

No. 26068

**CZECHOSLOVAKIA
and
UNION OF SOVIET
SOCIALIST REPUBLICS**

Agreement on the establishment and activities of a cultural and information centre of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic in the Soviet Union. Signed at Moscow on 11 April 1988

Authentic texts: Czech and Russian.

Registered by Czechoslovakia on 8 July 1988.

**TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE
et
UNION DES RÉPUBLIQUES
SOCIALISTES SOVIÉTIQUES**

Accord relatif à la création et aux activités d'un centre culturel et d'information tchécoslovaque en Union soviétique. Signé à Moscou le 11 avril 1988

Textes authentiques : tchèque et russe.

Enregistré par la Tchécoslovaquie le 8 juillet 1988.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS ON THE ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVITIES OF A CULTURAL AND INFORMATION CENTRE OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC IN THE SOVIET UNION

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

Acting in accordance with the principles of the Treaty of Friendship, Co-operation and Mutual Assistance of 6 May 1970, between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics,²

Having regard to the provisions of the Agreement between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Union of Soviet Socialist Republics concerning cultural and scientific co-operation of 28 February 1972,³

Guided by a desire to develop and strengthen cooperation between the two countries in the fields of culture, science, technology, information and other areas still further

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Government of the USSR, acceding to the wishes of the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, consents to the establishment and operation of a cultural and information centre of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, hereafter designated the CIC, in Moscow.

Article 2

The aims and purposes of the CIC shall be to promote the strengthening of the traditional friendship and close cooperation between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the USSR and the fraternal collaboration between the Communist Party of Czechoslovakia and the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, and to enable the Soviet public to become widely acquainted with the foreign and domestic policies of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, with its experience of building socialism and achievements in developing Czechoslovak culture and art, education, science and technology, and with the life of the Czechoslovak people.

Article 3

The activities of the CIC shall be coordinated, on the Czechoslovak side, by the Embassy of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic of the USSR. The activities of Soviet departments and organizations cooperating with the CIC shall be coordi-

¹ Came into force on 11 April 1988 by signature, in accordance with article 12.

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 735, p. 219.

³ *Ibid.*, vol. 867, p. 159.

nated by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR. In the event of a dispute about the fulfilment of obligations under this Agreement, the Parties shall settle them through the diplomatic channel.

Article 4

Assistance needed by the CIC to conduct its activities shall be provided by the Ministry of Culture of the USSR and other interested ministries and departments, in close liaison with the Union of Soviet Societies for Cultural and Friendly Relations with Foreign Countries, the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society and other public organizations and creative associations in the USSR.

The CIC shall make use in its work of any opportunities afforded by cultural and scientific cooperation plans in force between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the USSR, and by the cooperation between the Union of Soviet Societies for Cultural and Friendly Relations with Foreign Countries and the Soviet-Czechoslovak Friendship Society on the one hand and the Czechoslovak-Soviet Friendship League on the other, as also between other Czechoslovak and Soviet State institutions and public organizations.

The CIC shall inform interested Soviet institutions and organizations about its planned activities in good time.

Article 5

The activities of the CIC shall include:

- The organization of events in honour of national holidays and significant dates in the life of the Czechoslovak and Soviet peoples, and other socio-political, scientific, technical and cultural events (lectures, meetings, conferences, seminars, competitions, etc.);
- The organization of meetings and press conferences on socio-political, scientific, technical and cultural topics with representatives of Soviet and Czechoslovak public opinion, scientific and cultural workers, and workers in the mass media;
- The organization of a library and reading room for socio-political, artistic, scientific, technical and reference material, and of a methodology centre to provide Soviet teachers with assistance in the teaching of the Czech and Slovak languages and the organization of courses for the study of those languages;
- The dissemination of Czechoslovak information publications and reference material about the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic including the Centre's own publications and information materials;
- The loan to Soviet organizations and citizens, free of charge, of films, sound and video recordings, gramophone records, pictorial exhibition materials, albums, books, newspapers and periodicals;
- The organization of public showings of artistic, documentary, popular scientific and amateur films, and concerts and performances by Czechoslovak and Soviet artists and amateur performers;
- The organization of exhibitions on various aspects of the life and activities of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and on friendship and cooperation between the Soviet and Czechoslovak peoples;

- The organization of clubs for amateurs of Czechoslovak literature, music, theatre, cinema, and fine and applied arts and in other possible fields of interest;
- The organization of cultural and scientific programmes, meetings of various kinds and other events for children and young people.

Article 6

The CIC may establish a stall for the sale of national souvenirs and artistic products and a cafeteria. Specific questions relating to their operation shall be regulated by a separate protocol.

Article 7

The activities of the CIC specified in article 5 shall not conflict with the legislation of the USSR.

The CIC shall have the status of a juridical person.

To finance the activities of the CIC, the Czechoslovak Party shall open an account in the Bank for Foreign Economic Affairs of the USSR. The information and cultural activities of the CIC shall be conducted on a non-commercial basis.

Article 8

The number of Czechoslovak staff employed in the CIC shall be determined by mutual agreement.

The CIC shall be headed by a citizen of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic, whose appointment shall be notified to the Soviet Party by the Czechoslovak Party.

Czechoslovak citizens employed in the CIC shall be obliged to comply with the legislation in force in the USSR, and with the relevant agreements concluded between the two States.

The CIC may offer employment to Soviet citizens through the Department of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the USSR for services to the diplomatic corps.

Article 9

The Soviet Party shall make available to the Czechoslovak Party the premises required for the establishment of the CIC in Moscow. The specific conditions shall be established by a separate protocol.

Article 10

The Soviet Party shall provide Czechoslovak citizens appointed to work in the CIC with accommodation on the same conditions as officials of foreign diplomatic or consular establishments in the USSR.

Article 11

The various kinds of equipment, materials and objects received from the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and other countries to equip the CIC and required for its normal activities, as well as vehicles, film, video and radio apparatus, copying and duplication equipment, gramophone records, books, newspapers, periodicals, works of applied and popular art, paintings, drawings, stationery and other materials, shall be exempt from customs duties, other taxes and any additional duties on a basis of reciprocity.

Article 12

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall cease to be in effect 12 months after the date on which either of the Parties informs the other Party in writing of its intention to terminate the Agreement.

DONE at Moscow, on 11 April 1988, in duplicate, in the Czech and Russian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the Czechoslovak Socialist
Republic:

[BOHUSLAV CHŇOUPEK]

For the Government
of the Union of Soviet
Socialist Republics:

[EDOUARD SHEVARDNADZE]
