

No. 16489

**UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS
and
BULGARIA**

**Agreement concerning cultural and scientific co-operation.
Signed at Sofia on 3 November 1976**

Authentic texts: Russian and Bulgarian.

Registered by the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics on 22 February 1978.

**UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES SOCIALISTES
SOVIÉTIQUES
et
BULGARIE**

**Accord relatif à la coopération culturelle et scientifique.
Signé à Sofia le 3 novembre 1976**

Textes authentiques: russe et bulgare.

*Enregistré par l'Union des Républiques socialistes soviétiques le 22 février
1978.*

[TRANSLATION—TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA CONCERNING CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC CO-OPERATION

The Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the Government of the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

Having regard to the indissoluble fraternal friendship between the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Bulgarian Communist Party, between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, and between the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples,

Acting in accordance with the aims and principles of the Treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance between the People's Republic of Bulgaria and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics, signed at Sofia on 12 May 1967,²

Endeavouring further to develop and strengthen unity and general co-operation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria on the basis of the principles of Marxism-Leninism and socialist internationalism and in accordance with the fundamental interests of the building of communism and socialism in the two countries,

Being convinced that cultural and scientific co-operation serves those aims, plays an important part in bringing the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples closer together and leads to the mutual enrichment of the socialist national cultures of the peoples of the two fraternal countries,

Having regard to the progressive traditions of the age-old association between the two peoples and to the results of the long-standing cultural and scientific ties between the two countries, and drawing on the positive experience acquired in the implementation of the Agreement on cultural and scientific co-operation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, signed at Sofia on 19 July 1966,

Firmly resolved to implement consistently the principles and agreements laid down in the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,

Endeavouring through the development of bilateral, cultural and scientific co-operation to contribute to détente and the strengthening of peace,

Expressing their readiness and desire to continue, in the interests of strengthening friendship, unity and co-operation between the two countries, to give unremitting attention to the intensification and increased effectiveness of all aspects of cultural and scientific relations between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of Bulgaria,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Contracting Parties shall take all possible steps to promote the further development of mutual co-operation and exchanges of experience in

¹ Came into force on 3 November 1976 by signature, in accordance with article 26.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 631, p. 239.

the fields of science, general and public education, literature and art, the cinema, the press, radio, television, cultural enlightenment, tourism, health, physical culture and sport.

Article 2. The Contracting Parties shall use the channels of cultural and scientific co-operation to publicize the Marxist-Leninist outlook and the peace-loving foreign policy of the socialist countries, to acquaint the working people of the two countries extensively with the achievements and experience of building communism and socialism, with major party decisions and with practical action by the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Bulgarian Communist Party to strengthen and improve Soviet-Bulgarian co-operation in the political, economic, scientific and technical, cultural and other fields, with a view to bringing the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples closer together.

The competent departments and organizations of the two countries shall ensure the duly effective use for these purposes of the mass information media and shall formulate and implement measures to inculcate a spirit of friendship between the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples, of patriotism and of socialist internationalism in the working people.

Article 3. The Contracting Parties shall facilitate the development of all aspects of co-operation, and the broadening and intensification of direct contacts between the academies of sciences, scientific institutions and organizations of the two countries.

This co-operation, aimed at the successful solution of the problems of building communism and socialism in the two countries, having regard to the international socialist division of labour, shall be achieved by the following means:

- Broad co-operation and specialization in the conduct of research in various scientific fields on a bilateral and multilateral basis, and within the framework of the Council for Mutual Economic Assistance;
- Joint treatment of current problems in the development of the social sciences, in particular problems relating to the theory and practice of building communism and socialism in the two countries, and also those conceived with strengthening the bridgeheads of socialism in the ideological conflicts between two social systems;
- Organization of joint research institutes, science laboratories, working groups and mixed commissions with a view to the more effective conduct of scientific research on subjects of mutual interest and of importance to the development of the economies of the two countries;
- Preparation and issue of joint scientific publications, the organization of reciprocal publications of scientific works, and the exchange of information on research activities;
- Exchanges of scientists and specialists both on a reciprocal basis and at the expense of the interested Party, with a view to the conduct of research, exchanges of experience, participation in scientific meetings, congresses, conferences, symposia, consultations, and the delivering of scientific papers and lectures.

Article 4. The Contracting Parties shall promote intensified co-operation and broader exchanges of experience between the two countries in the fields of

higher and secondary specialized education, general education and vocational and technical training.

For that purpose they shall promote:

- Further improved and more effective co-operation between the appropriate ministries and departments, scientific and educational institutions of the two countries;
- Elaboration of a uniform approach and common criteria for the training and qualification of scientific and teaching personnel, specialists and skilled labour to work in the economy;
- Establishment and development of direct contacts between institutions of higher education and their individual faculties and between establishments of general, specialized, vocational and technical education;
- Broader exchanges of scientific and educational information on the most effective contemporary methods of teaching, and of scientists and specialists for the joint treatment of current teaching problems, for consultations and for co-ordinating efforts in dealing with the questions of intensified training and the introduction of the latest technical teaching methods;
- Regular exchange of teachers and specialists to give lectures, study one another's experiences, gather scientific materials, and prepare and defend master's and doctoral dissertations, both on a reciprocal basis and at the expense of the interested Party;
- Exchange of undergraduate and postgraduate students for complete and partial courses of study, and of groups of students, schoolchildren and persons attending vocational and technical schools, to take part in industrial familiarization courses, youth labour activities and excursions for study purposes;
- Co-operation among the editorial staffs of scientific and educational journals and publications, educational and student science associations for the joint treatment of current problems, and for reciprocal information, the publication of scientific materials, and the exchange of educational literature and literature on teaching methods of visual aids and educational films;
- Provision of mutual assistance and the establishment, where necessary, of mixed commissions for the joint preparation and publication of textbooks and teaching aids, and the concordance of material in chapters of literature, history and geography textbooks that deal with the two countries.

Article 5. Each Contracting Party shall promote the study and dissemination of the language of the other country, the teaching of that language in its higher and other educational establishments and extrascholastic instruction through its respective government departments and public organizations, the regular exchange of teachers and specialists in language and literature, the necessary teaching aids, materials and information, the systematic organization of language and country study courses and seminars for the improvement of qualifications, the conduct of joint research on questions relating to the language and literature of the two countries and the publication of scholarly works in that field.

The Parties shall promote the activities of the Pushkin Russian Language Institute to popularize the Russian language and train staff for educational establishments in the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Article 6. The Contracting Parties shall promote the development of contacts between mass political and public organizations in the educational establishments in the two countries for the purpose of inculcating in young persons pursuing studies a spirit of Marxism-Leninism, socialist internationalism, patriotism, friendship and co-operation between the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples.

Article 7. The Contracting Parties shall promote the development of co-operation in all aspects of medical science and public health in the two countries, the joint treatment of current problems, the training and advanced training of medical personnel and exchanges of experience between public health and social insurance organizations, and shall encourage direct contacts between public health institutions and medical teaching and research institutions.

Article 8. The Contracting Parties shall take all possible steps to facilitate further comprehensive exchanges between and the mutual enrichment of the socialist cultures of the peoples of the two countries, more effective political and ideological co-operation in that field, and the development and intensification of direct contacts between cultural institutions, artistic associations, educational establishments and other organizations in the sphere of culture and art.

For those purposes, they shall promote:

- Greatest possible mutual familiarity with the achievements of socialist culture and major works of art of the two countries through the reciprocal observance of “Cultural Days”, art festivals and combined events devoted to national holidays and commemorative occasions, the inclusion in the repertoires and programmes of theatrical and musical companies of works by authors of the other country, sundry exchanges of exhibitions, professional and amateur artistic groups and performers, individual artists, delegations and representatives to participate in international and national contests, festivals, shows, meetings and symposia, and more effective direct co-operation between theatres, artistic groups, museums, libraries, educational establishments and other cultural and art institutions;
- Close co-ordination and concerted efforts in the treatment of ideological and artistic questions and the aesthetic education of the working people, broader reciprocal information concerning the achievements of and most significant events in cultural life, better exchanges of experience in cultural construction, and enhanced and intensified joint action in the production of scholarly works on current problems in art and culture and in the publication of information and methodological materials on theoretical and practical questions of socialist development and mutual enrichment of the culture and art of the two countries;
- Extensive involvement of the artistic intelligentsia in the process of Soviet-Bulgarian cultural exchange, the development of all aspects of co-operation between artistic associations and the editorial boards of periodicals on this subject, joint meetings, seminars, symposia and sessions of the boards of artistic associations to consider current problems in raising the ideological and artistic level of art works, the formation of joint artistic brigades and collectives, and more extensive reciprocal exchanges of exhibitions, specialist periodicals, literature and information material, and of representatives of the artistic intelligentsia to become acquainted with the cultural and art works of the other country, and help to publicize and

popularize works in the fields of literature, cinematography, music, the theatre, the fine arts, architecture and circus performance from their own country;

- Extensive involvement of the mass information media and the public of the two countries in popularizing the achievements of socialist art and the cultural events taking place with a view to achieving the maximum political effect and publicity;
- Improved system of mutual consultations and information and more widespread co-ordination of activities in the field of cultural and scientific exchanges to give wider publicity to Marxist-Leninist teachings and the basic principles and achievements of socialist realist art, and on matters of cultural co-operation with foreign countries and opposition to attempts at penetration by reactionary bourgeois ideology through the medium of cultural ties;
- Further development of co-operation in the training of cadres, the co-ordination and harmonization of curricula and syllabuses of educational establishments in the fields of culture and art, and regular exchanges of teachers, specialists, creative artists, and leading exponents of the arts for training, studying one another's experience and improving their qualifications and skills;
- Broader exchanges of official, political and scientific literature, and the more extensive preparation and publication of joint materials on the theory and practice of library science;
- Reciprocal information and concerted action in the strengthening and development of the material basis of culture, the systematic exchange of planning and regulatory documentation on the construction of cultural amenities, and the division of labour in the production and introduction of materials and equipment for cultural institutions;
- Further improvements in the planning and effectiveness of cultural relations, better long-term plans and working protocols for co-operation in that field, and the uniform distribution through them of cultural exchanges in terms of time and type.

Article 9. The Contracting Parties, having regard to the need for the further strengthening of ideological work, shall develop co-operation in all aspects of publishing, printing and the book trade.

For those purposes they shall promote:

- Preparation and issue of joint publications in the fields of the socio-political, economic and technical sciences, culture and art, particularly those publicizing the achievements of the USSR, the People's Republic of Bulgaria and other socialist countries in building communism and socialism, the establishment of joint authors' collectives, and the involvement in such work of scientific institutions and artistic and public organizations;
- Reciprocal exchange of bibliographies and recommendations on the translation and publication of socio-political, social and economic, scientific and literary works from the other country;
- Active participation of representatives of book publishing centres and publishing houses of the two countries in international conferences, and the regular conduct of bilateral and multilateral meetings to discuss current

questions and exchange experiences in the fields of publishing, improving printing facilities, publicity and book dissemination;

- Development of direct co-operation between publishing houses that cater to similar readership, in arranging joint publications and providing mutual assistance in the selection, translation, publication and dissemination of the literature of the other country;
- Reciprocal dissemination and publicizing of the literature of the other country, the holding of exhibitions and “ten-day book fairs”, and wider publication of Soviet literature in the People’s Republic of Bulgaria and of Bulgarian literature in the USSR;
- Co-ordination of long-term plans for the issue of publications devoted to significant events in the lives of the peoples of the two countries and to questions of socialist internationalism, the unity and cohesion of the socialist community and the international Communist and labour movement;
- Harmonization of activities to publicize socialist books internationally, and the joint staging of book exhibitions, fairs, contests, conferences and other events for the dissemination of books.

Article 10. The Contracting Parties shall reciprocally exchange information on achievements in the fields of science, education, literature, culture and art and shall take all possible steps to further the extensive popularization and publicizing of those achievements in the two countries.

For those purposes they shall promote:

- Co-operation and more intensive direct contacts between press agencies, the editorial boards of newspapers and scientific and literary periodicals and publications;
- Reciprocal exchanges of information and reference material, photographs, periodic publications, articles and documents for publication in the national and local press;
- Exchanges of journalists, correspondents and persons working for other mass information media to gather material, study one another’s experiences and improve their professional skills;
- Co-ordinated activities to publicize Marxism-Leninism and the achievements of the two countries in building communism and socialism, and firmer opposition to bourgeois ideology and morality.

Article 11. The Contracting Parties shall facilitate more intensive and effective co-operation in the field of television and radio broadcasting.

For those purposes they shall promote:

- Regular exchanges of television and radio programmes, feature, documentary and popular science films, television shows, reports, newsreels and current information on achievements, major events and topical questions in the economic, scientific, cultural and socio-political lives of the two countries, and broadcasts and material devoted to commemorative occasions and national holidays, friendship and co-operation between the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples;

- Reciprocal observance of the “television days” and “radio days” of the other country, radio broadcasts of “Moscow calling” and “Sofia calling” respectively, special television screenings, television forums and television festivals;
- Joint production of television films, the organization of joint production teams to prepare reports, newsreels, television programmes and radio broadcasts, and the reciprocal exchange of delegations and specialists in the field of television and radio broadcasting, and of television and radio commentators for the joint preparation of television and radio materials, to study one another’s experiences and to improve their business qualifications;
- Exchanges of experience in improving programmes and programming methods and developing material and technical facilities, and of catalogues of television films and printed publications on matters concerning television and radio;
- Improved co-operation and co-ordination in the implementation of international activities conducted by the International Radio and Television Organization (OIRT) and the Inter-Vision Council (Intervision) and in the establishment and development of relations with third countries.

Article 12. The Contracting Parties shall actively utilize the medium of the cinema for the ideological and political, labour and moral education of the citizens of the two countries, and for publicizing achievements and experience in the building of communism and socialism.

For those purposes they shall promote:

- Wide dissemination and popularization of films produced in the other country on the basis of both commercial and public release, and through the organization of film premières, weeks and festivals, retrospectives and screenings on specific subjects;
- Production of joint feature, documentary and popular science films, the exchange of script-writers, producers, actors, and of cinematographic materials, and the reciprocal provision of services to the other Party;
- Participation in national and international film festivals organized by the other Party, and the further development of friendly relations and co-operation between film studios, research institutes and other cinematographic organizations of the two countries;
- Holding of theoretical meetings and scientific symposia on the problems of socialist cinematography;
- Improved co-ordination of activities in international organizations and at film festivals, wider publicity for and the dissemination of films produced in socialist countries.

Article 13. The Contracting Parties shall facilitate the development of all aspects of co-operation and closer ties between the two countries in the field of physical culture and sports.

For those purposes they shall promote:

- Improved planning and the greater effectiveness of sporting events, coaching sessions, joint programmes of theoretical and applied training exercises and exchanges of athletes to participate in bilateral and international meetings and competitions;

- Joint work on the development of advanced athletic skills, the training of highly qualified staff and specialists in the field of physical culture and sports;
- Exchange of practical research information, printed material, exhibitions and television and radio programmes on the development of the mass physical culture movement and the organization of healthy sporting activity among the population and on their system of planning, constructing and operating sports centres and facilities;
- More effective ideological, political and moral education of athletes and youth in the spirit of socialist internationalism and patriotism;
- Co-ordinated activities in the international sports and olympic movement, joint measures to publicize the advantages of the socialist system of physical culture and sport, and active efforts to combat bourgeois ideology and morals in sports.

Article 14. The Contracting Parties shall provide assistance to organizations and departments concerned with foreign tourism, and shall take all possible steps to support the further development of organized group and individual tourism, broader exchanges of “friendship trains” and specialized groups, travel instruction with professional interests, and travel to congresses, conferences, exhibitions, sporting events, arts festivals and health centres in accordance with the Intergovernmental Agreement on Tourism signed on 7 September 1970.

For the purpose of the more active involvement in tourist travel by the broad masses of the working people the Parties shall facilitate the conduct of various activities for mass cultural and country study purposes between tourists of the two countries, and the organization of specialized tours and programmes during their stay.

Article 15. The Contracting Parties shall assist the Soviet-Bulgarian Friendship Society and the National Committee for Bulgarian-Soviet Friendship in their work to develop and strengthen the friendship, co-operation and close ties between the Soviet and Bulgarian peoples and to acquaint the working people and public of the two countries extensively with the achievements and prospects of communist and socialist construction, and shall facilitate fuller use for those purposes of cultural and scientific exchanges and measures.

The Parties shall promote the greater effectiveness of and continual improvement in the forms taken by the work of the House of Soviet Science and Culture in Sofia.

Article 16. The Contracting Parties shall provide assistance in the development of cultural co-operation between trade unions, youth, women’s and other public organizations, and between societies for the dissemination of knowledge.

Article 17. The Contracting Parties shall promote more extensive and intensive co-operation between the archive institutions of their countries and exchanges between them of information and archive materials for scientific work and of specialists in the field or archives.

Article 18. The Contracting Parties shall, in accordance with the laws in force in each country, provide facilities for scientists, cultural workers and artists of the other country to visit public libraries, research institutes, archives,

museums and other institutions with a view to becoming acquainted with and studying their collections and materials for research purposes.

Article 19. The Contracting Parties shall inform each other of the congresses, conferences, meetings, festivals, shows, contests, exhibitions, competitions and other events of mutual interest held in each country which come within the scope of this Agreement, and invite and facilitate participation in those events by scientists, cultural representatives, artists, educators and athletes of the other country.

Article 20. The Contracting Parties shall promote improvements in the system for the protection of copyright and for popularizing and disseminating the cultural treasures of the other country in accordance with the Agreement on the reciprocal protection of copyright, signed at Moscow on 16 January 1975.¹

Article 21. The Contracting Parties shall promote improved multilateral cultural and scientific co-operation between the socialist countries, the exchange of information on the development of cultural and scientific relations with third countries, the elaboration and implementation of joint programmes and agreed activities to publicize the achievements of socialism in the field of culture and science, and co-ordinated activities in international organizations and participation in multilateral events of a cultural and scientific nature.

Article 22. The Contracting Parties shall promote the development of direct co-operation between related cultural and scientific organizations and institutions supporting direct friendly ties and coming within the scope of this Agreement.

Article 23. The Contracting Parties have agreed that for the purpose of implementing this Agreement, in the course of joint consultations and negotiations held alternately at Moscow and Sofia, plans, including long-term plans, for cultural and scientific co-operation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, providing for further improved and more effective cultural and scientific exchanges, increasingly close ties between the peoples of the two countries and mutual enrichment in the cultural and scientific fields shall be elaborated and signed.

Their respective establishments and authorities coming within the scope of this Agreement, and also organizations maintaining direct friendly ties, may in their spheres of competence draw up special-purpose and working programmes and protocols for the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement, which shall form an integral part of the plans for cultural and scientific co-operation between the USSR and the People's Republic of Bulgaria.

Article 24. The Contracting Parties have agreed that financial questions arising out of the implementation of this Agreement shall be settled by appropriate agreements between the Parties on reciprocal settlement of accounts and that the financial conditions for cultural and scientific exchanges and for joint activities in that field shall be established in the working programmes and protocol of direct co-operation signed on the basis of article 23 of this Agreement between the respective establishments and authorities of the two countries.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1024, p. 303.

Article 25. Upon the entry into force of this Agreement, the Agreement on cultural and scientific co-operation between the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics and the People's Republic of Bulgaria, signed at Sofia on 19 July 1966, shall cease to have effect.

Programmes and protocols on cultural and scientific co-operation between individual departments and organizations of the Contracting Parties concluded before this Agreement shall remain in effect unless they contradict the provisions of this Agreement.

Article 26. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature.

It shall be concluded for a period of 10 years and shall be extended each time for the following five years unless one of the Contracting Parties announces its wish to terminate the Agreement by giving notice to that effect in writing to the other Contracting Party six months before the expiry of the corresponding period.

DONE at Sofia on 3 November 1976, in duplicate in the Russian and Bulgarian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics:
[A. GROMYKO]

For the Government
of the People's Republic
of Bulgaria:
[P. MLADENOV]
