

**Cultural Agreement**  
between the  
**Government of the Kingdom of Belgium**  
and the  
**Government of Ireland**

The Government of the Kingdom of Belgium and the Government of Ireland

- desirous of strengthening the friendly relations between the two countries,
- believing that co-operation in the fields of culture, education and science will bring the peoples of the two countries closer together,

have decided to conclude this Agreement and have agreed as follows:

#### Article 1

In order to promote cultural co-operation between the two countries, the Contracting Parties:

1. Shall take appropriate initiatives in order to improve knowledge of each other's cultural and human achievements by the organisation of lectures, exhibitions, artistic events, sporting events and meetings of young people, through the exchange of publications, the translation of literary works and by the use of radio, television, cinema and other media;
2. Shall facilitate direct contacts between exponents of the visual arts, literature, theatre, music, cinema, radio and television, sport, youth and adult organisations and libraries;
3. Shall encourage co-operation between institutions of art education and of physical education, libraries, museums and art galleries, theatres and other cultural institutions;
4. Shall facilitate, through the reciprocal grant of scholarships, the exchange of students and trainees between institutions of art education, of physical education and of sport;
5. Shall encourage their citizens to take part in seminars, conferences, exhibitions, festivals and competitions as well as in meetings of experts in the cultural sphere organised by the other Contracting Party.

## Article 2

The two Contracting Parties shall promote co-operation in the field of education.

To this end:

1. They shall encourage the exchange of teachers and scientific experts of institutions of higher education, of museums and art galleries and of scientific institutions and they shall facilitate their research work by granting them access to libraries, archives etc., in conformity with the regulations in force in each country;
2. They shall promote the exchange of students and of trainees from institutions of higher education by the grant of post-graduate scholarships;
3. They shall promote the exchange of experiences in the field of education at all levels by affording the opportunity to education experts to conduct study tours in the country of the other Party and they shall ensure a continuing exchange of information in regard to changes in structures and methods;
4. They shall examine means of best resolving problems relating to the equivalence of diplomas and certificates;
5. They shall promote on a reciprocal basis the teaching and the study of the languages and literatures of the other Party in institutions of higher education.

## Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall promote the development of scientific co-operation between their countries.

To this end:

1. They shall facilitate contacts between their scientific institutions as well as between institutes and research centres;
2. They shall encourage the exchange of staff members of scientific institutions as well as of other specialists;
3. They shall promote the exchange of researchers through the grant of scholarships;
4. They shall exchange scientific and specialised publications;
5. They shall encourage the organisation of scientific lectures, conferences and seminars.

#### Article 4

A joint Irish-Belgian Committee, the members of which shall be appointed in equal number by the two Governments, and to which experts may be added, shall meet alternately in Belgium and in Ireland as often as the two Parties deem necessary and, in principle, every two years.

In Ireland, the Chairman shall be a member of the Irish delegation and, in Belgium, a member of the Belgian delegation.

It shall consider matters relating to the application of this Agreement and shall draw up a working programme.

#### Article 5

This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period. It shall enter into force on the date on which the Contracting Parties notify each other of the completion of the required formalities.

It may be terminated at any time by one of the Contracting Parties after prior notification of six months.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorised thereto, have signed this Agreement and have affixed their seal thereto.

DONE AT DUBLIN on the 8th day of July 1980 in duplicate in the French, Dutch, English and Irish languages, all four texts being equally authentic.



On behalf of the Government  
of the Kingdom of Belgium



On behalf of the Government  
of Ireland

