

**Arrangement
between
the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic
and
the Ministry of Education and Sport of the Republic of Albania
on Cooperation in the Field of Education
for the years 2015 – 2018**

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Education and Sport of the Republic of Albania (hereinafter referred to as the “Contracting Parties”);

- led by their joint interest in deepening and developing mutual cooperation in the field of education and sports;
- convinced that this cooperation shall contribute to the development of mutual relations;

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall upon request inform one another about major changes related to their national systems of education, most notably legislative changes in the field of primary, secondary, tertiary professional and higher education, about curricula and curriculum timetables of primary, secondary and tertiary professional schools and about accredited study programmes of higher education institutions, about the system of education and continuing teacher training.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall upon request exchange documents about education and sport, information about issues concerning the management, organisation and content of primary, secondary, tertiary professional and higher education.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall upon request exchange information and materials documenting the history, geography and culture of the Contracting Parties' states.

Article 4

Within the scope of available resources the Contracting Parties shall support:

- a) the exchange of scientific and pedagogical literature;
- b) the participation of talented pupils and students in professional, sport and artistic contests, Olympiads and international programmes held in the state of the other Contracting Party in accordance with the rules of subsidy programmes announced in compliance with the national legal regulations of the states of the Contracting Parties;
- c) the participation of experts in international congresses, conferences, workshops and symposia that take place in the state of the other Contracting Party.

Article 5

The Contracting Parties shall, within their competences in the field of sport, upon request provide information about the organisational and legal aspects of sport, exchange contacts to relevant sport organisation and promote cooperation. Any cooperation between sport

organisation, including financing falls fully under remit of the relevant sport organisation of the Czech Republic and the Republic of Albania.

Article 6

The Contracting Parties shall support direct cooperation of higher education institutions and research and development institutes carried out on the basis of direct cooperation agreements.

Article 7

1. The Contracting Parties may reciprocally exchange maximally two (2) experts from the field of education, sports and science for a total of not more than ten (10) days per annum to study issues related to education and science and to deliberate issues of further cooperation.
2. The sending Contracting Party, in accordance with respective national legal regulations, shall cover all costs associated with a business trip of its experts sent to the country of the receiving Contracting Party pursuant to this Article.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties, guided by the principle of reciprocity, shall promote exchange of academic staff and researchers at public higher education and research institutions for the purposes of study and lecturing visits for a total period of two (2) months a year. The duration of an individual visit shall not exceed one (1) month.

Article 9

The Contracting Parties, guided by the principle of reciprocity, shall promote exchange of maximum three (3) students of bachelor, master and doctoral study programmes pursued by public higher education institutions for the purposes of study stays covering a total period of eighteen (18) months a year. The duration of an individual study stay may range from a minimum of two (2) months to a maximum of nine (9) months.

Article 10

For the purpose of promoting the study and enhancing the knowledge of the language and culture of the other country, the Contracting Parties, guided by the principle of reciprocity, shall mutually provide each year:

- a) two (2) scholarships for attending the Summer School of Slavonic Studies in the Czech Republic,
- b) two (2) scholarships for attending the Summer School of Albanian language organized by the higher education institutions of the Republic of Albania.

Article 11

1. The Czech Contracting Party shall ensure that its nominees sent to the Republic of Albania under Articles 8, 9 and 10 of this Arrangement are reimbursed international travel expenses to the predetermined destination in the Republic of Albania and back provided that the candidates at the time of the reimbursement of international travel expenses are employed or enrolled to study at a public higher education institutions in the Czech Republic.
2. The Albanian Contracting Party shall ensure that its nominees sent to the Czech Republic under Articles 8, 9 and 10 of this Arrangement and the higher education

institutions which they are employed or studying at, are responsible for the international travel expenses to the predetermined destination in the Czech Republic and back.

Article 12

The obligations of each Contracting Party pursuant to this Arrangement are subject to its respective national legal regulations concerning finance and depend on the availability of the relevant financial resources.

Article 13

1. The sending Contracting Party shall submit to the receiving Contracting Party its nomination of candidates pursuant to Articles 7 and 8 hereof including duly filled out application forms of the receiving Contracting Party and proposed programme of their stay at least three (3) months before the proposed date of their stay.
2. The receiving Contracting Party shall notify the sending Contracting Party of its acceptance of the candidates at least one (1) month before the date proposed as the commencement of the stay.
3. The sending Contracting Party shall notify the receiving Contracting Party of the exact date and details of the arrival of the candidates no later than two (2) weeks before the commencement of the stay.

Article 14

1. The sending Contracting Party shall ensure that all individuals accepted under Article 8 of this Arrangement are provided with a scholarship in compliance with respective national legal regulations.
2. The receiving Contracting Party shall ensure that all individuals accepted under Article 8 of this Arrangement are provided with an adequate accommodation at higher education establishments.

Article 15

1. The sending Contracting Party shall submit to the receiving Contracting Party its nomination of candidates under Article 9 of this Arrangement, including documents that shall contain data required in application forms of the receiving Contracting Party until 31 March of the relevant calendar year.
2. The receiving Contracting Party shall notify the sending Contracting Party of its acceptance of the candidates by 1 August of the relevant calendar year at the latest.
3. The sending Contracting Party shall notify the receiving Contracting Party of the arrival of the candidates at least fourteen (14) days before the commencement of the study stay.
4. The candidate's command of the language of the country of the receiving Contracting Party or a foreign language agreed upon by the receiving Contracting Party is a precondition for accepting the candidate for the study stay.

Article 16

Exchange of persons under Article 9 of this Arrangement shall take place under the following conditions:

1. The receiving Czech Contracting Party shall ensure that all individuals accepted under Article 9 of this Arrangement are provided with:
 - a) study for free at public higher education institutions under the same conditions as those applying to the citizens of the country of the receiving Contracting Party;
 - b) board and lodging under the same conditions as those applying to the citizens of the state of the receiving Contracting Party.
2. The receiving Albanian Contracting Party shall ensure that all individuals accepted under Article 9 of this Arrangement are provided with:
 - a) study for free at public higher education institutions in the Republic of Albania;
 - b) board and lodging under the same conditions as those applying to the citizens of the state of the receiving Contracting Party.
3. The sending Contracting Party shall provide individuals accepted under the Article 9 of this Arrangement a scholarship in compliance with the national legal regulations.

Article 17

1. The sending Contracting Party shall submit to the receiving Contracting Party its nomination of candidates under Article 10 of this Arrangement including documents containing data required in the application forms of the receiving Contracting Party no later than 31 March of the relevant calendar year.
2. The receiving Czech Contracting Party shall notify the sending Contracting Party of its acceptance of the candidates no later than 20 June of the relevant calendar year.
3. The receiving Albanian Contracting Party shall notify the sending Contracting Party of its acceptance of the candidates no later than 20 July of the relevant calendar year.
4. The sending Contracting Party shall notify the receiving Contracting Party of the details concerning the arrival of the accepted individuals no later than two (2) weeks before the beginning of the Summer School.

Article 18

Exchange of persons under Article 10 of this Arrangement shall take place under the following conditions:

1. The receiving Czech Contracting Party shall cover for the course participants accepted under Article 10 a) of this Arrangement the registration fee and the cost of instruction, meals, accommodation and educational trips.
2. The receiving Albanian Contracting Party shall ensure that the summer school participants accepted under Article 10 b) of this Arrangement are provided with tuition free participation, free board and lodging during the period of the course.

Article 19

1. Contracting Parties are not responsible for arranging and paying travel health insurance of the persons sent to the state of the other Contracting Party under this Arrangement for the duration of their stay in the territory of the state of the receiving Contracting Party, including insurance costs of repatriation, in accordance with relevant laws and regulations of the state of the receiving Party.
2. Contracting Parties shall inform persons sent to the receiving country under this Arrangement on the need to effect and pay for their stay in the territory of the state of the receiving Contracting Party travel health insurance within the stay in the territory

of the state of the receiving Contracting Party in accordance with relevant laws and regulations of the state of the receiving Contracting Party.

Article 20

This Arrangement shall not rule out the organisation of further forms of cooperation on which the Contracting Parties agree in writing through diplomatic means.

Article 21

This Arrangement may be altered and amended upon mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties. Any alterations and amendments must be done in writing and shall enter into force upon signature. Such amendments are an integral part of the Arrangement.

Article 22

1. This Arrangement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force until 31 December 2018. The validity of this Arrangement shall be automatically extended until a new Arrangement becomes valid, unless terminated in writing with a six-month notice period. The notice period begins on the first day of the month following the month in which such notice is delivered.
2. Programmes of exchange, projects and activities commenced pursuant to this Arrangement during the validity of this Arrangement shall be completed regardless of the termination of this Arrangement.

Done in Prague on 13 October 2015 in duplicate, each in Czech, Albanian and English, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of any difference in interpretation of this Arrangement the English text shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Education, Youth
and Sports of the Czech Republic

Kateřina Valachová
Minister of Education, Youth
and Sports

For the Ministry of Education and Sport
of the Republic of Albania

Lindita Nikolla
Minister of Education and Sport