

No. 3525

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**BELGIUM  
and  
PORTUGAL**

**Cultural Agreement. Signed at Lisbon, on 30 July 1955**

**Exchange of letters concerning the entry into force of  
the above-mentioned Agreement. Brussels, 12 Sep-  
tember 1956**

*Official texts of the Agreement: French and Portuguese.*

*Official text of the exchange of letters: French.*

*Registered by Belgium on 24 September 1956.*

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**BELGIQUE  
et  
PORTUGAL**

**Accord culturel. Signé à Lisbonne, le 30 juillet 1955**

**Échange de lettres relatif à l'entrée en vigueur de l'Accord  
susmentionné. Bruxelles, 12 septembre 1956**

*Textes officiels de l'Accord: français et portugais.*

*Texte officiel de l'échange de lettres: français.*

*Enregistrés par la Belgique le 24 septembre 1956.*

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3525. CULTURAL AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND PORTUGAL. SIGNED AT LISBON, ON 30 JULY 1955

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His Majesty the King of the Belgians, on the one hand, and His Excellency the President of the Portuguese Republic, on the other hand ;

Being desirous of maintaining the friendly relations that have always existed between their two peoples ;

Being desirous of promoting as much as possible, through friendly co-operation, mutual knowledge and understanding of the cultural activities, including artistic, scientific, educational and technical matters, and of the history and customs of the two countries ;

Have resolved to conclude a Cultural Agreement and have appointed for this purpose :

His Majesty the King of the Belgians :

Mr. Paul-Henri Spaak, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

His Excellency the President of the Portuguese Republic :

Doctor Paulo Arsénio Viríssimo Cunha, Minister of Foreign Affairs,

Who, having exchanged their full powers, found in good and due form, have agreed as follows :

*Article 1*

The purpose of this Agreement is to develop and strengthen cultural relations between the two countries through friendly co-operation.

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<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 12 September 1956, the date of the exchange of the instruments of ratification at Brussels, in accordance with the terms of the exchange of letters. This Agreement is not applicable to the territory of the Belgian Congo.

Each Contracting Party will give all possible support to measures and institutions which have the same purpose.

*Article 2*

Each Contracting Party shall appoint an appropriate body to apply and interpret this Agreement.

These organs shall co-operate together and shall hold joint meetings if necessary ; they shall submit to their respective Governments all suitable suggestions, proposals or recommendations.

*Article 3*

Each Contracting Party shall encourage as much as possible the establishment in universities and schools of higher learning of institutes, courses and lectures for the study of the language, literature and history of the two countries.

*Article 4*

Each Contracting Party may place scholarships at the disposal of the other Party to enable nationals of such other Party to undertake or continue studies or research work or to complete their technical training in its territory.

They shall furnish all the necessary assistance to the holders of such scholarships.

*Article 5*

Each Contracting Party shall determine the condition under and the extent to which the academic certificates, degrees and diplomas obtained in the territory of the other Party, including those obtained with a view to exercising a profession, may be recognized as equivalent.

*Article 6*

Each Contracting Party shall encourage, by means of invitations or by lending appropriate assistance, the exchange residential study courses and visits of educa-

tors, scientists, students, artists and representative persons in other professions and activities, with a view to furthering the development of cultural relations between the two countries and promoting closer co-operation in the study of questions affecting overseas territories.

*Article 7*

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to promote better knowledge of their respective cultures by means of lectures, concerts, exhibitions, artistic entertainments, distribution of books and periodicals, wireless broadcasts, television, the cinema, recordings and all other suitable means.

*Article 8*

Nothing in this Agreement shall affect the application of the laws and regulations in force concerning the admission of aliens to, their sojourn in and departure from the territories concerned.

*Article 9*

This Agreement shall be ratified.

The exchange of instruments of ratification shall take place at Brussels as soon as possible.

This Agreement shall come into force for a minimum period of five years. Thereafter, unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties not less than six months before the expiry of this period, it shall be deemed to be renewed and shall remain in force until the expiry of the period of six months following the date of its denunciation by one of the Contracting Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the two Plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement and have affixed thereto their seals.

DONE in duplicate at Lisbon on 30 July 1955, in French and Portuguese, both texts being equally authentic.

For His Majesty the King of the Belgians :

P. H. SPAAK

For His Excellency the President of the Portuguese Republic :

Paulo CUNHA

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[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONCERNING THE ENTRY INTO  
FORCE OF THE CULTURAL AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> OF 30 JULY  
1955 BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND  
PORTUGAL. BRUSSELS, 12 SEPTEMBER 1956

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I

MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS AND EXTERNAL TRADE

Brussels, 12 September 1956

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to refer to the Cultural Agreement between the Kingdom of Belgium and Portugal, signed at Lisbon on 30 July 1955.<sup>1</sup>

I have the honour to inform you that the Belgian Government has agreed that this Agreement will come into force on 12 September 1956, the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

I beg that you will be so good as to acknowledge receipt of this letter and notify me of the consent of the Government of the Portuguese Republic to this date.

I have the honour to be, etc.

P. H. SPAAK

His Excellency Mr. E. Vieira Leitao  
Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Portugal  
Brussels

II

PORTUGUESE EMBASSY

Brussels, 12 September 1956

Your Excellency,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter of today's date, which reads as follows :

[See letter I]

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<sup>1</sup> See p. 213 of this volume.

I have the honour to inform you of my Government's agreement to the above.  
I have the honour to be, etc.

Ernesto VIEIRA LEITAO

His Excellency Mr. P. H. Spaak  
Minister of Foreign Affairs  
Brussels