

No. 8985

**BULGARIA
and
ITALY**

**Films co-production Agreement. Signed at Sofia, on
29 July 1967**

Official texts: Bulgarian and Italian.

Registered by Bulgaria on 14 February 1968.

**BULGARIE
et
ITALIE**

**Accord de coproduction cinématographique. Signé à Sofia,
le 29 juillet 1967**

Textes officiels bulgare et italien.

Enregistré par la Bulgarie le 14 février 1968.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

No. 8985. FILMS CO-PRODUCTION AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN
THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA AND THE
ITALIAN REPUBLIC. SIGNED AT SOFIA, ON 29 JULY
1967

The Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the Italian Republic,

Considering that closer co-operation between the film industries of the two countries will contribute considerably to the development of cultural and economic relations between them,

Desiring to co-operate in film-making with a view to encouraging the co-production of films of special artistic, cultural or entertainment interest,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Co-production films shall be equated, both in fact and in law, to the national films produced by each of the two countries and shall enjoy all the benefits provided for in the laws of the country concerned.

The preceding paragraph shall be understood to mean that all such benefits shall apply to the co-producer or co-producers of the country according to the benefits.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall promote direct contacts between the film-making enterprises of the two countries.

All matters relating to film production, such as the nature of the production, the contributions of each of the Parties, conditions of residence of artists, technicians and other staff directly concerned in making the film, and the import and export of equipment required for the making and exploitation of the film (raw film, technical equipment, costumes, scenery, publicity material, etc.), shall be regulated by contracts entered into between the film industries of the two countries in accordance with this Agreement.

Article 3

Co-production shall as a rule take the form of participation by the respective Parties in the provision of services and cinematographic equipment.

The balance in the over-all financial, artistic and technical participation by the co-producing countries shall be reviewed each year by a mixed Commission.

¹ Came into force on 29 July 1967 by signature, in accordance with article 13.

The artistic, technical and financial participation in co-productions must, taken as a whole, be balanced.

Article 4

Every co-production film shall be directed by a director from one of the Contracting Parties.

Article 5

1. Minor financial participation may not amount to less than 30 per cent of the production cost of each film.

2. The contribution of the minor participant in co-production must take the form of effective technical and artistic participation, which shall include at least one writer, one technical expert, one artist in a leading role and one feature artist.

3. Exceptions to paragraph 1 of this article may, subject to agreement by the authorities of the Contracting Parties, be made in the case of films whose cost substantially exceeds the average cost of films produced in the major participating country, or of films of special artistic or cultural merit. In such cases, the share of the minor participant may not in any circumstances be less than 20 per cent of the cost of the films.

Article 6

If the nature of the film requires the participation of artists who are nationals of a third country they may be allowed to participate by way of exception and subject to prior agreement between the authorities of the two countries.

Similarly, subject to prior agreement between the authorities of the two countries, outdoor and indoor location shooting in third countries may be permitted if the nature of the film requires it.

Article 7

Two negatives or one negative and one duplicate negative must be made of each co-production film.

Each co-producer shall be the proprietor of a negative or duplicate negative.

Article 8

The competent authorities of the two countries shall provide every facility for the import and export of all equipment required by the two Parties for the making of co-production films.

The temporary importation of all the above-mentioned equipment shall be duty-free.

Article 9

Requests for co-production must be submitted at least thirty days before filming is to begin, together with the necessary documents, the scenario or script, a rough schedule for filming in the territory of the other country, and proposals

regarding the form of the other country's participation.

Article 10

The provisions in the contracts covering the division between the co-producers of receipts and markets must be approved by the competent authorities of the Contracting Parties.

Receipts shall be divided between the co-producers, as far as possible, in proportion to their shares in the cost of production.

Article 11

The credit titles for co-production films shall include a separate frame containing, in addition to the names of the producers, the phrase "Bulgarian-Italian co-production" or "Italo-Bulgarian co-production". A similar phrase shall appear in all publicity material for the film.

Co-production films shall be screened at international festivals in the major participating country. Films in which the Parties participate on an equal basis shall be exhibited in the country of which the director is a national.

Article 12

During the period of validity of this Agreement, a Mixed Commission shall meet each year, alternately in Bulgaria and Italy.

The Italian delegation shall be headed by a representative of the Ministry of Tourism and Entertainment. The Bulgarian delegation shall be headed by a representative of the Committee for Act and Culture. They shall be accompanied and assisted by State officials and experts.

The functions of the Mixed Commission shall be to consider and overcome difficulties arising in the application of this Agreement and to consider and propose possible arrangements for renewing it.

Each Contracting Party may request that an extraordinary meeting of the Mixed Commission be convened in the event of significant changes in the legislation of one of the two countries or for other valid reasons.

Article 13

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of signature and remain in force for three years.

It shall thereafter be renewed annually, unless it is denounced by one of the Contracting Parties upon notice given in writing at least three months before the date of expiry.

DONE at Sofia this twenty-ninth day of July 1967 in four original copies, two in the Bulgarian and two in the Italian language, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the People's
Republic of Bulgaria:
Georgy KARAMANEV

For the Government
of the Italian Republic:
Orazio ANTINORI