

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN**

**THE FEDERAL MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE OF THE REPUBLIC OF
AUSTRIA**

AND

THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

CONCERNING

**COOPERATION IN THE AREAS OF
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY**

The Federal Minister of Education, Science and Culture of the Republic of Austria and the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia, hereinafter referred to as "Sides"

- based on the long-standing friendly relations between their two countries
- endeavouring to support and enrich continuing co-operation for the mutual benefit of both countries
- recognizing the possibilities to do so in the areas of education, science, and technology

hereby announce their intention to engage in future cooperation as follows:

Article 1

- a. Both Sides encourage co-operation in the areas of science, research and technology between their institutions of higher education.
- b. Both Sides welcome direct invitations to teachers at institutions of higher education as well as to scholars, lecturers and scientists to engage in teaching activities and to perform scholarly and scientific research and, acting within the limits of national laws and regulations and financial possibilities, they will undertake all possible measures to legally and in actual fact permit temporary stays in their countries.
- c. Both Sides encourage study in the territories of their respective countries. They grant students studying in their territory – provided said students are enrolled in transnational EU-, national or university mobility programs at institutions of higher education – the same treatment as their own students in mobility programs with regard to academic fees and tuition.
- d. Both Sides welcome applications of students, graduate scholars and scientists of the other country for scholarships for further education and professional development as well as for research work at institutions of higher education. Information on Austrian Scholarships can be downloaded from the Internet at www.grants.at.

e. Both Sides encourage co-operation within the CEEPUS-Program in order to support the increasing academic mobility.

Article 2

a. Both Sides encourage co-operation in the areas of general and vocational education as well as adult education. To this end they encourage an exchange of experts to deepen the knowledge of the education and training systems of the other country.

b. Both Sides will exchange educational material as well as experience in ICT and teaching of foreign languages related to all levels of education.

c. Both Sides welcome the activities of KulturKontakt Austria and the work of the Austrian educational co-ordinator in Skopje. While the Austrian Ministry of Education, Science and Culture covers all costs arising from the placement of the educational co-ordinator in Macedonia, the Macedonian Side provides the necessary office space and communication infrastructure for the educational co-ordinator and possible assistant/s.

Article 3

The Austrian Side has expressed its willingness to assist the Macedonian Side in the process of integration of the Republic of Macedonia into the European Union programs in the areas of education, science and technology using Austrian experience in this respect. Both Sides agree that in this context co-operation in the framework of the Education Reform Initiative of Southeast Europe of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe and of the South East European ERA.NET-Project is of utmost importance.

Article 4

The present memorandum will take effect upon the date of signing. It will remain in effect for a period of three years and will be extended for additional three years unless its validity is terminated in writing by one of the two parties at least six months prior to the expiration of its validity.

Article 5

The present memorandum does not result in the creation of any new obligations regarding international law nor shall it have any effect on existing legislation.

Signed in Vienna, on 2 December 2005



Elisabeth GEHRER
Federal Minister of Education, Science
and Culture
of the Republic of Austria



Aziz POLOZANI
Minister of Education and Science
of the Republic of Macedonia