

International Law Studies – Volume 16

International Law Topics: Neutrality Proclamations and Regulations with Notes

U.S. Naval War College (Editor)

The thoughts and opinions expressed are those of the authors and not necessarily of the U.S. government, the U.S. Department of the Navy or the Naval War College.

Conformably to the general principles of the law of nations, it is recommended to Haytians and to the nationals of powers at war not to commit on the national territory and surrounding maritime waters any act violating the neutrality of the Republic.

It is especially forbidden to make any demonstration in favor of or against one of the belligerents, to open recruiting stations, to arm vessels of war, or to furnish or aid in furnishing any means of war to any of the belligerents, under penalty of the laws.

Port au Prince, August 7, 1914.

ENOCH DESERT.

HONDURAS.

Declaration of neutrality, decree No. 38, October 5, 1914.

FRANCISCO BERTRAND, CONSTITUTIONAL PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC
OF HONDURAS.

Considering that he has been notified of the state of war declared between Germany, Austria-Hungary, Serbia, France, Great Britain, and Russia, European nations with which Honduras maintains friendly relations, and that the Government of this Republic has been requested by Great Britain to observe the laws of neutrality;

Therefore, in cabinet of ministers, decrees:

ARTICLE 1. The neutrality of Honduras is declared in the present European conflict.

ART. 2. The national authorities shall observe and cause to be observed the principles and rules concerning the rights and duties of the neutral powers and persons in case of war by land and sea, established by the Hague Conventions of October 8, 1907.

Done in Tegucigalpa, in the Executive Palace, the 5th day of October of 1914.

F. BERTRAND.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Foreign Affairs and Public Instruction:

MARIANO VASQUEZ.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Interior and Justice, acting:

FROYLAN TURCIOS.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Hacienda and Public Credit:

LEOPOLDO CORDOVA.

The Secretary of State in the Department of War and Navy:

FRANCISCO J. MEJIA.

The Secretary of State in the Department of Fomento, Public Works, and Agriculture, acting:

MANUEL S. LOPEZ.

Neutrality Declaration, Italy.

Note of the minister of foreign affairs on the maintenance of neutrality, December 3, 1914.

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS.

Tegucigalpa, December 3, 1914.

MR. MINISTER: Replying to your excellency's note dated the 1st of this month, in which you ask for information concerning any documents, decrees, proclamations, or declarations of orders which may have been issued by this Government in connection with the European war, I have the honor to remit to your excellency a copy of the executive decree dated October 5, this year, in which the neutrality of Honduras is declared in the European conflict and in which the national authorities are ordered to observe and cause to be observed the principles and rules concerning the rights and duties of neutral powers and individuals in case of war by land and sea, as established by the Hague Conventions of October 18, 1907.

For the strict observance of this decree, the text of the articles of the Hague Convention have been sent to the minister of war and navy in order that he in turn may transmit them to the military authorities of the ports of this Republic.

My Government, although it has not signed the Hague Conventions, believes that there is no reason why it should not adopt the rules laid down in them covering the principles of neutrality as established by international law.

I avail myself of this opportunity to repeat to your excellency the assurances of my distinguished consideration.

MARIANO VASQUEZ.

His Excellency JOHN EWING,
*Envoy Extraordinary and Minister Plenipotentiary,
of the United States of America.*

ITALY.

Declaration of neutrality, August 3, 1914.

[Gazzetta Ufficiale 4 Agosto, n. 185 (1914).]

Certain powers of Europe being in a state of war while Italy is in a state of peace with all the belligerent powers, the Government of the King and the citizens and subjects of the Kingdom are under the obligation of observing the duties of neutrality according to the laws in force and the principles of international law.

Whoever violates these duties will undergo the consequences of his own act and will incur, according to the circumstances, the penalties declared by the laws.

ROME, August 3, 1914.