

TREATY OF FRIENDSHIP, MUTUAL AID AND PEACEFUL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN THE FEDERATIVE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF YUGOSLAVIA AND THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC (MAY 9TH, 1946)

The Presidium of the People's Assembly of the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia and the President of the Czechoslovak Republic,

Being desirous of solemnly confirming the ties of sincere friendship which from time immemorial have united the brother Slav peoples of Czechoslovakia and Yugoslavia and which in this victorious war were confirmed anew in their common struggle against the same enemy and the same dangers,

Bearing in mind the vital interest of both countries in mutual defence in the event of Germany renewing its policy of aggression against their freedom, political independence and territorial integrity,

Being convinced that mutual defence against such dangers is in the interest of the maintenance of international peace and security, which is also the aim of the Charter of the United Nations, to which both countries have subscribed,

Being resolved to strengthen and deepen still further the spiritual and economic ties already created by the mutual endeavours of both countries,

have decided to conclude a treaty and have for this purpose appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Presidium of the People's Assembly of the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia; the Head of the Government of the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia, Marshal of Yugoslavia, M. Josip BROZ-TITO.

The President of the Czechoslovak Republic; the Head of the Government, M. Zdeňek FIERLINGER,

who, after having exchanged their full powers, found in good and proper form, have agreed on the following:

Article I

The High Contracting Parties have agreed that it will be to the interest of both countries and their peoples to join together in a policy of tried and lasting friendship, which they will reinforce by close co-operation between both countries.

Article II

The High Contracting Parties agree to take all joint action within their power to frustrate any new threat and to prevent a renewed attack by Germany or any other Power which might be associated with it directly or in any other way.

To this end the High Contracting Parties shall in a spirit of the sincerest co-operation participate in all international action for the maintenance of international peace and security and shall fully contribute to the realization of this aim.

In carrying out this treaty the High Contracting Parties shall respect their obligations as Members of the United Nations.

Article III

Should either of the High Contracting Parties be involved in hostilities with Germany, which had renewed her policy of aggression, or with any other Power which had joined Germany for the purpose of aggressive action, the other High Contracting Party shall without delay extend to it military and other aid with all the means at its disposal.

Article IV

The High Contracting Parties agree that neither of them shall enter into an alliance or take part in a coalition directed against the other High Contracting Party.

Article V

The High Contracting Parties shall, jointly and each in its own particular sphere, strengthen the economic, spiritual and other ties between the two countries on the basis of the treaties and agreements concluded for this purpose.

Article VI

This Treaty shall come into force immediately upon signature and shall be ratified in the shortest possible time. The ratifications shall be exchanged in Prague as soon as possible.

This Treaty shall remain in force for twenty years from the date of signature. If, however, neither of the High Contracting Parties gives notice twelve months before the expiration of the period of twenty years that it wishes the validity of this Treaty to cease, its validity shall in such case be prolonged for a further five years until such time as either High Contracting Party gives notice in writing twelve months before the expiration of the current five-year period of its intention to terminate its validity.

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

Done in duplicate in Czech and Serbo-Croat. Both texts are equally authentic.

Done in Belgrade the 9th day of May, 1946.

By authorization
of the Presidium of the
People's Assembly of the Federative
People's Republic of Yugoslavia
J. B. TITO, m. p.

By authorization
of the President of the
Czechoslovak Republic
Zd. FIERLINGER, m. p.

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