

- receiving State and capital taxes on investments made in commercial undertakings in the receiving State;
- (e) charges levied for specific services rendered;
 - (f) registration, court or record fees, mortgage dues and stamp duty with respect to immovable property, subject to provisions relating to the premises of the mission.

The receiving State grants exemption from customs duties, taxes and related charges other than charges for storage, cartage and similar services, on:

- (a) articles for the official use of the mission;
- (b) articles for the personal use of the diplomatic representative and members of his family forming part of his household, including articles intended for his establishment.

The diplomatic representative is exempt from inspection of his personal baggage. If this has to be examined because it is suspected of containing articles not covered by the exemptions, it may only be opened in the presence of a diplomatic representative or an authorized delegate upon prior notification of the mission. This regulation applies equally to the families of diplomatic representatives. Administrative and technical staff are exempt from customs duties only with respect to articles imported at the time of first installation.

(B) CONSULAR RELATIONS

Some clauses in the Convention on Consular Relations are similar to those in the Convention on Diplomatic Relations*, and for this reason, they will not be found below. The reader need only refer, if necessary, to the preceding pages.

1 Consular post

The main functions of a consular post may be summarized as follows. It must protect the interests of the sending State and those of its nationals, both individuals and bodies corporate, within the limits of international law. It may issue passports and visas, perform the duties of civil registrar and notary, and take measures to safeguard the interests of its nationals in cases of inheritance and of persons lacking full capacity. It has the right to arrange representation for its nationals before tribunals

* In particular, the clauses on the establishment of diplomatic and consular relations, on the size of missions, on the acceptance or rejection of the presence of members of the mission, on the use of the flag of the sending country, on provisions with respect to premises and staff in case of a severance of diplomatic and consular relations between the two countries and also in case of war, on the obligation to respect the laws and regulations of the receiving State, on freedom of communication, and, finally, on exemption from dues and taxes for the premises of the mission and for its members.