

Title: Convention between [Norway] and [Finland] concerning the international legal regime of the waters of the Pasvik (Paatsjoki) and the Jakobselv

Parties: Finland, Norway

Basin: Paatsjoki, Vuoremajoki

TRANSLATION<sup>1</sup>.

NO. II93. - CONVENTION BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF NORWAY AND THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND CONCERNING THE INTERNATIONAL LEGAL REGIME OF THE WATERS OF THE PASVIK (PATSJOKI) AND THE JAKOBSELV (VUOREMAJOKI), SIGNED AT OSLO, FEBRUARY 14, 1925.

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF NORWAY and THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND, having conducted negotiations through their duly appointed delegations in regard to the neighbourly relations existing between them as a result of the acquisition by Finland of the district of Petsamo, and

Being desirous of maintaining the friendly and neighbourly relations existing between the two countries,

Have decided for that purpose to conclude a Convention regarding the international legal regime of the Pasvik (Patsjoki) and the Jakobselv (Vuoremajoki) and have appointed as their Plenipotentiaries

HIS MAJESTY THE KING OF NORWAY:

M. Johan Ludwig MOWINCKEL, His Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs

THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND:

Dr. Rolf THESLEFF, Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary of the Republic at Oslo;

Who, having exchanged their full powers found in good and due form, have agreed on the following Articles:

*Article I.*

On the river systems of the Pasvik (Patsjoki) and the Jakobselv (Vuoremajoki) no measure may be taken on the territory of one of the Contracting States which, to the detriment of the other State and without its consent, might involve a change in the natural regime of the latter's water-ways.

*Article II.*

The waters of those parts of the Pasvik (Patsjoki) and its tributaries that form the frontier shall be divided between the two Contracting States in equal quantities; the waters of those parts of the river and its tributaries of which both banks belong to one State shall belong in their entirety to that State.

The waters of that part of the Jakobselv (Vuoremajoki) which forms the frontier shall be divided between the two Contracting States in equal quantities.

*Article III.*

Disputes regarding the interpretation or application of the present Convention which it may not have been possible to settle by negotiation shall be submitted to the Permanent Court of International Justice,

unless the Contracting States shall, by a special agreement, have determined to have them settled in some other way.

*Article IV.*

The present Convention, drafted in Norwegian, Finnish, Swedish and French, and of which the French shall be the authentic text, shall be ratified, and the instruments of ratification shall be exchanged as soon as possible at Helsingfors.

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

Done at Oslo in duplicate on February 14, 1925.

(L.S.) (Signed) JOH. LUDW. MOWINCKEL.

(L.S.) (Signed) ROLF THESLEFF,

PROTOCOL.

When signing the Convention concerning the international legal regime on the waters of the Pasvik (Patsjoki) and the Jakobselv (Vuoremajold), the undersigned, being duly authorised by their Governments, have agreed upon the following provisions with regard to concessions for the use of the water power of these streams.

*Paragraph 1.*

Any exploitation of water power involving the utilisation either of the territories or of the waters belonging to the two Contracting States, shall require a separate concession from each of the in respect of the Contracting States in respect of its own territory. The same shall apply whenever the enforcement of a measure one of the States shall involve a change in the natural regime of the waterways on the territory of the other State to the latter's detriment.

*Paragraph 2.*

Requests for concessions shall be addressed to the competent authorities of each of the two States and shall be accompanied by complete plans of the installations and by a declaration as to the purpose for which the energy will be used.

The Governor of Finmark and the Governor of Uleåborg shall be authorised, each for his respective district, to grant the permits for the surveying necessary for the preparation of the plans.

*Paragraph 3.*

In order that the two States may agree upon concessions whenever disagreement would cause difficulties, and especially as regards the length of the concession and the disposal of installations when the concession expires, the competent authorities of the two States shall negotiate together and shall communicate to one another the conditions which they propose to lay down for the concession.

The competent authorities of the two States shall communicate to one another copies of the concession deeds.

*Paragraph 4.*

In granting concessions neither of the two Contracting States shall give any undertaking to the other State or to the concessionaire beyond what is contained in the deed of concession.

*Paragraph 5.*

The present Protocol shall remain in force for twelve months after being denounced by one or other of the respective States.

Denunciation shall have no effect upon concessions already granted.

In faith whereof the respective Plenipotentiaries have signed the present Protocol, which subject to paragraph 5, first sub-paragraph, shall have the same force and the same validity as if its provisions were included in the Convention itself.

Done at Oslo in duplicate on February 14, 1925.

(L. S.)(Signed) JOH. LUDW. MOWINCKE

(L. S.)(Signed) ROLF THESLEFF.

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