

RATIFICATION OF THE CLNI 2012 AND DENUNCIATION OF THE CLNI 1988

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From left to right : Mr Achim Wehrmann (Germany), Mr Stephan Müller (Luxembourg), Ms Brigit Gijbers (Netherlands), Ms Andjelka Šimšić (Serbia), Mr Gergő Kocsis (Hungary) and Mr Bruno Georges (CCNR)

Strasbourg, 07 June 2018 – At an extraordinary ceremony organised in the wings of the CCNR's plenary session, the Netherlands deposited their instrument of acceptance of the Strasbourg Convention of 2012 on the limitation of liability in inland navigation (CLNI 2012), in the presence of representatives of CCNR member States and other States which have already ratified or acceded to the Convention (Luxembourg, Hungary and Serbia). The instrument of acceptance was deposited with the Secretary-General of the Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine, who is the Depositary thereof. Other instruments of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession of the 2012 Convention are expected to be deposited in Strasbourg in the coming months.

After Serbia in 2013, the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg in 2014, and Hungary in 2018, the Netherlands have thus become Party to the Convention adopted following the Diplomatic Conference concluded on 27 September 2012. The Convention, available for signature by all the States from 27 September 2012 to 26 September 2014, was signed by seven States: Belgium, France, Germany, Luxembourg, the Netherlands, Poland and Serbia.

At the same ceremony, the Netherlands, Germany and the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg also notified their denunciation of the Strasbourg Convention of 1988 on the limitation of liability in inland navigation (CLNI 1988), with effect from 1st July 2019.

Acceptance of the CLNI 2012 and denunciation of the CLNI 1988 constitute a new essential stage prior to the entry into force of the CLNI 2012, which aims to extend the geographical scope of the Convention beyond the Rhine and the Moselle and increases limits of liability, thereby enhancing the protection of tourist navigation passengers. In accordance with the applicable texts, the CLNI 2012 will come into force on the first day of the month following expiry of a period of one year starting on the date on which four States have deposited their instrument of ratification, acceptance, approval or accession, or on the date on which the 1988 Convention ceases to be in force, whichever is the later date. The CLNI 2012 will therefore enter into force on 1st July 2019.

ABOUT THE CCNR

The Central Commission for the Navigation of the Rhine (CCNR) is an international organisation that exercises an essential regulatory role in the navigation of the Rhine. It is active in the technical, legal, economic and environmental fields. In all its areas of action, its work is guided by the efficiency of transport on the Rhine, safety, social considerations, and respect for the environment. Many of the Central Commission's activities now reach beyond the Rhine and are directly concerned with European navigable waterways more generally. The Central Commission works closely with the European Commission as well as with the other river commissions and international organisations.



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