

**AGREEMENT
FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND TRAINING
OF THE SOCIALIST REPUBLIC OF VIETNAM
FOR THE PERIOD 2018-2022**

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Education and Training of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”,

Referring to Article 2 and Article 3 of the Agreement for Cooperation in the Field of Culture, Science and Education between the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of the Socialist Republic of Vietnam, signed on 18 September 2000 in Sofia;

Recognizing the traditional fruitful cooperation between the two Parties in the field of education,

Motivated by the mutual will to further widen and deepen this cooperation,

Have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

The Parties shall cooperate in the following spheres:

1. Exchange of good practices and information on the educational systems of both countries concerning the educational development, management and planning;
2. Exchange of lecturers, students, doctoral students and post-graduate students as well other forms of cooperation;
3. Promotion of direct cooperation between education institutions of the two Parties;
4. Encouraging the study of Bulgarian and Vietnamese languages.

ARTICLE 2

1. The Parties shall exchange:

- a) Up to 2 (two) scholarships annually to study in state higher education institutions for bachelor or master degree, including a compulsory course for studying the respective language;
- b) Up to 2 (two) scholarships for doctoral programmes for the validity period of this Agreement;
- c) Up to 2 (two) nine-month scholarships annually for post-graduate specializations or research, or divisible for a period of at least 3 /three/ months;
- d) Up to 2 (two) short-term language specializations annually for a period from 6 /six/ months to 1 /one/ year.

2. The selection procedure shall be determined by the sending Party and the necessary documents shall be set up by the receiving Party in accordance with the local legislation in force.

3. The documents of the candidates shall be presented to the respective Party before 1st of April each year through the diplomatic missions in Sofia and Hanoi.

4. Each of the Parties shall notify the other one about their decision regarding the approved candidates before 15th of July of the respective year through their diplomatic missions.

ARTICLE 3

For students, doctoral students and post-graduate students accepted under this Agreement, the Parties shall provide the followings:

1. Exemption from education fees of the state schools for higher education;
2. Monthly scholarship in accordance with the local legislation in force;
3. Lodging at a hostel and right to use students' canteen against payment in accordance with the terms and conditions for the local students, doctoral students and post-graduate students;
4. Medical care in accordance with the legislation in force in the receiving country.
5. The travel expenses of the students, doctoral students and the post-graduate students to the place of their education or specialization on the territory of the receiving Party shall be borne by the sending Party, or by the respective scholarship holder.

ARTICLE 4

The Parties shall inform each other about all scientific seminars and symposia, specialized conferences, discussions and other events related to education within the territories of both Parties and organized at international or national level.

ARTICLE 5

The Parties shall encourage and cooperate for the establishment of direct relations between the schools for secondary and higher education of both Parties, with the aim to:

1. Exchange syllabi and curricula, textbooks, audio and video materials required for the education process conducted at the schools for secondary and higher education;
2. Study the history, language, literature, geography and traditions of both countries;
3. Exchange information on the effective management of the educational process;
4. Exchange students, post-graduate students and lecturers;
5. Exchange of researchers for joint work under priority scientific and technical projects.
6. Encourage the establishment of direct relations between the higher education institutions, including the implementation of Erasmus+ projects.

ARTICLE 6

1. For the period of validity of this Agreement, the Parties shall exchange delegations consisting of up to 5 experts for a term of up to 6 (six) days with the aim to study the education system, the experience in the field of the education management, the organization of the scientific and lecturers activity, discussions of issues related to the widening and development of cooperation in the field of education.

2. The international travel expenses from capital to capital as well as the medical insurance of the respective experts shall be borne by the sending Party.

3. The receiving Party shall cover the expenses for hotel accommodation, food and transport expenses within its territory for the delegation during their stay in the country.

ARTICLE 7

The children of the employees at the diplomatic missions or at the consular representation shall be educated free of charge at the state and municipal high schools and state universities /except those of Arts and Medicine/ of the other Party until the expiration of the mandate of their parents.

ARTICLE 8

The Parties shall encourage the cooperation between the institutions for higher education of both Parties to promote lifelong learning and professional qualification upgrading.

ARTICLE 9

The Bulgarian Party shall provide 2 (two) places for summer seminar in Bulgarian language, literature and culture - 1 place for the summer seminar at the Sofia University “St. Kliment Ohridski” and 1 place for the summer seminar at the University of Veliko Tarnovo.

The Bulgarian Party shall provide the two participants with free of charge full board (food and lodging), as well as with educational and cultural programme. The participants shall bear the expenses for transportation to the place where the respective seminar is to be carried out.

The Vietnamese Party shall provide 2 (two) places for summer seminar in Vietnamese language and shall provide these the two participants with free of charge full board (food and lodging), as well as with educational and cultural programme. The participants shall bear the expenses for transportation to the place where the respective seminar is to be carried out.

ARTICLE 10

The Parties shall support learning and promotion of Bulgarian and Vietnamese languages and literature at their universities. In this relation, in case they wish so and according to their capacities, the Parties shall, on reciprocal basis, send lecturers in Vietnamese and Bulgarian languages in the Faculty of Classical and Modern Philology at Sofia University and in the University of Social Sciences and Humanities in Hanoi respectively under the following terms and conditions:

- The travel expenses of the lecturers to and from the respective town they are employed in the receiving country shall be borne by the sending party.
- The receiving party shall provide the lecturer with a monthly remuneration in accordance with the provisions of the legislation in force in the country, considering the lecturer’s degree and years of service.
- The receiving party shall provide the lecturers with appropriate free-of-charge lodging. The lecturer shall cover the costs for phone calls, water supply, electricity, heating, gas.

- Both parties shall provide the lecturers with medical care in accordance with the legislation in force in the respective country.

The lecturers under this Agreement shall not need a work permit.

ARTICLE 11

The persons from both countries, which travel in pursuance of this Agreement, shall be exempted from fees for long-term stay, fees for prolongation of their stay within the respective country as well as from fees for visas issue.

ARTICLE 12

This Agreement can be supplemented or amended upon mutual written consent of both Parties through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 13

This Agreement is concluded for the period 2018-2022 and its validity term shall be extended until the signing of a new Agreement.

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signing.

Done inon.....2018, in two (2) original copies in the Bulgarian, Vietnamese, and English language, all texts being equally valid. In case of differences in the interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF
EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF
THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

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