

**No. 487**

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**BELGIUM  
and  
NORWAY**

**Cultural Agreement. Signed at Brussels, on 20 February 1948**

*French official text communicated by the Permanent Representatives of Belgium and Norway to the United Nations. The registration took place on 5 July 1949.*

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**BELGIQUE  
et  
NORVEGE**

**Accord culturel. Signé à Bruxelles, le 20 février 1948**

*Texte officiel français communiqué par les représentants permanents de la Belgique et de la Norvège auprès de l'Organisation des Nations Unies. L'enregistrement a eu lieu le 5 juillet 1949.*

## TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION

No. 487. CULTURAL AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN BELGIUM AND NORWAY. SIGNED AT BRUSSELS, ON 20 FEBRUARY 1948

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Desiring to conclude a convention for the purpose of promoting by friendly interchange and co-operation the fullest possible understanding between their respective countries in the intellectual, artistic and scientific fields and a mutual understanding of each others' institutions and social life,

[The Contracting Parties] have accordingly appointed plenipotentiaries for the purpose, who, being duly authorized to this effect by their respective Governments, have agreed as follows:

*Article 1.* Each Contracting Government will use its best endeavours to ensure the regular provision in the universities or other institutions of higher education in its territory, of courses, in the language, literature and history of the other country, and in other subjects relating thereto.

*Article 2.* The Contracting Governments will encourage the interchange between their respective countries of university personnel, teachers, students, research workers and representatives of other professions and activities.

*Article 3.* Should the registration or other fees in the universities or scientific institutes on the territory of one Contracting Government be higher than those charged in that of the other, the Contracting Government of the country in which the fees are higher will consider the possibility of reducing them for an agreed number of students to the amount charged in the country of the other Contracting Party, taking into account the number of students from its own country studying in the other country.

*Article 4.* Each Contracting Government will provide grants and scholarships in such manner as to enable students and graduates from the country of the other Contracting Government to spend a certain time in the other country for the purpose of undertaking studies or researches there or of completing their technical training.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 10 May 1949, in accordance with article 18, the instruments of ratification having been exchanged at Oslo on 25 April 1949.

*Article 5.* The Contracting Governments will as far as possible encourage the closest collaboration between the learned societies of their respective countries for the purpose of providing mutual aid in intellectual, artistic, scientific, civic and social activities.

*Article 6.* Each Contracting Government will, at the request of the other Party and so far as is practically possible, facilitate the scientific or cultural research work conducted on its territory by nationals or groups of nationals of the other Party.

*Article 7.* The Contracting Governments will examine the conditions under which examinations—entrance as well as passing-out examinations—taken in either country for the purpose of acquiring a legal academic degree or in certain specific cases for professional purposes, may be recognized as conferring equal status with the corresponding examinations taken in the other country.

*Article 8.* Each Contracting Government will encourage the development of holiday courses to be attended by academic personnel, school teachers, students and school pupils (*a*) of the territory of the other Contracting Government in the territory of the former, and (*b*) of its own territory in the territory of the other Contracting Government.

*Article 9.* The Contracting Governments will encourage, by invitation and subsidy, reciprocal visits of delegations chosen for the purpose with a view to promoting cultural and professional collaboration.

*Article 10.* The Contracting Governments will encourage co-operation between Youth and Adult Organizations pursuing an educational purpose and recognized by their respective countries.

*Article 11.* The Contracting Governments will assist each other in making the culture of each territory better known in the other territory by means of:

- (*a*) books, periodicals and other publications;
- (*b*) lectures and concerts;
- (*c*) art exhibitions and other exhibitions of a cultural nature;
- (*d*) dramatic performances;
- (*e*) radio, films, gramophone records and other mechanical means.

*Article 12.* The Contracting Governments will be careful to draw the attention of authors and publishers to all inaccuracies appearing in the textbooks used in either country which have a bearing on the other.

*Article 13.* For the purpose of the application of this agreement, a permanent Mixed Commission, consisting of five members, who need not necessarily be Government officials, will be set up. This Commission will be divided into two sections, one composed of Belgian members sitting in Brussels, the other composed of Norwegian members sitting in Oslo. Each section shall consist of two members. The Belgian Ministry of Public Education, in agreement with the Belgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will nominate the members of the Belgian section, and the Norwegian Ministry of Education, in agreement with the Norwegian Ministry of Foreign Affairs, will nominate the members of the Norwegian section. Each list will be communicated through the diplomatic channel for approval to the other Contracting Government.

*Article 14.* The complete permanent Mixed Commission will meet when necessary, and at least once a year, in Belgium and Norway in turn. At such meetings the membership of the Commissions shall be completed by the addition of a fifth member to be nominated by the Government of the country in whose capital the meeting is to take place.

*Article 15.* 1. One of the first tasks of the Mixed Commission shall be to draw up, at a full meeting, detailed proposals for the application of the present agreement. These proposals shall, when approved by the Contracting Governments, be assembled in an annex to be appended to the present convention. The approval of the Contracting Governments shall be signified by an exchange of notes.

2. Thereafter, the Mixed Commission shall review the working of the convention and propose to the Contracting Governments any modifications of the annex which may seem necessary.

3. Modifications of the annex may also be proposed, in the intervals between the meetings of the permanent Mixed Commission, by either section, subject to the consent of the other.

4. Modifications of the annex shall come into force when approved by the Contracting Governments. Such approval shall be signified by an exchange of notes.

*Article 16.* Each Contracting Government shall be empowered to appoint organizations or persons to assist in, or be responsible for, carrying out the provisions implicit in the application of this convention.

*Article 17.* In this convention the expressions "territory" and "country" mean:

1. In relation to the Government of Norway: the metropolitan territory and the Norwegian possessions;

2. In relation to the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium: the Belgian territory in Europe and in any other colonial or mandated territory to which the convention may be extended following a notification addressed by the Belgian Government to the Norwegian Government through the diplomatic channel, from the date of such notification.

*Article 18.* The present convention shall be ratified. It shall enter into force fifteen days after the exchange of the instruments of ratification.

*Article 19.* The present convention shall remain in force for a minimum period of five years. Thereafter, if not denounced by either Contracting Government not less than six months before the expiry of that period, it shall remain in force until the expiry of six months from the date on which either Contracting Party has given notice of denunciation.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned plenipotentiaries have signed the present agreement and affixed thereto their seals.

DONE in duplicate, in Brussels, on 20 February 1948.

(Signed) P.-H. SPAAK

(Signed) FOSTERVOLL