

**PROGRAMME
OF COOPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF CULTURE, SCIENCE AND
EDUCATION BETWEEN THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA AND THE
REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA FOR THE YEARS 2010 - 2013**

The Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Austria (hereinafter referred as the “two Parties”),

in accordance with Article 20 of the Agreement on Cultural, Scientific and Educational Cooperation between the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Austria signed in 1972 and

in order to promote and enhance the bilateral cooperation and to strengthen European integration processes,

has adopted the following Programme of Cooperation in the Fields of Culture, Science and Education between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Austria for the years 2010 – 2013. This Programme includes such fields as science and higher education, sport, youth cooperation and culture including general and financing provisions.

I. SCIENCE AND HIGHER EDUCATION

1. Scientific Cooperation

The two Parties encourage direct cooperation between, scientists, researchers as well as scientific and research institutions in the two countries and emphasise the importance of international cooperation for the further development of the scientific and technological systems.

The two Parties are convinced that establishing bilateral programmes and the realisation of joint projects will contribute to the development of strong relations between scientists, researchers as well as scientific and research institutions and will make the best use of the scientific potential in the future.

In the Republic of Serbia, the competent authority for the implementation of the bilateral programmes of the scientific and technological cooperation is the Ministry of Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia.

In the Republic of Austria the Federal Ministry of Science and Research of the Republic of Austria is responsible for the implementation of bilateral agreements on scientific and technological cooperation.

The two Parties agree to pay attention to an enhanced cooperation in multilateral and/or regional programmes e.g. in the EU framework programmes for Research, Technological Development and Demonstration and other initiatives.

2. Cooperation in Higher Education

The two Parties encourage direct cooperation between their institutions of higher education through participation in joint projects and the exchange of professors, experience, professional documentation as well as information based on the agreements directly concluded between the interested institutions. These agreements define the concrete scope and forms of cooperation.

3. Lecturers

The Austrian Party welcomes the exchange of lecturers and informs that according to the University Act 2002 (Universitätsgesetz 2002; UG 2002) the overall responsibility for lecturers lies within the competence of the universities themselves.

4. Recognition of Diplomas

During the period of validity of this Programme, the two Parties shall endeavour to agree on mutual recognition of diplomas, scientific degrees and qualifications on the basis of the Lisbon Recognition Convention of 1997, notwithstanding the Agreement between the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Republic of Austria on the Equivalency in the Field of University, of 29 January 1979.

5. Scholarships

The two Parties will inform each other about the programmes of studies for foreigners and possibilities of scholarships being exchanged in accordance with their legislation.

The two Parties will also inform each other about scholarship programmes for specialization and advanced training of students, post graduates and young scholars offered by their countries.

The Austrian Party informs that the offers of Austrian scholarships can be found via internet on www.grants.at.

The Serbian Party informs that the offers of Serbian scholarships can be found via internet on www.mp.gov.rs.

The Serbian Party offers Austrian students three (3) one-semester-scholarships for 2010, 2011, 2012 and 2013 for the studying of the Serbian language and invites one (1) group of up to six (6) students for a three-week specialization course of Serbian language, organized by the Department for Serbian as Foreign Language at the Faculty of Philology of the University in Belgrade.

Starting from the school year 2010/2011 the Serbian Side will offer two (2) nine-month-scholarships and three (3) one-semester-scholarships for the studying of the Serbian language.

6. Summer Courses

To the extent of their possibilities the two Parties will organize summer courses of language, literature and culture.

7. EU – Educational Programmes

The two Parties welcome further cooperation among the universities especially with regard to the European Higher Education Area (in particular within the TEMPUS-Programme and the ERASMUS MUNDUS Programme).

8. Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS)

The two Parties welcome the accession of the Republic of Serbia to the Central European Exchange Programme for University Studies (CEEPUS) as well as the further intensification of the cooperation between Serbian and Austrian universities.

II. PRIMARY, SECONDARY AND ADULT EDUCATION

9. Cooperation in Primary and Secondary Education

The two Parties continue to share experience related to all levels of education. During the validity of the Programme they agree to put a special focus on:

- the reform of primary and secondary education,
- the reform of curricula,
- the publication of text books and educational material,
- the evaluation of educational processes and results as well as
- the use of Information and Communication Technology within the educational system.

In this regard they encourage an exchange of experts between specific educational institutions.

10. Mother Tongue Classes in Austria

The Austrian Party informs that, in accordance with its legislation, “mother tongue classes“ are held in the Republic of Austria, in order to improve the mother tongue of pupils speaking German as their second language.

Selection, appointment and payment of native language teachers in the Republic of Austria lie within the responsibility of the Austrian educational authorities.

Instruction material for mother tongue classes is partially produced in the Republic of Austria and partly bought in the Republic of Serbia provided that its contents are adjusted to meet the regulations of the Austrian curriculum.

The Serbian Party expresses its high interest in the optimal implementation of the “mother tongue classes“ for children from the Republic of Serbia living in the Republic of Austria.

11. School Partnerships

The two Parties welcome the intensification of contacts between Serbian and Austrian schools through school partnerships and the participation in multilateral school networks (e.g. in the Academy of Central European Schools ACES).

12. Special Needs

The two Parties will establish cooperation in the field of inclusion of children with special educational needs by exchanging information, experience and scientific documentation as well as by encouraging the development of school partnerships (e.g. by internet, pen friends or other). Furthermore, the two Parties agree – according to their budgetary means – to set up an exchange of experts in order to cooperate in developing national curricula and to realize common projects and in-service training for teachers.

13. German as a Foreign Language

The two Parties will continue to support cooperation in specialized courses in the field of teaching German as a foreign language. According to its financial possibilities the Austrian Party will continue to grant scholarships to German language teachers from the Republic of Serbia to participate in seminars on the improvement of skills related to language, civilization and culture to be held in the Republic of Austria. More information is to be found at www.kulturundsprache.at.

14. Austrian Language Diploma for German

The Austrian Party offers a certification system on German language, the “Austrian Language Diploma for German” (Österreichisches Sprachdiplom Deutsch/ÖSD), which is already involved in two licenced partnerships in the Republic of Serbia. On certain conditions Serbian institutions (universities, language schools etc.) can apply for a partnership licence. More information is to be found at www.osd.at.

15. European Centre for Modern Languages

The Republic of Austria encourages the Republic of Serbia to sign the Partial Agreement concerning the European Centre for Modern Languages (ECML) of the Council of Europe in Graz.

16. Adult Education

With a view to improve education and specialization of adults and to encourage cooperation in this field, the two Parties will exchange experts and share information.

17. Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)

The two Parties will optimise the use of the facilities of the “Lifelong Learning Programme (LLP)” to enforce the cooperation at all levels of the education system and to intensify the exchange of practical experience.

18. Austrian Educational Coordinator

The two Parties welcome and support the activities of the Austrian Educational Coordinator located in Belgrade (acting on behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, the Arts and Culture and KulturKontakt Austria) in the field of educational cooperation between the two countries, e.g.:

- teacher training,
- training in education management and school development,
- decentralization in the area of education,
- development of vocational education and training.

19. KulturKontakt Austria

The two Parties appreciate and support the activities of the association KulturKontakt Austria in the field of educational cooperation between the two countries.

III. CULTURE AND ARTS**20. Contemporary Arts**

The two Parties emphasize the importance of cooperation between their countries in contemporary arts and culture.

21. Fine Arts

The two Parties encourage cooperation in fine arts with a view to the exchange of exhibitions and the participation of artists and experts at international events held in both countries.

22. Cooperation of Museums and Galleries

The two Parties welcome and encourage the establishment and development of direct cooperation between museums, art galleries, artist-associations and other organizations from the two countries by an exchange of exhibitions, experts and information material. They also encourage the realization of other activities agreed upon directly by the interested organizations.

23. Cultural Heritage

The two Parties encourage direct cooperation between the Republic Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Belgrade, the Provincial Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Novi Sad and the Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage of the City of Belgrade and the Federal Institute for the Protection of Cultural Heritage in Vienna and other similar institutions in the Republic of Austria.

Interested institutions will exchange experts, books and publications and, in accordance with their interests and possibilities, will form joint expert teams with a view to cooperate in the field of research and protection of cultural heritage. A particular focus will be dedicated to architecture and urban architectural heritage of the modern age.

24. Festivals of Performing Arts

The two Parties welcome the direct exchange of renowned troupes and soloists in the fields of music, theatre and other performing arts with a view to participate in international festivals in both countries and realize guest tours.

The two Parties welcome direct cooperation between the Belgrade Philharmonic Orchestra and the University of Music and Performing Arts in Vienna as well as the State Opera in Vienna and the Vienna Philharmonic Orchestra with a view to exchange soloists.

25. Exchange of Writers

The two Parties encourage the exchange of writers and their participation in literature meetings and lecture evenings as well as direct contacts between writers' associations in the two countries.

The two Parties underline the importance of translating and publishing literary works in the other country and encourage direct contacts and cooperation between their respective translators' associations and publishers.

The Serbian Party informs that the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Serbia is announcing each year a contest for subsidising translations of the Serbian literature in foreign languages for foreign publishers.

26. Film Festivals

The two Parties encourage cooperation in film art and film production as well as the participation of their respective artists in the international film festivals held in their countries.

27. Film Archives

The two Parties emphasize direct cooperation between the Yugoslav Film Archives in Belgrade and the Austrian Film Museum as well as the Film Archive Austria in Vienna for information, publication and programme exchange purposes.

28. Cooperation between Archives

The two Parties express their interest in cooperation between the Yugoslav Archives in Belgrade and the Archives of Serbia in Belgrade on the one hand and the Austrian State Archives in Vienna on the other hand in fields such as bilateral archival exhibitions, research, microfilming and copying.

The two Parties also welcome direct cooperation between other archives in the Republic of Serbia and archives in the Republic of Austria on the research of archival materials important for the history of the two countries.

Any cooperation is to be arranged between the respective archives in both countries.

29. Libraries

The two Parties welcome and encourage direct cooperation of libraries, particularly of the National Library of Serbia in Belgrade and the Library "Matica Srpska" in Novi Sad with the Austrian National Library in Vienna, the Styria Regional Library in Graz as well as the University Libraries in Vienna and Graz.

30. Austrian Cultural Forum in Belgrade

The two Parties support the activities of the Austrian Cultural Forum in Belgrade aimed at fostering and promoting the cultural cooperation between both countries.

31. KulturKontakt Austria

The two Parties appreciate the Vienna-based association KulturKontakt Austria in the field of cultural support, stress its importance for cultural cooperation between the two countries and encourage to continue its activities.

IV. OTHER AREAS OF COOPERATION

32. Sports

The two Parties shall encourage cooperation in sports with a view to ensuring direct contacts between the competent institutions and organizations in their countries.

33. Youth

The two Parties welcome the cooperation between youth institutions on both sides and the exchange of young people, youth experts and multipliers. In this regard, they refer to the possibilities given by the EU programme "Youth in Action".

34. Festivals for Young Artists

Austrian young artists shall be invited to participate in international young artists' festivals held in the Republic of Serbia.

35. Jeunesse Musicale

The two Parties appreciate the direct cooperation between the institutions of "Jeunesse Musicale" in both countries.

V. OTHER FORMS OF COOPERATION

36. Regional Cooperation in Education

The two Parties will continue and further strengthen their intensive regional cooperation, in particular in the Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe, in the framework of the Regional Cooperation Council, within the implementation of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region and in other relevant regional networks and projects.

37. International Organizations

The two Parties welcome the cooperation between the Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Austria in international organizations concerned with culture, science and education in accordance with the conditions set out.

38. Intensified Cooperation in Culture, Science and Education

The two Parties believe that citizens of the Republic of Serbia living in the Republic of Austria and Austrian citizens living in the Republic of Serbia should benefit from an intensified cooperation in culture, science and education.

39. Serbian-speaking and German-speaking Residents

The two Parties welcome the activities of members of the Serbian-speaking population in the Republic of Austria as well as of members of the German-speaking population in the Republic of Serbia in the fields of language and culture.

The two Parties appreciate the implementation of cultural projects and of other activities aiming at the preservation and promotion of the historically grown linguistic and cultural diversity as a manifestation of an intercultural dialogue and as a possibility to further contribute to a reciprocal respect and a mutual understanding.

VI. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

40. Scholarships and Short Courses in the Republic of Serbia

The Serbian Party shall bear the following costs:

- tuition fees,
- accommodation and food,
- pocket money,
- health care,
- city transportation.

The candidates will have to bear the travel expenses themselves.

41. Austrian Educational Coordinator

The Austrian Party provides the salary and all related costs while the Serbian Party provides the necessary office and infrastructure (telecommunication etc.)

42. Exchange of Experts

The sending Party shall provide all required information about the experts to be sent, in due time. The receiving Party shall confirm its acceptance as soon as possible.

The sending Party shall bear the international travel expenses. The receiving Party shall bear all other travelling costs arising from the activity of the experts on its territory.

The Serbian Party offers the Austrian experts free accommodation and a daily allowance in accordance with the national regulations.

The Austrian Party offers the Serbian experts free accommodation and a daily allowance fixed in advance.

The two Parties assume that all persons sent within the scope of this working programme are sufficiently health and accident insured. If, in an exceptional case, this insurance cover should be insufficient, the receiving Party shall provide all urgently required medical care services (except dental care and treatment of chronic illnesses) free of charge. The extent of the medical care to be provided in either country shall correspond to the liability of the statutory general health insurance. In both countries, the scope of hospital care is limited to that of the general contribution category.

43. Provisions for Exhibition Exchange

Exhibitions shall be held in accordance with the standard international rules. Any other necessary arrangements shall be made through diplomatic channels.

VII. FINAL PROVISIONS

44. This Programme takes effect from the date of its signing and will remain effective until December 31st 2013.

Done in two originals written in English.

**FOR
THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**



**FOR
THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA**



Wien, am 31.12.2010