

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND CULTURE

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria, hereinafter referred to as "the Contracting Parties",

based on friendly relations between the two countries,

led by their desire for better mutual knowledge and understanding of culture and history of the two peoples,

convinced that for this aim the development in the field of education, sciences and culture has a paramount importance,

resolved to fulfil the understandings of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the Charter of Paris for a New Europe,

agree as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Contracting Parties shall encourage co-operation in the field of education, science and culture according to the principles based in this Agreement.

ARTICLE 2

The Contracting Parties shall support co-operation and exchange in the field of education and science and create appropriate conditions for establishing contacts between Universities and other educational and scientific institutions on the basis of bilateral agreements between them.

ARTICLE 3

The Contracting Parties shall support study of the language of the other country in

the institutions of higher education and other educational and scientific institutions.

ARTICLE 4

The Contracting Parties shall discuss possibilities for reciprocal recognition of certificates, academic degrees and titles, and shall sign a special agreement to this effect, if necessary.

ARTICLE 5

The Contracting Parties shall strive for popularization of higher education of the other country in a way to assure an access of their citizens to the universities of the other country.

ARTICLE 6

The Contracting Parties shall encourage participation of their specialists in the execution of joint projects aiming at improving the quality of training in different types of schools and institutions of higher education.

ARTICLE 7

The Contracting Parties shall support co-operation between the Lithuanian Academy of Sciences and the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences on the basis of direct agreements signed between them.

ARTICLE 8

The Contracting Parties shall develop bilateral cultural co-operation and exchange on mutually beneficial basis. Each of the countries shall strive for popularization of art and cultural values of the other country, making them widely accessible for its citizens, and shall encourage state, public and individual contacts.

ARTICLE 9

The Contracting Parties shall further co-operation in the field of culture and art through:

a/ exchange of artists, musicians, dancers, actors, writers, translators and other culture figures in order to widen mutual knowledge and understanding of cultural achievements of the two peoples;

b/ organization of art exhibitions and encouragement for participation of the other country in international cultural manifestations and activities, organized on the territory of the country;

c/ exchange and popularization of feature films, performances and musical compositions of the other country;

d/ encouraging translations and publications of fiction;

e/ encouraging development of direct contacts and co-operation between cultural institutions of the two countries.

ARTICLE 10

The Contracting Parties shall encourage co-operation between museums, institutions of cultural monuments protection, libraries, publishers. They shall also encourage exchange of books, newspapers, magazines and periodicals.

ARTICLE 11

The Contracting Parties shall exchange information in due time about international competitions, festivals, conferences and other activities in the field of culture and arts on their territory.

ARTICLE 12

The Contracting Parties shall contribute to the creation of favourable conditions for co-production in the field of film and audio-visual industries according to their national legislation and international obligations.

ARTICLE 13

The Contracting Parties shall further exchange of information between competent state institutions, and shall undertake measures aimed at restoring the legitimate rights on cultural values and their return in case of illegal export or import during the validity of the present Agreement in accordance with their national legislation and international obligations.

ARTICLE 14

The Contracting Parties shall encourage free exchange of information on their political, social and cultural life aiming at widening mutual knowledge and understanding.

ARTICLE 15

The Contracting Parties shall co-operate in the field of mass media through exchange of information, programmes and materials. They shall encourage direct co-operation between their respective radio and TV institutions and telegraph agencies.

ARTICLE 16

The Contracting Parties shall co-operate in the area of copyright protection on the basis of a separate agreement.

ARTICLE 17

The Contracting Parties shall encourage co-operation between their national archives giving a free access to them, sharing the experience and exchanging copies of documents and publications, in accordance with their national legislation.

ARTICLE 18

The Contracting Parties shall support and develop co-operation in the field of health and medical sciences on the basis of direct agreements between them.

ARTICLE 19

The Contracting Parties shall support youth exchange and encourage direct contacts between youth organizations and associations.

ARTICLE 20

The Contracting Parties shall support and develop co-operation in the area of physical culture and sports on the basis of direct agreements between the corresponding institutions in the two countries.

ARTICLE 21

The Contracting Parties shall encourage co-operation in the frame of national and international governmental and non-governmental organizations.

ARTICLE 22

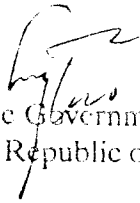
The Contracting Parties can, if they wish, sign periodical intergovernmental programmes attached to this Agreement, defining concrete financial and general conditions of their realization.


ARTICLE 23

This Agreement shall be in force for a period of five years, and shall automatically be renewed for additional periods of five years each, unless one of the Contracting Parties notifies the other in writing, six months before the date of expiry of the relevant period, on its intention to terminate the Agreement. Any amendments to the Agreement shall follow the same procedure as its entering into force.

This Agreement is subject to ratification or approval under the respective national procedures of the Parties, to be communicated by an exchange of Notes and shall enter into force on the date of the Note of the last Party to communicate such ratification or approval.

Done at Sofia this day of April 10⁹⁶ in two originals in the Lithuanian, Bulgarian and English languages, each being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation the English text shall prevail.


For the Government
of the Republic of Lithuania


For the Government
of the Republic of Bulgaria