

**AGREEMENTS BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF ITALY AND THE KINGDOM
OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES,
SIGNED AT ROME, JANUARY 27, 1924**

**PACT OF FRIENDSHIP AND CORDIAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE KINGDOM
OF ITALY AND THE KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES.**

THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES, being firmly resolved to secure peace and to safeguard the results obtained during the great war and sanctioned by the Treaties of Peace, have concurred in the conclusion of the present Convention as a natural consequence of the friendship between the two Kingdoms and of the respect of each for the rights of the other both on land and on sea, and have agreed upon the following Articles:

Article 1.

The two High Contracting Parties undertake to afford each other support and cordial cooperation in order to maintain the position established by the Treaties of Peace concluded at Trianon, Saint Germain and Neuilly, and to ensure respect and fulfilment of the obligations laid down in those Treaties.

Article 2.

In the event of one of the High Contracting Parties suffering an unprovoked attack from any Power or Powers, the other Party undertakes to remain neutral throughout the conflict. Furthermore, in the event of the safety and the interests of one of the High Contracting Parties being threatened as the result of forcible incursions from without, the other Party undertakes to afford political and diplomatic support in the form of friendly co-operation for the purpose of assisting to remove the external cause of such threat.

Article 3.

In the event of international complications, if the two High Contracting Parties are agreed that their common interests are or may be threatened, they undertake to consult one another as to the steps to be taken in common to protect those interests.

Article 4.

The present Convention shall remain in force for five years, and may be denounced or renewed one year before its expiration.

Article 5.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Rome.

It shall come into force immediately upon the exchange of ratifications.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed it in duplicate and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Rome on January 27, 1924.

BENITO MUSSOLINI.

NIK. P. PACHITCH.

M. NINTCHITCH.

SUPPLEMENTARY PROTOCOL TO THE PACT OF FRIENDSHIP AND CORDIAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF ITALY AND THE KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES.

Article 1.

The High Contracting Parties undertake to communicate to each other, after previous consultation, such Agreements as affect their policy in Central Europe, and declare in this connection that the Pact of Friendship signed on this day's date contains nothing contrary to the Treaties of Alliance which the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes has concluded with the Czechoslovak Republic and the Kingdom of Roumania on August 31, 1922, and July 7, 1923, respectively.

Article 2.

The Pact of Friendship concluded on this day's date and the present Supplementary Protocol shall be presented to the League of Nations for registration in conformity with Article 18 of the Covenant.

Done at Rome on January 27, 1924.

BENITO MUSSOLINI.

NIK. P. PACHITCH.

M. NINTCHITCH.

AGREEMENT CONCLUDED BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF ITALY AND THE KINGDOM OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES CONCERNING FIUME.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY and HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES:

being convinced of the absolute impossibility of organising in any practical fashion the Free State of Fiume referred to in Article 4 of the Treaty signed at Rapallo on November 12, 1920, and in accordance with the general provisions laid down in the Agreement signed at Rome on October 23, 1922;

with the object of establishing cordial relations between the two States for the common welfare of both Peoples;

desirous of organising in the most satisfactory manner the life of the City of Fiume and that form of economic development which is in the best interests of the City;

have decided to conclude an Agreement with this object, and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries for that purpose:

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF ITALY:

M. Benito MUSSOLINI, Member of Parliament, Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF THE SERBS, CROATS AND SLOVENES:

M. Nicolas PACHITCH, Prime Minister;

P. M. Momcilo NINTCHITCH, Minister for Foreign Affairs;

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

Article 1.

The Italian Government recognises the full and entire sovereignty of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes over Port Baross and over the Delta, both of which will be evacuated and handed over to the competent authorities of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes within two days following upon the exchange of ratifications of the present Agreement.

Article 2.

The Government of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes recognises the full and entire sovereignty of the Kingdom of Italy over the City and Port of Fiume and over the territory assigned to it by the frontier line indicated in the following Article.

Article 3.

The frontier of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes in the vicinity of Fiume, as fixed in Article 3 of the Treaty signed at Rapallo on November 12, 1920, is to be rectified in accordance with the provisions contained in the two preceding articles. This frontier-line will be drawn by a Special Mixed Commission composed of Italian delegates and Serb-Croat-Slovene delegates, along the line fixed in a general manner as follows:

"The Castua-Fiume road will be included in the territory of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, from a point east of Tometici to the cross-roads north of Bergudi. The frontier will be drawn on the ground along a line to be fixed between the Castua-Fiume road and the railway. From this point, the frontier-line will run north-east, leaving Pekljn in Serb-Croat-Slovene territory, and will then, taking a convex curve to the north of Drenova, reach a point on the Recina, yet to be determined, in the northern half of the section of the frontier contained between the cairns Nos. VIII and IX."

The Kingdom of Italy recognises the full and entire sovereignty of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes over the territory thus assigned to the latter. This territory will be evacuated by Italy and handed over to the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes as soon as the delimitation of the new frontier-line has been carried out by the Mixed Commission. The Mixed Commission will accomplish its work in such a way as to enable the aforesaid territory to be evacuated and handed over within five days following the exchange of ratifications of the present Agreement.

Article 4.

In the relations between the frontier zones beyond the new frontier-line, and in the relations between the census area of Castua and the adjacent Italian territory, the provisions contained in the Supplementary Convention attached hereto (Annex A) shall be

observed, and shall remain in force until the conclusion of the Commercial Treaty which is to regulate the frontier traffic.

The two Contracting Parties agree that, in the aforesaid Treaty, in the settlement of questions relating to frontier traffic between the zones divided by the new frontier-line, particular attention shall be paid to the economic relations between the said zones and to the special needs of their populations.

Article 5.

The Kingdom of Italy grants the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes a 50-years' lease of the covered and open sites in the Porto Grande of Fiume which form the Thaon di Revel Basin, as described in Article 5 of the additional Convention annexed hereto. The lease, which shall possess no extra-territorial character, shall include the sole and unlimited right to make use of the large warehouse on the "Naples" jetty, the two warehouses facing on the Thaon di Revel quay, and the two warehouses on the "Genoa" jetty facing westward, and the first claim to the use of the three quays which form the limits of the basin in question, with the accessories thereto.

The authorities of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes, and the staff under those authorities whose duty it is to supervise the traffic operations of their own State in this basin, shall perform their duties in accordance with the Supplementary Convention, (Annex B) attached to the present Agreement (Chapter I).

The Government of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes shall pay the Italian Government an annual rent of 1 gold lira for the lease of the installations in the above-mentioned port.

Article 6.

The central railway station at Fiume shall be organised as an international frontier station. In accordance with the usual practice at international stations on the Italian frontier, a delegation representing the Serb-Croat-Slovene railways, consisting of a suitable number of officials, shall be attached to this station. This delegation shall co-operate with the Italian railway administration, particularly in operating the branches connecting the station situated in Serb-Croat-Slovene territory with the basin referred to in the preceding article and connecting that basin with Port Baross. The methods of co-operation to be followed are laid down in the Supplementary Convention, (Annex B) attached to the present Agreement (Chapter II).

Article 7.

The frontier between Fiume and Port Baross, passing along the quay, shall be delimited according to the line marked on the map attached to the Letter annexed to the Treaty of Rapallo, in such manner as the Delimitation Commission provided for in Article 3 may consider most convenient for the exercise of customs supervision by both States, regard being also had to the special needs of traffic, public order and communications in the city. The swing bridge between Port Baross and Porte Grande shall be in Italian territory.

The Kingdom of Italy recognises the full and entire sovereignty of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes over the waters of the Fiumara. On this side, therefore, the frontier-line shall be the edge of the western bank of the channel.

The passage and mooring of floating craft to the western (Italian) bank of the Fiumara shall be regulated in the attached Supplementary Convention, (Annex B, Chapter III), in such a manner as not to impede navigation on the Fiumara.

For the maintenance of these rights of user over the Serb-Croat-Slovene waters of the channel, and in recognition of the sovereignty of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes over the said waters, the Italian Government shall pay the Government of the Kingdom of the Serbs, Croats and Slovenes an annual rent of 1 gold dinar.

Article 8.

As regards the Fiume aqueduct and the upkeep of the works in connection with the river Recina, the provisions laid down in the attached supplementary Convention, (Annex B, Chapter IV), shall be observed.

Article 9.

Yugo-Slav minorities in Fiume shall be accorded the status granted to Italian minorities in Dalmatia by the international engagements in force.

Article 10.

The present Agreement shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Rome not later than 20 days after the date of the signature of the present Agreement.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done in duplicate at Rome on January 27, 1924.

BENITO MUSSOLINI.

NIK. P. PACHITCH.

M. NINTCHITCH.

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