

**PROVISIONAL ECONOMIC TREATY BETWEEN ESTONIA AND LATVIA.
(SIGNED AT TALLINN, MARCH 25, 1928)**

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA and THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA have resolved to conclude a Provisional Economic Treaty and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries, that is to say:

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ESTONIAN REPUBLIC:

M. Max HURT,
M. Karl IMELIK,
M. Rudolph MICKWITZ;

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE LATVIAN REPUBLIC:

M. Karlis ULMANIS, Member of the Saeima,
M. Roberts BILMANIS, Member of the Saeima,
M. John HAHN, Member of the Saeima,

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

Article 1.

The products of the soil and industry of either of the Contracting Parties imported into the territories of the other Party and intended for consumption, warehousing, re-exportation or transit may not, in respect of their importation, re-exportation and transit, be subject to duties, charges, surcharges, taxes, contributions or obligations, either general or local, other or higher than those imposed on the products of the most favoured nation.

Neither of the Contracting Parties shall impose on any article exported from the territories of one Party and destined for that of the other any duties or charges other or higher than those which are or may be imposed on the same article exported to any other foreign country.

Similarly, no prohibition or restriction shall be maintained or imposed by one of the Contracting Parties in respect of the importation or exportation of any article arriving from or consigned to the territories of the other Party unless such prohibition or restriction is also applied to similar articles arriving from or consigned to any other country. The latter provision shall not, however, apply to prohibitions or restrictions maintained or imposed either in view of the possibility of war or as measures concerning the public health or public safety, or for the protection of animals or useful plants or in respect of goods which are subject to a Government monopoly in one of the Contracting States.

Article 2.

Without prejudice to the provisions of Article 1, products originating in the territories of one of the Contracting Parties shall enjoy, on importation into the territories of the other Party, the minimum rates of the Customs tariff.

Article 3.

In order to reserve the benefits of the above stipulations for products originating in their respective countries, the Contracting Parties shall require products and goods imported into their territory to be accompanied by a certificate of origin attesting, in the case of natural products, that they originated in the other country, and, in the case of manufactured products, that at least one-fourth of their value is represented by the value of materials originating in the other country together with the cost of transformation.

The Contracting Parties are nevertheless agreed that the production of a certificate of origin shall not be required where it is manifest beyond doubt, from the character of the goods or from certain external indications that they originate on the territories of the Contracting Parties or that they have been transformed therein to the extent provided for in the preceding paragraph of the present Article. A list of such goods shall be drawn up and, if necessary, supplemented by mutual agreement between the Governments of the Contracting Parties.

Article 4.

The Contracting Parties agree that, in order further to promote trade between the two countries, they will proceed as soon as possible to supplement the present Treaty by the conclusion of special arrangements.

Article 5.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and the ratifications shall be exchanged at Riga. It shall come into force on the day of the exchange of the instruments of ratification and shall remain valid for three months after the date of its denunciation by one or other of the Contracting Parties.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty.

Done in duplicate at Tallinn, March the twenty-fifth, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight.

Max HURT.
K. IMELIK.
R. MICKWITZ.

K. ULMANIS.
R. BILMANIS.
J. HAHN.

FINAL PROTOCOL.

Pending the settlement of the question of the unrestricted application of the most-favoured-nation clause, of which the Contracting Parties have expressed a desire to avail themselves in their mutual economic relations, the Contracting Parties shall not invoke the provisions of Article 1 in order to claim special privileges in regard to Customs duties which have been granted or which may hereafter be granted to Finland, Lithuania, and the Union of Socialist Soviet Republics.

The present Final Protocol constitutes an integral part of the Provisional Economic Treaty signed this day.

Tallinn, March the twenty-fifth, One thousand nine hundred and twenty-eight.

Max HURT.
K. IMELIK.
R. MICKWITZ.

K. ULMANIS.
R. BILMANIS.
J. HAHN.

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