

**CONVENTION BETWEEN THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST  
REPUBLICS AND THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
REGULATING THE CITIZENSHIP OF PERSONS HAVING DUAL  
CITIZENSHIP. SIGNED AT SOFIA, ON 12 DECEMBER 1957**

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

Considering that there are a number of persons in the territory of the Contracting Parties 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 to that end have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics:

Mr. Y. K. Prikhodov, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria:

Mr. Zhivko Zhivkov, First Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

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, choose the citizenship of either Party.

***Article 2***

Persons to whom article 1 of this Convention applies who are resident in the territory of one Contracting Party and who wish to choose the citizenship of the other Contracting Party shall file a declaration to that effect with the Embassy of the latter Contracting Party.

Persons who have dual citizenship and are resident in the territory of a third State shall file a declaration of choice of citizenship with the diplomatic or consular representative of the State whose citizenship they wish to choose.

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

***Article 3***

Declarations of choice of citizenship may be made only by persons of full age. For the purposes of this Convention the expression "persons of full age" shall be construed to mean persons who have attained the age of eighteen years or persons under the age of eighteen years who are married.

#### **Article 4**

1. Persons under full age shall follow the citizenship of their parents where both parents, in accordance with this Convention, have the same citizenship.

2. Where one parent has or chooses the citizenship of one Contracting Party and the other the citizenship of the other Contracting Party, the citizenship of their children under full age who have dual citizenship shall be determined by agreement between the parents. In the absence of such agreement, the children shall retain the citizenship of the Contracting Party in whose territory they are resident.

Children, 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 who maintains them and brings them up 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.

3. 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 a period of one year from the date of the entry into force of this Convention.

4. Persons under full age who have attained the age of fourteen years may, by filing a declaration, choose 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 the 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 acquire the citizenship of the Contracting Party in whose territory he is born.

#### **Article 6**

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

#### **Article 7**

Persons to whom article 1 of this Convention applies shall be regarded as citizens solely of that Contracting Party whose citizenship they have chosen.

Persons who fail to file a declaration of choice of citizenship 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 possessing dual citizenship and resident in the territory of a third State who fail to file a declaration of choice of citizenship 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, in accordance with this Convention, have chosen the citizenship of the other Contracting Party may retain their former place of residence; they shall have the status of aliens.

**Article 9**

Persons who, in accordance with this Convention, have chosen the citizenship of one Contracting Party, shall not be relieved of any fiscal obligations in respect of the other Contracting Party which were incurred before the date of the choice of citizenship.

**Article 10**

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

**Article 11**

Questions concerning the application and interpretation of this Convention shall be resolved through the diplomatic channel.

**Article 12**

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 Press of the 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 Sofia, on 12 December 1957, in duplicate, in the Russian and Bulgarian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics:  
PRIKHODOV

For the Government  
of the People's Republic  
of Bulgaria:  
ZHIVKOV

[Quelle: United Nations, Treaty Series, vol. 302, 1958, p. 12-18.]