

# TREATY OF DEFENSIVE ALLIANCE BETWEEN ESTHONIA AND LATVIA, SIGNED AT TALLINN NOVEMBER 1, 1923

THE REPUBLIC OF ESTHONIA and the REPUBLIC OF LATVIA, being firmly resolved to maintain the national sovereignty and independence which they have gained at the cost of heavy sacrifices, and to preserve their territorial integrity, have decided to conclude a treaty of defensive alliance.

For this purpose they have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

ESTHONIA:

M. Fr. AKEL, Minister for Foreign Affairs;

LATVIA:

M. Z. A. MEIEROVICS, Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following provisions:

## ***Article 1.***

The High Contracting Parties undertake to follow a wholly pacific policy, directed towards maintaining and strengthening the bonds of friendship and developing their economic relations with all nations, more especially with the Baltic States and neighbouring countries.

## ***Article 2.***

The two Governments undertake to co-ordinate their efforts for peace by consulting each other on such questions of foreign policy as are important to both, and by affording each other political and diplomatic assistance in their international relations.

## ***Article 3.***

The High Contracting Parties undertake to afford each other assistance should either of them suffer an unprovoked attack on its present frontiers.

Accordingly, should one of the High Contracting Parties suffer an unprovoked attack, the other shall consider itself in a state of war and shall furnish armed assistance.

## ***Article 4.***

The competent technical authorities of the Esthonian Republic and of the Latvian Republic shall determine by common agreement the manner in which the two countries will assist each other, and shall establish the necessary provisions for the execution of Article 3 of the present Treaty.

## ***Article 5.***

Should the High Contracting Parties, notwithstanding their efforts for peace, find themselves in a state of defensive war, as defined in Article 3, they undertake that neither will separately negotiate or conclude an armistice or peace.

**Article 6.**

All disputed questions which may arise between the High Contracting Parties, and which cannot be settled by diplomatic means, shall be laid before the Court of International Justice or submitted to international arbitration.

**Article 7.**

Neither of the High Contracting Parties shall conclude an alliance with a third power without the consent of the other Party. Each undertakes to communicate to the other forthwith the text of any treaties which it may have concluded with any other State or States.

**Article 8.**

The present Treaty shall remain in force for ten years from the date of the exchange of ratifications; thereafter either of the two Contracting Parties may denounce it on giving one year's notice to the other Party.

**Article 9.**

The present Treaty shall be communicated to the League of Nations for registration and publication.

**Article 10.**

The present Treaty shall be ratified, and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged at Riga as early as possible.

In faith whereof the plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done in duplicate at Tallinn on November 1st, one thousand nine hundred and twenty-three.

(Signed) Fr. AKEL.

(Signed) Z. A. MEIEROVICS.

[Quelle: League of Nations, Treaty Series, 1924, vol. 23, p. 83-85.]