

No. 4609

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
and
ROMANIA**

**Consular Convention. Signed at Bucharest, on 4 September
1957**

Official texts : Russian and Romanian.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 29 December 1958.

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES
et
ROUMANIE**

**Convention consulaire. Signée à Bucarest, le 4 septembre
1957**

Textes officiels russe et roumain.

Enregistrée par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 29 décembre 1958.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 4609. CONSULAR CONVENTION¹ BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE ROMANIAN PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC. SIGNED AT BUCHAREST, ON 4 SEPTEMBER 1957

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, on the one hand, and the Presidium of the Grand National Assembly of the Romanian People's Republic, on the other hand,

Being desirous of determining and regulating consular relations between the two States,

Have resolved to conclude a Consular Convention and for this purpose have appointed as their plenipotentiaries :

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics : A. A. Epishev, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in the Romanian People's Republic ;

The Presidium of the Grand National Assembly of the Romanian People's Republic : A. Malnasan, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the Romanian People's Republic,

Who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

ESTABLISHMENT OF CONSULATES, APPOINTMENT AND ACCEPTANCE OF CONSULS,
CONSULAR STAFF

Article 1

1. Either Contracting Party shall be entitled to establish consulates in the territory of the other Contracting Party in accordance with this Convention.

2. The places in which consuls are stationed and their consular districts shall be determined by agreement between the Parties in each individual case.

Article 2

Before appointing a consul, the Contracting Party concerned shall obtain, through the diplomatic channel, the consent of the other Contracting Party to such appointment.

¹ Came into force on 3 March 1958, the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Moscow, in accordance with article 27.

Consuls and consular officers shall be citizens of the sending country.

Article 3

1. The diplomatic mission of the sending country shall present to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the receiving country the consular letter of appointment setting forth the consul's rank, surname and first name, the consular district for which he will be responsible, and his duty station.

2. The consul may not enter upon his duties until the Government of the receiving country has recognized him in that capacity. Such recognition shall be granted in the form of an exequatur issued after the letter of appointment has been presented.

3. After the consul has been recognized, the authorities of the receiving country shall make the necessary arrangements to enable the consul to perform his duties and enjoy the exemptions and privileges to which he is entitled under this Convention and under the laws of the receiving country.

Article 4

1. In the event of the consul's absence, illness or death, the sending country may authorize an officer of its diplomatic mission, or a consular officer of the consulate concerned or of another consulate, to take temporary charge of the consulate ; the officer's name shall be communicated beforehand to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the receiving country, with an indication of the period for which he will be in temporary charge of the consulate.

2. A person accepted as being in temporary charge of a consulate shall enjoy the rights and privileges accorded to consuls by this Convention.

Article 5

1. For the purposes of this Convention, the term "consulate" means a consulate-general, consulate, vice-consulate or consular agency, and the term "consul" means a consul-general, consul, vice-consul or consular agent.

2. The term "consular staff" means the consul, consular officers and consular employees.

3. The term "consular officers" means the consulate secretaries, advisers and trainees.

4. The term "consular employees" means chief clerks, translators, shorthand typists, typists, bookkeepers, housekeepers, etc.

RIGHTS, EXEMPTIONS AND PRIVILEGES OF CONSULS, CONSULAR OFFICERS AND
CONSULAR EMPLOYEES

Article 6

The consuls, consular officers and consular employees of the Contracting Parties who are citizens of the sending country shall not be subject to the jurisdiction of the receiving State where the performance of their official duties is concerned.

Article 7

Consuls shall be entitled to affix to consulate buildings shields bearing the coat-of-arms of their country and an inscription designating the consulate, and to fly the flags of their country from the said buildings and place them on vehicles used by them (motor vehicles, launches, etc.).

Article 8

1. Consuls and other consular staff shall give evidence before the judicial organs of the receiving country if requested to do so by the judicial authorities.

2. If a consul or another member of the consular staff is prevented by the exigencies of his service, by illness or for other reasons from appearing before the judicial organs, he shall make a deposition in writing.

3. Consuls and consular officers may refuse to make a deposition concerning matters connected with their official duties.

Article 9

1. The official correspondence of consuls shall be inviolable and shall not be subject to examination. This shall also apply to telegraphic communications.

2. The offices of consulates shall be inviolable. The authorities of the receiving State shall not use force, in any form whatsoever, in the offices or in the private living quarters of consuls.

3. Consular archives shall be inviolable in all circumstances. Private papers shall not be kept in the consular archives.

4. In their communications with the authorities of the sending country, consuls shall be entitled to use codes and the services of diplomatic couriers. Consuls shall be charged at the same rates as diplomatic representatives for the use of ordinary means of communication.

Article 10

The consuls, consular officers and consular employees and their spouses and minor children who are citizens of the sending country shall be exempt from all