

No. 25446

FRANCE
and
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

Agreement concerning the study of French and Russian.
Signed at Moscow on 28 April 1979

Authentic texts: French and Russian.

Registered by France on 6 November 1987.

FRANCE
et
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES
SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES

Accord concernant l'étude du français et du russe. Signé à
Moscou le 28 avril 1979

Textes authentiques : français et russe.

Enregistré par la France le 6 novembre 1987.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH
REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF
SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS CONCERNING THE STUDY OF
FRENCH AND RUSSIAN

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,

Desiring to strengthen the friendly relations existing between the peoples of the two countries,

Prompted by the desire to expand co-operation in the field of culture and education,

Acting in the spirit of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe,²

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1. Considering that knowledge of French and Russian is a major element of co-operation and being conscious of the need to improve this knowledge, the two Parties shall encourage the study and dissemination of the other language in their own country, both in educational institutions and among the population at large.

Article 2. In order to achieve these goals, the two Parties shall continue on a reciprocal basis with:

- The annual exchange of qualified teachers (*lecteurs*) and young graduates of institutions of higher education (*assistants*) to teach French or Russian in educational institutions;
- Co-operation in the area of methods for the teaching of French and of Russian as a foreign language;
- Exchanges of educational materials and teaching aids (educational films, recordings, film strips, slides and so forth);
- The teaching of French and of Russian using the radio and, possibly, television.

The two Parties undertake to make joint efforts for the purpose of gradually increasing, within the limits of budgetary means, exchanges of:

- Language students on refresher courses;
- Non-language specialists wishing to improve their knowledge of French and Russian;
- French teachers of Russian and Soviet teachers of French attending training and refresher courses;
- Language teachers engaged in research work.

¹ Came into force on 28 April 1979 by signature, in accordance with article 5.

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

The two Parties shall:

- Develop relations between institutions of higher education in the area of the study of French and Russian;
- Carry out the first agreed exchange involving a group of French students studying Russian and a group of Soviet students studying French, as part of the curriculum, and take steps with a view to gradually expanding such exchanges;
- Establish mixed writers' associations for the joint preparation of French and Russian textbooks for various levels and types of education;
- Give French nationals living in the USSR an opportunity to take language and civilization courses at the Pushkin Russian Language State Institute and give Soviet nationals living in France an opportunity to take language and civilization courses at the University of Paris III.

The Soviet Party shall, on an experimental basis, give two or three French assistants working in teacher-training institutes an opportunity to teach at the same time in a number of secondary schools where French is taught intensively.

Article 3. The Permanent French-Soviet Joint Commission on Cultural Relations shall, in the protocols concerning exchanges drawn up during its sessions, define the terms and scale of the operations referred to in Article 2 of the present Agreement, within the limits of technical and financial possibilities.

In between the sessions of the Joint Commission, the joint working group on the dissemination of French in the USSR and of Russian in France, established in 1972 under the protocol of the Commission's eighth session, shall meet, as necessary, to examine specific questions.

Article 4. The present Agreement does not rule out other forms of mutually beneficial co-operation in the area of the study and teaching of French and Russian which the two Parties may, if necessary, decide upon.

Article 5. The present Agreement shall come into force on the day of its signature.

DONE at Moscow on 28 April 1979, in duplicate, both copies in the French and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

[Signed]

JEAN FRANÇOIS-PONCET
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the French Republic

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics:

[Signed]

A. GROMYKO
Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the USSR