

No. 11325

MULTILATERAL

Convention for the reciprocal recognition of proof marks on small arms (with regulations and annexes). Signed at Brussels on 1 July 1969

Authentic text: French.

Registered by Belgium on 9 September 1971.

MULTILATÉRAL

Convention pour la reconnaissance réciproque des poinçons d'épreuves des armes à feu portatives (avec règlement et annexes). Signée à Bruxelles le 1^{er} juillet 1969

Texte authentique: français.

Enregistrée par la Belgique le 9 septembre 1971.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CONVENTION¹ FOR THE RECIPROCAL RECOGNITION OF
PROOF MARKS ON SMALL ARMS

The Governments of the Republic of Austria, the Kingdom of Belgium, the Republic of Chile, the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, the French Republic, the Federal Republic of Germany, the Italian Republic and the Spanish State,

Noting that the Convention of 15 July 1914² regarding the Establishment of Uniform Regulations for the Reciprocal Recognition of Official Proof Marks on Fire-Arms is no longer responsive to the demands of modern technology,

Have agreed on the following provisions:

Article I

There shall be established a Permanent International Commission for the Proving of Small Arms (Commission internationale permanente pour l'épreuve des armes à feu portatives), hereinafter referred to as the Permanent International Commission, abbreviated to CIP.

Its functions shall be:

- (1) To select apparatus to serve as a standard for shooting pressure measurements, and measuring procedures to be employed by the official services for accurate and practical determination of pressures developed by standard and proof cartridges, in respect of:
 - (a) sporting, target and defensive arms, with the exception of arms for land, sea and air warfare; however, the Contracting Parties shall be entitled to use, for any or all of the latter arms, the measuring instruments and procedures adopted hereunder;

¹ Came into force on 3 July 1971, in respect of the following States, i.e. on the thirtieth day following the receipt of the third of the notifications by which they had notified the Government of Belgium of the fulfilment of the constitutional procedures required, in accordance with article VI:

<i>State</i>	<i>Date of notification</i>
Belgium	31 March 1971
Austria	6 May 1971
France.	3 June 1971

² League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. LXXIX, p. 133.

(b) all other portable devices, arms or apparatus for industrial or occupational use not covered above which utilize an explosive charge to propel a projectile or mechanical parts of any kind, and the testing of which is deemed necessary by the Permanent International Commission.

Such apparatus shall be termed “standard apparatus”.

(2) To determine the nature and manner of execution of the official tests to which the arms or apparatus specified in paragraph (1) (a) and (b) will be subjected, with a view to providing every guarantee of safety.

Such tests shall be termed “standard tests”.

(3) To incorporate into the standard measurement apparatus and the operating procedures, as also into the standard tests, such improvements, modifications or additions as may be called for by advances in metrology or in the production of small arms and apparatus for industrial and occupational use and of ammunition therefor.

(4) To promote the standardization of chamber dimensions of commercial fire-arms and the methods of inspection and testing of ammunition therefor.

(5) To examine the laws and regulations concerning the official testing of small arms enacted by the Contracting Governments with a view to ascertaining whether they are in conformity with the determinations made under paragraph (2) above.

(6) To declare in which Contracting States the tests performed correspond to the standard tests under paragraph (2) and to issue a table of facsimiles of the proof marks employed by those States' official proof houses both currently and in the time since the signing of the Convention of 15 July 1914.

(7) To withdraw the declaration provided for in paragraph (6) above and amend the said table should the conditions referred to in paragraph (6) cease to be fulfilled.

Article II

The proof marks of the official proof houses of each of the Contracting Parties shall be recognized in the territory of the other Contracting Parties on condition that they have been made the subject of the declaration referred to in article I (6).

Article III

The composition and powers of the Permanent International Commission shall be determined by the Regulations annexed to this Convention. The Regulations shall form an integral part of the Convention.

Article IV

Should any doubt or dispute arise as to the interpretation or application of any of the technical aspects of a decision by the Permanent International Commission adopted under the terms of article I of this Convention and article 5 of the Regulations, the Government concerned shall apply to the Permanent International Commission for an opinion.

Article V

This Convention shall be opened for signature on 1 July 1969.

Article VI

(1) Each of the signatory Governments shall notify the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium of the fulfilment of the constitutional procedures required for this Convention to take effect.

(2) This Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the receipt of the third such notification.

(3) In respect of the other signatory Government, the Convention shall enter into force on the thirtieth day following the receipt by the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium of the notification provided for in paragraph (1).

Article VII

(1) After the entry into force of this Convention, any non-signatory Government may accede to it by addressing to the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium, through the diplomatic channel, a request for accession accompanied by the proof-house regulations in force in its territory.

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium shall transmit such request and appended regulations to all Contracting Governments. The accession shall become effective if all the Contracting Governments assent thereto. Upon the expiry of one year from the date on which the Contracting Parties are notified of the receipt of a request by the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium, failure of a Contracting Government to reply shall be deemed to signify acceptance.

(2) The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium shall inform all Contracting Governments and the Secretary of the CIP of the effective date of any new accession.

Article VIII

(1) Any Contracting Party may denounce this Convention three years or more after it has entered into force in its regard. The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium shall be notified of the denunciation, which shall take effect one year after receipt of the notification.

(2) Denunciation by a Contracting Party shall produce effects only with regard to that Party.

Article IX

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium shall notify all the signatory and acceding Governments of the date of receipt of the notifications provided for in articles VI (1) and (3), VII and VIII (1).

Article X

Pending the entry into force of decisions adopted by the Commission under article 5(1) of its Regulations, the standard apparatus for pressure measurement and the standard tests as described in annex I of the Regulations of the Permanent International Commission, and the rules regarding the minimum dimensions of the chambers of the standard apparatus for pressure measurement as set forth in annex II of the Regulations, shall remain valid.

Article XI

This Convention shall replace¹ the Convention regarding the Establishment of Uniform Regulations for the Reciprocal Recognition of Official Proof Marks on Fire-Arms, and its annexes I and II, signed at Brussels on 15 July 1914.

DONE at Brussels on 1 July 1969, in the French language, in a single original to be deposited in the archives of the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium, which shall issue certified true copies to all signatory and acceding Governments.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, duly authorized for the purpose, have signed this Convention.

¹ See p. 404 of this volume.

For the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:

“Subject to the deposit of the notification provided for in article VI(1)

R. VON UNGERN-STERMBERG
24 December 1969”

For the Government of the Republic of Austria:

KURT FARBOWSKY
6 July 1970

For the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium:

J. HAMELS
10 September 1969

For the Government of the Republic of Chile:

ALFONSO SANTA CRUZ
2 December 1969

For the Government of the Spanish State:

JAIME ALBA
26 January 1970

For the Government of the French Republic:

ETIENNE DE CROUY-CHANEL
5 September 1969

For the Government of the Italian Republic:

For the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:

Dr. FRANTIŠEK RAJMAN
6 May 1970

REGULATIONS OF THE PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION
(CIP) AND ANNEXES I AND II

Article 1

The Permanent International Commission for the Proving of Small Arms shall be composed of representatives of all the Contracting Parties. Each Contracting Party shall have one vote, whatever the number of its representatives.

Article 2

1. At the end of each of its sessions, the Permanent International Commission shall elect the Chairman of the following session from among the representatives of the State in whose territory that session will be held.

2. If, in the light of article I of the Convention, the Commission deems it desirable to carry out certain continuous research or experimental work, the Commission or a sub-committee thereof may meet at the place selected for such experiments. The Chairman, by agreement with the delegations, shall decide the composition, the function and the terms of reference of sub-committees. The latter shall select from among their members a chairman and also a secretary who shall draft reports on behalf of the sub-committee.

Article 3

A Permanent Bureau, under a Director appointed by the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium with the concurrence of the Contracting Parties, shall have the following responsibilities :

1. during sessions, to provide the secretariat of the Permanent International Commission.
2. between sessions, to conduct the Commission's correspondence and provide administrative and archive services; to that end, it shall collect and file dossiers, documents and technical publications, maintain printed specimens of officially recognized proof marks, and classify, translate and communicate to the Contracting Parties information of every kind relating to the testing of small arms and apparatus for industrial and occupational use, as well as information relating to the methods of inspection and testing of ammunition therefor, not only of the Contracting Parties but also of all other States.

The Permanent Bureau shall be situated in Belgium.

Article 4

1. The Permanent International Commission shall meet when convened by the Permanent Bureau. It may be convened at the request of one of the delegations of Contracting Parties; it may be convened if two or more delegations of the Contracting Parties so request.

2. Each Contracting Party shall inform the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium, which shall thereupon notify the Bureau, of any change to be made in its list of representatives. Experts may be permitted to participate, in an advisory capacity, in technical meetings of the sub-committees for the consideration of selected clearly-defined problems.

3. One observer per non-signatory State may be admitted to the sessions of the Permanent International Commission by agreement among the Contracting Parties, provided that such observer has been officially designated by his Government.

If, having been represented by an observer at three successive sessions, a Government has not submitted a request for accession to the Convention, it shall not be entitled to be represented at subsequent sessions.

4. Experts from non-signatory States may be invited to attend technical meetings of sub-committees in an advisory capacity, by agreement among all the members of the sub-committee concerned and at the invitation of its chairman, for the discussion of selected clearly-defined problems.

Article 5

1. The Contracting Parties shall authorize the Permanent International Commission to take whatever decisions may be necessary pursuant to the aims set forth in article I of the Convention.

2. The Permanent Bureau shall transmit to the Contracting Parties, through the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium, the decisions taken by the Permanent International Commission and, in particular, the drawings and plans of the standard apparatus for pressure measurement, the tables of standardized dimensions of chambers and cartridges, and the description of internationally recognized proof marks. Such documents shall be kept constantly up to date by the Commission.

Article 6

In order to ensure the execution of the foregoing provisions, the Contracting Parties shall communicate, through the diplomatic channel, to the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium for transmittal to the Permanent Bureau, the laws, decrees, and instructions concerning the testing of small arms together with all other relevant documents which the Bureau may ask them to provide.

Article 7

1. Decisions of the Permanent International Commission shall be taken by vote, either while the Commission is in session or by correspondence.

2. Decisions shall be by simple majority of the delegations present or represented, provided that the number of votes shall constitute at least two thirds of the total number of Governments members of the Permanent International Commission.

Abstentions, invalid votes and blank or invalid ballots shall not be regarded as votes cast. If a vote is equally divided, the Chairman shall cast the deciding vote.

3. However, when the question of recognizing the proof marks of a Contracting Party is being considered, the Party concerned shall not be entitled to vote.

4. If it is unable to be present at a session, a Contracting Party may authorize another Party to vote for it by proxy; however, no Contracting Party may exercise more than one proxy.

5. In the case of a vote conducted by correspondence, delegations shall submit their replies within a six-month period of which they shall be notified by the Director of the Permanent Bureau by means of a letter sent by certified mail. The six months shall be deemed to begin on receipt of the notification concerning the time period.

Failure to reply during the said period shall be deemed to signify an abstention.

Article 8

1. The decisions shall enter into force if within the six months following the notification prescribed in article 5(2) none of the Contracting Parties submits an objection or reservations to the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium.

If a Contracting Party objects to a decision, the decision shall remain without effect with regard to the other Contracting Parties.

If a Contracting Party formulates reservations with respect to a decision, the decision shall enter into force only if the said Contracting Party withdraws its reservations.

The date of receipt of a notification to that effect, addressed to the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium, shall be regarded as the date of withdrawal.

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium shall inform the Permanent International Commission of any objections, reservations or withdrawals of reservations received.

2. Should the Commission take a decision under article I (7) of the Convention, the Contracting Party whose proof mark or proof marks are no longer recognized and are to be deleted from the official table shall not be entitled to submit objections or reservations.

Article 9

The official language of the Permanent International Commission shall be French.

Article 10

The costs of the Permanent Bureau shall be borne jointly by all the Contracting States.

The general expenses, allowances and travel costs of representatives to the Permanent International Commission incurred in attending meetings of the plenary Commission or its sub-committees, or incurred in their relations with the Permanent Bureau, shall be borne by their respective Governments.

Article 11

These regulations shall have the same validity and duration as the Convention, of which they form an integral part.

DONE at Brussels on 1 July 1969, in the French language, in a single original.

For the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany:

R. VON UNGERN-STERNBERG
24 December 1969

For the Government of the Austrian Republic:

KURT FARBOWSKY
6 July 1970

For the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium:

J. HAMELS
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For the Government of the Republic of Chile:

ALFONSO SANTA CRUZ
2 December 1969

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ETIENNE DE CROUY-CHANEL
5 September 1969

For the Government of the Italian Republic:

For the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:

DR FRANTIŠEK RAJMAN
6 May 1970

ANNEX I

TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION

I. STANDARD TESTS

The Contracting States, or States acceding to the Convention, undertake reciprocally to recognize as equivalent to the proof marks affixed in their national proof houses, foreign official proof marks provided that the regulations governing them are not at variance with the following principles:

The full test for a weapon shall entail firing at a pressure at least equal to an assigned value, preceded and followed by rigorous inspection for the purpose of eliminating:

before firing:

defective mechanisms and barrels insufficiently polished or containing defects which impair the strength of the weapon and which are not revealed by the proof firing;

after firing:

any barrel or essential part showing defects or deformations consequent upon the proof firing.

The weapon shall be subjected to testing either when it has reached a stage in its manufacture where it will not undergo further work that might affect its strength, or when it is completely finished and ready for delivery.

II. TESTS FOR SMOOTH-BORE BREECH-LOADING SPORTING GUNS

For smooth-bore breech-loading sporting guns, there shall be two types of tests:

- the ordinary test, applied to guns which use shells developing an average maximum pressure not exceeding 650 bars (crusher measurement);
- the advanced test, applied to guns which use heavier shells.

(1) *The ordinary test:*

This test shall be applied to 12-, 16- and 20-bore guns made to withstand an average maximum pressure not exceeding 650 bars (average of 20 shots).

The ordinary test shall entail the firing of at least two shells. In the firing of these two shells, each of the following conditions must be achieved at least once:

- (a) a pressure must be developed in the chamber such that an LCA crusher cylinder, placed in the first pressure gauge of the standard apparatus fitted with a piston of 30 mm², registers not higher than 3.78 mm (850 bars).
- (b) a pressure must be developed in the bore such that an LCA crusher cylinder, placed in the second pressure gauge, which is situated 162 mm from the bolt face, and fitted with a piston of 30 mm², registers not higher than 4.40 mm (500 bars).

(2) *The advanced test:*

This test shall be applied to 12-, 16- and 20-bore guns which use shells developing an average maximum pressure that may exceed 650 bars.

The test shall entail the firing of at least two shells, allowance being made for the ordinary test, if performed.

In the firing of the two shells, each of the following conditions must be achieved at least once:

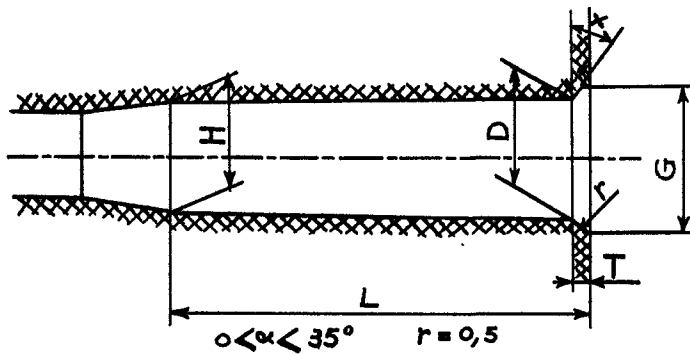
- (a) a pressure must be developed in the chamber such that an LCA cylinder, placed in the first pressure gauge of the standard apparatus fitted with a piston of 30 mm², registers not higher than 3.16 mm (1,200 bars).
- (b) a pressure must be developed in the barrel such that a crusher cylinder placed in the second pressure gauge registers not higher than 4.40 mm (500 bars).

- The conditions specified above for the two tests may be achieved:
- either separately by two different shells, or
 - by two identical shells that simultaneously meet conditions (a) and (b).

A separate proof mark shall be used in respect of the ordinary and the advanced test.

ANNEX II

TO THE REGULATIONS OF THE PERMANENT INTERNATIONAL COMMISSION EUROPEAN STANDARDIZATION OF SHOT-GUN CHAMBERS



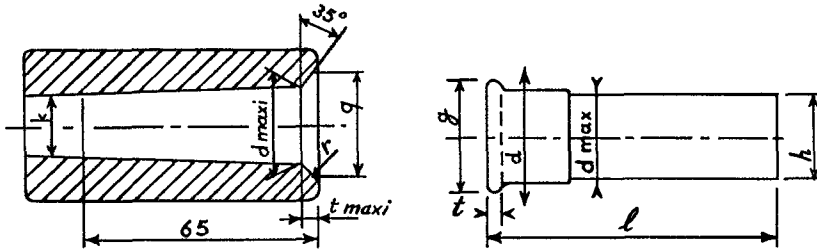
GENERAL DIMENSIONS OF CHAMBERS (in mm)

Bore	H min.	Tolerance	D min.	Tolerance	G min.	Tolerance	T min.	Tolerance
10	21.40	+0.1	21.75	+0.1	23.75	+0.1	1.90	+0.05
12	20.30		20.65		22.55		1.85	
14	19.35		19.70		21.55		1.75	
16	18.60		18.95		20.75		1.65	
20	17.40		17.75		19.50		1.55	
24	16.50		16.80		18.55		1.55	
28	15.60		15.90		17.50		1.55	
32	14.30		14.60		16.20		1.55	
410	11.80		12.05		13.70		1.55	

LENGTH OF CHAMBERS

	2"	2½" 32...24	2½" 20...12	2¾"	2⅞"	3"	3¼"
L min.	50.8	63.6	65.1	69.9	73.0	76.2	82.6
Tolerance	general tolerance: +2.0 mm						

DIMENSIONS OF SHOT-GUN SHELLS ADOPTED BY THE TECHNICAL COMMITTEE OF EUROPEAN CARTRIDGE-MAKERS (COMITÉ TECHNIQUE DES CARTOUCHIERS EUROPÉENS)



$$Q = g \text{ maxi} + 0,05$$

$$K = h \text{ maxi} + 0,05$$

$$r = 0,5$$

GENERAL DIMENSIONS OF SHELLS (in mm)

Bore	$g \text{ max.}$	Tolerance	$d \text{ max.}$	Tolerance	$t \text{ max.}$	Tolerance	$h \text{ max.}$	Tolerance	Calibre
10	23.65	-0.25	21.70	-0.15	1.90	-0.25	21.30	-0.25	10
12	22.45	-0.25	20.60	-0.15	1.85	-0.25	20.20	-0.25	12
14	21.45	-0.25	19.65	-0.15	1.75	-0.20	19.30	-0.25	14
16	20.65	-0.25	18.90	-0.15	1.65	-0.20	18.55	-0.25	16
20	19.40	-0.20	17.70	-0.15	1.55	-0.20	17.35	-0.25	20
24	18.45	-0.20	16.75	-0.10	1.55	-0.20	16.45	-0.25	24
28	17.40	-0.20	15.85	-0.10	1.55	-0.20	15.55	-0.25	28
32	16.10	-0.20	14.55	-0.10	1.55	-0.20	14.25	-0.25	32
.410	13.60	-0.20	12.00	-0.10	1.55	-0.20	11.75	-0.20	410

LENGTH OF SHELLS

	2"	$2\frac{1}{2}$ " 32 . . . 24	$2\frac{1}{2}$ " 20 . . . 12	$2\frac{3}{4}$ "	$2\frac{7}{8}$ "	3"	$3\frac{1}{4}$ "
l max. (in mm)	50.7	63.5	65.0	69.8	72.8	76.0	82.4
Tolerance	general tolerance: -0.7 mm						