

Date of most recent action: February 1, 2008

**Agreement Among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty
and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace
Regarding the Status of Their Forces**

Done: Brussels; June 19, 1995
In accordance with Article V, paragraph 1, the Agreement shall be open for signature by any State that is either a Contracting Party to the NATO SOFA, or that accepts the invitation to the Partnership for Peace and subscribes to the Partnership for Peace Framework Document.

Entry into force: January 13, 1996
In accordance with Article V, paragraph 2, the Agreement shall be subject to ratification, acceptance or approval and instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval of the Agreement shall be deposited with the Government of the United States of America.
In accordance with Article V, paragraph 3, the Agreement entered into force thirty days after three signatory States to the Agreement, at least one of which was a party to the NATO SOFA and one of which had accepted the invitation to the Partnership for Peace and had subscribed to the Partnership for Peace Framework Document, had deposited their instruments of ratification, acceptance or approval. The Agreement enters into force for each other signatory State thirty days after the deposit of its instrument.

Legend: (no mark) = ratification; **A** = acceptance; **AA** = approval; **a** = accession; **w** = withdrawal or equivalent action

Participant	Signature	Consent to be bound		Entry into Force	Other Action	Notes
Albania	October 10, 1995	May 9, 1996	a	June 8, 1996		
Armenia	October 28, 2003	April 16, 2004		May 16, 2004		
Austria	January 16, 1997	August 3, 1998		September 2, 1998		¹
Azerbaijan	January 15, 1998	March 3, 2000	AA	April 2, 2000		
Belgium	October 31, 1995	October 10, 1997		November 9, 1997		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	February 1, 2008	February 1, 2008	a	March 2, 2008		
Bulgaria	October 16, 1995	May 29, 1996		June 28, 1996		
Canada	October 13, 1995	May 2, 1996		June 1, 1996		
Croatia	July 12, 2001	January 11, 2002		February 10, 2002		
Czech Republic	November 2, 1995	March 27, 1996		April 26, 1996		
Denmark	July 3, 1995	July 8, 1999		August 7, 1999		²
Estonia	August 29, 1995	August 7, 1996		September 6, 1996		
Finland	December 16, 1996	July 2, 1997		August 1, 1997		³
France	December 1, 1995	February 1, 2000		March 2, 2000		
Georgia	July 18, 1995	May 19, 1997		June 18, 1997		
Germany	July 20, 1995	September 24, 1998		October 24, 1998		⁴

Greece	October 9, 1997	June 30, 2000		July 30, 2000		5
Hungary	June 21, 1995	December 14, 1995		January 13, 1996		
Iceland	March 10, 1997	May 15, 2007		June 14, 2007		
Italy	March 14, 1996	September 23, 1998		October 23, 1998		
Kazakhstan	July 31, 1996	November 6, 1997		December 6, 1997		
Kyrgyzstan	November 7, 2002	August 25, 2006		September 24, 2006		
Latvia	December 13, 1995	April 19, 1996		May 19, 1996		
Lithuania	January 31, 1996	August 15, 1996		September 14, 1996		
Luxembourg	February 18, 1997	September 14, 2001		October 14, 2001		
Macedonia	May 30, 1996	June 19, 1996		July 19, 1996		
Moldova	September 6, 1996	October 1, 1997		October 31, 1997		
Netherlands	February 5, 1996	June 26, 1997	A	July 26, 1997		6
Norway	June 19, 1995	October 4, 1996		November 3, 1996		7
Poland	November 3, 1995	April 4, 1997		May 4, 1997		
Portugal	September 8, 1997	February 4, 2000		March 5, 2000		
Romania	November 3, 1995	June 5, 1996		July 5, 1996		
Russian Federation	April 21, 2005	August 28, 2007		September 27, 2007		8
Slovak Republic	August 11, 1995	December 13, 1995	AA	January 13, 1996		
Slovenia	July 31, 1995	January 18, 1996		February 17, 1996		
Spain	December 16, 1996	February 4, 1998		March 6, 1998		9
Sweden	April 4, 1996	November 13, 1996		December 13, 1996		10
Switzerland	April 4, 2003	April 9, 2003		May 9, 2003		11
Turkey	February 5, 1996	April 20, 2000		May 20, 2000		
Ukraine	May 6, 1996	April 26, 2000		May 26, 2000		
United Kingdom	March 5, 1996	June 22, 1999		July 22, 1999		12
United States	June 19, 1995	August 9, 1995	AA	January 13, 1996		
Uzbekistan	July 24, 1996	January 30, 1997		March 1, 1997		

¹ Signature of the Agreement by Austria was accompanied by a Note Verbale, dated January 16, 1997, which reads as follows:

“The Austrian Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs presents its compliments to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and, with reference to the signing by Austria of the “Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of their Forces”, has the honour to draw the attention of NATO to the fact that the Republic of Austria, subject to the approval by the Austrian Parliament, intends to make the attached statements at the occasion of the ratification of the above mentioned agreement by the Republic of Austria.

“The Federal Ministry for Foreign Affairs takes this opportunity to renew to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization the assurances of its highest consideration.”

[Attachments to Note Verbale follow]

“Statement by Austria made at the occasion of the ratification of the ‘Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘PfP-SOFA’)

“In entering into this Agreement, the Government of Austria wishes to put the PfP signatories on notice that “the acceptance of the jurisdiction by military authorities of the sending state in accordance with Article VII of the ‘Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘NATO-SOFA’) by Austria does not apply to the exercise, on the territory of Austria, of the jurisdiction by courts of a sending state; “Austria will hand over members of a force or civilian component or their dependents to the authorities of the sending state in accordance with Article VII, Sect. 5a, of this agreement under the condition that the death penalty will not be imposed by the sending state when exercising criminal jurisdiction according to the provisions of Art. VII of this agreement.”

“Statement by Austria regarding the interpretation of the ‘Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘PfP-SOFA’)

“It is the understanding of Austria

“1. that Article II of the ‘Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘NATO-SOFA’) also applies to the activities of military authorities under Article VII of this agreement;

“2. that the law of Austria, which is to be respected in accordance with Article II of the NATO SOFA, comprises inter alia

(i) the relevant international instruments applicable under Austrian law;

(ii) Austrian legislation relevant to the import, export and transfer of war material under this agreement;

“3. and that existing Austrian constitutional legislation in the field of security and defence will not be affected by the application of this agreement.”

The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by Austria includes the following statements:

“Statement by Austria made at the occasion of the ratification of the ‘Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘PfP-SOFA’)

“In entering into this Agreement, the Government of Austria wishes to put the PfP signatories on notice that

“the acceptance of the jurisdiction by military authorities of the sending state in accordance with Article VII of the

‘Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘NATO-SOFA’) by Austria does not apply to the exercise, on the territory of Austria, of the jurisdiction by courts of a sending state;

“Austria will hand over members of a force or civilian component or their dependents to the authorities of the sending state in accordance with Article VII, Sect. 5a, of this agreement under the condition that the death penalty will not be imposed by the sending state when exercising criminal jurisdiction according to the provisions of Art. VII of this agreement.”

“Statement by Austria regarding the interpretation of the ‘Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘PfP-SOFA’)

“It is the understanding of Austria

“1. that Article II of the ‘Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of their Forces’ (‘NATO-SOFA’) also applies to the activities of military authorities under Article VII of this agreement;

“2. that the law of Austria, which is to be respected in accordance with Article II of the NATO-SOFA, comprises inter alia

(i) the relevant international instruments applicable under Austrian law;

(ii) Austrian legislation relevant to the import, export and transfer of war material under this agreement (see attached list);

“3. and that existing Austrian constitutional legislation in the field of security and defence will not be affected by the application of this agreement.”

[List referenced in paragraph 2(ii) follows]

Liste des gemäß dem österreichischen Kriegsmaterialgesetz zu behandelnden Kriegsmaterials *)

I. Waffen, Munition und Geräte

1. a) Halbautomatische Karabiner und Gewehre, ausgenommen Jagd- und Sportgewehre; vollautomatische Gewehre, Maschinenpistolen, Maschinenkarabiner und Maschinengewehre.
- b) Maschinenkanonen, Panzerbüchsen, Panzerabwehrrohre oder ähnliche Panzerabwehrwaffen.
- c) Läufe, Verschlüsse und Lafetten für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a und b.
- d) Gewehrpatronen mit Vollmantelspitz- oder Vollmantelhalbspitzgeschosß, Kaliber 308 (7,62 x 51 mm) und Kaliber 223; sonstige Gewehrpatronen mit Vollmantelgeschosß, ausgenommen Jagd- und Sportpatronen; Munition mit Leuchtspur-, Rauch-, Markierungs-, Hartkern-, Brand-, und Treibspiegelgeschosß sowie Gewehrgranaten für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a, ausgenommen Knallpatronen; Munition für Kriegsmaterial der lit. b.
2. a) Raketen (gelenkt oder un gelenkt) und anders Flugkörper mit Waffenwirkung.
- b) Startanlagen (Abschußrampen, Abschußrohre, elektrische und mechanische Abschußvorrichtungen) sowie Kontroll- und Lenkeinrichtungen für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a; Raketenwerfer.
- c) Gefechtsköpfe, Zielsuchköpfe, Sprengköpfe, Zünder, Antriebsaggregate, Treibladungen und Treibsätze für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.
3. a) Haubitzen, Mörser und Kanonen aller Art.
- b) Rohre, Verschlüsse und Lafetten für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.
- c) Munition, insbesondere Granatpatronen, Geschosßpatronen und Granaten, für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.

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- d) Kartuschen (ausgenommen Knallkartuschen), Geschosse, Treibladungen und Treibsätze, Zünder und Zündladungen für Kriegsmaterial der lit. c.
 4. a) Granat-, Minen-, Nebel- und Flammenwerfer; Granatgewehre.
b) Rohre, Verschlüsse, Bodenplatten, Zweibeine und Gestelle für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.
c) Munition, insbesondere Wurfgranaten, Wurfminen, Nebelwurfkörper und Flammöl für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a sowie Handgranaten.
d) Zünder, Treibladungen und Treibsätze für Kriegsmaterial der lit. c.
 5. a) Minen, Bomben und Torpedos.
b) Zünder, Gefechtsköpfe, Zielsuchköpfe, Antriebsaggregate und Treibsätze für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.
c) Minenverleegeräte, einschließlich Vorrichtungen zum Verschießen oder Abwerfen von Minen und Minenräumgeräte; Torpedoabschußrohre und Verschlüsse für diese.
 6. a) Pioniersprengmittel, wie Pioniersprengkörper, Pioniersprengbüchsen, Hohlladungen, Prismenladungen (Schneidladungen), Sprengrohre und Minenräumbänder, sofern sie ausschließlich für den Kampfeinsatz bestimmt sind.
b) Zünder für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.
 7. a) Radioaktive, biologische und chemische Kampfstoffe und –mittel.
b) Anlagen, Vorrichtungen und Geräte zur Verbreitung von Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.
 8. Für den militärischen Gebrauch speziell entwickelte und gefertigte elektronische oder optronische Geräte zur Nachrichtenübermittlung, Zielerfassung, Zielbeleuchtung, Zielmarkierung, Zielverfolgung, Feuerleitung, Aufklärung, Beobachtung und Überwachung.

II. Kriegslandfahrzeuge

- a) Kampfpanzer und sonstige militärische Kraftfahrzeuge, die durch Bewaffnung, Panzerung oder sonstige Vorrichtungen für den unmittelbaren Kampfeinsatz besonders gebaut und ausgerüstet sind.
- b) Türme und Wannens für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.

III. Kriegsluftfahrzeuge

- a) Luft- und Raumfahrzeuge, die durch Bewaffnung, Ausrüstung oder sonstige Vorrichtungen für den unmittelbaren Kampfeinsatz besonders gebaut und ausgerüstet sind.
- b) Zellen und Triebwerke für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.

IV. Kriegswasserfahrzeuge

- a) Oberwasserkriegsschiffe, Unterseeboote und sonstige Wasserfahrzeuge, die durch Bewaffnung, Panzerung oder sonstige Vorrichtungen für den unmittelbaren Kampfeinsatz besonders gebaut und ausgerüstet sind.
- b) Rumpfe, Türme, Brücken und atomare Antriebsaggregate für Kriegsmaterial der lit. a.

V. Maschinen und Anlagen

Maschinen und Anlagen, die ausschließlich zur Erzeugung von Kriegsmaterial geeignet sind.

*) BGBl. Nr. 540/1977, 624/1977

² The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by Denmark includes a reservation that, pending further decision, the Agreement will not apply to the Faroe Islands or to Greenland.

³ The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by Finland includes the following declaration:
“The acceptance of the jurisdiction by military authorities of a sending state in accordance with Article VII of the Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the status of their Forces by Finland does not apply to the exercise, on the territory of Finland, of the jurisdiction by courts of a sending state.”

⁴ The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by Germany was accompanied by two understandings which read as follows:

“It is the understanding of the Federal Republic of Germany that Article I of the Agreement of 19 June 1995 among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the status of their Forces shall not affect the EU legislation applicable in the Federal Republic of Germany with regard to the exemption of foreign armed forces and their members from taxes and duties.

“It is the understanding of the Federal Republic of Germany that, in accordance with the meaning and purpose of the Agreement of 19 June 1995 among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the status of their Forces, Article II thereof does not conflict with the application of the Agreement throughout the whole territory of the Federal Republic of Germany.”

⁵ Signature of the Agreement by Greece included the following declaration:

“Regarding the signing of this Agreement by the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, the Hellenic Republic declares that its own signing of the said Agreement can in no way be interpreted as an acceptance from its part, or as recognition in any form and content of a name other than that of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, under which the Hellenic Republic has recognized the said country and under which the latter has joined the NATO “Partnership for Peace” Programme, where resolution 817/93 of the UN Security Council was taken into consideration.” [Greece confirmed this declaration upon deposit of its instrument of ratification of the Agreement.]

⁶ Acceptance of the Agreement by the Netherlands is for the Kingdom in Europe and includes the following reservation:

“The Kingdom of the Netherlands will be bound by the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the Status of their Forces only with respect to those other States participating in the Partnership for Peace which in addition to ratifying, accepting or approving the Agreement, also ratify, accept or approve the Additional Protocol to the Agreement”.

⁷ Signature of the Agreement by Norway was accompanied by the following reservation:

“The Government of Norway will be bound by the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the Status of their Forces only with respect to those other States participating in the Partnership for Peace which in addition to ratifying the Agreement, also ratify the Additional Protocol to the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the Status of their Forces”. [Norway’s instrument of ratification of the Agreement includes this reservation.]

⁸ The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by the Russian Federation was accompanied by a statement, a Department of State English translation of which reads as follows:

“In order to implement the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of Their Forces, signed June 19, 1995, the Russian Federation proceeds from the following understanding of the provisions of the Agreement among the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces, of June 19, 1951 (hereinafter the Agreement):

“1) the provision of Article III (4) of the Agreement, which obligates the authorities of the sending State to immediately inform the authorities of the receiving State of cases where a member of a force or of a civilian component fails to return to his country after being separated from the service, shall also apply to cases where those persons absent themselves without authorization from the site of deployment of the force of the sending State and are carrying weapons;

“2) on the basis of reciprocity, the Russian Federation will understand the words ‘possess arms’ used in Article VI of the Agreement to mean the application and use of weapons, and the words ‘shall give sympathetic consideration to requests from the receiving State’ to mean the obligation of the authorities of the sending State to consider the receiving State’s requests concerning the shipment, transportation, use, and application of weapons;

“3) the list of offenses set forth in subparagraph c of Article VII (2) is not exhaustive and, for the Russian Federation, includes, apart from those enumerated, other offenses that are directed against the foundations of its constitutional system and security and that are covered by the Russian Federation Criminal Code;

“4) pursuant to Article VII (4) of the Agreement, the Russian Federation presumes that the authorities of the sending State have the right to exercise their jurisdiction in the event that at sites where the sending State’s force is deployed, unidentified persons commit offenses against that state, members of its force, and members of its civilian component, or their family members. When a person who committed an offense is identified, the procedure established by the Agreement takes effect;

“5) the assistance mentioned in subparagraph a of Article VII (6) of the Agreement is provided in conformity with the legislation of the requested State. In providing legal assistance, the competent authorities of the States Parties to the Agreement interact directly, and if necessary, through the appropriate higher authorities;

“6) the Russian Federation allows importation of the goods and vehicles mentioned in Article XI (2), (5) and (6) of the Agreement, and the equipment and items mentioned in Article XI (4) of the Agreement which are intended for

the needs of the force, in accordance with the terms of the customs regime for temporary importation that were established by the customs legislation of the Russian Federation. In this connection, such importation is carried out with full exemption from payment of customs duties, taxes, and fees, except for customs fees for storage, customs processing of goods, and similar services outside of the designated places or hours of operation of the customs authorities, and for the periods provided for in the Agreement if such periods are expressly stipulated in the Agreement.

The Russian Federation presumes that the procedure and terms for importation of the goods mentioned in Article XI (4) of the Agreement and intended for the needs of the force will be governed by separate agreements on the sending and receiving of forces between the Russian Federation and the sending State.

None of the provisions of Article XI, including paras. 3 and 8, restrict the right of Russian Federation customs authorities to take all necessary steps to monitor compliance with the terms for importation of goods and vehicles provided for by Article XI of the Agreement, if such measures are necessary under Russian Federation customs legislation.

The Russian Federation presumes that the sending State will send confirmation to the Russian Federation customs authorities that all goods and vehicles imported into the Russian Federation in accordance with the provisions of Article XI of the Agreement and with separate arrangements on the sending and receiving of forces between the Russian Federation and the sending State may be used solely for the purposes for which they were imported. In the event they are used for other purposes, all customs payments stipulated by Russian Federation legislation must be made for such goods and vehicles, and the other requirements set by Russian Federation legislation must also be fulfilled.

Transit of the aforesaid goods and vehicles shall be carried out in accordance with Russian Federation customs legislation.

Pursuant to Article XI (11), the Russian Federation declares that it permits the importation into the customs territory of the Russian Federation of petroleum products intended for use in the process of operating official vehicles, aircraft, and vessels belonging to the forces or the civilian component, with exemption from the payment of customs duties and taxes in accordance with the requirements and restrictions established by Russian Federation legislation.

The Russian Federation permits the importation of the vehicles that are mentioned in Article XI (2), (5) and (6) of the Agreement and intended for personal use by members of the civilian component and their family members under the terms of temporary importation that are established by Russian Federation legislation.

The Russian Federation presumes that customs processing of goods imported (exported) by members of the civilian component and their family members and intended solely for their personal use, including goods for initially setting up a household, shall be carried out without the exacting of customs payments, except for customs fees for storage, customs processing of goods, and similar services outside the designated places or hours of operation of the customs authorities.

“7) The Russian Federation also presumes that documents and materials appended to them that are sent to its competent authorities within the framework of the Agreement will be accompanied by duly certified translations thereof into the Russian language.”

⁹ The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by Spain includes the following reservation:

“Spain shall remain bound by the Agreement Among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the Other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace Regarding the Status of Their Forces only with respect to the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace that shall have ratified the Agreement and its Additional Protocol”.

¹⁰ Signature of the Agreement by Sweden was accompanied by the following reservation:

“The Government of Sweden does not consider itself bound by Article I of the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States Participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the status of their Forces, to the extent that this Article refers to the provisions of Article VII of the agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the status of their Forces, which gives sending States the right to exercise jurisdiction within the territory of a receiving State, when Sweden is such a receiving State. The reservation does not cover appropriate measures taken by the military authorities of sending States which are immediately necessary to ensure the maintenance of order and security within the force.”

[Sweden’s instrument of ratification of the Agreement includes this reservation.]

¹¹ The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by Switzerland was accompanied by the following reservations and declaration:

“On Ratification of the Agreement among the States parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the status of their forces, dated 19 June 1995 and the Additional Protocol to the said Agreement, Switzerland formulates the following reservations and declaration relating to the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty regarding the Status of their forces (Status of the NATO troops), dated 19 June 1951:

Reservation concerning Article VII Paragraphs 5 and 6:

- I. “Switzerland will only hand over members of a military unit, of a civilian component or their families to the authorities of the sending or receiving state according to Article VII Paragraph 5 of the NATO-Status of Forces Agreement or provide legal assistance according to Paragraph 6 in such cases, if the state in question gives the guarantee that the death penalty is neither pronounced against nor carried out on these persons.
- II. Switzerland will not hand over members of a military unit, of a civilian component or their families to the authorities of the sending or receiving state according to Article VII Paragraph 5 of the NATO-Status of Forces Agreement nor and will not provide legal assistance according to Paragraph 6,
 - i. If there are serious reasons for believing that these persons would be subjected to torture or to inhuman or degrading punishment or treatment,
 - ii. If there are serious reasons for believing that these persons would be prosecuted on account of their race, religion, nationality or political opinion, or that these persons’ positions may be prejudiced for any of these reasons.”

Reservation concerning Article XIII

“Switzerland grants administrative or legal assistance in fiscal matters. The object of administrative assistance is the correct application of the agreements regarding the avoidance of double taxation and the prevention of their improper use. Switzerland offers legal assistance only in case of fiscal fraud and on condition of reciprocity.”

Declaration concerning Article VII

“The acceptance by Switzerland of the penal and disciplinary jurisdiction of foreign military authorities of a sending state according to Article VII of the NATO- NATO-Status of Forces Agreement does not apply to the proceedings, the deliberation and pronouncement of the judgement by a criminal court of the sending state on the territory of Switzerland.”

¹² The instrument of ratification of the Agreement by the United Kingdom indicates that the ratification is “subject to the reservation that any exemptions from duties or taxes shall apply to the extent permissible under the laws of the European Community.”