

No. 21851

**BELGIUM
and
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC**

**Cultural Agreement. Signed at Berlin on 14 September
1979**

Authentic texts: French, Dutch and German.

Registered by Belgium on 13 April 1983.

**BELGIQUE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE ALLEMANDE**

Accord culturel. Signé à Berlin le 14 septembre 1979

Textes authentiques : français, néerlandais et allemand.

Enregistré par la Belgique le 13 avril 1983.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

CULTURAL AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
KINGDOM OF BELGIUM AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
GERMAN DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and
The Government of the German Democratic Republic,

Desiring to strengthen the friendly relations between the two countries,

In the firm belief that cultural, educational and scientific co-operation contribute to better mutual understanding and deeper friendship between the peoples of the two countries,

Having resolved to develop such co-operation on the basis of the principles of public international law and the Final Act of the Conference on security and co-operation in Europe,²

Have decided to conclude this Agreement and have agreed as follows:

Article 1. The Contracting Parties shall encourage and support in accordance with the provisions of their national laws and on a basis of reciprocity, the development of co-operation among their governmental bodies, non-governmental institutions and organizations and individuals active in the fields of culture, education and science.

Article 2. The Contracting Parties shall promote cultural co-operation.

To that end:

1. They shall encourage action for promoting wider knowledge of their respective cultural values and achievements by organizing conferences, exhibitions and artistic events, the exchange of publications and the translation of literary works;
2. They shall encourage co-operation between youth organizations, sports associations and adult organizations;
3. They shall encourage direct co-operation between their radio and television services;
4. They shall encourage direct contacts between associations and individuals active in the plastic arts, literature, the theatre, music, the cinema and public libraries;
5. They shall encourage co-operation between art colleges, science libraries, museums, theatres and other cultural institutions;
6. Each Party shall encourage the participation of its nationals in seminars, symposia, exhibitions, festivals and competitions, as well as in meetings of cultural experts, organized by the other Contracting Party.

Article 3. The Contracting Parties shall promote educational co-operation.

To that end:

1. They shall encourage, by agreement with the institutions concerned, exchanges of

¹ Came into force on 30 September 1982, the date of the last of the notifications by which the Parties informed each other (on 14 December 1979 and 30 September 1982) of the completion of the required constitutional procedures, in accordance with article 7.

² *International Legal Materials*, vol. 14 (1975), p. 1292 (American Society of International Law).

- teachers and scientific collaborators from institutions of higher education, museums and scientific establishments, facilitate their research work and grant them access to libraries and archives, in accordance with the provisions of their national laws;
2. They shall encourage direct co-operation between their universities and other institutions of higher education;
 3. Each Party shall award specialization fellowships to the other in order to enable its graduates to pursue post-graduate studies in the institutions of the other Party. Each Party shall also award vacation fellowships to the other Party;
 4. They shall promote exchanges of educational experience at all levels. To this end, they shall arrange for exchanging experts and exchange information on their structures and methods;
 5. They shall explore the possibilities of reaching agreement on the equivalence of diplomas and certificates;
 6. Each Party shall promote the teaching of the languages and literatures of the other country in its institutions of higher education.

Article 4. The Contracting Parties shall promote scientific co-operation between their countries.

To that end:

1. They shall encourage co-operation between their scientific institutions, and between research institutes and centres;
2. Each Party shall award fellowships to the other in order to enable its researchers to conduct research in the scientific institutions of the other Party;
3. They shall encourage exchange of scientific and specialized publications;
4. They shall encourage the joint organization of scientific conferences, symposia and seminars.

Article 5. The Contracting Parties shall encourage cultural, educational and scientific co-operation with each other within the framework of the intergovernmental organizations of which they are members. To that end, they shall, in particular, encourage co-operation between the national commissions for UNESCO of the two Parties.

Article 6. For the purpose of implementing this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall establish a Permanent Joint Commission of no more than eight members.

The Commission shall comprise two sections, a Belgian section and a German Democratic Republic section, which shall meet in plenary at least once every two years alternately in Belgium and in the German Democratic Republic, to draw up work programmes and make the financial arrangements for their implementation.

The Joint Commission may call upon the services of experts.

Article 7. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date on which the Contracting Parties notify each other that the required procedures have been completed, namely, ratification in Belgium and confirmation in the German Democratic Republic.

Article 8. This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period. It may be denounced at any time on six months' notice by either Contracting Party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Berlin on 14 September 1979, in duplicate, in the French, Dutch and German languages, the three texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Kingdom of Belgium:
[H. SIMONET]

For the Government
of the German Democratic Republic:
[O. FISCHER]
