

**THE ESTONIAN-RUSSIAN BORDER TREATY  
BETWEEN  
THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA  
AND  
THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

The Republic of Estonia and the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the Parties;

Guided by the generally recognised principles and standards of international law, including UN and OSCE documents, and reaffirming the endeavour to develop international relations based upon them;

Desiring to secure advantageous conditions for the developing and ensuring of good-neighbourly relations and mutual understanding between the two states;

Seeking to establish a legal basis for settling issues connected with the Estonian-Russian border;

Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

1. With this Treaty, the Parties are settling the issues dealing with the course of the border between the Republic of Estonia and Russian Federation (hereinafter referred to as the Border), and confirm, that, upon this Treaty entering into force, they will regard the said issues as having been regulated.
2. The course of the maritime border will be determined by the Parties with a separate treaty.

**Article 2**

The Border determined by this Treaty is a line, and a vertical plane following its course, which delimits the territory, bodies of water, airspace, and mineral resources of the Republic of Estonia and the Russian Federation.

**Article 3**

1. The Parties determined the course of the Border on the basis of agreements arrived at during the Estonian-Russian border negotiations, the course being specified in Annex 1, and being shown on the 1:50 000 scale map in Annex 2.

Annexes 1 and 2 are integral parts of this Treaty.

2. If the Parties have a divergence concerning the interpretation of the first Clause of this Article, then priority must be given to the specification of the course of the Border in Annex 1 of this Treaty.

#### **Article 4**

The common point of the borders of the Republic of Estonia, the Russian Federation, and the Republic of Latvia will be determined with a separate agreement between these three states.

#### **Article 5**

1. To determine the course of the Border in the terrain, the Parties will establish, on the basis of equality, a joint Demarcation Commission (hereinafter referred to as the Commission), and both Parties will name a Commission Co-Chairman and Substitute.
2. The Commission will confirm the regulations governing its activities.
3. Each Party will bear the expenses of their part of the Commission, unless the Governments of the Parties, in specific cases, agree otherwise.

#### **Article 6**

1. The Commission will carry out the demarcation of the Border as follows:
  - will draw up the drafts of the Border demarcation documents;
  - will determine, when necessary, the exact location of the main (shipping) channel of rivers (lakes) on the Border, and the exact location of the midpoint of the river or its main tributary, as well as the ownership of islands in rivers and lakes on the Border;
  - will put up boundary markers.
2. In the course of carrying out its demarcation activities, the Commission will take into consideration, on the basis of a mutual agreement, the circumstances of the economic activities of the residents, including land usage, peculiarities of the locality, as well as the necessity of creating conditions appropriate for the guarding of the border.

#### **Article 7**

The Border will be regarded as having been conclusively demarcated after the Governments of both Parties have ratified the following demarcation documents:

a specification of the course of the boundary line, records of the boundary markers, and a demarcation map.

#### **Article 8**

Issues relating to the activities of Border officials, water usage regulations, shipping, the common usage of bridges and hydrotechnical facilities located on the Border, fishing conditions, and other economic activities in bodies of water on the Border, as well as the various aspects of the Border regime, will be regulated with separate agreements.

#### **Article 9**

The Parties will settle issues, arising in the course of implementing this Treaty, through diplomatic channels.

#### **Article 10**

This Treaty is subject to ratification, and enters into force after 30 days have expired since the date of exchanging the instruments of ratification.

Done at Moscow, 18 May 2005, in two copies in the Estonian and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Republic of Estonia

For the Russian Federation