



A Declaration At Genoa

In the Name of the Most Holy Trinity

The Plenipotentiary Emissaries of the Sovereign Kings and Princes hereunder enumerated, being met at the Palazzo Dogale at the gracious invitation and hospitality of His Serene and Eminent Highness, the Most Noble Doge and Cardinal-Archbishop of Genoa, do herewith solemnly and officially declare their common assent to these Articles and Stipulations, to wit –

FIRST, the affairs of all Christendom remaining most regretfully characterized by discord and open conflict, descending lately even to the disgraceful captivity of Kings of ancient lineage and holy chrism to their sacred and rightly revered thrones, the first duty of every sovereign must be to defend properly and fully their peoples and realms;

SECOND, the commerce and peaceable travel of all persons in Europe becoming ever more hazardous with nefarious agents and unscrupulous practices arising, where formerly reliable relationships are forsaken and historical precedents abandoned, the absolute security of towns and localities must be assured not only for the sake of their inhabitants but also of all their adjacent environs and populace;

THEREFORE:

THIRD, all previous arrangements and permissions for trade and shelter within the walls of towns are subject to formal review and renewal by the local authorities under supervision of appropriate agents of the Crown; arrangements and permissions will be sustained wherever specific contracts and agreements may have been most recently established and, or, where these are clearly *in media res*;

FOURTH, all licenses and agreements for the establishment of towers are either suspended or are formally revoked and this policy will be enforced by local authorities subject to the review of appropriate agents of the Crown;

FIFTH, the owners of towers may be offered the opportunity to sell their fortifications either to the appropriate local officers or to those families having and holding current licenses for such facilities, and such offer will be conveyed formally in writing. Unless said owners are willing to accept appropriate reciprocal arrangements for either compensation, or the establishment of

commensurate towers in equivalent towns and localities, such towers will become forfeit to the Crown or its agents by specified dates as may be determined by local authorities;

SIXTH, the owners of towers which may be taken under this new policy will be presumed to be without recourse unless compensation is formally requested in writing by application to the local authorities involved; the Crown guarantees that all such applications will be afforded a full and impartial hearing at the Seat of Government by agents of the Crown to determine if any recompense is due and the Crown will arrange such warranted recompense both directly and promptly; and,

SEVENTH, the agents of any family or of any State or Sovereign that desires either to seek compensation for lost property or more comprehensively to adjust arrangements involving commerce and peaceful and amicable relations are of course granted full and absolute safe conduct by local authorities to the Seat of Government and are most welcome at all times to make petition.

WITNESSETH our hand and our seals, this the 1st of Advent, Anno Domini 1519.

FOR –

His Royal Highness, CHARLES I HAPSBOURG, King of Burgundy, Archduke of Austria, etc.
His Excellency, Baronet Piet Berchem

His Royal Highness, RENE II VAUDEMONT, King of Lorraine, etc.
His Excellency, Baron Henri Vaudemont

His Royal Highness, JEAN I ORANGE, King of Orange, etc.
His Excellency, Philibert Orange, Esq.

His Royal Highness, LUDOVICO I SFORZA, King of Milan, etc.
His Excellency, Baronet Gherardo Burlamacchi

His Serene Highness, PAOLO CAMPOFREGOSO, Doge of Genoa, etc.
His Excellency, Antoniotto Campofregoso, Esq.

His Serene Highness, FRANCESCO I GONZAGA, Duke of Mantua, etc.
His Excellency, Baronet Ferrante Gonzaga

His Serene Highness, JANUSZ II PIAST, Duke of Masovia
His Excellency, Baronet Wladislaw Piast