

N° 1809.

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ALLEMAGNE, DANEMARK,  
VILLE LIBRE DE DANTZIG,  
ESTONIE, FINLANDE,  
LETTONIE,  
LITHUANIE, POLOGNE,  
ET SUÈDE

Convention géodésique baltique. Si-  
gnée à Helsinki (Helsingfors), le  
31 décembre 1925.

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GERMANY, DENMARK,  
FREE CITY OF DANZIG,  
ESTONIA, FINLAND,  
LATVIA,  
LITHUANIA, POLAND  
AND SWEDEN

Baltic Geodetic Convention. Sig-  
ned at Helsinki (Helsingfors), De-  
cember 31, 1925.

<sup>1</sup> TRADUCTION. — TRANSLATION.

No. 1809. — BALTIC GEODETIC CONVENTION. SIGNED AT HELSINKI (HELSINGFORS), DECEMBER 31, 1925.

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Germany, Denmark, the Free City of Danzig, Estonia, Finland, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Sweden, being desirous of forming for twelve years a Baltic Geodetic Commission, have decided to conclude a Convention for that purpose and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries the following:

THE PRESIDENT OF THE GERMAN REICH :

Dr. Herbert HAUSCHILD, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF DENMARK :

M. Flemming DE LERCHE, Chamberlain, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE ESTONIAN REPUBLIC :

M. Alexandre HELLAT, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE FINNISH REPUBLIC :

M. E. N. SETÄLÄ, Finnish Minister for Foreign Affairs ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE LATVIAN REPUBLIC :

M. Olgerd GROSVALD, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

THE PRESIDENT OF THE LITHUANIAN REPUBLIC :

M. Jurgis SAVICKIS, Chargé d'Affaires ;

THE PRESIDENT OF THE POLISH REPUBLIC :

M. Tytus FILIPOWICZ, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF SWEDEN :

Baron Carl HAMILTON, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary.

Who, having communicated their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following provisions :

*Article I.*

The States parties to the Convention undertake to appoint and maintain a Baltic Geodetic Commission. This Commission shall have the duty of carrying out, on a uniform basis and by uniform methods, geodetic operations, more especially principal triangulation, measurements of base lines, determination of positions by astronomical observations and measurements of gravity, in an area comprising the Baltic and in the territory of the adjacent countries, and to deduce common results therefrom. The work shall be used for practical and for scientific purposes.

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<sup>1</sup> Traduit par le Secrétariat de la Société des Nations, à titre d'information.

<sup>1</sup> Translated by the Secretariat of the League of Nations, for information.

*Article 2.*

Each State shall appoint to the Commission one member with the right of voting and an optional number of members without the right of voting.

Until further notice, the members having the right of voting shall be the representatives of the various States that had the right of voting at the Geodetic Conference held at Helsingfors in 1924, and one member to be appointed by the Danish Government.

*Article 3.*

The current business of the Baltic Geodetic Commission shall be transacted by a standing Committee consisting of the President, the Vice-President and the Secretary-General.

These offices may only be held by members having the right of voting.

In matters concerning the Commission, the President shall communicate direct with the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

*Article 4.*

The Baltic Geodetic Commission shall as a rule on the invitation of the President hold an ordinary meeting once a year.

If at least four members having the right of voting so require, the President shall call an extraordinary meeting of the Commission.

The time and place of the meeting shall be fixed by the Commission.

*Article 5.*

Votes shall be taken and elections shall be held at meetings, and only in urgent cases by correspondence.

They shall only be valid if not less than half the number of members having the right of voting take part therein.

If absent, a member may delegate another member present at a meeting to vote in his place. In the case of an equality of votes the President shall have a casting vote.

*Article 6.*

The members of the Standing Committee shall be elected at a meeting of the Commission for a period of three years. The same person may not be re-elected President for the immediately succeeding period of office. This provision shall also apply to the Vice-President.

If a member of the Board retires before the end of his term of office, a successor shall, if necessary, be elected by correspondence for the remainder of the current term of office.

The Standing Committee's first term of office shall begin on January 1, 1925. The President, Vice-President and Secretary-General elected by the Helsingfors Geodetic Conference of 1924, shall be confirmed in office for that period.

*Article 7.*

Each State represented shall pay an annual contribution to cover the costs of the Baltic Geodetic Commission. This contribution shall be fixed as follows : Germany, Finland and Sweden, 500 gold dollars each ; Denmark, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and the Free City of Danzig, 250 gold dollars each.

These funds shall be used to cover :

- (a) The cost of the research work for the purpose of obtaining common results ;
- (b) Costs of printing ;
- (c) The salary of the Secretary-General ;
- (d) Administrative expenses.

The Committee shall draw up a budget every year. The Standing Committee shall be responsible for the administration of the funds under the supervision of the Commission.

*Article 8.*

The annual contributions of the States shall be sent before May 1 every year to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State to which the Secretary-General belongs.

*Article 9.*

Each State shall bear the cost of its own work and of the salaries of the members whom it appoints. Each State shall itself publish the results of its surveys or give the Commission access to them in some other manner.

*Article 10.*

Any other State desirous of taking part in the work of the Baltic Geodetic Commission shall have the right to accede to the present Agreement. The annual contribution for a State having a population of three millions or more shall be 500 gold dollars, and that for a State having a population of less than 3 millions shall be 250 gold dollars.

Declarations of accession shall be sent to the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Liability to pay contributions shall begin on January 1 of the year in which the accession takes place.

*Article 11.*

The Commission shall adopt rules of procedure to supplement the present Agreement.

*Article 12.*

The Agreement shall be concluded for twelve years, beginning on January 1, 1925.

If the Commission deems it desirable to continue its work beyond that period, it shall notify the Finnish Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the fact one year before the expiration of the present Agreement in order to enable negotiations to be opened for its renewal.

*Article 13.*

The present Agreement, drafted in French and German, both texts being authentic, shall be binding when ratified by all the above-mentioned States and when the instruments of ratification have been exchanged at Helsingfors.

The obligations laid down in Article 7, shall come into force on January 1, 1925, irrespective of the date of ratification.

In faith whereof the Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

Done in eight copies at Helsingfors, December 31, 1925.

Signed by the Plenipotentiaries as follows :

(L. S.) E. N. SETÄLÄ.

(L.S.) HELLAT.

(L. S.) O. GROSVOLD.

(L. S.) Jurgis SAVICKIS.

(L. S.) Dr. Herbert HAUSCHILD

Signed 15 January 1926.

(L. S.) HAMILTON.

(L. S.) F. LERCHE.

Provided that the credit necessary for the accession of Denmark is passed by Parliament.

At the moment of signing the present Convention, the Government of the Polish Republic declares that the participation of Poland in the present Convention shall take effect, as regards collaboration in the work to be done, as soon as the material connected with the geodetic operations in Polish territory carried out by the German geodetic experts before January 10, 1920, has been returned to Poland by the Government of the German Republic in accordance with the statements of the German delegates as set forth on pages 112 and 117 of the Minutes of the meetings of the Geodetic Conference held at Helsingfors, June 28-July 2, 1924.

HELSINGFORS, *April* 12, 1926.

(L. S.) (*Signed*) Tytus FILIPOWICZ.

*For Poland and the Free City of Danzig.*