

No. 29996

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**FINLAND, DENMARK, ICELAND,  
NORWAY AND SWEDEN**

**Agreement on Nordic cooperation in the field of secondary  
and occupational education. Signed at Helsinki on  
4 March 1992**

*Authentic texts: Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish.*

*Registered by Finland on 29 April 1993.*

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**FINLANDE, DANEMARK, ISLANDE,  
NORVÈGE ET SUÈDE**

**Accord de coopération nordique dans le domaine de l'en-  
seignement secondaire et professionnel. Signé à Helsinki  
le 4 mars 1992**

*Textes authentiques : danois, finnois, islandais, norvégien et suédois.*

*Enregistré par la Finlande le 29 avril 1993.*

## [TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN DENMARK, FINLAND, ICELAND, NORWAY AND SWEDEN ON NORDIC COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF SECONDARY AND OCCUPATIONAL EDUCATION

The Governments of Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden, hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”,

Wishing, in accordance with article 3 (e) and (g), of the Agreement of 15 March 1971 between Denmark, Finland, Iceland, Norway and Sweden concerning cultural cooperation,<sup>2</sup>

To expand the facilities for students and other nationals of one Nordic country to study and take examinations at educational establishments in the other Nordic countries,

To bring about a mutual recognition of examinations, part examinations and other documentary evidence of educational achievement,

Having concluded an Agreement on 29 September 1986 concerning a common labour market for specialists and other teachers in practical and artistic subjects in upper secondary schools (gymnasiums and vocational schools),

Finding that the legally approved types of education provided at the upper secondary level by the different Parties are largely equivalent,

Wishing to increase mobility between the Nordic countries,

Have agreed as follows:

*Article 1*

The Parties undertake, on a reciprocal basis, to give students who are permanently resident in another Nordic country access to their legally approved general and occupationally qualifying upper secondary education under the same conditions as apply to their own nationals.

For the purposes of this Agreement the term “upper secondary education” means education supplementing the nine years (in Iceland 10 years) of compulsory schooling and intended for both 16 to 19 year-old students (in Iceland, 16 to 20 year-old students) and adults, including the vocational training courses based on the Finnish higher school-leaving examination.

In the case of the upper secondary education providing occupational qualifications, the obligations of the Parties shall cover only that part of the education for

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 16 January 1993, i.e., 30 days after the date on which all the Parties had notified the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland that it had been approved, in accordance with article 9.

<i>Participant</i>	<i>Date of the notification</i>
Norway .....	13 April 1992
Finland .....	8 May 1992
Sweden .....	16 June 1992
Denmark .....	30 September 1992
Iceland .....	17 December 1992

<sup>2</sup> United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 825, p. 361.

which vocational training institutions and equivalent educational institutions for adult vocational training are responsible.

*Article 2*

The Parties and their school authorities shall refrain from charging each other for the instruction, etc., given to students from the other Nordic countries who are receiving a legally approved upper secondary education.

*Article 3*

Students who, together with their parents or guardians, have been continuously resident in another Nordic country before reaching the age of 20 years and who are receiving an upper secondary education in that country shall be automatically entitled to apply for study assistance from that Party.

Other students who, at the commencement of their upper secondary education in another Nordic country, have not been permanently resident or been working at least half-time in that country for at least two years, shall be directed to seek study assistance from the Party which, under the Agreement in force at the time between the Nordic study-assistance authorities, is to deal with the application.

*Article 4*

Students who have received a school-leaving diploma or apprentice's certificate or other qualification providing documentary proof that they have received a legally approved upper secondary education from another Party shall be entitled to apply in their own country for access to the same further education that they can apply for in the Party from which they receive their upper secondary education.

*Article 5*

Students who have satisfactorily completed part of their upper secondary education in one of the Parties shall be entitled to have that portion credited to them if their education is continued in another Party, provided that they have a certificate from the educational institution in question for the education completed.

*Article 6*

The Parties shall endeavour, after discussions with the labour-market organizations, to ensure that the practical training periods which form a compulsory part of an occupationally qualifying upper secondary education, and which have been undergone in an approved activity in a Party other than that in which the rest of the education was received, are recognized as a part of that education.

*Article 7*

The Parties undertake, as part of their public educational and vocational guidance facilities, to provide information on the possibilities for receiving a legally approved upper secondary education wholly or partly in a Party other than that in which the student is permanently resident.

## OTHER PROVISIONS

*Article 8*

The Parties shall jointly monitor the application of the Agreement and make such changes and additions as may be required by future developments. In this connection the Nordic Council shall establish an advisory committee to make proposals for amendments and additions to the Agreement. The central school authorities of the Parties may also hold consultations with the committee concerning the interpretation of the Agreement.

## ENTRY INTO FORCE

*Article 9*

The Agreement shall enter into force 30 days after the date on which all the Parties have notified the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland that they have approved the Agreement.

In the case of the Faroe Islands, Greenland and Åland, the Agreement shall only enter into force after 30 days have elapsed from the date on which the Governments of Denmark and Finland have notified the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland that the Home-Rule Government of the Faroe Islands and the Home-Rule Government of Greenland on the one hand, and the Provincial Government of Åland on the other hand, have given notice that the Agreement shall apply to the Faroe Islands and Greenland and to Åland respectively.

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland shall notify the other Parties and the Secretariat of the Nordic Council of Ministers of the receipt of such notifications and of the date of entry into force of the Agreement.

*Article 10*

Any Party may denounce the Agreement by giving written notice of denunciation to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, which shall notify the other Parties of the receipt of such notice and its contents.

A denunciation shall apply only to the Party giving notice of denunciation and shall take effect six months after the date on which the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland has received the notice of denunciation.

*Article 11*

The original copy of this Agreement shall be deposited with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, which shall provide certified copies thereof to the other Parties.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned plenipotentiaries have signed this Agreement.

DONE at Helsinki on 4 March 1992, in one copy in the Danish, Finnish, Icelandic, Norwegian and Swedish languages, all the texts being equally authentic.

For the Government of Denmark:

BERTEL HAARDER

For the Government of Finland:

TYTTI ISOHOOKANA-ASUNMAA

For the Government of Iceland:

OLAFUR G. EINARSSON

For the Government of Norway:

GUDMUND HERNES

For the Government of Sweden:

PER UNCKEL

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