

No. 26271

FRANCE
and
FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY

**Exchange of letters constituting an agreement on the establishment of a French-German Cultural High Council.
Paris, 22 January 1988**

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
d'un Haut Conseil culturel franco-allemand. Paris,
22 janvier 1988**

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 ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A FRANCO-
GERMAN CULTURAL HIGH COUNCIL

I

FRENCH REPUBLIC
THE MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Sir,

Pursuant to the talks held between 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 French Republic, to propose to you the following Agreement relating to the Franco-German Cultural High Council:

1. In order to give new impetus to Franco-German cooperation in culture and the arts, a Franco-German Cultural Council composed of people active in the cultural life of both countries shall be established.

2. *Purposes*

The purposes of the Council shall be as follows:

- (a) To promote joint cultural activities;
- (b) To submit proposals in support of such activities to the two Governments;
- (c) To contribute towards ensuring that the information essential to cultural cooperation between the two countries is collected and made available to interested people.

The Council shall be free to choose its own topics and fields of activity.

The Council may discuss cultural matters with personalities from both countries belonging to the world of politics, science and economics. The two Governments, in their turn, should seek a dialogue with the Council.

3. *Organization*

The Council shall be composed of independent French and German members, 10 from each side. They shall be appointed for a period of four years, on the French side, by the Government of the French Republic and, on the German side, by agreement between the Federation and the *Länder*. The persons selected to serve on the Council should be interested in cultural life as a whole and, at the same time, represent one of its major sectors, such as, for example, visual arts, theatre, literature, music and cinema.

¹ Came into force on 22 January 1988, the date of the letter in reply, in accordance with the provisions of the said letters.

The Council shall elect a President and a Vice-President for a period of four years, each of the two countries being represented. They shall exchange their duties half way through their term. The President may assign support duties to the Vice-President and, in particular, to count on him to take action in the country of which the Vice-President is a national.

The Council shall appoint, for a period not exceeding four years, a Secretary-General and a Deputy Secretary-General, each of the two countries being represented. The Secretary-General and his Deputy shall have a secretariat in each country, which shall be installed in an already existing cultural institution. Each Party shall provide the requisite secretariat staff and premises in its country.

4. *Method of working*

The Council shall meet at least twice a year. It may call upon specialists in a consultative capacity for dealing with specific topics. Furthermore, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Culture and Communications in France or, as the case may be, the Federal Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Permanent Conference of Ministers of Education and Cultural Affairs of the *Länder* in the Federal Republic of Germany, shall be prepared to send a representative to meetings of the Council should it so desire.

The Council may call upon the government services of the two countries for the purpose of gathering information. It may address recommendations, especially to the two Governments; it shall submit an annual report listing such support measures as may be desirable for furthering cultural cooperation between the two countries. The two Governments shall undertake to respond to the Council's proposals.

5. *Funding*

Each Party shall bear the operational costs, including travel expenses, of the members of the Council appointed by it, as well as of its section of the secretariat.

6. *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 the three months following the date of entry into force of this Agreement.

If the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany agrees with 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.

Paris, 22 January 1988

[Signed]

JEAN-BERNARD RAIMOND

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

II

THE FEDERAL MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS

Paris, 22 January 1988

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your note of today's date, the agreed German translation of which reads as follows:

[*See letter I*]

I have the honour to inform you that the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany agrees with 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 on today's date.

Accept, Sir, etc.

[HANS-DIETRICH GENSCHER]

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