



Treaty Series No. 54 (1953)

# Agreement

between the Governments of the  
United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland,  
the French Republic, the United States of America,  
the Italian Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany

## relating to certain Libraries and Properties in Italy

Rome, April 30, 1953

*Presented by the Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs to Parliament  
by Command of Her Majesty  
August 1953*

LONDON  
HER MAJESTY'S STATIONERY OFFICE  
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**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENTS OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC, THE UNITED KINGDOM OF GREAT BRITAIN AND NORTHERN IRELAND, THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY RELATING TO CERTAIN LIBRARIES AND PROPERTIES IN ITALY**

*Rome, April 30, 1953*

Whereas the Governments of the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America, have in accordance with the right to dispose of German assets in Italy conferred upon them by article 77, paragraph 5, of the Treaty of Peace with Italy,<sup>(1)</sup> decided to release from custody to the former German owners certain libraries and collections in Italy, namely:—

- (a) The Hertziana Library, Rome;
- (b) The German Archeological Institute Library, Rome;
- (c) The Library of the German Institute of Art History, Florence;
- (d) The Library of the German Historical Institute, Rome (hereinafter referred to as "the Libraries");

as well as certain properties, namely:—

- (e) The Villino Amelung, Rome;
- (f) The Palazzo Zuccari, Rome (hereinafter referred to as "the Properties");

And whereas the Governments of the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, and the United States of America have agreed in the case of the Libraries and the Properties to release the Government of the Italian Republic (hereinafter referred to as "the Italian Government") from their obligation under paragraph 3 of the Memorandum of Understanding regarding German assets in Italy signed in Washington on 14th August, 1947;<sup>(2)</sup>

The Governments of the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the Italian Republic and the Federal Republic of Germany have agreed as follows:—

**I**

The Libraries and the Properties will be released from custody to their former owners, or to their successors in right, title or interest; or, in the event of there being any doubt or dispute in respect to any such right, title or interest, to the custody of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany for eventual release to their lawful owners. All of such disposition shall be subject to the following terms:—

- (a) The Libraries shall remain in Italy.
- (b) The Libraries shall be maintained by the owners as international centres of scholarship and research open to all nationals, and shall be administered in such a manner as to serve impartially and without discrimination the interests of scholars of all nations.

<sup>(1)</sup> "Treaty Series No. 50 (1948)," Cmd. 7481.

<sup>(2)</sup> "Treaty Series No. 75 (1947)," Cmd. 7223.

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(c) The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany waive on their own behalf and on behalf of the former owners or their successors all claims whatsoever against the Governments of the French Republic, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, the United States of America, the Italian Republic and all the agents and representatives of the said Governments in respect of the aforesaid Libraries and Properties, from the time of their removal from the control of the owners until their release as provided in this Article.

## II

The Italian Government, in consideration of the guarantees exchanged between themselves and the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany in the Exchange of Letters signed in Rome on 27th February, 1953,<sup>(2)</sup> and of their desire to emphasise the universal cultural interest of the Libraries, are prepared to assist in finding suitable premises for housing the Libraries of the German Archeological Institute and of the German Historical Institute, and to grant to the Libraries, within the limits of the law, the same facilities which they enjoyed in the past.

## III

This Agreement shall enter into force upon 1st May, 1953. In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

Done at Rome in quintuplicate this 30th day of April, 1953.

For the Government of the French Republic:  
J. FOUQUES-DUPARC.

For the Government of the United Kingdom of Great  
Britain and Northern Ireland:  
V. A. L. MALLET.

For the Government of the United States of  
America:  
CLARE BOOTHE LUCE.

For the Government of the Italian Republic:  
DE GASPERI.

For the Government of the Federal Republic of  
Germany:  
CLEMENS VON BRENTANO.

<sup>(2)</sup> Not reproduced.

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