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Joint Standing Committee on Treaties

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Scholarly Analysis

Sub Analysis Australia and France Mutual Logistics Support Agreement (MLSA)

The term 'Treaty' is defined in Article 2 (1) of the Vienna Convention on the Law of Treaties, 1969 as:

"treaty means an international agreement concluded between states in written form and governed by international law, whether embodied in a single instrument or in two or more related instruments and whatever its particular designation".

As per the definition the requirements of treaty are (1) it must be an agreement in written form (2) it must be between states or countries (3) it is governed by international law

Australia has signed the MLSA with France which improve the Armed Forces of Australia and France, to promote and cooperate between the defence forces of both countries.

Australia conducts vital humanitarian assistance and disaster relief training with France including through the upcoming Exercise Croix du Sud. This MLSA treaty will improve Australia's ability to work together with France in response to events in the South Pacific.

In practice, when bilateral treaties are concluded, as the MLSA treaty, between Australia and France, the representatives of both countries exhibit their full powers to promote peace and order in the global chaotic world

Conclusion

MLSA treaty enables Australian and French defence forces to have combined operations by enabling mutual access to logistics services, resources and logistics training.