

No. 25834

CZECHOSLOVAKIA
and
VIET NAM

**Agreement on the establishment and activities of cultural
and information centres (with protocol). Signed at
Hanoi on 2 June 1987**

Authentic texts: Slovak, Vietnamese and French.
Registered by Czechoslovakia on 22 April 1988.

TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE
et
VIET NAM

**Accord sur la création et l'activité des centres culturels et
d'informations (avec protocole). Signé à Hanoi le 2 juin
1987**

Textes authentiques : slovaque, vietnamien et français.
Enregistré par la Tchécoslovaquie le 22 avril 1988.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVITIES OF CULTURAL AND INFORMATION CENTRES

The Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam,

Wishing to promote mutual access to information on the situation and the successes of the political, economic and cultural development of the two States,

With a view to further developing fraternal relations between the peoples of the two States, based on the principles of socialist internationalism, and thus contributing to a better mutual acquaintance and helping to strengthen unity between the peoples of the two countries,

Have decided to conclude this Agreement:

Article 1. 1. The two Contracting Parties have agreed to the establishment of the Cultural and Information Centre of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic (to be known as the “House of Czechoslovak-Vietnamese Friendship”) having its headquarters in Ho Chi Minh City, and shall continue to promote the activities of the Cultural and Information Centre of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, having its headquarters in Prague (hereinafter referred to as the Centres).

2. Either Contracting Party may establish a branch of its Centre in the territory of the other Contracting Party with the prior consent of that other Contracting Party.

3. The activities of each Centre under this Agreement shall extend to the entire territory of the receiving State.

Article 2. 1. The Centres shall be bodies corporate.

2. The activities of the Centres shall be carried out in accordance with the legal provisions of the receiving State.

Article 3. 1. Each Contracting Party shall supervise the activities of its State’s Centre in accordance with its legal regulations.

2. Direct supervision over the sending State’s Centre shall be exercised by the Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of that State.

3. The sending State shall appoint a director who shall be fully responsible for its activities.

[The appointment or the replacement of a director is to be notified to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the other State.]²

¹ Came into force on 14 October 1987 by an exchange of notes (on 23 July and 14 October 1987) confirming its acceptance in accordance with article 9 (1).

² The text in brackets appears in the authentic Vietnamese text only and has been translated by the Secretariat of the United Nations.

4. A member of the diplomatic staff or a consular officer may be entrusted with functions at the Centre. The assignment of such functions shall not affect that person's position deriving from his status as a member of the diplomatic staff or as a consular officer.

Article 4. The Centres shall perform the following functions:

(a) Provide information on the political, economic, cultural and scientific life of their States, and on relations between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam;

(b) Disseminate and issue publicity materials in accordance with the regulations of the receiving State;

(c) Organize discussions, lectures, literary presentations, film shows, recitals and concerts and, meetings between Czechoslovak and Vietnamese artists and creative and scientific workers;

(d) Maintain and operate the reading rooms and libraries forming part of the Centres;

(e) Lend out books, magazines, films, tape recordings, photographs, slides, etc.;

(f) Organize exhibitions devoted to friendship and co-operation between the two countries and to various fields of cultural activity;

(g) Organize courses in the Czech and Slovak languages on the one hand, and in the Vietnamese language on the other hand;

(h) Co-operate in the execution of plans drawn up under the Agreement on Cultural Co-operation in force between the two States;

(i) Organize cultural and social events in co-operation with the organizations of the receiving State country;

(j) Sell merchandise of a cultural nature, as specified in the Protocol to this Agreement.

Article 5. 1. The Contracting Parties shall, on the basis of reciprocity, make available, to the Centres of the other Contracting Party against payment, the necessary premises for the conduct of activities under this Agreement.

2. If it becomes necessary to move the Centre, the receiving State shall provide the other Contracting Party with premises of equal quality under the same conditions as are provided for in this Agreement.

Article 6. 1. Employees who are assigned to work at the Centre by the sending State and 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, as well as employees who are nationals of the receiving State, shall be subject to the labour and social legislation of the receiving State. The aforesaid employees shall be employed at the Centre through the competent organization of the receiving State.

3. Employees of the Centre, if they are nationals of the sending State and are not at the same time nationals of the receiving State and have no permanent residence in that State or reside there only for the purpose of exercising employment at the

Centre, shall be exempt in the receiving State from taxes on their wages or salaries or other remuneration for the exercise of such employment.

4. The two Contracting States shall rent apartments for the director and other employees of the Centre who are sent there by the other Contracting Party.

Article 7. 1. The furnishings and articles necessary for the activities of the Centres under this Agreement shall be exempt from taxes, charges and customs duties.

2. The Centres shall be exempt in the receiving State from taxes on profits, on income and on property and from all other direct taxes, with the exception of the taxes, charges and dues referred to in paragraph 3 of this article.

3. The taxes, charges and dues which the Centre is required to pay as an employer 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 8. Other questions concerning the activities of the Centres shall be dealt with in detail in the Protocol which constitutes an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 9. 1. This Agreement is subject to approval in accordance with the legal regulations of the Contracting Parties and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of notes signifying such approval.

2. This Agreement is concluded for a term of five years and shall be automatically extended for successive five-year terms unless one of the Contracting Parties gives written notice of denunciation six months before the expiry of the current term.

3. On the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the Protocol between the Ministry of Culture and Information of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Committee for Cultural Relations with Foreign Countries of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam on the establishment and activities of the Information and Cultural Centre of the Democratic Republic of Viet Nam in Prague, dated 2 December 1967, shall cease to have effect.

DONE at Hanoi on 2 June 1987 in two original copies, each in the Slovak, Vietnamese and French languages. In the case of any difference of opinion regarding interpretation, the French text shall prevail.

For the Government
of the Socialist Republic
of Czechoslovakia:

[ROMAN NÁROŽNÝ]

For the Government
of the Socialist Republic
of Viet Nam:

[NGUYEN DY NIEN]

PROTOCOL TO THE AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE
CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIET NAM ON THE ESTABLISHMENT
AND ACTIVITIES OF CULTURAL AND INFORMATION CENTRES

Article 1. 1. The two Contracting Parties shall provide the Centres with the premises necessary for the conduct of their proposed activities.

2. The Contracting Parties shall ensure that the premises of the Centre are suitable for the Centre's activities from the point of view of location, functionality and size. The costs of operation of the Centre shall be defrayed by the Contracting Party which establishes it.

3. The owner of the property in which the premises of the Centre are situated shall be required, at his own expense, to provide for the structural maintenance of the property and be responsible for the technical condition of the equipment installed in the property. The costs connected with the internal installations of the Centre and their maintenance shall be covered by the Contracting Party which establishes the Centre.

4. The sending State shall pay the rent and cover the costs of heating and water supply as well as the charges for street-cleaning, garbage removal, ventilation and parking. It shall also pay the charges for gas, hot water supply and electricity, and for storage, transport and similar services, as well as the costs connected with the insurance of the property.

Article 2. Sales at the Centres shall include articles of a cultural nature, and in particular:

- Books, newspapers, periodicals, sheet music, postcards and reproductions;
- Philatelic articles;
- Gramophone records and cassette tapes;
- Glass, ceramics and porcelain;
- Folk art creations made of natural materials;
- Artistic handicrafts;
- Children's toys with components of a technical nature.

Article 3. 1. Deliveries of merchandise intended for sale at the Centres shall be effected and paid for under contracts concluded between the appropriate foreign trade organizations on the basis of the trade and payments agreement in force and the annual protocols on deliveries of merchandise, on the understanding that the quotas of goods covered by the agreement and in the relevant annual protocols shall be balanced as regards value. The foreign prices of the merchandise delivered shall be established by agreement between the appropriate foreign trade organizations.

2. In the conduct of the sales activities of the Centre, due regard shall be had to the actual conditions prevailing in the State in which the Centre is situated.

3. The Centres shall purchase their goods from the competent organizations of the receiving State in the currency of that State and at the prices established in that State for retail trade in imported goods and shall sell them at those prices with a mark-up of 30 per cent.

4. The net profits derived from the sale of merchandise shall be non-transferable and remain with the Centre to cover operational and other costs.

5. The Centres shall maintain an account at a bank of the receiving State in the currency of that State.

6. The Centres shall keep their accounts in accordance with the system and in the language of the sending State.

7. The Centres shall be required to conclude an insurance contract in accordance with the legislative provisions of the State in which the Centre is established.

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For the Government
of the Socialist Republic
of Czechoslovakia:

[ROMAN NÁROŽNÝ]

For the Government
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