

No. 26270

**FRANCE
and
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY**

Exchange of letters constituting an agreement for the establishment of the Franco-German Higher Education Board. Karlsruhe, 12 November 1987

Authentic texts: French and German.

Registered by France on 4 November 1988.

**FRANCE
et
RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE**

Échange de lettres constituant un accord portant création du Collège franco-allemand pour l'enseignement supérieur. Karlsruhe, 12 novembre 1987

Textes authentiques : français et allemand.

Enregistré par la France le 4 novembre 1988.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

EXCHANGE OF LETTERS CONSTITUTING AN AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE FRANCO-GERMAN HIGHER EDUCATION BOARD

I

THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Karlsruhe, 12 November 1987

Sir,

Pursuant to the talks which have taken place between officials of our two countries in accordance with the Joint Declaration on Cultural Cooperation of 28 October 1986, I have the honour on behalf of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany to propose to you the following Agreement concerning the Franco-German Higher Education Board:

1. A Board composed of French and German personalities shall be established to promote cooperation between French and German higher-education establishments; it shall be called "The Franco-German Higher Education Board".

2. *Purposes*

The purposes of the Board shall be to promote the mobility of students, teachers at higher-education establishments and other scientific personnel of higher-education establishments between the two countries and to support higher-education establishments in expanding their mutual relations and making contacts with new ones. The Board shall coordinate its activity with existing institutions and programmes for cooperation.

(a) *Student mobility*

The Board shall promote the development of joint study programmes between French and German higher-education establishments, especially in study courses related to the development of technology and the requirements of the national economies of both countries.

It shall fulfil its purposes especially by:

- Supporting the development of joint study programmes, in particular of integrated study courses leading to the award of French and German diplomas by the appropriate French and German authorities;
- Supporting student mobility, *inter alia*, through grants, to promote study periods abroad as part of the joint study programmes referred to above;

¹ Came into force on 12 November 1987, the date of the letter in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

- Evaluating experience gained in ongoing programmes; and
- Collecting and circulating relevant information.

(b) *Mobility of teachers and other scientific personnel at higher-education establishments*

The Board shall facilitate meetings and seminars for French and German teachers and other scientific personnel at higher-education establishments, and observation of teaching assignments in the other country.

(c) *Other purposes*

The Franco-German Commission of Experts for Higher Education may request the Board to pronounce on other aspects of the Franco-German higher-education exchange system.

By agreement between the Contracting Parties, other tasks may be assigned to the Board.

(d) The Board shall keep the Franco-German Commission of Experts on Higher Education regularly informed about its work and the results of its activities.

3. *Organization*

(a) The Board shall be composed on a footing of equality of nine French and nine German members who shall be appointed for a period of four years by the French Minister of Education and the Plenipotentiary for cultural affairs in the Federal Republic of Germany under the Treaty concerning Franco-German cooperation;¹ accordingly, five of the members on each side shall be teachers at higher-education establishments and four on each side shall be persons selected on grounds of their expertise.

The Board may co-opt one or several experts engaged in scientific or professional practice.

(b) The Board shall adopt decisions within its competence by a two-thirds majority of the members present. It shall adopt its own rules of procedure.

(c) The Board shall elect a President and a Vice-President from among its members for a period of four years, one being French and the other German. They shall exchange their offices half-way through their term of office.

The President shall be responsible for preparing and implementing decisions adopted by the Board. He shall be supported by the Vice-President, who shall be responsible for implementing such decisions in his country.

(d) The Board shall have a secretariat in each country, which shall be attached either to a higher-education establishment or to an institution specifically concerned with the development of Franco-German cooperation in higher education.

The secretariats shall carry out the instructions of the President or of the Vice-President, as the case may be, in accordance with paragraph 2 (c) above.

4. *Funding*

Each Party shall bear its own share of the Board's personnel and non-personnel costs.

Both Parties shall provide funds for implementing the Board's programmes.

Additional funds may be provided by public or private institutions as well as by regional authorities, on the French side, and by the *Länder*, on the German side.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 821, p. 323.

The Board shall decide how to allocate the funds placed at its disposal; in so doing, it shall take into consideration any guidelines that may be supplied by the Parties contributing to programme implementation.

5. *Berlin clause*

This Agreement shall also apply to *Land Berlin*, provided that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany has not delivered a declaration to the contrary to the Government of the French Republic within three months from the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

If the Government of the French Republic assents to the foregoing proposal, this letter and your letter of agreement in reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force on the date of your letter of reply.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[HANS-DIETRICH GENSCHER]

His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the French Republic
Mr. Jean-Bernard Raimond

II

FRENCH REPUBLIC
THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of 12 November 1987, the agreed French translation of which reads as follows:

[*See letter I*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the French Republic assents to the proposals contained in your letter and further agrees that your letter and this reply shall constitute an Agreement between our two Governments, which shall enter into force from today's date.

Accept, Sir, etc.

Karlsruhe, 12 November 1987

[*Signed*]

JEAN-BERNARD RAIMOND

His Excellency the Minister for Foreign Affairs
of the Federal Republic of Germany
Mr. Hans-Dietrich Genscher