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**EUROPEAN UNION, BELGIUM, DENMARK,
FRANCE, GERMANY, GREECE, IRELAND,
ITALY, LUXEMBOURG, NETHERLANDS,
PORTUGAL, SPAIN,
UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN
AND NORTHERN IRELAND AND BULGARIA**

**Europe Agreement establishing an Association between the
European Communities and their member States, of the
one part, and the Republic of Bulgaria, of the other part
(with annexes, protocols and final act). Concluded at
Brussels on 8 March 1993**

*Authentic texts: Danish, Dutch, English, French, German, Italian, Spanish,
Greek, Portuguese and Bulgarian.¹*

Registered by the European Union on 29 June 1995.

¹ Only the English and French texts are published herein.

EUROPE AGREEMENT¹ ESTABLISHING AN ASSOCIATION BETWEEN THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES AND THEIR MEMBER STATES, OF THE ONE PART, AND THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA, OF THE OTHER PART

THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM,
 THE KINGDOM OF DENMARK,
 THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY,
 THE HELLENIC REPUBLIC,
 THE KINGDOM OF SPAIN,
 THE FRENCH REPUBLIC,
 IRELAND,
 THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC,
 THE GRAND DUCHY OF LUXEMBOURG,
 THE KINGDOM OF THE NETHERLANDS,
 THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC,
 THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND,

¹ Came into force on 1 February 1995, i.e., the first day of the second month following the date on which the Parties had notified each other that it had been approved pursuant to their own procedures, in accordance with article 124:

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the notification</i>	<i>Participant</i>	<i>Date of deposit of the notification</i>
Belgium.....	29 November 1994	Italy	25 November 1994
Bulgaria.....	27 April 1993	Luxembourg	7 December 1994
Denmark.....	27 December 1993	Netherlands.....	21 October 1994
European Union	21 December 1994	Portugal	16 December 1994
France	6 September 1994	Spain	14 April 1994
Germany.....	22 November 1994	United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland	28 March 1994
Greece.....	8 December 1994		
Ireland.....	23 June 1994		

Contracting Parties to the Treaty establishing the EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY,¹ the Treaty establishing the EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY,² and the Treaty establishing the EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY,³

hereinafter referred to as "Member States", and

The EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY, the EUROPEAN ATOMIC ENERGY COMMUNITY and the EUROPEAN COAL AND STEEL COMMUNITY,

hereinafter referred to as "the Community",

of the one part,

and THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA,

hereinafter referred to as "Bulgaria",

of the other part,

CONSIDERING the importance of the traditional links existing between the Community, its Member States and Bulgaria and the common values that they share,

RECOGNIZING that the Community and Bulgaria wish to strengthen these links and to establish close and long lasting relations, based on mutual interest and reciprocity, which would allow Bulgaria to take part in the process of European integration, thus strengthening and widening the relations established in

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 298, p. 3 (English translation); vol. 294, p. 3 (authentic French text); vol. 295, p. 2 (authentic German text); vol. 296, p. 2 (authentic Italian text); vol. 297, p. 2 (authentic Dutch text); vol. 1376, p. 138 (authentic Danish text); vol. 1377, p. 6 (authentic English text); vol. 1378, p. 6 (authentic Irish text); vol. 1383, p. 146 (authentic Greek text); vol. 1452, p. 306 (authentic Portuguese text); and vol. 1453, p. 332 (authentic Spanish text).

² *Ibid.*, vol. 261, p. 140.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 298, p. 167 (English translation); vol. 294, p. 259 (authentic French text); vol. 295, p. 259 (authentic German text); vol. 296, p. 259 (authentic Italian text); vol. 297, p. 259 (authentic Dutch text); vol. 1376, p. 138 (authentic Danish text); vol. 1377, p. 6 (authentic English text); vol. 1378, p. 6 (authentic Irish text); vol. 1383, p. 146 (authentic Greek text); vol. 1452, p. 306 (authentic Portuguese text); and vol. 1453, p. 332 (authentic Spanish text).

the past notably by the Agreement on Trade and Commercial and Economic Co-operation, signed on 8 May 1990,

CONSIDERING the opportunities for a relationship of a new quality offered by the emergence of a new democracy in Bulgaria,

CONSIDERING the commitment of the Community and its Member States and of Bulgaria to strengthening the political and economic freedoms which constitute the very basis of the association,

RECOGNIZING the fundamental character of the democratic changes in Bulgaria, taking place in a peaceful manner and aimed at building a new political and economic system, based on the rule of law and human rights, political pluralism, and a pluralist multi-party system involving free and democratic elections and the creation of the legislative and economic conditions, necessary for the development of a market economy, as well as the need to continue and complete that process with the assistance of the Community,

CONSIDERING the firm commitment of the Community and its Member States and of Bulgaria to the rule of law and human rights, including those of persons belonging to minorities, and to the full implementation of all other principles and provisions contained in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE),¹ the concluding documents of Vienna² and Madrid,³ the Charter of Paris for a new Europe,⁴ as well as to the principles and provisions of the European Energy Charter,

¹ *International Legal Materials*, vol. XIV (1975), p. 1292 (American Society of International Law).

² *Ibid.*, vol. XXVIII (1989), p. 527 (American Society of International Law).

³ *Ibid.*, vol. XXII (1983), p. 1395 (American Society of International Law).

⁴ United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session*, document A/45/859.

WILLING to promote improved contacts among their citizens as well as the free flow of information and ideas, as agreed by the parties in the framework of the CSCE,

CONSCIOUS of the importance of this Agreement to establishing and enhancing in Europe a system of stability based on co-operation, with the Community as one of the cornerstones,

BELIEVING that a link should be made between full implementation of association, on the one hand, and continuation of the actual accomplishment of Bulgaria's political, economic and legal reforms on the other hand, as well as the introduction of the factors necessary for co-operation and the actual rapprochement between the Parties' systems, notably in the light of the conclusions of the CSCE Bonn Conference,¹

DESIROUS of establishing regular political dialogue on bilateral and international issues of mutual interest to enhance and complete the association,

TAKING ACCOUNT of the Community's willingness to provide decisive support for the completion of the transition towards a market economy in Bulgaria and to help Bulgaria cope with the economic and social consequences of structural readjustment,

TAKING ACCOUNT furthermore of the Community's willingness to set up instruments of co-operation and economic, technical and financial assistance on a global and multiannual basis,

CONSIDERING the commitment of the Community and Bulgaria to free trade, and in particular in respect of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade² principles,

¹ *International Legal Materials*, vol. XXIX, No. 4 (1990), p. 1054 (American Society of International Law).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 55, p. 187.