

TREATY BETWEEN ESTONIA AND LATVIA FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE ALLIANCE. SIGNED AT RIGA, FEBRUARY 17TH, 1934

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA and

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA,

Having decided still further to develop co-operation between their respective countries and to promote a closer understanding between the Baltic States, steadfastly based upon the Treaty of Defensive Alliance signed at Tallinn on November 1st, 1923;

And being firmly resolved to pursue and further the joint policy of their two countries by all possible means and to place the relations of friendship and alliance existing between them upon a permanent and stable basis, such as will enhance the efficacy of their action as allied countries in international relations;

Have resolved to conclude a Treaty and, to that end, have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries:

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA:

His Excellency M. Julius SELJAMAA, Minister for Foreign Affairs, and

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA:

His Excellency M. Voldemars SALNAIS, 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 hereby decide to institute periodical Conferences of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs of their respective countries, to take place at regular intervals, at least twice a year, in the territory of each of the two States alternately. At the request of either of the High Contracting Parties, and by joint agreement, extraordinary Conferences may be held either in one of the two States or elsewhere.

Article 2.

These periodical Conferences, being designed to co-ordinate the general policy of the two States, shall deal with all questions relating to their joint foreign policy.

Each Conference shall be presided over by the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the State in whose territory it takes place; if, however, a Conference meets outside the territory of the two States, its President shall be the Minister for Foreign Affairs of the country in whose territory the previous Conference was held.

The President in office shall be responsible for the execution of the decisions taken by the Conference over which he has presided, and, when necessary, shall be instructed to provide for the application of such decisions in the field of international relations.

Article 3.

The High Contracting Parties hereby decide to set up a permanent Council for the co-ordination of the laws of the two countries; such Council shall be empowered to appoint, if necessary, a special Committee to deal with economic problems. The Council shall consist of members appointed by the two Governments on a basis of parity; the two Parties, recognising the desirability of the participation of representatives of the legislative houses of the two countries in the work of the Council, agree to take all necessary steps to that end.

The two Governments shall, by joint agreement, lay down detailed instructions to govern the Council's activities.

The decisions arrived at by the permanent Council shall be submitted for approval to the periodical Conference of the Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

Article 4.

The High Contracting Parties agree to join together in each special case in which such a course appears desirable with a view to their representation at international Conferences either by a mixed joint delegation, or by the delegation or delegate of either State.

Article 5.

The High Contracting Parties agree to co-ordinate, as closely as possible, the activities of their diplomatic and consular representatives abroad.

Article 6.

The High Contracting Parties agree to be always prepared to consider means of enabling third States to become Contracting Parties to the present Treaty.

Article 7.

The present Treaty shall be ratified and the exchange of ratifications shall take place at Tallinn at the earliest possible date. It shall come into force on the date of the exchange of ratifications, and shall remain in force for the same length of time and under the same conditions as the Treaty of Defensive Alliance signed by the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Latvia at Tallinn on November 1st, 1923.

In faith whereof the above-named Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Treaty and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done at Riga, in duplicate, February 17th, 1934.

(L. S.) Jul. SELJAMAA.

(L. S.) V. SALNAIS.

[Quelle: League of Nation, Treaty Series, 1934, vol. 150, p. 105-109.]