

AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

ON COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE, EDUCATION,
SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY

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

desiring to strengthen friendly relations between the two countries and to promote mutual understanding and knowledge through the development of cultural, scientific and technological relationships,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

This Agreement aims at promoting and accomplishing activities that will encourage a better understanding of cultural heritage of the two Countries and that will stimulate cultural, scientific, educational and technological cooperation between the two Countries.

The Contracting Parties shall encourage those initiatives which, in accordance with their respective laws and regulations, will promote and develop teaching, knowledge and popularization of their language in the territory of the other Contracting Party.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between higher education institutions and scientific research institutes. The Parties shall support academic exchange of teachers, researchers and exchange of personalities of the world of culture.

Article 3

Whenever it is appropriate, the Contracting Parties shall ask international bodies for financial support implementing programmes or projects resulting from this Agreement and in the ancillary agreements deriving therefrom.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation in the fields of music, ballet, theatre and cinema through the exchange of artists and mutual participation in festivals, cinema reviews and other relevant events.

The Contracting Parties shall periodically exchange high-level exhibitions that are representative of artistic and cultural heritage of the two Countries.

Article 5

The Contracting Parties shall promote, as far as possible, the activities of reciprocal cultural institutions, namely cultural institutions, cultural associations and schools in their territory.

Such institutions shall be accorded the best favourable treatment and advantages for their activity, in accordance with the laws and regulations of the Country.

Article 6

The Contracting Parties shall encourage and promote the study of the language and literature of the other Country in its universities by establishing chairs and reading-rooms.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties, in accordance with their respective legislation, agree to examine the possibility of signing a separate agreement on recognition of diplomas and certificates issued by state and legally authorized educational institutions in the territory of the other Party, provided that the curricula of such institutions correspond to those in force in the Country where recognition of the educational institutions is being requested.

Furthermore, the Contracting Parties agree to examine the possibility of passing regulations on recognition of higher education diplomas, scientific titles and degrees issued by higher education institutions of the other Country, provided that the curricula of the institutions correspond to those in force in the country where recognition is being requested.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall regularly decide on the areas of cooperation and research that may be considered of special interest for achieving their common scientific objectives.

The Contracting Parties shall agree on the priority areas in which to pursue such common scientific objectives.

In order to enhance scientific and technological cooperation the Contracting Parties shall encourage:

- a) exchange of scientific and technological documentation;

b) mutual visits of experts and specialists in order to increase studies and to share the experience;

c) organization of scientific and technological conferences and seminars;

d) accomplishment of joint research, study and planning in the areas to be agreed upon.

The Contracting Parties shall also encourage and promote relationships and cooperation between public and private scientific organizations and institutions, instilling new technologies.

Article 9

The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation in the field of archaeology, exchanging information and sharing experience, organizing symposia and seminars and conducting joint research. They shall also mutually support archaeological expeditions working in the territory of the other Country.

Article 10

The Contracting Parties shall mutually provide scholarships for students and young scientists from the other Contracting Party for university and post-graduate study and research activities.

Article 11

The Contracting Parties shall ensure close cooperation between their respective Administrations in order to prevent and repress illegal trade of art and cultural values, audiovisual media, assets subjected to protection in accordance with the laws and regulations on intellectual property, documents and other objects of historic value.

Article 12

The Contracting Parties shall promote exchange of information and sharing of experience in the fields of sport and youth activities.

Article 13

The Contracting Parties shall promote exchange of information on the various aspects of their political, economic, cultural and social life, also through visits by personalities of the world of information and culture.

Article 14

The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation in the area of school education and shall further mutual understanding of their educational systems, in particular by exchange of experts.

Article 15

The Contracting Parties shall encourage cooperation between archives and libraries and also exchange of documents and experts.

Article 16

The Contracting Parties shall encourage contacts and cooperation between their radio and television broadcasters.

Article 17

In order to fulfil this Agreement, the Parties shall establish a mixed Committee which is to monitor progress in the area of cultural and scientific cooperation and to carry out the multi-year executive programmes. The Committee shall meet alternately in the two capitals.

Article 18

This Agreement shall be ratified. The Agreement shall enter into force 60 days after the Contracting Parties have notified each other that the Agreement has been ratified.

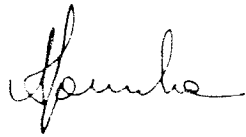
Article 19

This Agreement shall remain in force for an unlimited period of time. Either Contracting Party may modify it by mutual agreement and may terminate it at any time through the diplomatic channel.

Termination shall take effect after the expiry of six months from the date on which either Contracting Party shall have given written notice of termination to the other through the diplomatic channel. The termination shall not effect programmes being executed that had been agreed upon during the period of validity of the Agreement, unless otherwise jointly decided by the Parties.

In witness whereof the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

Done at this day of 1996 in duplicate in the Lithuanian, Italian and English languages, all the texts being equally authoritative. In case of any differences in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.



For the Government
of the Republic of Lithuania



For the Government
of the Italian Republic