

# CONVENTION BETWEEN THE CZECHOSLOVAK REPUBLIC AND THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS REGULATING THE CITIZENSHIP OF PERSONS HAVING DUAL CITIZENSHIP. SIGNED AT PRAGUE, ON 5 OCTOBER 1957

The President of the Czechoslovak Republic and the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Considering that in the territory of the Contracting Parties there are a number of persons whom both Parties, in accordance with their legislation, regard as their citizens, and

Desiring to eliminate any cases of dual citizenship on the basis of a free choice of citizenship by the persons concerned,

Have resolved to conclude this Convention and for this purpose have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The President of the Czechoslovak Republic:  
Dr. Antonin Gregor, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs,

The Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:  
Mr. I. T. Grishin, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the USSR in the Czechoslovak Republic,

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

## **Article 1**

Persons whom both Contracting Parties, under their legislation, regard as their citizens may, in accordance with this Convention, opt for the citizenship of either Party.

## **Article 2**

Persons to whom this Convention applies who are resident in the territory of one Contracting Party and who wish to opt for the citizenship of the other Contracting Party shall file a declaration to that effect with the diplomatic or consular representative of the latter Party.

Persons who are resident in the territory of a third State shall file a declaration of option with the diplomatic or consular representative of the State for whose citizenship they wish to opt.

The time-limit for filing declarations of option shall be one year from the date of the entry into force of this Convention.

## **Article 3**

Declarations of option may be filed only by persons of full age. For the purpose of this Convention, "persons of full age" means persons who have attained the age of eighteen years or persons under that age who are married.

#### **Article 4**

Children under full age shall follow the citizenship of their parents, where both parents, in accordance with this Convention, have the same citizenship or where only one parent is living.

Where one parent has or opts for the citizenship of one Contracting Party and the other has or opts for the citizenship of the other Contracting Party, the citizenship of their children under full age who have dual citizenship shall be determined by an agreement between the parents, which shall take the form of a joint declaration by the parents. In the absence of such an agreement, the children shall retain the citizenship of the Contracting Party in whose territory they are resident on the date of the expiry of the period of one year specified in article 2 of this Convention.

Children under full age who have dual citizenship and one of whose parents is resident in the territory of one Contracting Party and the other in the territory of the other Contracting Party shall retain the citizenship of the parent in whose custody they are, unless the parents have agreed otherwise.

Children under full age who have dual citizenship and are resident in the territory of a third State shall, in the absence of an agreement between the parents concerning their citizenship, retain the citizenship of the Contracting Party in whose territory they or their parents were permanently resident before their departure abroad.

Children under full age whose parents are dead or the whereabouts of whose parents are unknown shall retain the citizenship of the Contracting Party in whose territory they are resident on the date of the expiry of the period of one year specified in article 2 of this Convention.

Persons under full age who have attained the age of fourteen years may, by filing a declaration, opt for the citizenship of the other Contracting Party if they wish to prevent the application to them of the preceding provisions of this article.

#### **Article 5**

In cases of dual citizenship of children arising in the future, a choice of the citizenship of one Contracting Party shall be made by agreement between the parents and shall be reported in a joint declaration to be made by the parents at the time of registering the birth of the child. In the absence of such agreement, the child shall have the citizenship of the Contracting Party in whose territory it is born; a child born in the territory of a third State shall have the citizenship of the Contracting Party in whose territory the parents were permanently resident before their departure abroad.

#### **Article 6**

Each Contracting Party shall, not later than six months after the expiry of the time-limit specified in article 2, transmit to the other Contracting Party lists of persons who have opted for the citizenship of that Party in accordance with this Convention.

#### **Article 7**

Persons to whom this Convention applies shall be regarded as citizens solely of that Contracting Party for whose citizenship they have opted.

Persons who fail to file a declaration of option within the time-limit specified in article 2 of this Convention shall be regarded as citizens solely of that Contracting Party in whose territory they are resident.

Persons having dual citizenship and resident in the territory of a third State who fail to file a declaration of option within the time-limit specified in article 2 of this Convention shall be regarded as citizens solely of that Contracting Party in whose territory they were permanently resident before their departure abroad.

**Article 8**

Persons who continue to reside in the territory of one Contracting Party after opting, in accordance with this Convention, for the citizenship of the other Contracting Party shall have the status of aliens.

**Article 9**

Declarations of option in accordance with the provisions of this Convention shall not be subject to any taxes.

**Article 10**

The Contracting Parties have agreed that, upon its entry into force, this Convention shall, for the information of the persons concerned, be published in the periodical Press of the two Parties.

This Convention shall be ratified and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Moscow.

DONE at Prague, on 5 October 1957, in duplicate, in the Czech and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the President of the Czechoslovak Republic:  
Dr. Ant. GREGOR

For the Presidium  
of the Supreme Soviet  
of the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics:  
I. T. GRISHIN

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