

No. 30797

**FINLAND
and
RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

**Agreement concerning cooperation in crime prevention.
Signed at Moscow on 5 March 1993**

Authentic texts: Finnish and Russian.

Registered by Finland on 4 March 1994.

**FINLANDE
et
FÉDÉRATION DE RUSSIE**

**Accord de coopération en vue de la prévention du crime.
Signé à Moscou le 5 mars 1993**

Textes authentiques : finnois et russe.

Enregistré par la Finlande le 4 mars 1994.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION CONCERNING COOPERATION IN CRIME PREVENTION

The Government of the Republic of Finland and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as “the Contracting Parties”,

Attaching great importance to international cooperation in crime prevention and desiring to this end to render each other the widest possible assistance and to increase the effectiveness of their cooperation in this area,

Taking into account the conventions and resolutions of the United Nations and the decisions of other international organizations concerning crime prevention, and

Bearing in mind the Treaty between the Republic of Finland and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning the provision of legal protection and legal assistance in civil, family and criminal cases of 11 August 1978,²

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

SCOPE OF THE AGREEMENT

1. The subject of this Agreement is cooperation between the competent organs of the Contracting Parties with a view to the prevention, detection, suppression and exposure of crime.

2. For the purposes of this Agreement the competent organs of the Contracting Parties are: for Finland, the Police Service, the Department of Frontier Security and the Customs Department; for the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Security of the Russian Federation, the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Russian Federation, the Office of the Public Prosecutor of the Russian Federation and the State Customs Committee of the Russian Federation.

3. The competent organs of the Contracting Parties shall render each other assistance by *inter alia*:

(a) Conducting interrogations and questioning victims, suspects, witnesses or experts;

(b) Obtaining evidence of crimes;

(c) Establishing identities and locating and identifying persons;

(d) Conducting searches and seizures;

(e) Providing documents needed for investigations or court proceedings;

¹ Came into force on 17 February 1994, i.e., 30 days after the Contracting Parties had informed each other (on 18 January 1994) of the completion of the legal requirements, in accordance with article 14 (1).

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1241, p. 299.

(f) Investigating accidents, including industrial accidents, establishing the causes of deaths, and investigating in other cases the causes of personal injury or damage to property; and

(g) Exchanging information on questions connected with the implementation of this Agreement, in particular on questions concerning the prevention of organized crime and drug-related crime.

Article 2

DEFINITIONS

For the purposes of this Agreement:

1. “Locating persons” means establishing the whereabouts of suspects, victims, witnesses or missing persons.

2. “Identifying persons” means establishing the identity of suspects or accident victims on the basis of fingerprints, other distinguishing marks, photographs or other information.

3. “Search” means a coercive measure taken for the purpose of examining a specific place or person in order to locate articles liable to seizure or to establish a fact which may be material to the investigation of a crime.

4. “Seizure” means a measure by means of which a specific article is removed by an official organ when there are grounds for supposing that it may constitute evidence in a criminal case or that it has been acquired by criminal means or that it will be declared confiscated by a court.

Article 3

CENTRAL ORGANS

1. In the implementation of this Agreement, requests for assistance or information shall be transmitted directly by the central organs of the Contracting Parties and under their supervision.

2. After the entry into force of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall notify each other as to which organs of the Contracting Parties shall perform the functions of central organs.

3. The measures provided for in this Agreement may also be carried out directly at the local level, if the central organs so agree.

Article 4

FORM AND CONTENT OF REQUESTS FOR ASSISTANCE

1. Requests for assistance must be transmitted in written form or by telex, telefax or a computer link. In urgent cases requests may be transmitted by telephone, but they must be immediately confirmed in writing. When telex, telefax or a computer link is used, or if there is any doubt as to the authenticity or content of a request, the organ to which the request is addressed may ask for confirmation in writing.