

No. 29548

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**FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY  
and  
CZECHOSLOVAKIA**

**Agreement concerning the reciprocal establishment and  
activities of cultural and information centres. Signed at  
Nuremberg on 2 February 1990**

*Authentic texts: German and Czech.*

*Registered by Germany on 28 January 1993.*

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**RÉPUBLIQUE FÉDÉRALE D'ALLEMAGNE  
et  
TCHÉCOSLOVAQUIE**

**Accord relatif à la création réciproque de centres culturels et  
d'information et à leurs activités. Signé à Nuremberg le  
2 février 1990**

*Textes authentiques : allemand et tchèque.*

*Enregistré par l'Allemagne le 28 janvier 1993.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECHOSLOVAK SOCIALIST REPUBLIC CONCERNING THE RECIPROCAL ESTABLISHMENT AND ACTIVITIES OF CULTURAL AND INFORMATION CENTRES

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic,

On the basis of the Treaty on mutual relations between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic of 11 December 1973<sup>2</sup> and the Agreement between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic concerning cultural cooperation of 11 April 1978,<sup>3</sup>

Desiring to develop further and intensify their cooperation in the fields of culture, education and science,

Resolved to promote reciprocal information about the social and cultural life of the two Parties,

With a view to contributing in this manner to their knowledge of each other and to a better understanding among the people of the two Parties,

Seeking to implement the provisions of the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe and the instruments adopted at follow-up meetings,

Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1*

1. Each Party shall be entitled to establish in the territory of the other Party a cultural and information centre (hereinafter referred to as the “cultural centre”).

2. The cultural centre of the Federal Republic of Germany shall bear the name “Goethe Institute” and shall have its headquarters in Prague.

The cultural centre of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall bear the name “Cultural and Information Centre of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic”; the location of its headquarters shall be determined at a later date.

3. Branches of the cultural centres may be established on the basis of this Agreement with the mutual consent of the two Parties.

4. The competent authorities of the two Parties shall support the activities of the cultural centres and assist them in discharging their functions under article 3 of this Agreement.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 19 March 1991, i.e., the day after the date on which the Parties had notified each other of the completion of the internal requirements, in accordance with article 13.

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 951, p. 355.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, vol. 1242, p. 461.

5. The cultural centres may also organize events outside their own premises as well as in other localities of the other Party.

#### *Article 2*

1. The activities of the cultural centres shall be carried out in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and the legislation of the receiving Party.

2. In the discharge of their functions under this Agreement, the cultural centres shall be entitled to use their own name.

#### *Article 3*

1. The activities of the cultural centres shall be carried out with a view to deepening and developing mutual relations; their aim shall be to disseminate and provide information and knowledge about the sending Party in the fields of culture, education and science and to carry out appropriate cooperation in these fields.

They shall include, in particular:

(a) Information about cultural and scientific life;

(b) The organization of cultural events, which shall take the form of lectures, seminars, symposia, concerts, artistic performances, film showings and exhibitions;

(c) The organization of general and specialized language courses, as well as activities in the fields of regional geography and foreign-language teaching methods;

(d) Programmes, including the provision of educational materials for the specialized basic and advanced training of language teachers, as well as the preparation of educational materials in cooperation with the competent authorities;

(e) The establishment and operation of libraries in which diverse newspapers, periodicals, books, gramophone records, tape recordings, media, videocassettes and films may be used in a reading room or lent free of charge;

(f) Dissemination of bulletins, prospectuses, catalogues and similar informative publications;

(g) The organization of symposia, conferences, study courses and exhibitions on scientific and scientific-technical subjects in cooperation with the relevant organizations of the receiving Party;

(h) The exchange of scientific and scientific-technical information, publications and the results of research.

2. Artistic events and lectures organized by the cultural centres may also be presented by persons who are not nationals of the two Parties.

#### *Article 4*

1. The activities of the cultural centre of the Federal Republic of Germany shall be conducted by the “Goethe Institute for Promoting German Language Study Abroad and International Cultural Cooperation”, Munich, and the activities of the cultural centre of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic shall be conducted by the “Administration of Foreign Cultural Institutions”, Prague.

2. The cultural centres shall be administered by directors who are sent by the bodies referred to in article 4, paragraph 1, and the two Parties shall inform each other of their appointment through the diplomatic channel.

3. In addition to a director, each Party may send to its cultural centre other staff to carry out the tasks referred to in article 3, paragraph 1, and perform administrative duties.

4. In addition to staff from the sending Party, the cultural centres may also employ local staff. Recruitment and the establishment of the employer-employee relations shall be governed by the legislation of the receiving Party.

5. The director and his representatives shall represent the cultural centre outside the centre. In questions relating to their work, the staff of the cultural centres may have direct contacts with central and local authorities and institutions.

6. The directors of the cultural centres shall inform the competent authorities of the receiving Party of the programmes of activities and the materials that will be accessible to the general public or will be disseminated.

#### *Article 5*

The unhindered access of the general public to the cultural centres and the normal operation of the centres shall be ensured.

#### *Article 6*

1. Each Party shall assume the financial burden of equipping and operating its cultural centre.

2. In order to cover the local costs of the cultural centres in the local currency, the operators of the cultural centres shall pay in their national currency the equivalent of the necessary operational costs up to the limit of the annual budget. The operators of the two Parties shall reach agreement on the budget for the following fiscal year by 30 November.

3. Transfers to the account of the cultural centre of the other Party shall be made in four-year payments following prior bilateral agreement on the amount of such payments.

4. Such amounts shall be converted in accordance with the non-commercial exchange rate for deutsche mark (DM)/Czech koruny (CK) issued by the Czechoslovak State Bank.

5. If the financial requirements of the cultural centre exceed the agreed annual budget, the operator of that cultural centre shall transfer the appropriate amount in DM to the account of its cultural centre.

#### *Article 7*

1. The furnishings, including the technical equipment, materials and property of the cultural centres shall be the property of the sending Party.

2. The competent authorities of the two Parties shall assist the other Party in the acquisition of buildings and, if necessary, land for the cultural centres, as well as accommodations for staff from the sending State. The particulars relating to these questions shall be settled by mutual agreement.

#### *Article 8*

1. The two Parties shall, in accordance with their laws and regulations currently in force, exempt each other from customs and duties on:

— The import of articles necessary for the activities of the cultural centres under this Agreement;

- Personal goods, including motor vehicles, of staff from the sending State and members of their family living with them in a common household.

*Article 9*

1. In their activities, the cultural centres shall not seek financial gain.
2. The two Parties shall grant the cultural centres, on a reciprocal basis and in accordance with their relevant laws and regulations currently in force, exemption from turnover tax on their services.
3. On the basis of the Convention between the Federal Republic of Germany and the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic for the avoidance of double taxation with respect to taxes on income and on capital of 19 December 1980,<sup>1</sup> the competent authorities of the two Parties have agreed that the remuneration of staff from the sending State shall be taxed in accordance with article 18 in conjunction with article 23 of the aforementioned Convention by the sending Party only.

*Article 10*

1. The staff of the cultural centres from the sending State and members of their family living with them in a common household (spouses and unmarried children) shall obtain from the competent authorities of the sending Party long-term residence permits, if possible within three to six weeks following the submission of an application. Such residence permits shall entitle holders to multiple entries and exits.
2. The staff of the cultural centres from the sending State shall not require work permits for employment in the cultural centres. This shall also apply to their spouses employed in the cultural centre.

*Article 11*

The cultural centres may, in accordance with the legislation of the receiving Party, sell articles of a cultural nature originating from exhibitions that they organize.

*Article 12*

In accordance with the Quadripartite Agreement of 3 September 1971,<sup>2</sup> this Agreement shall apply also to Berlin (West) in accordance with established procedures.

*Article 13*

This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day following the exchange of notes in which the two Parties inform each other that the relevant national requirements for its entry into force have been fulfilled.

*Article 14*

1. This Agreement is concluded for a period of five years from the date of its entry into force; its period of validity shall be automatically extended for successive periods of five years unless one of the two Parties denounces it in writing at least one year prior to the expiry of the current period.

<sup>1</sup>United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 1350, p. 299.

<sup>2</sup>*Ibid.*, vol. 880, p. 115.

2. If this agreement is denounced, the cultural centres shall cease to operate on the date on which the Agreement ceases to have effect.

DONE at Nuremberg on 2 February 1990 in duplicate, in the German and Czech languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government  
of the Federal Republic of Germany:  
HANS-DIETRICH GENSCHER

For the Government  
of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic:  
JIŘÍ DIENSTBIER

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