The article does not purport to analyse an international law problem relating to a specific international agreement, nor does it pretend to develop any theoretical paradigm. It merely puts on stage the apparently clear and simple notion of international agreement while at the same time confronting the reader with its essentially relative nature by signalling the many ambiguities and ambivalences hidden behind the term. The author's sole intention is to invite the reader's attention to this feature of relativity so as to prevent him from taking the concept of international agreement too easily for granted.

The following aspects relating to the concept of international agreement, which could easily be augmented, are successively briefly reviewed: the meaning assigned to the adjective "international"; the legally binding or non-binding character of an international agreement; the agreement's characterization as a source of rights and duties and its denial, the normative relativity of the rights and duties emanating from the international agreement, the case of "administrative agreements" and the obscurity as to the identity of its parties under international law, the

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