

MEASUREMENT CERTIFICATES FOR VESSELS

Declaration signed at Washington June 6, 1884
Entered into force August 1, 1884

23 Stat. 789; Treaty Series 304

DECLARATION

The English method for the admeasurement of vessels (the Moorsom system) being now in force not only in the United States of America, but also in the Empire of Russia and the Grand Duchy of Finland, the undersigned, having been duly authorized by their Governments, hereby declare:

ARTICLE I

That American vessels admeasured according to the aforesaid method, shall be admitted into the ports of Russia and Finland, and likewise that Russian and Finnish vessels admeasured according to the same system, shall be admitted into the ports of the United States, without being subjected, for the payment of navigation dues, to any new admeasurement whatever.

These navigation dues shall be computed according to the net tonnage.

A. Russian certificates of admeasurement issued since December 20
January ¹⁸⁷⁹/₁₈₈₀, and Finnish certificates of admeasurement issued since May 31, 1877, shall be recognized in the United States of America without any formality as regards the net tonnage of *sailing* or *steam* vessels.

B. In like manner American certificates of admeasurement shall be recognized in Russia and Finland without any formality as regards the tonnage of American *sailing* vessels. American certificates of admeasurement, issued since July 24,
August 5, 1882, shall be recognized in Russia and Finland without any formality as regards the net tonnage of American *steam* vessels. As the American admeasurement regulations which were in force previously to that date make no deduction for the space occupied by the machinery and its appurtenances, certificates of admeasurement of American vessels issued before the act of July 4,
August 5, 1882,¹ took effect, shall be recognized in Russian and Finnish ports without such vessels' being subjected to readmeasurement, but on condition

¹ 22 Stat. 300.

that the navigation dues shall be computed according to the gross tonnage stated in the certificate of admeasurement. The owners or captains of such vessels shall, nevertheless, if they desire it, have a right to demand a partial readmeasurement according to Russian or Finnish rules, in order thereby to secure a reduction of such dues.

C. Inasmuch as the Russian and Finnish regulations are not entirely in conformity with those of the United States of America in respect to the admeasurement of steam vessels, commanders of Russian or Finnish vessels in American ports, and *vice versa*, shall have the right to demand the partial readmeasurement of the space occupied by the machinery, boilers, etc., according to the system in force in the port in which they are. The other figures of the certificate of admeasurement shall be taken as the basis of such readmeasurement.

D. This readmeasurement, executed in accordance with paragraphs B and C of this article, shall be performed at a rate to be established for this purpose by the local authorities.

ARTICLE II

The above provisions shall likewise be applicable to vessels propelled by any other mechanical motor.

This declaration shall take effect on the 20th day of July, 1884, and shall remain in force until one of the contracting parties shall have made known to the other, six months in advance, its intention to cause its effects to cease.

In testimony whereof the undersigned have affixed their signatures to this declaration, together with the seals of their arms.

Done in duplicate at Washington, this 25th day of May, 1884.
6th day of June.

FRED'K T. FRELINGHUYSEN [SEAL]
C. STRUVE [SEAL]