

encourages aggression and consequently increases the risk of war. It is not merely a question of the League of Nations, for example, always and without fail carrying out its obligations in full and applying sanctions in their widest extent to the aggressor. That of course would be very desirable; but it is also a question of the League retaining, although formally, the full potential of the measures which may at one time be applied to the aggressor. That is why it seems to us that even a theoretical weakening of the League Covenant, a diminution in its theoretical possibilities to some hypothetical low practical level, would weaken the peace potential. The same might be said of other pacts designed to promote the general peace and the security of individual States.

Today no task is more pressing and lofty, whether for large or small countries, than vigorous collaboration in organizing and reinforcing the total peace potential.

I trust, Mr Minister, that your visit here and your conversations with members of the Soviet Government will not only serve to strengthen Soviet-Swedish relations in all fields, but also that the frank and friendly exchange of views on general international questions will further the execution of the task of which I have spoken.

TASS COMMUNIQUÉ ON THE VISIT TO MOSCOW OF THE TURKISH FOREIGN MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR INTERNAL AFFAIRS

16 July 1937

Mirovoe Khoziaistvo, 1937, 8, p. 175

Two representatives of the Turkish Government, the Foreign Minister, M. Rushtu Aras, and the Minister for Internal Affairs and General Secretary of the National Republican Party, M. Shukri Kai, have paid an official visit to Moscow. Their meetings and conversations with the Chairman of the Council of People's Commissars, Comrade Molotov, the Foreign Commissar, Comrade Litvinov, and other members of the Soviet Government provided the opportunity, after a most friendly and frank exchange of views on international political questions, of establishing the following:

1. The relations of sincere friendship established more than sixteen years ago between the USSR and the Turkish Republic, reinforced by the bilateral and multilateral treaties and agreements concluded between them, which have passed the test of all phases of international life throughout that period, have incontestably proved their great value for the interests of both countries.

2. These interests require the maintenance in their full extent of existing relations for the future also as an unchanging and stable element in the foreign policy of both countries.

3. Soviet-Turkish friendship has proved to be a most important factor making for peace, and the maintenance and further development of that friendship will serve the interests of peace.

4. The present anxious international situation created by the aggressive tendencies displayed in international affairs, cannot fail to make all pacific States particularly solicitous for the maintenance of peace and general security, on the principle of the indivisibility of peace and collective security.

5. The relations of friendship and mutual confidence between the USSR and Turkey, their sincere devotion to the cause of peace and to the said principles of the League of Nations, their determination to promote the best possible organization of the forces of peace and to avoid everything which might give support or encouragement to the forces of aggression, provide the foundation for particularly fruitful collaboration to reinforce all the elements of the peace potential.

SOVIET REPLY TO SECRETARY OF STATE HULL'S STATEMENT ON THE INTERNATIONAL SITUATION: NOTE FROM LITVINOV TO THE UNITED STATES AMBASSADOR IN MOSCOW

23 July 1937

League of Nations Official Journal, Supplement 179, p. 32

Mr Litvinov requests that his thanks be transmitted to Mr Hull for the kind communication to him of the statement¹ made by Mr Hull to the Press, a statement the significance of which does not escape his attention. He was the more interested in acquainting himself with the statement of Mr Hull in view of the fact that it is in accord with the general position of the Soviet Government with respect to the questions therein touched upon. There is no doubt that tension, conflicts, and frictions in international relations, and particularly menaces of hostile clashes, even though at first affecting only two or a few Powers, are likely eventually to affect the rights and interests of all nations. This view has found expression in the principles of indivisibility of peace and of collective security advanced by Mr Litvinov at the League of Nations.

Mr Litvinov shares the other views contained in the statement of Mr Hull, which are in harmony with the principles which the Soviet Government is not only propagating but also carrying out in its foreign policy, principles such as the abstinence of all nations from use of force in pursuit of policy and from interference in the internal affairs of other nations, the adjustment of international problems exclusively by processes of peaceful negotiations and agreements, the faithful observance of international agreements, the modification of the conditions of treaties only

¹ R.I.I.A. Documents, 1937, p. 569.