

**COOPERATION PROGRAMME  
BETWEEN  
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  
AND  
THE MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND  
IN THE FIELD OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION  
FOR THE YEARS 2018-2022**

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Minister of Science and Higher Education of the Republic of Poland, hereinafter referred to as “Parties”,

– desiring to foster and enhance cooperation in the field of science and higher education,

acting pursuant to Article 4 of the *Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the Republic of Poland on cultural and scientific cooperation, signed in Warsaw on 25 February 1993,*

have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

The Parties shall continue their cooperation with regard to:

- exchange of academic teachers;
- exchange of experts under academic internship programmes;
- exchange of students;
- teaching of Bulgarian and Polish;
- exchange of information on the current systems of science and education;
- cooperation to promote higher education in the spirit of European integration.

**Article 2**

The Parties consider the direct cooperation between higher education institutions as the basic form of cooperation. To this end, they shall support the existing cooperation as well as cooperation under new agreements between those institutions.

**Article 3**

1. The Parties shall exchange academic teachers (teaching, research, and teaching-research staff) in internships with an annual limit between 1 month and up to 10 months.
2. The Parties shall exchange their internship programmes by March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

**Article 4**

1. The Parties shall promote academic research in the field of Bulgarian and Polish studies, and shall support the development of teaching of the Bulgarian language in higher education institutions in the Republic of Poland and the Polish language in higher education institutions in the Republic of Bulgaria, respectively.
2. To this end, teachers-specialists in the Bulgarian language and Bulgarian literature shall be received at:
  - *the University of Warsaw in Warsaw;*

- *the Jagiellonian University in Cracow;*
- *the Adam Mickiewicz University in Poznań;*
- *the Maria Skłodowska-Curie University in Lublin;*
- *the Łódź University in Łódź;*

and the Polish language and Polish literature at:

- *the St. Kliment Ohridski University of Sofia in Sofia;*
- *the St. Cyril and St. Methodius University of Veliko Tarnovo;*
- *the Paisii Hilendarski University of Plovdiv;*
- *the Constantine of Preslav University of Shumen.*

3. The Parties do not rule out the possibility of providing support to teachers at the request of schools of higher education other than those mentioned in paragraph 2, and of cooperating towards the opening of new foreign language courses, subject to their capabilities.
4. A higher education institution shall submit, through the Party, a request for the secondment of a language teacher from the other Party's state.
5. Documents of candidates for language teachers or requests for extension of the teaching activities of language teachers already seconded to the other Party's state shall be communicated by the Parties without delay, by May 31<sup>st</sup> of each year at the latest.
6. Confirmations of the enrolment of language teachers or extension of their teaching activities for the next year shall be communicated by the Parties without delay, by June 30<sup>th</sup> of each year at the latest.
7. Language teachers shall be seconded each year with the consent of both Parties and the host higher education institution. The maximum duration of their stay shall be determined by the laws and regulations of the home Party.
8. The Parties shall provide their teachers, where possible, with teaching aids, handbooks, and specialist literature necessary for teaching.

#### **Article 5**

1. The Parties shall exchange students of Bulgarian and Polish studies, as well as language teachers and specialists in the Bulgarian language and literature and the Polish language and literature, respectively, for summer holiday language courses, up to nine (9) persons annually for each of the Parties.
2. The Parties shall submit summer course curricula for the enrolled candidates by May 15<sup>th</sup> of each year.

#### **Article 6**

1. Each year, the Parties shall enrol doctoral students, in accordance with their internal regulations, for internships at public higher education institutions up to the annual limit of 10 months.
2. The Parties shall exchange candidates' documents for approval by the other Party by March 31<sup>st</sup> of each year.

#### **Article 7**

1. Each year, the Parties shall enrol, in public higher education institutions:
  - students for education up to the annual limit of 24 months, with a one semester (4 months) minimum duration of stay;
  - up to 5 students of the Bulgarian and Polish studies for one semester (4 months).
2. Each of the Parties shall provide information on the number of students and the fields of study to the other Party by April 15<sup>th</sup> of each year. Lists of names of students and the documents required shall be submitted by September 1<sup>st</sup> of each year.

### **Article 8**

1. Conditions of entry and temporary residence of the persons participating in exchange under this Programme, shall be governed by the law regulations in force in the host Country.
2. The implementation of this Program is subject to the provisions of the European Union personal data protection regulations.

### **Article 9**

The Parties shall support direct cooperation between student organisations of both countries under agreements concluded by those units.

### **Article 10**

The Parties shall exchange, where appropriate, information on the current study and education systems.

### **Article 11**

The Parties may exchange, where appropriate and in accordance with their financial capacities, delegations of experts of the relevant ministries in order to discuss the development of cooperation under this Programme.

### **Article 12**

1. The Parties shall support the direct cooperation in academic research between higher education institutions and other scientific entities in compliance with their legislation.
2. The forms of cooperation between the Parties for scientific projects and programmes may also be agreed through diplomatic channels.

### **Article 13**

This Programme does not preclude the implementation of other projects if agreed by the Parties.

### **Article 14**

This Programme for higher education does not include any student or academic activities or exchange between artistic, medical, theological, military, maritime, or special forces schools of higher education, and other schools which are not subject to supervision and control of the ministers in charge of higher education of the Parties, according to their national legislation.

### **Article 15**

The financial terms forming an integral part of this Programme are set forth in Annex.

### **Article 16**

1. This Programme enters into force on the thirtieth day after its signature.
2. This Programme remains in force till December 31st 2022.
3. The validity of this Programme shall be automatically extended until the signing of a new Programme but no longer than till December 31st 2023.
4. Any disputes or differences arising out of the implementation of this Programme shall be settled amicably through negotiations between the Parties.
5. This Programme may be amended by agreement of the Parties, which shall be determined by exchange of letters. Such revisions will come into force on the date determined by the Parties and will form an integral part of this Programme.

6. Each of the Parties may terminate this Programme in writing at least six months prior to the end of the first four years of the Programme and at any time thereafter. Termination shall become effective upon expiry of six months after the receipt of a notice of termination by the other Party.

7. Any projects commenced under this Programme, and not completed during its term, shall be continued in accordance with the provisions of this Programme until completed.

Signed in ..... on ..... in two counterpart copies, in Bulgarian, Polish and English, each of them being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of the interpretation, the English wording shall prevail.

MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA  _____		MINISTER OF SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF POLAND  _____
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## Financial Terms

### I. Financial terms applicable to Article 3, Article 6 and Article 7:

1. The host Party shall ensure:
  - paid accommodation in student hostels;
  - paid food at academic canteens, if available;
  - exemption from tuition or internship fees at public higher education institutions.

The amount of fees for accommodation and food shall be set in accordance with the laws applicable in the host country.

2. The home Party:
  - shall pay maintenance grant for living costs;
  - declares that the grant holders have sufficient funds to pay their travel expenses.

### II. Financial terms applicable to Article 4:

1. Higher education institutions of the host country agree to enter into a contract of employment or other form of engagement with language teachers, in order to pay them remuneration in compliance with the applicable laws, and shall ensure free-of-charge accommodation with heating, of an appropriate standard, with the provision that water, gas, electricity bills, cable/satellite TV and Internet shall be paid by the language teacher;
2. The home Party shall pay the language teachers' travel expenses both ways in compliance with its respective legislation.
3. Medical care shall be provided in accordance with the EU legislation and social insurance, in particular Regulation (EC) 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems and Regulation (EC) 987/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems.

### III. Financial terms applicable to Article 5:

1. The host Party shall ensure the following for participants of summer language courses:
  - exemption from tuition fees;
  - food and accommodation;
  - cultural programme scheduled as part of the summer language course;
  - medical care shall be provided in accordance with the EU legislation and social insurance, in particular Regulation (EC) 883/2004 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 29 April 2004 on the coordination of social security systems and Regulation (EC) 987/2009 of the European Parliament and of the Council of 16 September 2009 laying down the procedure for implementing Regulation (EC) 883/2004 on the coordination of social security systems.
2. The home Party declares that the candidates have sufficient funds to pay the travel expenses to the course venue in compliance with its respective legislation.

### IV. Financial terms applicable to Article 12:

1. The host Party shall:
  - make a hotel booking;
  - provide and pay the cost of services of an interpreter if such need arises.
2. The home Party shall pay the travel and stay expenses (daily allowances, accommodation and medical care insurance) in compliance with its respective legislation.
3. Duration of the stay of the delegations of experts will be agreed in advance between the Parties.

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