



Treaty Series No. 2 (1930)

Notes Exchanged  
*on the occasion of the*  
Resumption of Diplomatic  
Relations with the Union  
of Soviet Socialist Republics

London, December 20, 1929  
Moscow, December 21, 1929

Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs  
to Parliament by Command of His Majesty

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**Notes Exchanged on the occasion of the Resumption of  
Diplomatic Relations with the Union of Soviet  
Socialist Republics,**

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*London, December 20, 1929.*

*Moscow, December 21, 1929.*

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No. 1.

*M. Gregori Sokolnikov to Mr. Arthur Henderson.*

*Embassy of the Union of Soviet Socialist  
Republics, December 20, 1929.*

Sir,

By clause 7 of the protocol signed on the 3rd October last by the Soviet Ambassador in Paris on behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on behalf of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, both Governments engaged themselves to confirm the pledge with regard to propaganda contained in article 16 of the General Treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

The terms of that article were as follows:—

“The contracting parties solemnly affirm their desire and intention to live in peace and amity with each other, scrupulously to respect the undoubted right of a State to order its own life within its own jurisdiction in its own way, to refrain and to restrain all persons and organisations under their direct or indirect control, including organisations in receipt of financial assistance from them, from any act overt or covert liable in any way whatsoever to endanger the tranquillity or prosperity of any part of the territory of the British Empire or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, or intended to embitter the relations of the British Empire or the Union with their neighbours or any other countries.”

It was further agreed that effect should be given to this clause of the aforesaid protocol not later than the day on which the respective Ambassadors presented their credentials.

Having this day presented to His Royal Highness the Prince of Wales the letters accrediting me as Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics to His Majesty the King, I have the honour, by the direction of the People's Commissary for Foreign

Affairs and on behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, to confirm the undertaking contained in the article quoted above, and to inform you that the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics regard that undertaking as having full force and effect as between themselves and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of India.

I am instructed to add that the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will be happy to receive, in accordance with clause 7 of the protocol of the 3rd October, a corresponding declaration from His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of India.

I have, &c.

G. SOKOLNIKOV.

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No. 2.

*Mr. Arthur Henderson to M. Gregori Sokolnikov.*

Your Excellency,

*Foreign Office, December 20, 1929.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note, dated to-day, in which your Excellency confirms, on behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, the pledge regarding propaganda contained in article 16 of the General Treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, between Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

2. In taking due note of this declaration, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that, in accordance with the understanding between His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as recorded in the protocol of the 3rd October, 1929, His Majesty's Ambassador in Moscow has been instructed to inform the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of India, for their part, also regard the undertaking contained in article 16 of the treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, as having full force and effect as between themselves and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

I have, &c.

ARTHUR HENDERSON.

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No. 3.

Note verbale handed to Mr. Arthur Henderson by M. Gregori Sokolnikov on December 20, 1929.

THE Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, in giving the undertaking contained in article 16 of the general treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and confirmed by the notes exchanged to-day, have considered that undertaking as extending also to the Dominions (Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland). Consequently, as soon as the Government of any Dominion shall have regulated their relations with the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in such manner as the circumstances of the particular case may require, the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics will be ready to repeat, on the basis of reciprocity, the undertaking above referred to in a separate exchange of notes with such Dominion.

London, December 20, 1929.

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No. 4.

Mr. Arthur Henderson to M. Gregori Sokolnikov.

Your Excellency, *Foreign Office, December 20, 1929.*

With reference to your note verbale, dated to-day, I have the honour to inform your Excellency that the attitude of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, as indicated in your note, is being communicated to His Majesty's Governments in Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland.

2. Further, I have the honour, at the instance of His Majesty's Governments in Canada, the Commonwealth of Australia, New Zealand, the Union of South Africa, the Irish Free State and Newfoundland to state that each of these Governments will regard the undertaking contained in article 16 of the treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, between Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics as having full force and effect as between themselves and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

I have, &c.  
ARTHUR HENDERSON.

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*Sir Esmond Ovey to M. Maxim Litvinov.*

Your Excellency,

Moscow, December 21, 1929.

By clause 7 of the protocol signed on the 3rd October last by His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs on behalf of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the Soviet Ambassador in Paris on behalf of the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, both Governments engaged themselves to confirm the pledge with regard to propoganda contained in article 16 of the General Treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, between Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

The terms of that article were as follows:—

“The contracting parties solemnly affirm their desire and intention to live in peace and amity with each other, scrupulously to respect the undoubted right of a State to order its own life within its own jurisdiction in its own way, to refrain and to restrain all persons and organisations under their direct or indirect control, including organisations in receipt of financial assistance from them, from any act overt or covert liable in any way whatsoever to endanger the tranquillity or prosperity of any part of the territory of the British Empire or the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, or intended to embitter the relations of the British Empire or the Union with their neighbours or any other countries.”

It was further agreed that effect should be given to this clause of the aforesaid protocol not later than the day on which the respective Ambassadors presented their credentials.

Having this day presented to the Central Executive Committee of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics the letters accrediting me as His Britannic Majesty's Ambassador to the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, I have the honour, by the direction of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs and on behalf of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and of the Government of India, to confirm the undertaking contained in the article quoted above, and to inform your Excellency that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom and the Government of India regard that undertaking as having full force and effect as between themselves and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

I am instructed to add that His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom will be happy to receive, in accordance with clause 7 of the protocol of the 3rd October, a corresponding declaration from the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics.

I avail, &c.

ESMOND OVEY.

No. 6.

*M. Maxim Litvinov to Sir Esmond Ovey.*

(Translation.)

Monsieur l'Ambassadeur, *Moscow, December 21, 1929.*

I HAVE the honour to acknowledge the receipt of the note of the 21st December, in which you confirm, on behalf of His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of India, the pledge regarding propaganda contained in article 16 of the General Treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and Great Britain and Northern Ireland.

In taking due note of this declaration I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the understanding between the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom, as recorded in the protocol of the 3rd October, 1929, the Ambassador of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics in London has been instructed to inform His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of India that the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, for their part, also regard the undertaking contained in article 16 of the treaty signed on the 8th August, 1924, as having full force and effect as between themselves and His Majesty's Government in the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the Government of India.

I have, &c.  
M. LITVINOV.

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