

No. 266

**NETHERLANDS
and
BELGIUM**

**Agreement concerning cultural and intellectual relations.
Signed at The Hague, on 16 May 1946**

Dutch and French official texts communicated by the Representative a.i. of the Netherlands to the United Nations. The registration took place on 27 July 1948.

**PAYS-BAS
et
BELGIQUE**

**Accord concernant les relations culturelles et intellectuelles.
Signé à La Haye, le 16 mai 1946**

Textes officiels néerlandais et français communiqués par le représentant a.i. des Pays-Bas auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. L'enregistrement a eu lieu le 27 juillet 1948.

TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 266. AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE NETHERLANDS AND BELGIUM CONCERNING CULTURAL AND INTELLECTUAL RELATIONS. SIGNED AT THE HAGUE, ON 16 MAY 1946

Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands,

of the one part, and

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent, on behalf of His Majesty the King of the Belgians,

of the other part,

Being equally desirous of extending and adapting to existing circumstances the agreement between the two countries of 26 October 1927, regarding their intellectual relations,

Have resolved to conclude a new agreement for this purpose regarding cultural and intellectual relations between their two countries, and have appointed as their plenipotentiaries:

His Royal Highness the Prince Regent on behalf of His Majesty the King of the Belgians;

His Excellency Mr. Léon Nemry, Belgian Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary at The Hague;

Her Majesty the Queen of the Netherlands:

His Excellency Mr. J. H. van Royen, Her Majesty's Minister for Foreign Affairs;

Who, after communicating their full powers found in good and due form, have agreed upon the following articles:

Article 1

The object of the agreement shall be to establish on solid foundations and to develop good relations between the two countries in the sphere of learning, science and art by means of permanent contact between both Parties.

¹ Came into force on 22 December 1947, upon the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Brussels, in accordance with article 15.

Article 2

In order to settle questions arising in connexion with the application of the present agreement, a Joint Committee shall be created. It shall be composed of ten members; each Contracting Party shall be represented by five members. The composition and working of the Committee shall be governed by the following principles:

1. The members of the Committee shall be appointed: for the Netherlands, by the Netherlands Minister of Education, Science and Arts; for Belgium, by the Minister of Public Education. The list of members of each Contracting Party shall be submitted through the diplomatic channel for the approval of the Government of the other country.
2. The Joint Committee shall meet in plenary session whenever the need for such a meeting is felt, and at least once a year, in the Netherlands and Belgium alternately. Such meetings shall be presided over by an eleventh member, namely, by the Minister of the country in which the meeting is held.
3. If technical questions have to be considered, the Joint Committee may establish sub-committees composed of members chosen from within or outside its membership, each country being represented by an equal number of members. The place of the meeting and the chairmanship of such sub-committees shall be determined in accordance with the principles set out in paragraph 2 above, but the chair may be taken by a person to be nominated by the Minister of the country where the meeting is held.

Article 3

After the agreement is ratified, any regulations arising therefrom shall be published, in the form in which they have been decided by the Joint Committee, by an official act which will be annexed to the present agreement. Such regulations and all amendments and additions to the said regulations shall be made on the proposal of the Joint Committee and after approval by the Governments of both countries.

Article 4

Both Contracting Parties shall promote the regular exchange of university professors and members of scientific institutions. The universities and other scientific institutions shall themselves propose candidates; such proposals shall be submitted to the Joint Committee for its opinion. The two Ministers of the contracting countries shall decide upon the procedure for such exchanges; they shall fix the number of professors to be exchanged, the nature of their lectures, the duration of their assignment and the amount of their salary.

Article 5

Exchanges may take place, under similar conditions, of teachers engaged in primary education, secondary education or training for higher educational institutions and in art, industry, agriculture and horticulture.

Article 6

Each Contracting Party is authorized to set up cultural institutions in the territory of the other party, provided they conform with the legal regulations governing the setting up of such institutions in each country.

Article 7

Each Contracting Party declares its desire to promote the grant of scholarships to enable students to pursue their studies or research work in the country of the other Contracting Party. The Joint Committee may submit proposals to the Governments concerned in respect of the number of such scholarships and any further practical regulations.

Article 8

Each Contracting Party shall encourage the organization of holiday courses for persons mentioned in articles 4 and 5 belonging to the country of the other Party as well as the organization in the other country of visits by groups of scientists and teachers or pupils.

Article 9

The Contracting Parties undertake as far as possible to take all practical steps for smoothing out the difficulties which at present interfere with the regular exchange of students.

Article 10

The question of the equivalence of diplomas and degrees shall be thoroughly studied by the Joint Committee or a sub-committee specially entrusted with this task.

Each Contracting Party envisages the possibility of according to the certificates and degrees obtained by its own nationals in the educational establishments of the country of the other Party the legal effects resulting therefrom in the country of the other Party, within the framework of the legal provisions of their own country.

Article 11

The Contracting Parties shall encourage co-operation between recognized youth organizations of the two countries.

Article 12

They shall also intensify cultural and intellectual exchanges between the two countries by organizing concerts, plays, lectures, artistic and scientific exhibitions, by distributing books and periodicals, and by means of films and broadcasting.

Article 13

The Contracting Parties shall consult one another with a view to preserving and developing their common cultural interests abroad.

Article 14

The present agreement shall, on the date of its entry into force, replace the agreement regarding intellectual relations between the Netherlands and Belgium, signed at Brussels, 26 October 1927,¹ which shall cease to be operative.

Article 15

The present agreement shall be ratified and the instruments of ratification exchanged at Brussels as soon as possible.

The agreement shall come into force on the date when the instruments of ratification are exchanged.

Article 16

The present agreement shall remain in force for five years from the date of its entry into force.

If neither of the Contracting Parties gives notice, six months before the expiry of the said five years, of its intention to terminate it, the present agreement shall remain binding for one year from the date on which either of the Contracting Parties has denounced it.

IN FAITH WHEREOF the respective plenipotentiaries have signed the present agreement and have thereto affixed their seals.

DONE, in duplicate, in French and Dutch, both texts being equally authentic, at The Hague, 16 May 1946.

(Signed) J. H. VAN ROYEN
LÉON NEMRY

¹League of Nations, *Treaty Series*, Volume LXXXIX, page 37.