



European Agreement on the Instruction and Education of Nurses

Strasbourg, 25.X.1967

The member States of the Council of Europe, signatory hereto,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members for the purpose, among others, of facilitating their social progress and promoting the social well-being of their populations by means of appropriate action;

Having regard to the Conventions furthering this purpose already concluded within the framework of the Council, in particular the European Social Charter, signed on 18th October 1961, and the European Convention on Establishment, signed on 13th December 1955;

Being convinced that the conclusion of a regional Agreement on the harmonisation of the instruction and education of nurses will promote social progress and guarantee the standard of the nurses required for their establishment in the territory of other Contracting Parties on an equal footing with those countries' nationals;

Considering it necessary to lay down minimal standards,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

- 1 Each Contracting Party shall apply or, if the education of nurses is not under its direct control, recommend the competent authority to apply the provisions governing the instruction and education of nurses set out in Annex I to this Agreement.
- 2 For the purpose of this Agreement, nurses shall be intended to include only "general trained nurses", male or female. Those nurses whose training is solely within the field of public health, infants' and sick children's nursing, obstetrics or mental health are excluded.

Article 2

Each Contracting Party shall communicate to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe a list of its authorities or other bodies authorised to certify the accomplishment of a nurse's instruction and education satisfying at least the standards laid down in Annex I to this Agreement.

Article 3

- 1 After the entry into force of this Agreement in accordance with Article 5, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe sitting with its membership limited to the representatives of the Contracting Parties, shall be responsible for the further elaboration of the regulations contained in Annex I to this Agreement in accordance with the current developments in this field.

- 2 Any modification or extension of the regulations contained in Annex I unanimously approved by the Committee of Ministers referred to in the preceding paragraph shall be communicated by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to the Contracting Parties and shall enter into force three months after the date on which the Secretary General is notified by the Contracting Parties of their approval of the modification or extension.

Article 4

- 1 This Agreement shall be open to signature by the member States of the Council of Europe, who may become Parties to it either by:
 - a signature without reservation in respect of ratification or acceptance, or
 - b signature with reservation in respect of ratification or acceptance, followed by ratification or acceptance.
- 2 Instruments of ratification or acceptance shall be deposited with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

Article 5

- 1 This Agreement shall enter into force three months after the date on which three member States of the Council shall have become Parties to the Agreement, in accordance with the provisions of Article 4.
- 2 As regards any member States who shall subsequently sign the Agreement without reservation in respect of ratification or acceptance or who shall ratify or accept it, the Agreement shall enter into force three months after the date of such signature or after the date of deposit of the instrument of ratification or acceptance.

Article 6

- 1 After the entry into force of this Agreement, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe may invite any non-member State to accede thereto.
- 2 Such accession shall be effected by depositing with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe an instrument of accession which shall take effect three months after the date of its deposit.

Article 7

- 1 Any Contracting Party may, at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession, declare that it avails itself of one or more of the reservations provided for in Annex II to this Agreement.
- 2 Any Contracting Party may wholly or partly withdraw a reservation it has made in accordance with the foregoing paragraph by means of a declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, which shall become effective as from the date of its receipt.

Article 8

The annexes shall be an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 9

- 1 Any Contracting Party may at the time of signature or when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession, specify the territory or territories to which this Agreement shall apply.
- 2 Any Contracting Party may, when depositing its instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession or at any later date by declaration addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, extend this agreement to any other territory or territories specified in the declaration and for whose international relations it is responsible or on whose behalf it is authorised to give undertakings.
- 3 Any declaration made in pursuance of the preceding paragraph may, in respect of any territory mentioned in such declaration, be withdrawn according to the procedure laid down in Article 10 of this Agreement.

Article 10

- 1 This Agreement shall remain in force indefinitely.
- 2 Any Contracting Party may, in so far as it is concerned, denounce this Agreement by means of a notification addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.
- 3 Such denunciation shall take effect six months after the date of receipt by the Secretary General of such notification.

Article 11

The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall notify the member States of the Council and any State which has acceded to this Agreement of:

- a any signature without reservation in respect of ratification or acceptance;
- b any signature with reservation in respect of ratification or acceptance;
- c the deposit of any instrument of ratification, acceptance or accession;
- d any date of entry into force of the modifications or extensions referred to in Article 3.2;
- e any date of entry into force of this Agreement in accordance with Article 5;
- f any communication received in pursuance of the provisions of Article 2;
- g any notification received in pursuance of the provisions of Article 7;
- h any declaration received in pursuance of the provisions of Article 9;
- i any notification received in pursuance of the provisions of Article 10 and the date on which denunciation takes effect.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorised thereto, have signed this Agreement.

Done at Strasbourg, this 25th day of October 1967, in English and French, both texts being equally authoritative, in a single copy which shall remain deposited in the archives of the Council of Europe. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe shall transmit certified copies to each of the signatory and acceding States.