

No. 5177

BELGIUM
and
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND

Exchange of letters (with annexes) constituting an arrangement for the abolition of passports for Belgian nationals entering the United Kingdom. London, 1 April 1960

Official texts : English and French.

Registered by Belgium on 15 June 1960.

BELGIQUE
et
ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD

Échange de lettres (avec annexes) constituant un arrangement supprimant l'obligation de passeport pour les ressortissants belges se rendant au Royaume-Uni. Londres, 1^{er} avril 1960

Textes officiels anglais et français.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 15 juin 1960.

No. 5177. EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN ARRANGEMENT¹ BETWEEN BELGIUM AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND FOR THE ABOLITION OF PASSPORTS FOR BELGIAN NATIONALS ENTERING THE UNITED KINGDOM. LONDON, 1 APRIL 1960

Nº 5177. ÉCHANGE DE LETTRES CONSTITUANT UN ARRANGEMENT¹ ENTRE LA BELGIQUE ET LE ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD SUPPRIMANT L'OBLIGATION DE PASSEPORT POUR LES RESSORTISSANTS BELGES SE RENDANT AU ROYAUME-UNI. LONDRES, 1^{er} AVRIL 1960

I

FOREIGN OFFICE, S.W. 1

Nº TNN 3104/1

April 1, 1960

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to inform Your Excellency that to facilitate travel between the Kingdom of Belgium and the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and British overseas dependent territories the Government of the United Kingdom are prepared to conclude an Agreement with the Belgian Government in the following terms :

1. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 below Belgian citizens holding valid Belgian passports shall be free to travel from any place whatever to the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man and to any of the territories named in Annex No. 1² to the present Note without the necessity of obtaining a visa.

2. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 below, Belgian citizens may enter and stay in the territory of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the Channel Islands and the Isle of Man, provided their stay does not exceed three months and is not for employment, if they hold a valid Belgian Identity Card and a British Visitor's Card examples of each of which are attached to this Note as Annex Nos. 2³ and 3⁴ respectively.

¹ Came into force on 10 April 1960, in accordance with paragraph 9 (a). This Arrangement is applicable to the Channel Islands and to the Isle of Man as well as to the territories listed in annex 1; it is not applicable to the Territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi.

² See p. 139 of this volume.

³ See p. 140 of this volume.

⁴ See p. 148 of this volume.

¹ Entré en vigueur le 10 avril 1960, conformément au paragraphe 9, a. Cet Arrangement est applicable aux îles Anglo-Normandes et à l'île de Man, de même qu'aux territoires dont la liste figure à l'annexe 1; il n'est pas applicable aux territoires du Congo belge et du Ruanda-Urundi.

3. Subject to the provisions of paragraphs 4 and 5 below, British subjects and British Protected Persons holding valid passports bearing on the cover the inscription "British Passport" at the top, and at the bottom the inscription "United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland" or "Jersey" or "Guernsey and its Dependencies" or "Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland" or the name of a British overseas dependent territory and inside the description of the holder's national status as "British Subject", or "British Subject, Citizen of the United Kingdom and Colonies" or "British Subject Citizen of the United Kingdom, Islands and Colonies" or "British Subject, Citizen of the State of Singapore" or "British Subject, Citizen of the Federation of Rhodesia and Nyasaland" or "British Protected Person" shall be free to travel from any place whatever to Belgium (metropolitan territory) without the necessity of obtaining a visa. However, British subjects and British Protected Persons wishing to proceed to Belgium for a stay exceeding three months should, before their departure, obtain a provisional residence authorisation from the competent Belgian diplomatic or consular mission.

4. The provisions of paragraphs 1, 2 or 3 above shall not exempt Belgian citizens proceeding to any British territory or British subjects or British Protected Persons proceeding to Belgium from the necessity of complying with, respectively, the laws and regulations of the British territory concerned, or of Belgium, relating to the entry, residence (temporary or permanent) and employment or occupation of foreigners. Travellers who are unable to satisfy the competent authorities that they comply with these laws and regulations may be refused leave to enter or to land.

5. The right is reserved to the competent authorities of Belgium and of all British territories to refuse any person leave to enter or stay in the country concerned in any case where that person is regarded as undesirable by those authorities; or is otherwise ineligible under the general policy of the respective Governments relating to the entry or stay of aliens.

6. Each Government undertakes to take back to its territory at any time persons having entered the territory of the other Government under the terms of this Agreement.

7. Either Government may suspend the foregoing provisions in whole or in part temporarily for reasons of public order and/or national security and the suspension shall be notified immediately to the other Government through the diplomatic channel.

8. The present Agreement abrogates and replaces the Agreement for the Reciprocal Abolition of Visas between Belgium and the United Kingdom concluded in London by an Exchange of Notes of the 5th of February, 1947.¹

9. (a) The present Agreement shall enter into force on the 10th of April, 1960, and shall remain in effect for a period of one year. Unless the Agreement is denounced by either Government at least two months before the expiry of this period, it shall thereafter remain in operation for an indefinite period, it being understood that either Government may at any time denounce the Agreement upon giving to the other six months' notice of their intention to do so.

(b) Either Government may, subject to the provisions of sub-paragraph (a) terminate the application of the Agreement to any of the territories named in Annex 1.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 11, p. 261; Vol. 229, p. 272; Vol. 267, p. 365; Vol. 286, p. 330, and Vol. 349, p. 306.

If the Belgian Government are prepared to accept the foregoing provisions, I have the honour to suggest that the present Note and Your Excellency's reply in similar terms should be considered as placing on record the Agreement of the two Governments in this matter.

I have the honour to be, with the highest consideration,

Your Excellency's obedient Servant,

For the Secretary of State :
(Signed) R.J. CALLENDER

His Excellency Monsieur René van Meerbeke
etc., etc., etc.
S.W. 1

A N N E X No. 1

Aden	Gilbert and Ellice Islands	Sarawak
Bahamas	Jamaica (including Turks	Seychelles
Barbados	and Caicos Islands and	Sierra Leone
Basutoland	Cayman Islands)	Singapore
Bechuanaland	Kenya	Somaliland
Bermuda	Leeward Islands :	Southern Rhodesia
British Guiana	Antigua	Swaziland
British Honduras	Montserrat	Tanganyika
British Solomon Islands	St. Kitts-Nevis-Anguilla	Trinidad and Tobago
Brunei	British Virgin Islands	Uganda
Cyprus	Malta	Windward Islands :
Falkland Islands and De-	Mauritius	Dominica
pendencies	North Borneo	Grenada
Fiji	Northern Rhodesia	St. Lucia
Gambia	Nyasaland	St. Vincent
Gibraltar	St. Helena	Zanzibar

Previous residence	KINGDOM OF BELGIUM IDENTITY CARD FOR BELGIAN NATIONALS
Registered in the issuing commune	
since For the Registrar	
Name	Constituting a certificate of registration in the population register
Registered at	Issued at
On For the Registrar	
Name	
Registered at	On
On For the Registrar	
Name	Any person tampering with this card will be liable to a penalty