



European Communities Act 1972

1972 CHAPTER 68

PART I

GENERAL PROVISIONS

1 Short title and interpretation

- (1) This Act may be cited as the European Communities Act 1972.
- (2) In this Act and, except in so far as the context otherwise requires, in any other Act (including any Act of the Parliament of Northern Ireland)—
 - " the Communities " means the European Economic Community, the European Coal and Steel Community and the European Atomic Energy Community;
 - " the Treaties " or " the Community Treaties " means, subject to subsection (3) below, the pre-accession treaties, that is to say, those described in Part I of Schedule 1 to this Act, taken with—
 - (a) the treaty relating to the accession of the United Kingdom to the European Economic Community and to the European Atomic Energy Community, signed at Brussels on the 22nd January 1972; and
 - (b) the decision, of the same date, of the Council of the European Communities relating to the accession of the United Kingdom to the European Coal and Steel Community;and any other treaty entered into by any of the Communities, with or without any of the member States, or entered into, as a treaty ancillary to any of the Treaties, by the United Kingdom ;and any expression defined in Schedule 1 to this Act has the meaning there given to it.
- (3) If Her Majesty by Order in Council declares that a treaty specified in the Order is to be regarded as one of the Community Treaties as herein defined, the Order shall be conclusive that it is to be so regarded; but a treaty entered into by the United Kingdom after the 22nd January 1972, other than a pre-accession treaty to which the United Kingdom accedes on terms settled on or before that date, shall not be so regarded

Status: This is the original version (as it was originally enacted).

unless it is so specified, nor be so specified unless a draft of the Order in Council has been approved by resolution of each House of Parliament.

- (4) For purposes of subsections (2) and (3) above, " treaty " includes any international agreement, and any protocol or annex to a treaty or international agreement.