall apply their domestic legislation and international rules, bearing in mind the principle that the regulation of this category of transport operation should be even simpler than that of transport operations between the two countries.

Article 9

During transit operations, it shall be forbidden to pick up or set down passengers in the territory of the Contracting Party which is being traversed.

3. *COMMON PROVISIONS CONCERNING THE TRANSPORT OF PASSENGERS*

Article 10

The transport of passengers by road, using transport vehicles registered in one of the Contracting Parties, between two points situated in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall be forbidden.

B. *TRANSPORT OF GOODS*

Article 11

For the transport of goods between the two countries or carriage in transit through the territory of one of the Contracting Parties, the undertakings or companies transporting the goods shall obtain an

authorization from the competent authorities of the country where the vehicle is registered, if such authorization is necessary under domestic legislation.

Article 12

Vehicles registered in one of the Contracting Parties used for the transport of goods between the High Contracting Parties and for carriage in transit through their territory shall not be subject to authorization or to entry and exit quotas.

Article 13

The transport of goods between one Contracting Party and a third country by vehicles registered in the other Contracting Party and the loading of goods on the return journey bound for the country of registration of the vehicle or a third country shall be subject to the domestic legislation of each Contracting Party.

CUSTOMS CONTROL AND GUARANTEE

Article 14

With respect to customs control and customs guarantees for the transport of goods between the High Contracting Parties and for carriage in transit, the following shall be applied:

- (a) The provisions of the TIR Convention¹ when the transport operations are undertaken under cover of TIR *carnets* ;
- (b) The provisions of the domestic legislation of each Contracting Party in other cases.

Article 15

Transport vehicles registered in the territory of one Contracting Party shall not be authorized to transport goods between two points situated in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

C. GENERAL PROVISIONS

DRIVING PERMITS

Article 16

Drivers must be in possession of a national or international driving permit.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 348, p. 13.

VISAS

Article 17

The competent authorities of both Contracting Parties shall grant to the drivers and service personnel of undertakings engaged in the international transport of passengers or goods, by an accelerated procedure, visas valid for several journeys and for an extended period, to be determined by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

INSURANCE

Article 18

During transport operations undertaken in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement, the following shall be applied:

- (a) In respect of the insurance of vehicles, the provisions in force in the country where the operation is undertaken;
- (b) In respect of the insurance of passengers and goods, the provisions in force in the country where the vehicle is registered;
- (c) In respect of damage of any kind caused during the operation, the provisions in force in the Contracting Party in whose territory the damage occurs.

GOODS WHOSE TRANSPORT IS FORBIDDEN OR SUBJECT TO AUTHORIZATION

Article 19

1. The legislation of the Contracting Parties concerning goods whose transport is forbidden or subject to special authorization shall be reserved.

2. This Agreement shall not exclude measures which the Contracting Parties shall take with regard to goods whose transport is forbidden or restricted in accordance with the provisions of an international agreement to which the High Contracting Parties are signatories.

SAFETY MEASURES

Article 20

1. Each of the Contracting Parties shall have the right to take the measures it considers necessary to ensure the safety of traffic.

2. The terms of this Agreement shall not prejudice the measures which either Contracting Party may take for reasons of national security.

CONTINUITY OF OPERATIONS

Article 21

With a view to promoting the international road transport of passengers and goods, the Contracting Parties shall ensure that transport vehicles are given unimpeded passage through frontier points.

PENALTIES

Article 22

1. Carriers and crews of vehicles used for international transport operations shall be required to comply with the traffic regulations and all other laws in force in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

2. If the carriers and crews of the vehicles commit any violation, the competent authority concerned shall apply the penalties provided for in its domestic legislation and shall subsequently inform the competent authority of the other Contracting Party so that it may take appropriate measures, if its domestic legislation provides for other penalties.

DOCUMENTS REQUIRED FOR THE PERFORMANCE OF TRANSPORT OPERATIONS

Article 23

Arrangements for the issuance, use and sale of tickets, the procedure for presenting documents required for the transport of passengers and goods, the exchange between the competent authorities of statistical data, and all other questions concerning transport documents, shall be fixed by agreement between the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

DUTIES, CHARGES AND PAYMENTS

Article 24

1. Goods and transport vehicles registered in one of the Contracting Parties in transit through the territory of the High Contracting Parties shall be exempt from entry and exit duties.

2. Carriers of the High Contracting Parties shall make the following payments for empty or loaded transport vehicles, including trailers, on entry, exit or in transit;

(a) Taxes, duties, charges and other types of payment levied to cover the costs of transport control and administration;

(b) The cost of services rendered in respect of vehicles and transported goods.

3. The High Contracting Parties may, on the basis of reciprocity and by agreement, abolish the taxes, charges and other payments envisaged in subparagraph 2 (a) for transit operations and operations undertaken between the two countries or a third country by vehicles registered in one of the Contracting Parties.

VEHICLE GUARANTEE

Article 25

When official and private transport vehicles of the High Contracting Parties carry an international passage card (*carnet de passage en douane*, triptych) valid in their countries, the Contracting Parties shall accept these cards as a guarantee for the vehicles, if such a guarantee is required by domestic legislation.

VEHICLE WEIGHT AND MEASUREMENTS

Article 26

The weight and measurements of vehicles used in goods transport operations shall conform to international standards and the relevant international agreements to which the High Contracting Parties are signatories.

PAYMENTS

Article 27

1. Payments which are to be made under the obligations deriving from the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled in accordance with the provisions of the payments agreement in force between the two countries.

2. If there is no payments agreement between the two countries, or if the existing agreement does not contain provisions on this subject, the

above-mentioned payments shall be made in accordance with the domestic legislation of each Contracting Party.

REPRESENTATIVES

Article 28

Carriers situated in one of the Contracting Parties engaged in the transport of goods or passengers by road between the two countries may designate as their agents or representatives carriers situated in the other Contracting Party, in accordance with the latter's domestic legislation, in order to facilitate road transport undertaken under the terms of this Agreement.

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

Article 29

1. All matters concerning the application of this Agreement shall be settled by agreement between the competent authorities of the two Contracting Parties.

Each Contracting Party shall communicate to the other Contracting Party the name of its competent authority.

2. If the competent authorities are unable to reach agreement, the question shall be settled through the diplomatic channel.

EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

Article 30

In the event of an accident, breakdown or other difficulty, the competent authorities of the Party in whose territory the incident occurs shall, in accordance with domestic legislation, make available to the owner of the vehicle or to the competent authority of the other Contracting Party, on request, copies of the records or the findings of the investigation and other data to explain the case.

MIXED COMMISSION

Article 31

1. A Mixed Commission, composed of representatives of the two competent authorities, shall be set up, at the request of either Contracting Party, for the purpose of solving questions that the competent authorities are unable to settle themselves.

2. The conclusions of the Mixed Commission shall be subject to the approval of the competent authorities of the High Contracting Parties.

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND VALIDITY

Article 32

This Agreement shall enter into force on the day of the exchange of instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Ankara.

It shall be valid for an indefinite period from the date of its entry into force unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties through the diplomatic channel on six months' notice.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Sofia on 15 December 1967, in two original copies in the French language.

For the Government
of the People's Republic
of Bulgaria :

[Signed]

KONSTANTIN GANTCHEV

For the Government
of the Republic of Turkey :

[Signed]

RAHMI GÜMRÜKCÜOĞLU
