

No. 33855

**FRANCE
and
ARMENIA**

**Agreement on cultural, scientific and technical cooperation.
Signed at Yerevan on 4 November 1995**

Authentic texts: French and Armenian.

Registered by France on 19 June 1997.

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**Accord de coopération culturelle, scientifique et technique.
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Enregistré par la France le 19 juin 1997.

[TRANSLATION — TRADUCTION]

AGREEMENT¹ BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FRENCH REPUBLIC AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA ON CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL CO-OPERATION

The Government of the French Republic and the Government of the Republic of Armenia, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Referring to the Treaty of understanding, friendship and cooperation between the French Republic and the Republic of Armenia, signed in Paris on 12 March 1993,

Inspired by the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe (CSCE), the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and the documents of the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE),²

Considering that the development of cultural, scientific and technical relations between France and Armenia would be useful to the construction of a new Europe,

Prompted by a common desire to strengthen the links of friendship and centuries-old relations between their peoples,

Determined to promote cooperation between France and Armenia in the spheres of education, culture, science and technology, while respecting the national sovereignty of their respective States and taking into account their cultural identities and their economic interests,

Wishing to encourage, in addition to cooperation between the States, direct cooperation between local Armenian and French communities, in the context of the legislative and regulatory provisions in force in each of the two States,

Having regard for human rights and the rules of democracy,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Considering that a reciprocal knowledge of their languages is a necessary condition for sustained cooperation activities, the Parties shall support the teaching and dissemination of the language of each State in the other State in their educational institutions and in the extra-curricular field.

To that end, they shall organize language training courses for teachers or translator-interpreters, study visits, exchanges of teachers, for example as university assistants or teaching assistants, in teacher-training institutes, universities and other higher educational establishments, and exchanges of pupils and teachers from secondary schools, particularly in the context of school pairing.

¹ Came into force on 1 September 1996 by notification, in accordance with article 12.

² *International Legal Materials*, vol. XIV (1975), p. 1292; vol. XVII (1978), p. 414; vol. XXII (1983), p. 1395; vol. XXVIII (1989), p. 527; vol. XXIX, No. 4 (1990), p. 1054 (American Society of International Law); United Nations, *Official Records of the General Assembly, Forty-fifth Session*, document A/45/859, p. 3; and *International Legal Materials*, vol. XXXIV, No. 3 (1995), p. 764 (American Society of International Law).

They shall provide support for the teaching and use of French in Armenia in secondary schools, through the provision of bilingual classes, and, in higher educational establishments, by offering bilingual courses in which particular attention is given to French as a special subject, in order to meet socio-economic needs.

They shall encourage the study of Armenian in France in higher educational establishments and in secondary schools, and shall ensure, in particular, that the language is included among those that may be offered for the baccalaureate.

They shall promote cooperation in the field of education, by exchanges of qualified personnel and by joint reflection on the drafting of manuals and other teaching materials. They shall exchange all information which may help to improve the content of teaching, courses and programmes, and shall introduce new teaching techniques.

Article 2

Considering the growing importance of culture as a stabilizing factor in relations between States, the Parties shall emphasize the determining role of their cultural cooperation and consider such cooperation to be a significant contribution to the cultural dimension of Europe.

They shall work together to promote the establishment of cooperation between their national or regional cultural services, as well as legal cooperation which would permit the establishment in Armenia of a regulatory framework corresponding to current European standards in cultural matters.

They shall attach great importance to contacts and exchanges of experience and documentation among professionals in heritage conservation. They shall, in particular, encourage cooperation in the drawing up of an inventory of the cultural heritage, the conservation of archaeological remains and the restoration of artistic and architectural monuments.

They shall promote exchanges of artistic performances (including theatre, opera, ballet, music, circus and fine arts) in order to make the culture of each State better known in the other. They shall give priority to joint productions and meetings of artistes and professionals from the artistic professions. They shall endeavour to identify new designers and operators in the two States and help them to establish relations. They shall have a special interest in artistic projects which combine creation and training. They shall also help artistes to have access to art and cultural markets and shall recommend the conclusion of partnership agreements.

They shall invite well-known personalities in the artistic and intellectual world and experts from the other State to attend national or international cultural events, such as the Book Fair or arts festivals. They shall encourage training in cultural professions and cultural management, for example by awarding study and training fellowships.

They shall endeavour to ensure as wide a distribution as possible of books, journals and other publications of a cultural, educational, scientific or technical nature of one State in the other State. They shall support the organization in the other State of book fairs, meetings of authors, translators, editors and book professionals of the two States, and training in the publishing profession.

They confirm their interest in the development of cooperation between publishing organizations in the two States to help to increase activities in the translation,

publishing, joint publishing and distribution of recent works in the human and social sciences, literature, philosophy and other areas, such as the Vahan Terian Publication Assistance Programme (PAP).

They shall promote all forms of cooperation between institutions concerned with archives, and between museums and libraries, in particular the national libraries of the two States and the Matenadaran.

They shall support collaboration with regard to artistic rights (copyrights and related rights).

Article 3

In order to help the public in each State to gain a direct knowledge of the culture of the other State, the Parties shall give their support to the activities of cultural establishments which may be opened in their respective territories by the other Party, such as cultural centres, language-teaching centres, libraries, information centres, and resource centres and shall include in their legislation all the provisions which could facilitate the establishment and operation thereof.

Article 4

The Parties shall encourage cooperation between their scientific communities in the exact and applied sciences, and in the human and social sciences. They shall, in particular, support cooperation in spheres of mutual interest, and promote the development of Armenian studies in France and French studies in Armenia.

They shall foster exchanges of scientists, specialists, engineers and technicians, particularly in the context of direct links between research institutions and laboratories in the two States, the implementation of joint research projects, exchanges of information and scientific and technical documentation, and the organization of courses, conferences and scientific and technological seminars.

They shall encourage the establishment of links between industrial development and research activities, in compliance with their national legislation and regulations, as well as their international commitments relating to intellectual and industrial property.

They shall endeavour to initiate and develop partnerships between universities and other higher educational establishments in France and Armenia in order, *inter alia*, to conclude agreements concerning exchanges of students, teachers, and researchers, the preparation of theses under joint supervision, exchanges of information on procedures for reciprocal recognition of diplomas, and cooperation in matters relating to teaching.

They shall pursue a policy of awarding study and training fellowships, each Party ensuring adequate conditions in its own territory for the nationals of the other State to pursue studies or research, or to continue their training.

The French Party shall offer assistance to the Armenian Party, particularly in the context of multilateral programmes, in the adaptation of its university degree courses to the needs of contemporary society, particularly in the spheres of law and economics.

Article 5

The Parties shall cooperate as closely as possible in the technical fields to be determined by mutual agreement, according to the needs expressed and following agreed procedures, such as expert missions, joint seminars, training courses in Armenia or in France, and the drafting of documents. Language refresher courses shall be organized for prospective Armenian trainees, when necessary, in particular through French teaching programmes within the Armenian public services.

The French Party shall offer assistance to the Armenian Party with regard to the establishment of a State of law, the introduction of democratic institutions, civil liberties, and the protection of human rights and civil society. It shall also support training in public administration, as well as business management.

It shall support the implementation of the ongoing economic reforms in Armenia during the transition to a market economy, as well as the modernization of its productive capacity.

The Parties shall promote the development of joint activities at the European and international levels.

Article 6

The Parties shall encourage exchanges in sport and for young people, in particular through training courses, vacation visits, and invitations to cultural and sporting events. They shall give priority to direct contacts between governmental and non-governmental organizations, youth associations, sports federations, and training for young people.

Article 7

Considering the cultural and social issues relating to the development of quality public and private television and radio broadcasting, the Parties have agreed to develop their cooperation in these areas. They shall combine their efforts to broadcast French programmes in Armenia, particularly those of RFI, TV5 and CFI. They shall attach particular importance to training and shall encourage exchanges between television and radio professionals.

They have agreed to strengthen their cooperation in the field of cinematography, in particular through meetings of professionals and artistes from the two States, cinematographic events such as festivals or retrospective shows, as well as joint productions and training activities. They shall also endeavour to promote joint video productions.

They shall organize exchanges in the field of journalism, particularly for the purposes of professional training.

Article 8

The Parties shall promote tourist exchanges, particularly as a means of making the cultural and human values of the two States better known.

They shall encourage exchanges of experience and information in the field of tourism, taking particular interest in the training of personnel, the development of sites and the rehabilitation of infrastructures.

Article 9

The Parties have resolved to seek jointly an effective link between their bilateral activities and multilateral activities, whether community activities, such as the TACIS programme, or non-community activities, such as those of the World Bank or activities which are part of United Nations programmes.

They shall support cooperation between their national Commissions for UNESCO.

Article 10

In the context of their national legislation, the Parties shall endeavour to create conditions favourable to the entry into their territories and the stay, travel and activities of the participants in exchanges provided for in this Agreement. They shall endeavour to facilitate the movement of goods required for the purposes of this cooperation.

Article 11

A French-Armenian Joint Commission shall be responsible for monitoring the implementation of the provisions of this Agreement.

It shall meet, as necessary, alternately in France and in Armenia, in order to make a general assessment of the exchanges carried out, to establish priorities and areas of cooperation for the future, and to review, if necessary, any general issues which may arise in connection with the implementation of the Agreement.

Smaller joint working groups shall meet on a sectoral basis, if necessary, in France or in Armenia. They shall, as required, monitor the development of specific programmes in different areas of cooperation and establish the practical modalities for such programmes.

The work of the Joint Commission and the working groups shall be coordinated by the French and Armenian Ministers for Foreign Affairs.

Article 12

Each of the Parties shall notify the other when it has completed the procedures required by its Constitution for the entry into force of this Agreement; the Agreement shall take effect on the first day of the second month following the date of receipt of the last such notification.

This Agreement is concluded for a period of five years; it shall be renewed by tacit agreement for subsequent five-year periods unless one of the Parties notifies the other in writing of its decision to terminate it, giving one year's notice prior to the expiration of the current period of validity.

DONE at Yerevan on 4 November 1995, in two original copies, each in the French and Armenian languages, both texts being equally authentic.

For the Government
of the French Republic:

MICHEL BARNIER

For the Government
of the Republic of Armenia:

VAHAN PAPAZIAN