

No. 22737

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**CZECHOSLOVAKIA  
and  
POLAND**

**Agreement concerning the activities of cultural and information centres. Signed at Prague on 10 December 1982**

*Authentic texts: Czech and Polish.*

*Registered by Czechoslovakia on 13 March 1984.*

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**TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE  
et  
POLOGNE**

**Accord relatif aux activités des centres culturels et d'information. Signé à Prague le 10 décembre 1982**

*Textes authentiques : tchèque et polonais.*

*Enregistré par la Tchécoslovaquie le 13 mars 1984.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE POLISH PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE ACTIVITIES OF CULTURAL AND INFORMATION CENTRES

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Government of the Polish People's Republic,

In accordance with the provisions of the Treaty of friendship, co-operation and mutual assistance between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Polish People's Republic, signed at Warsaw on 1 March 1967,<sup>2</sup> and the Treaty concerning cultural and scientific co-operation currently in force between the two States,

Desiring to strengthen the friendly relations and comprehensive co-operation between the two States, to help their fraternal peoples understand each other better and bring them closer together and to achieve still closer co-operation in spreading the ideas of socialism,

With a view to expanding the exchange of information designed to acquaint each country with the other country, its history and culture and its accomplishments in the building of socialism,

Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1.* 1. Each Contracting Party shall, on the basis of reciprocity, support in every way the activities carried on in the territory of its State by the cultural and information centres of the other State and their branches (hereinafter referred to as "centres").

2. The activities of the centres shall extend to the entire territory of the receiving State.

3. The centres carrying on activities in the territory of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall be the Polish Information and Cultural Centre at Prague and the Polish Information and Cultural Centre at Bratislava.

The centres carrying on activities in the territory of the Polish People's Republic shall be the Czechoslovak Cultural and Information Centre at Warsaw and the Czechoslovak Cultural and Information Centre at Szczecin as a branch of the centre at Warsaw.

4. Each Contracting Party may, with the consent of the receiving State, establish additional centres or branches of centres in the latter's territory.

*Article 2.* 1. Each Contracting Party shall supervise the activities of its State's centres in accordance with its legal regulations.

2. Direct supervision over the activities of the sending State's centres shall be exercised by the Ambassador of that State.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 7 June 1983, the date of the last of the notifications (effected on 26 January and 7 June 1983) by which the Contracting Parties confirmed its approval in conformity with their legal procedures, in accordance with article 15.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 632, p. 255.

3. The centres shall be administered by directors appointed by the Government of the sending State.

*Article 3.* 1. The functions of the centres shall, in particular, consist in:

- (a) The broadening and deepening of the friendly relations between the two States and their peoples, especially in the cultural, scientific, and economic spheres;
- (b) The comprehensive dissemination among the population of the receiving State of information concerning the centre's country and that country's achievements and prospects for development in all fields;
- (c) The propagation of the culture and science of the centre's country and the dissemination of its accomplishments;
- (d) Informational activity to promote the development of commercial and economic relations between the two States.

*Article 4.* The centres shall carry out their functions, in particular, by:

- (a) Disseminating and making accessible informational materials concerning their countries and maintaining and developing contacts with the mass information media;
- (b) Organizing press conferences, lectures, symposia, consultations, meetings of creative and performing artists, exhibitions, film presentations, concerts, appearances by ensembles and soloists, and events such as "Culture Days";
- (c) Maintaining libraries, reading rooms, film libraries and record collections and making accessible and lending publications in the area of social and political literature, *belles-lettres* and specialized literature, as well as films, gramophone records, sound recordings and printed music;
- (d) Disseminating the languages of the people of their States, conducting courses to teach those languages, co-operating in that sphere with schools and higher educational establishments and providing the services of interpreters in those languages;
- (e) Organizing events with economic and commercial themes, including events such as "Economy Days", and taking part in the presentation of their State's participation in international economic and commercial events organized in the receiving State;
- (f) Organizing exhibitions of printing, books, works of contemporary art, folk art creations, artistic handicrafts, art reproductions, collections of picture post-cards, posters, printed music, gramophone records, sound and video tape recordings, postage stamps, philatelic accessories, and other similar articles;
- (g) Collaborating in the organizing of events arising out of the plan for carrying out cultural and scientific co-operation and arrangements relating to direct collaboration between the institutions and organizations of the two States.

*Article 5.* In carrying on their activities, the centres shall be required to comply with the law of the receiving State.

*Article 6.* The centres may maintain direct contacts with and co-operate with the State organs and institutions, social and co-operative organizations and mass information media of the receiving State.

*Article 7.* Functions at the centres may be entrusted to diplomatic staff members or consular employees. This shall be without prejudice to their status as members of the diplomatic or consular staff.

*Article 8.* 1. The Contracting Parties shall, on the basis of reciprocity, provide the centres, free of charge, with the use of premises which, from the point of view of location, size and functionality, are suitable for the activities carried on by the centres.

2. The receiving State shall pay the rent and cover the costs of heating, water supply, street cleaning, garbage removal, ventilation and parking space.

3. The sending State shall cover the costs of gas, hot-water supply and electrical energy, as well as the costs connected with the insurance on the property.

4. The receiving State shall ensure the performance of capital repairs on the premises provided to the other State's centres and shall pay the costs associated therewith.

5. The sending State shall cover the costs of interior equipment, the installation of illuminated signs, telephones and teletype machines and the costs of the repairs connected with the use of the premises, as well as any adaptation or alteration thereof.

6. The sending State may not, without the consent of the receiving State, change the purpose of the premises used or make any adaptation of alteration thereof.

*Article 9.* The Contracting Parties shall provide housing for the employees sent to work at the centres on the same bases as for the employees of the diplomatic and consular services.

*Article 10.* 1. Employees assigned to work at the centres by the sending State who are nationals of that State shall be subject to the labour legislation of that State.

2. Employees of a centre who are nationals of the sending State but have a permanent residence in the territory of the receiving State and employees who are nationals of the receiving State shall be subject to the labour legislation of the receiving State.

*Article 11.* 1. The import of equipment and articles necessary for the activities of the centres and their return to the country of origin shall be exempt from customs duties and other import and export duties and from taxes and charges.

2. The centres shall be exempt in the receiving State from profits tax, income tax, property tax and all other direct taxes, with the exception of the taxes, payments, and contributions referred to in paragraph 3 of this article.

3. The taxes, payments and contributions which the centres are required to pay as employers shall be governed by the regulations of the receiving State and the provisions of the relevant international treaties which are binding on both Contracting Parties.

*Article 12.* 1. The centres shall have current accounts in the currency of the receiving State in appropriate banks of that State.

2. The accounts of the centres shall be kept in accordance with the system and regulations of the receiving State and in the language of that State.

*Article 13.* 1. The centres may also, on the basis of reciprocity, engage in the retail sale of their country's cultural objects for the purpose of popularizing that country's culture in the receiving State.

2. Special problems relating to retail sales shall be regulated by the Protocol which constitutes an integral part of this Agreement.

*Article 14.* On the date of the entry into force of this Agreement, the Protocol between the Government of the Czechoslovak Republic and the Government of the Polish People's Republic concerning the activities of the cultural and information centres at Prague and Warsaw, signed at Warsaw on 27 March 1958,<sup>1</sup> shall cease to have effect.

*Article 15.* This Agreement is subject to approval in accordance with the legal regulations of each Contracting Party and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of notes signifying such approval.

*Article 16.* This Agreement is concluded for a term of five years. It may be automatically extended for successive terms of five years, provided that neither Contracting Party denounces it by notification six months before the expiry of the current term.

DONE at Prague on 10 December 1982, in duplicate in the Czech and Polish languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:  
[BOHUSLAV CHŇOUPEK]

For the Government  
of the Polish People's Republic:  
[STEFAN OLSZOWSKI]

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<sup>1</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1419, No. 1-23744.