

No. 3766

BELGIUM
and
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

Cultural Agreement. Signed at Brussels, on 24 September 1956

Official texts: French, Dutch and German.

Registered by Belgium on 22 March 1957.

BELGIQUE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE

Accord culturel. Signé à Bruxelles, le 24 septembre 1956

Textes officiels français, néerlandais et allemand.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 22 mars 1957.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 3766. CULTURAL AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY. SIGNED AT BRUSSELS, ON 24 SEPTEMBER 1956

The Kingdom of Belgium and the Federal Republic of Germany,

Desiring to promote in their respective countries knowledge of the culture and intellectual life of the other country by interchange and friendly co-operation, and conscious of serving at the same time, by an Agreement, the common cause of European culture and European unification,

Have agreed as follows :

Article I

The Contracting Parties declare that they wish to assist and promote cultural co-operation between their two countries. They shall jointly endeavour to remove all difficulties which may impede the said co-operation.

Article II

Each Contracting Party shall actively encourage, in accordance with the provisions of the relevant local laws, the institutes of the other Contracting Party in its territory. The term "institutes" shall include, in particular, schools, libraries, film libraries and music libraries.

Article III

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to encourage the interchange of university teachers, research workers, students, schoolteachers and school-children, artists and persons engaged in independent cultural activity, and young workers who wish to continue their training.

Article IV

Each Contracting Party shall grant to nationals of the other Party scholarships to enable them to undertake or continue studies or research in the other

¹ Came into force on 22 March 1957, one month after the exchange of the instruments of ratification which took place at Bonn on 22 February 1957, in accordance with article XVI. The Agreement is not applicable to the territories of the Belgian Congo and Ruanda-Urundi; it is applicable to the *Land* Berlin.

country or to complete their scientific, cultural, artistic or technical training.

The expression “ German nationals ” shall be deemed to mean Germans in the sense of article 116, paragraph 1, of the Constitution of the Federal Republic of Germany.

Article V

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to encourage collaboration between their learned or artistic societies and their professional and educational organizations.

Article VI

The Contracting Parties shall actively promote collaboration between their regional and local authorities and between recognized youth organizations and popular educational organizations.

Article VII

The Contracting Parties shall investigate how far encouragement can be given to the organization of courses and periods of training for teachers and educators, students, schoolchildren and young workers of the other Party.

Article VIII

The Contracting Parties shall consider the possibility of recognizing the academic degrees and school and study diplomas of the two countries as equivalent for academic purposes and, in appropriate cases, for professional purposes.

Article IX

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to make the culture of the other country known to their nationals, especially through the organization and exchange of the following :

1. Art and other exhibitions;
2. Concerts and lectures;
3. Dramatic performances;
4. Films;
5. Radio and television programmes.

Article X

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the dispatch, circulation and distribution of books, periodicals and literary, scientific and technical publications. They shall facilitate, in accordance with the relevant provisions, the

interchange between their libraries, through official channels, of bibliographical information and of copies, documents and musical scores. The Contracting Parties shall likewise actively promote the translation of books which contribute to a thorough knowledge of the cultural life of the other country.

Article XI

The Contracting Parties shall severally endeavour to promote in schools and universities, in accordance with the relevant provisions of their respective laws, study and knowledge of each other's cultural heritage. They shall ensure that, in all branches of education, the history and way of life of the other people are presented in the most objective manner.

Article XII

The Contracting Parties shall endeavour to facilitate for each other, in accordance with their laws, the solution of such financial and customs difficulties as may arise out of the application of this Agreement.

Article XIII

In order to provide for regular joint consultation there shall be established a Permanent Mixed Commission, consisting of ten members, to resolve all questions arising out of the application of this Agreement.

The five members of the Commission (who need not be civil servants) designated for the Federal Republic of Germany shall be appointed by the Federal Minister of Foreign Affairs in consultation with the Federal Ministers concerned and with the Ministers of Education of the *Länder* of the Federal Republic. The five members designated for the Kingdom of Belgium shall be appointed by the Minister of Education in consultation with the Minister of Foreign Affairs. The Commission may call in experts and, on technical questions requiring detailed investigation, may establish sub-committees.

The Permanent Mixed Commission shall meet when necessary and at least once a year, in Belgium and in the Federal Republic of Germany in turn. A member of the Commission of the country in which the Commission meets shall preside.

Article XIV

For the purposes of this Agreement the expressions "country" and "territory" shall mean, on the Belgian side, the Kingdom of Belgium and, on the German side, the Federal Republic of Germany.

Article XV

The Agreement shall likewise apply to the *Land* of Berlin unless the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany notifies the Government of the Kingdom of Belgium to the contrary within three months after the entry into force of the Agreement.

Article XVI

This Agreement shall be ratified. It shall enter into force one month after the exchange of the instruments of ratification, which shall take place at Bonn.

Article XVII

This Agreement shall remain in force for a term of five years. It shall be prolonged at five-yearly intervals unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties not less than six months before the expiry of the current term.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the Plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Brussels on 24 September 1956, in duplicate in the French, Dutch and German languages, all texts being equally authentic.

For the Kingdom of Belgium :

P. H. SPAAK

For the Federal Republic of Germany :

VON BRENTANO