



## SUMMARIES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE TREATIES

The summaries available hereunder are designed to meet a practical need, that of supplying the public at large with concise descriptions of the Council of Europe treaties. The summaries are necessarily short and can therefore only give a first introduction to the main features of each treaty.

Subject-matter: **SOCIAL AND MEDICAL ASSISTANCE**

**European Convention on Social and Medical Assistance ([ETS No. 14](#)) and its Protocol ([ETS No. 14A](#))**, open for signature, in Paris, on 11 December 1953.

Entry into force: 1 July 1954.

Under this Convention, Parties undertake to ensure that the nationals of other Parties, who are lawfully present in their territory and who are without sufficient resources, are entitled to the same social and medical assistance as their own nationals.

The Protocol <sup>1</sup> extends the provisions of the Agreement to refugees.

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**Agreement on the Exchange of War Cripples between Member Countries of the Council of Europe with a view to Medical Treatment ([ETS No. 20](#))**, open for signature, in Paris, on 13 December 1955.

Entry into force: 1 January 1956.

The Agreement allows nationals of Parties disabled by war, the ability to have special treatment in another Party, which they cannot obtain in their own country.

The Agreement provides not only for the exchange of war cripples for purposes of medical treatment but also for the exchange of technical information, the free entry of orthopaedic equipment, artificial limbs, etc., and the exchange of medical personnel with a view to their further training.

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**Agreement between the Member States of the Council of Europe on the issue to Military and Civilian War-Disabled of an International Book of Vouchers for the repair of Prosthetic and Orthopaedic Appliances ([ETS No. 40](#))**, open for signature, in Paris, on 17 December 1962.

Entry into force: 27 December 1963.

The purpose of this Agreement is to make available to any war-disabled person who is within the purview of the competent organisations of the Parties, on the basis of an international book of vouchers, the means of securing free of charge the repair of prosthetic or orthopaedic appliances.

Regulations appended to the Agreement give details on the use of the international book of vouchers for the repair of prosthetic or orthopaedic appliances.

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<sup>1</sup> Protocol to the European Convention on Social and Medical Assistance (ETS No. 14A), open for signature, in Paris, on 11 December 1953.

**Arrangement for the Application of the European Agreement of 17 October 1980 concerning the Provision of Medical Care to Persons during Temporary Residence** ([ETS No. 129](#)), open for signature, in Strasbourg, on 26 May 1988.

Entry into force: This Arrangement will enter into force following the second ratification.

In 1980, an Intergovernmental Conference convened by ILO adopted the European Agreement concerning the Provision of Medical Care to Persons during Temporary Residence. The Arrangement aims to facilitate the application of the Agreement.