

PROGRAMME

for Cooperation in the fields of Education and Science

between

the Ministry of Education and Science

of the Republic of Bulgaria

and

the Ministry of Human Capacities of Hungary

for the period 2019-2021

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Human Capacities of Hungary (hereinafter referred to as the Parties):

on grounds of the Agreement for Cooperation in the fields of Culture, Education and Science between the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Government of Hungary signed on 05 May 1994 in Budapest, and in their ambition for complex development and deepening the cooperation in the fields of education and science, have agreed as it follows:

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

The Parties shall support:

- a) the direct cooperation based on mutual needs and interests of the institutions for secondary education and the higher education institutions and the research organizations at the higher education institutions,
- b) the direct cooperation of the state, public, church and private institutions and their initiatives based on new direct agreements in support of mutual understanding and rapprochement, encouraging the establishment of joint scientific organizations, foundations as well as the joint scientific research,
- c) the programmes of the European Union and Council of Europe for secondary education and higher education, and the cooperation within the Central European Initiative.

COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF GENERAL EDUCATION SYSTEM AND HIGHER EDUCATION SYSTEM

Article 2

The Parties shall encourage the direct collaboration of the secondary schools and higher education institutions. They shall support the bilateral contacts, exchange of experts, specializations in higher education institutions dealing with training of the language and culture of the other Party.

Article 3

The Parties shall exchange annually on a reciprocal basis:

- (1) Up to 5 students studying Bulgarian, respectively Hungarian language for a part-time study period in duration of one semester (5 months),
- (2) post-graduate students, researchers and teachers for a total of 10 months in no less than 1 and no more than 3 months, who are fluent in the host country language or another language as agreed and upon invitation by the receiving higher education institution.
- (3) Up to 6 persons in summer language seminars.

Article 4

The Parties shall continue supporting the activities of lecturers and guest-lecturers, teaching language and culture. For that purpose, the Parties shall receive lecturers on reciprocal basis where, during the period of this programme, there are Bulgarian or Hungarian language departments or lecturer formations. The Bulgarian Party shall receive a Hungarian guest-lecturer at the Sofia University "St. Kliment Ohridski" and a Hungarian lecturer at Konstantin Preslavsky University of Shumen. The Hungarian Party shall receive a Bulgarian lecturer at the Eötvös Loránd University, and at the University of Szeged.

The Parties shall support the sending of lecturers in other higher education institutions in both countries in case there is a need for that.

Article 5

The Bulgarian Party shall support the involvement of the Bulgarian Republican Self-Government as well as the supported by it Bulgarian School for Mother Language and the Bulgarian Bi-lingual Minority Kindergarten under the programme for support of Bulgarian societies abroad for studying the Bulgarian language. The training of the teachers and child pedagogues can be carried out in accordance with Art. 3, (2).

ORGANISATIONAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 6

General provisions

- (1) Within this Programme for Cooperation the Parties agree that they shall reciprocally exempt the persons approved under this Programme for Cooperation from payment of fees for issuing, as well as extension of the period for temporary residence permits on the host country territory.
- (2) The terms for exchange of experts within the direct cooperation shall be defined by the agreements between the collaborating institutions.
- (3) For persons arriving in Hungary, the trips planned for the respective academic year should be completed until July 30 of the respective year.

Article 7

- (1) Travel costs:

The candidates under Art. 3 shall cover their travel expenses to the place of training and back.

- (2) Health insurance

In accordance with Regulations № 1408/71 and № 574/72 of the European Council and their relevant amendments, scholarship holders who are citizens of the European Union or countries which are members of the European Free Trade Association (except Switzerland) shall be insured on Bulgarian and Hungarian territory with the European Health Insurance Card. Scholarship holders shall be personally responsible for acquiring such a card in the country they come from.

The scholarship holders and participants at summer universities, staying in Hungary or Bulgaria shall take care of their health insurance on their own.

Article 8

Forms of support:

- (1) The host country shall exempt the scholarship holders under Art. 3 (1) and (2) from payment of the training cost and provide them accommodation in students' dormitory and use of student canteen in conditions it offers to its citizens.
- (2) The sending country shall provide the scholarships of candidates under Art. 3 (1) and (2) in accordance with its domestic legislation.

(3) Pursuant to Art. 3 (3), for the persons admitted to summer universities for the respective higher education institutions, the host country shall provide accommodation and catering for the period of the summer university, as well as participation in cultural and scientific programmes. Trips to and from the place of the respective summer university shall be covered by the sending country or the travelling person.

Article 9

(1) Conditions for admission of lecturers and guest-lecturers

Lecturers and guest-lecturers, admitted on the grounds of Art. 4, shall enter into employment and public insurance relations with the host institution for a limited period of time in accordance with the applicable domestic and European regulations. In addition to the salary, the host country shall provide for appropriately large and furnished residence or the funds for renting one in accordance with its financial capabilities.

The duration of the mandate of the lecturer shall be defined in accordance with the sending party's regulations. During the last academic year from the mandate, the sending Party, considering the Professional Requirements of the Receiving Party (normally university degree – bachelor or master in Hungarian, respectively Bulgarian philology) shall announce open competition for the position. The host party shall elect the new lecturer among the candidates proposed to it by the sending party.

(2) Conditions for occupying the Bulgarian lecturers' position:

The mandate of the Bulgarian lecturers shall be defined in accordance with the local regulations of the sending Party. Prior to the end of the mandate, until 31 January, the Hungarian party shall send proposal for professional requirements for the new lecturer and on based on it, the Bulgarian party, with view of its practices, shall determine the candidates and shall, not later than 30 June of each year, send to the Hungarian party the mandatory documents. Primary requirement to Bulgarian lecturers who wish to work in Hungary shall be the possession of diploma for Bulgarian as a foreign language. The Hungarian party shall, not later than 31 July of the current year, notify the Bulgarian party of its official position regarding the new proposed Bulgarian lecturer.

For the reciprocally admitted lecturers, the host country shall provide monthly salary and accommodation in accordance with the country's legislation. The host country shall be responsible for the health insurance in accordance with the applicable legislation in this country.

(3) Conditions for the Hungarian lecturers' position:

The mandate of the Hungarian lecturers shall not exceed four years, which can be extended for one year at the request from the host country. The Bulgarian Party shall, not later than 31 August of the preceding year, send a proposal for the professional requirement to the new lecturer and, based on it, the Hungarian Party, with view of its practices, shall determine the candidates. Primary requirement to Hungarian lecturers who wish to work in Bulgaria shall be the possession of a diploma for Hungarian language and literature or Hungarian language as a foreign language and Master's degree. The sending party shall submit the applications of the persons to the Host party not later than 28 February of the respective year. The host Party shall confirm the admission of the applications not later than 31 March of the same year.

For the reciprocally admitted lecturers, the host Party shall provide monthly salary and accommodation in accordance with the country's legislation. The host country shall be responsible for the health insurance in accordance with the applicable legislation in this country.

Article 10

The following fields shall remain priority for the cooperation between the Parties:

- (1) Carrying out of joint scientific research,
- (2) Exchange of students in higher education institutions,
- (3) Exchange of scientists and lecturers,
- (4) Study visits of scientists,
- (5) Training in Hungarian, respectively Bulgarian studies in the other country.

With view of the above, the Parties shall inform each other about any new basic documents, adopted in the field of science and education, as well as scientific presentations in the field of education.

SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH

Article 11

- (1) The parties shall support the joint elaboration of research projects in areas which are priority for both Parties and encourage the effective use and implementation of the results of joint research within these projects, complying with the applicable legislation on intellectual property and copyright.

- (2) The Parties shall support the examination of opportunities for participation in projects, aimed at building or expanding the regional information networks and specialized data bases in the field of science and higher education.
- (3) The Parties shall support the direct cooperation and participation in bilateral and multilateral scientific, technological, research and development programmes and projects such as EUREKA.
- (4) The parties shall encourage their partner national scientific organizations for joint participation in research projects within the European frame programmes for research and innovation (like Horizon 2020) and other initiatives.
- (5) The Parties shall assist in the preparation of joint research projects in priority fields and encourage the access to national and research infrastructures.
- (6) The Parties encourage any institutions and researchers, dealing with Hungarian history, culture, language and arts in Bulgaria and with Bulgarian history, culture, language and arts in Hungary.

Article 12

FINAL PROVISIONS

§1. This Programme shall enter into force on the date of its signing and shall remain in force until 31 December 2021. Following expiration of the period of this Programme, its validity shall be extended each year until a new Programme for Cooperation has entered into force or until any of the Contracting Parties resigns from it with a six-months' prior notification.

§2. This Programme can be amended or supplemented based on a mutual agreement of the Parties in writing and by diplomatic channels. Any such amendments and supplements shall be an integral part of the Programme.

Done in on 2019 in two originals, each in Bulgarian, Hungarian and English language, all of the texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation of this Programme, the English text shall prevail.

Any disputes shall be settled amicably.

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

FOR THE MINISTRY OF
HUMAN CAPACITIES OF HUNGARY

ПРОЕКТ!