

No. 9384

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
and
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND**

**Consular Convention (with protocol). Signed at Moscow on
2 December 1965**

Authentic texts: Russian and English.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 15 January 1969.

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES
et
ROYAUME-UNI DE GRANDE-BRETAGNE
ET D'IRLANDE DU NORD**

**Convention consulaire (avec protocole). Signée à Moscou le
2 décembre 1965**

Textes authentiques: russe et anglais.

Enregistrée par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 15 janvier 1969.

CONSULAR CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND

The Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Her Majesty The Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth;

Desiring to join in strengthening the ties of friendship between their respective countries;

Wishing to regulate their relations in the consular field and thus to facilitate the protection of their respective national interests and the rights and interests of their respective nationals;

Have decided to conclude a Consular Convention and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries for this purpose :

The Praesidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : Monsieur Andrei Andreevich Gromyko, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics;

Her Majesty The Queen of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of Her other Realms and Territories, Head of the Commonwealth (hereinafter referred to as " Her Britannic Majesty "); for the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland : The Right Honourable Michael Stewart, M.P., Her Britannic Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs;

who, having communicated to each other their respective full powers, which were found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

PART I

DEFINITIONS

Article 1

For the purposes of this Convention :

(1) the term " consulate " shall mean a consulate-general, consulate, vice-consulate or consular agency;

¹ According to the information provided by the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the Convention came into force on 21 September 1968, i.e., on the thirtieth day after the exchange of the instruments of ratification which took place in London on 23 August 1968, in accordance with article 42 (1). However, the Government of Great Britain and Northern Ireland construes the latter provision as meaning that the Convention came into force on 22 September 1968.

(2) the term “ consular officer ” shall mean any person, including a consular officer, head of a post, (whether a consul-general, consul, vice-consul or consular agent) who is charged with the performance of consular duties and has been appointed or notified as such in conformity with Article 3 or 4, as the case may be; the term shall also include any person appointed to a consulate for the purposes of consular training;

(3) the term “ consular employee ” shall mean any person employed to perform administrative, technical or service duties at a consulate and notified as such in conformity with Article 6;

(4) the term “ vessel ” shall mean, in relation to the sending State, any vessel registered at a port of the sending State; the term shall not, however, include any ship of war.

PART II

ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULATES AND APPOINTMENT OF CONSULAR OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES

Article 2

(1) The opening of a consulate in the receiving State shall be subject to the consent of that State.

(2) The sending and receiving States shall determine by agreement the seat of the consulate and the limits of the consular district.

Article 3

(1) The sending State shall request in advance through the diplomatic channel the agreement of the receiving State to the appointment of a consular officer, head of a post.

(2) After such agreement has been obtained the diplomatic mission of the sending State shall transmit to the ministry of foreign affairs of the receiving State the consular commission or other document of appointment. The commission or other document shall specify the full name of a consular officer, head of a post, his nationality, his rank, the consular district in which he will perform his duties and the seat of the consulate.

(3) Upon the presentation of the commission or other document of appointment of a consular officer, head of a post, the exequatur or other authorisation shall be granted as soon as possible and free of charge by the receiving State.

(4) A consular officer, head of a post, may enter upon the performance of his duties as soon as the receiving State has granted him an exequatur or other authorisation.

Article 4

(1) The sending State shall notify in advance the ministry of foreign affairs of the receiving State of the full name, nationality, rank and function of a consular officer appointed to a consulate in a capacity other than that of head of a post.

(2) The receiving State shall grant him an appropriate document confirming his right to perform consular duties in the receiving State.

Article 5

A consular officer shall be a national of the sending State.

Article 6

The sending State shall notify in advance the ministry of foreign affairs of the receiving State of the full name, nationality and function of a consular employee appointed to a consulate.

Article 7

A national of the sending State who is already present in the receiving State or who is in transit thereto may not be appointed as a consular officer or employee. This prohibition does not apply, however, in the case of a national who is already a member of the staff of a consulate, or of the staff, as defined in sub-paragraph (c) of Article 1 of the Vienna Convention on Diplomatic Relations signed on the 18th of April, 1961,¹ of the diplomatic mission of the sending State in the receiving State.

Article 8

The receiving State may at any time, and without having to explain the reason for its decision, notify the sending State through the diplomatic channel that the exequatur or other authorisation of a consular officer, head of a post, has been revoked or that a consular officer or employee is unacceptable. The sending State shall thereupon recall the officer or employee concerned in the event that he has already taken up his appointment. If it fails to carry out this

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, Vol. 500, p. 95.

obligation within a reasonable period the receiving State may decline to continue to recognise the person concerned as a consular officer or employee, as the case may be.

Article 9

The receiving State shall afford its protection to a consular officer and shall take the necessary measures to ensure that he is enabled to perform his duties and is accorded the rights, privileges and immunities due to him under this Convention and the law of the receiving State.

Article 10

(1) If a consular officer, head of a post, is unable for any reason to act as such or if the post is temporarily vacant, the sending State may appoint a consular officer belonging to the same consulate or to another consulate in the receiving State or a member of the diplomatic staff of its diplomatic mission in that State to act temporarily in his place. The full name of the person concerned shall be notified in advance to the ministry of foreign affairs of the receiving State.

(2) Such acting officer shall be entitled to perform the duties of the consular officer, head of a post, in whose place he is acting. He shall be subject to the same obligations and shall be accorded the same rights, privileges and immunities as if he had been appointed under Article 3.

(3) Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (7) of Article 34, the appointment of a member of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State to a consulate in pursuance of paragraph (1) of this Article shall not affect the privileges and immunities accorded to him by virtue of his diplomatic status.

Article 11

(1) Members of the diplomatic staff of the diplomatic mission of the sending State in the receiving State who are charged with the performance of consular duties within that mission and whose names have been so notified to the ministry of foreign affairs of the receiving State, shall be accorded the same rights and be subject to the same obligations as consular officers under this Convention.

(2) Without prejudice to the provisions of paragraph (7) of Article 34, the performance of consular duties by persons to whom paragraph (1) of this