

ALLIANCE TREATY OBLIGATIONS AND PROVISIONS (ATOP)
CODING SHEET

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SECTION I: FORMATION, MEMBERS, AND DURATION

1. ATOP ID: #1470.
2. COW Alliance # (if applicable): # 3011.
3. Signature date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances):
February 29, 1912.
4. Members of alliance (use COW country codes):
345 Serbia
355 Bulgaria.
5. Was the alliance signed during war? If so, which war, and which member(s) was at war? (check COW data)
6. Means by which alliance was established (e.g., treaty, executive agreement, diplomatic notes, etc.): (Only select "treaty" if the agreement requires ratification.)
Treaty.
7. Was the treaty public, public but with secret articles, or secret? If secret articles, describe the content of secret articles.
Secret. The treaty and the convention may be published, or communicated to other states, only after a preliminary agreement between the two parties, and even then only jointly and simultaneously by the two sides (Treaty, Art.7). There was also a secret annex to the treaty: No disposition of the present secret annex shall be made public, or communicated to another state, without previous consent of the two parties and the permission of Russia (Annex, Art.5). However, a copy of the treaty and of the secret annex will be communicated to Russia (Convention, Art.3).
8. Are there provisions for adding additional members mentioned in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
Yes. A third party may be admitted to join the alliance after a preliminary understanding between the two parties (Treaty, Art. 7).
9. Are specific state(s) mentioned as possible future members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, which state(s)?
No.
10. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning the length of time the treaty is to last? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
Yes. The treaty and the military convention remain in place from the date of signature to December 31, 1920, inclusive (Treaty, Art.5).
11. Are there conditions under which members may renounce the treaty? If Yes, describe these conditions.
No.
12. Are there specific provisions in the treaty concerning renewal of the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
Yes. The treaty and the military convention can be prolonged after December 31, 1920, through an additional understanding, explicitly ratified by the two parties. If, on the day when the treaty and the convention expire, the parties should be engaged in war, or should not yet have wound up the situation arising from a war, the treaty and the convention will retain their force until the conclusion of peace, or until the situation resulting from a war has been definitely settled (Treaty, Art. 5).
13. Number of times alliance renewed, dates of renewal, and means by which alliance was renewed (Do not include automatic renewals):
Unknown.
14. Termination date(s) (may vary for members in multilateral alliances) and source(s) for termination dates(s):
June 30, 1913
15. Describe what caused the alliance to terminate.
Beginning of 2nd Balkan War – Serbia provokes war with Bulgaria (Langer, 1972, p. 802)

SECTION II: OBLIGATIONS

16. Type of alliance (defense pact, neutrality pact, nonaggression pact, consultation pact, offense pact): (List all that apply to any member of the alliance.)

Defense Pact
Neutrality Pact
Consultation Pact
Offense Pact

17. Type of alliance as coded in COW data (if applicable):

Defense Pact

18. Describe the obligations of the alliance partners.

Defense:

Bulgaria and Serbia guarantee to each other their national independence and the integrity of their national territories, binding themselves absolutely and without reservation to succour each other with their entire forces, in the event of one of them being attacked by one or more states (Treaty, Art.1). The military convention specifies how many troops Serbia should send if Romania or Turkey attack Bulgaria and how many troops Bulgaria should send if Serbia is attacked by Austria-Hungary, Turkey or Romania (Convention, Art.2,3).

Consultation:

In the event of internal troubles arising in Turkey which might endanger the state or the national interests of the parties, or of either of them; or in the event of internal or external difficulties of Turkey raising the question of the maintenance of the status quo in the Balkan Peninsula, that party which first arrives at the conclusion that in consequence of all this military action has become indispensable must make a reasoned proposal to the other party, which is bound immediately to enter into an exchange of views and, in the event of disagreement, must give to the proposing party a reasoned reply (Annex, Art.1).

Offensive:

The two parties also undertake to come to each other's assistance with all their forces in the event of any great power attempting to annex, occupy, or even temporarily to invade with its armies any part of the Balkan territories which are today under Turkish rule, if one of the parties should consider this contrary to its vital interests and a casus belli (Treaty, Art.2).

See the provision under consultation and how it continues: Should an agreement favorable to action be reached, it will be communicated to Russia, and if the latter power is not opposed to it, military operations will begin as previously arranged. When no agreement has been reached, the parties will appeal to Russia which opinion will be binding (Annex, Art.1).

Should Bulgaria and Serbia declare war on Turkey in accordance with a previous agreement, both parties undertake, in the absence of any special disposition to the contrary, to detach from their armies, mobilized in accordance with article I of the present convention, at least 100,000 men each (Convention, Art.4).

Neutrality:

If the parties fail to agree on whether the internal troubles in Turkey warrant military action and Russia fails to give an opinion, the party in favor of action should on its own responsibility open war on Turkey, the other party is bound to observe towards its ally a friendly neutrality and come to its assistance in the event of any third party taking the side of Turkey (Annex, Art.1).

If one of the parties declares war on a third party without preliminary understanding with the other party, or without the latter's consent, the non-consenting party is relieved of the liabilities specified in article 1 of the present convention, but must observe throughout the war friendly neutrality towards its ally (Convention, Art.5).

19. Are any of the obligations contingent upon any of the following: specific adversary, specific location, specific ongoing conflict, number of adversaries, noncompliance with a specific demand, attack, nonprovocation of enemy, or prior agreement among partners? (List all that apply)

Yes- specific adversary, prior agreement among partners, location of conflict, number of adversaries

20. Describe the nature of the limits to obligations listed in #19.

Defense is an unconditional promise. Consultation is arranged with respect to internal troubles in Turkey and the need to decide on action towards Turkey (Annex, Art.1). Offensive again refers to Turkey (Annex, Art.1) or to other great powers acting in Turkey. Offensive war against Turkey requires prior agreement. Neutrality is promised when one ally opens war against Turkey or another state without having consulted with its ally first (Annex, Art. 1 and Convention, Art.5) unless another state joins Turkey, in which case offense applies.

21. Are there any additional provisions for assistance in the event of war? (e.g., promise not to participate in economic sanctions against partner, promise not to aid internal or external enemies, etc.) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

22. Are there any additional limits to the alliance obligations or conditions under which treaty obligations do not apply that were not listed in #19? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

23. Is a specific target/threat mentioned as the object of the treaty? (Yes, No) (Answering Yes to this question does not necessarily mean

that obligations are limited only to this adversary.) If Yes, list the target nation(s) (using COW country codes if possible) and describe the general nature of the reference to the target of the treaty.

Yes. Turkey (640), Romania (360), Austria-Hungary (300).

24. Are the treaty obligations symmetric? (That is, do all members commit to the same obligations?) (Yes, No) If No, describe.

Yes but the specification of potential attackers differ (Convention, Art.2,3) and the contribution levels differ (Convention, Art.1,2,3).

25. Does the treaty prohibit members from settling conflicts independently (no separate peace)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes. The two parties bind themselves not to conclude peace except jointly and after a preliminary understanding (Treaty, Art.3). In the event of a joint war, neither party has the right to conclude with the enemy an armistice for more than twenty-four hours in the absence of a preliminary understanding with its ally, or without the latter's consent. No peace negotiations may be opened, nor a treaty of peace concluded, without the previous consent of both parties, given in writing (Convention, Art.6).

26. Does the treaty have provisions requiring that the contracting parties consult before making commitments to third parties (excluding no separate peace provisions discussed above)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.

No.

27. Does the treaty specify that the contracting parties must not enter into any other alliances that are directed against the alliance in question? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

28. Additional coder comments regarding treaty obligations:

SECTION III: INSTITUTIONALIZATION OF THE ALLIANCE

29. Does the treaty make reference to the potential for conflict among members of the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes. See 30 and: All strategies operations and unforeseen cases, as well as the disputes which may arise, will be settled by mutual agreement between the two headquarters (Convention, Art.12).

30. Does the treaty discuss mediation/arbitration or other means of settling disputes among the signatories? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes. When the two parties cannot agree whether the internal troubles of Turkey make military action indispensable Russia is called upon to decide and its opinion is binding (Annex, Art.1). All disputes concerning the interpretation and the execution of any part of this treaty, or of its secret annex, and of the military convention will be submitted to the final decision of Russia, as soon as one of the parties declares that, in its opinion, an agreement by direct negotiations is impossible (Annex, Art.4).

31. Does the treaty require official contact among the military forces of the participating states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe. (Note whether official contact is required only in the event of hostilities or also during peacetime.)

Yes. In time of war, each contracting party will be represented on the staff of the Headquarters, or of the commanders of armies, by special delegates who will maintain relations between the two armies (Convention, Art.11).

32. Does the treaty include provisions for military aid? (e.g., grants, loans, transfer of technology, training) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.

No.

33. Does the treaty provide for integrated command of military forces while the alliance is in effect (peacetime as well as wartime)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

34. Does the treaty require subordination of the forces of one or more member states to another in the event of hostilities? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes. During the war, the armies of each party will be commanded by its own officers, and their operations will be conducted through the same medium. When army corps belonging to both parties are engaged against one and the same enemy force, the general command will devolve, both armies being equal, on the officer of senior rank, effective command being taken into account. When one or more armies of one party are placed under the orders of the other party, they will be commanded by their own officers, who, as regards the strategic operations, will follow the orders of the officers commanding the army to which they are attached. The article further determines who will have the chief command where (Convention, Art.7).

35. Does the treaty establish any organizations? (include provisions for regularly scheduled meetings) (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No

36. Does the treaty provide for joint military bases, or for one or more states to place troops in the territory of one or more other states? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

37. Does the treaty specify contribution levels (funds, troops, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes. Various contribution levels for various scenarios are specified (Convention, Art.1,2,34,5).

38. Does the treaty contain any provisions regarding coordinated increase of armaments, reduction of armaments, prohibition of weapons, or rules of warfare? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe such provisions.

No.

39. Does the treaty explicitly permit or prohibit the acquisition of territory not currently held by either ally? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe reference.

Yes. All territorial gains acquired by combined action shall constitute common property (Annex, Art.2). This article further specifies how the territory shall be divided.

40. Does the treaty include discussion of the division of gains from any future conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

Yes. For territorial gains see 39. The trophies belong to the army which has captured them (Convention, Art.10).

41. Does the treaty include discussion of demobilization/withdrawal following conflict? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

42. Are there any other provisions in the treaty that describe the means through which the states will coordinate their military efforts and policies? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

43. Additional coder comments regarding references to alliance institutionalization:

SECTION IV: TREATY CONTEXT

44. Does the treaty state that it nullifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are nullified and describe the treaty reference.

No.

45. Does the treaty state that it modifies any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are modified and describe the treaty reference.

No.

46. Does the treaty state that it includes any existing treaties signed by one or more of the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the treaties/agreements that are included and describe the treaty reference.

No.

47. Does the treaty make any references to international organizations? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the international organization and describe the nature of the reference.

No.

48. Does the treaty make any references to other existing alliances? (Yes, No) If Yes, list the alliance and describe the nature of the reference.

No.

49. Are there any companion agreements referenced in the treaty? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe the agreements.

Yes. The treaty states that a military convention will be concluded which will provide minutely for everything that may have to be undertaken by either side in the event of war (Treaty, Art.4). The convention is coded here.

50. Does the treaty include statements regarding non-military cooperation (e.g., economic, cultural, scientific exchange)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

51. Does the treaty resolve other conflicts among the parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.

No.

52. Does the treaty propose/enforce settlement of a conflict not involving parties to the alliance? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

53. Does the treaty propose other agreements among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

54. Does the treaty mention unresolved conflicts among the contracting parties? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

55. Does the treaty include provisions for economic aid or other enticements (include trade concessions, post war recovery, etc.)? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe these provisions.
No.

56. Does the treaty describe circumstances under which one party may intervene in the internal politics of another party or specifically commit the states to non-intervention? (Yes, No) If Yes, describe.
No.

SECTION V: DOCUMENTATION

57. Additional coder comments on this alliance treaty:
Treaty, secret annex and military convention coded.

58. Source of coding information (e.g., treaty, treaty and secondary sources, secondary sources only, etc.):
Treaty.

59. Treaty citation: Hurst, Michael, ed. 1972. Key Treaties for the Great Powers, 1814-1914, vol.2 (1871-1914). St. Martin's Press. pp. 819-825

60. Date of last revision of this coding sheet: July 14, 2004

61. Coder: Andrew Long, Michaela Mattes, Ashley Leeds