

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON CULTURAL, SCIENTIFIC AND EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL
FOR THE YEARS 2011 - 2014**

The Government of the Republic of Austria and the Government of the State of Israel, wishing to further develop their cooperation in the fields of culture, science, education, sports and youth thus contributing to strengthen the ties of sincere friendship existing between their two countries and peoples, have established this Memorandum of Understanding on Cultural, Scientific and Educational Cooperation for the years 2011, 2012, 2013 and 2014.

Both sides are convinced that this cooperation will contribute to the development of their relations and to raising awareness, particularly among youth, of the history and culture of the peoples of both countries.

1. EDUCATION

Both sides will promote cooperation in order to improve and strengthen mutual understanding and friendship:

1.1.

Both sides will promote good and constructive contacts between the two countries, in various aspects of education.

1.2. Both sides will encourage the development of cooperation between their educational institutes.

1.3. Both sides, in accordance with their budgetary means, will undertake to promote the exchanges of information, experience, documentation and experts in the following areas:

- The education systems of both countries
- Teacher training and life-long training for teachers
- School organization and management
- Education regulations (such as service regulations for teachers etc.)
- Special needs education
- Decentralization and school autonomy
- Civic education, democratic citizenship
- Social skills and competences
- Gifted children education
- Migrant education
- Cultural and religious integration of minority groups (including joint projects)
- Anti-drugs programs

- Foreign language teaching
- Adult education

In Israel information on the educational system can be obtained from the website of the Ministry of Education: www.education.gov.il .

In Austria information on the educational system is available from the website of the Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture: www.bmukk.gv.at.

1.4. Both sides are committed to preventing the publication of text books which encourage racism, antisemitism and xenophobia, in order to counter prejudice and negative stereotypes.

1.5. Both sides will put special emphasis on research and educational work related to the tragic fate of the Jewish community of Austria during the Second World War under the Nazi occupation.

1.6. Both sides stress the importance of enabling young people to learn about the Holocaust during their schooling, based on the Stockholm Declaration (within the framework of the International Conference on the Holocaust held in January 2000). In this context, both sides will support educational activities undertaken at schools of all levels that aim at combating racism and anti-semitism.

1.7. Both sides will continue to encourage participation of Austrian teachers and, in particular, history teachers, in courses dealing with the history of the Holocaust and Anti-Semitism which are coordinated by Yad Vashem Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem in cooperation with the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture.

At the occasion of its 10th anniversary this excellent cooperation has been endorsed by a Memorandum of Understanding between the Austrian Federal Minister for Education, Arts and Culture and the Chairperson of Yad Vashem in March 2010.

1.8. With regard to articles 1.4., 1.5., 1.6 and 1.7 the Israeli side acknowledges the Austrian organization „National Socialism and the Holocaust: Memory and Present“ (www.erinnern.at) initiated and conducted by the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture.

1.9. Both sides appreciate their excellent working relations in the field of Holocaust Education and Remembrance within the International Task Force on Holocaust Education, Remembrance and Research as well as within the Council of Europe.

1.10. Both sides will act to promote the teaching of the language, literature, history and culture of the other country at the respective education institutions. For this purpose, the corresponding experts from the partner country will be invited to deliver lectures, hold seminars and conduct other educational activities. The conditions under which the teachers will perform their respective activities in the receiving country will be negotiated between the respective institutions of both countries.

According to its financial possibilities the Austrian side will continue to grant scholarships to German language teachers from Israel to participate in seminars providing improvement of skills related to language, civilization and culture to be held in Austria. Find the relevant programme on www.kulturundsprache.at.

In this context the Austrian side informs that it also supports successful courses for German language and Austrian culture at the survivor organization Central Committee for Jews from Austria in Israel.

1.11. For the certification of proficiency in German based on the Common European Framework as well as the pluricentric approach, the Austrian German Language Diploma is offered internationally. Interested universities, schools and other providers of language courses are invited to apply for a license to implement the OSD-tests, if they meet the relevant criteria. Further information can be found on www.osd.at.

1.12. Both sides will encourage cooperation among schools on various projects based on Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

1.13. Both sides underscore the importance of reciprocal recognition of educational certificates, diplomas and academic degrees. Both sides will exchange information and documentation, and are ready to hold negotiations in accordance to the laws and regulations of each side.

2. SCIENCE

2.1. Both sides note with satisfaction the scientific cooperation between the Austrian Academy of Sciences and the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities based on the Agreement between the Federal Ministry for Science and Research of the Republic of Austria and The Government of the State of Israel on scientific-technological cooperation of 2 February 1994. Both sides appreciate the close collaboration of the academies in various fields of common research interests and envisage the fostering and support of this cooperation.

2.2. Both sides will encourage mutual exchange appointments of scientific and research workers with the objective of research, studies, consultations and discussions in scientific disciplines. The terms of these exchanges will be determined directly by the respective institutions.

2.3. Both sides will encourage joint scientific and technological research, projects in areas of mutual interest, as well as exchange of scientific and technical information and publications.

2.4. Both sides encourage further direct cooperation between scientific and research institutions. The content of this cooperation will be determined by the respective institutions (universities, academies of sciences and other scientific research institutions).

3. HIGHER EDUCATION & SCHOLARSHIPS

3.1. The Austrian side welcomes the participation of Israel in the Seventh European Framework programme for research and technological development (FP 7), and both sides envisage working together to increase the number of successful Austrian-Israeli project partnerships within this programme.

3.2. Both sides will cooperate in the promotion of studies relating to the cultures, languages and modern history of each other's country in the respective universities.

3.3. Both sides underline the importance of the “Dr. Kardinal-König Chair” established at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, and the Austrian Library, which has been incorporated into the Centre for Austrian Studies at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem, a gift of the Austrian government on the occasion of the 50th anniversary of the State of Israel. Both sides welcome the positive development of the cooperation between Austria and Israel within the framework of this Centre.

3.4. Both sides welcome the establishment of the “Kollek Jerusalem Vienna Chair for the Study of the Cultural Aspects of Vienna and Jerusalem” at the Hebrew University of Jerusalem and point out the importance of the cooperation between the chair and the Centre for Austrian Studies.

3.5. Both sides will exchange publications, literature, research materials and other information in the field of higher education.

3.6. The Israeli side invites Austrian post graduate and research students to apply for Modern Hebrew language summer courses and specialization scholarships for one academic year (eight months each).

3.7. The Austrian side invites Israeli students, graduates and young scientists to apply for unilateral Austrian „Ernst Mach“, „Franz Werfel“ and „Richard Plaschka“ scholarships.

3.8. The scholarships are subject to the budgetary frameworks of both sides.

3.9. The terms and financial conditions of the scholarships granted by the Israeli side will be published yearly through diplomatic channels as well as on the website of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs: <http://www.mfa.gov.il> .

3.10. Information for applicants of Austrian scholarships (deadlines, application and selection process, grant benefits etc.) can be found on the Austrian database for Scholarships and Research Grants at www.grants.at .

4. YOUTH EXCHANGE

4.1. Both sides will invite public-sector youth institutions and non-governmental organizations to intensify contacts. Both Parties share the view that the exchange of youth and young adults constitutes a major contribution to the relations between the two countries. They will therefore support these projects.

Emphasis will be placed on the active participation of young people and the promotion of youth cooperation and networking through the specific youth activities.

4.2. Both sides encourage the development of youth exchanges especially by using the Euro-Med Youth Program.

4.3. Both sides note that projects such as "Spurensuche/Back to the roots" are to be continued.

4.4. Both sides will encourage mutual projects of professionals and experts in the field of youth. Details in this regard will be determined between the Israel Youth Exchange Council and the relevant association in Austria.

5. COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Both sides will cooperate in the fields of education, science, culture, sports, youth and communications. This will be done in the framework of UNESCO, the European Union, the Council of Europe, and other international organizations and foundations, such as the Anna-Lindh-Foundation - including the Euro Mediterranean School Forum coordinated by the Intercultural Centre, Vienna (IZ) - with the purpose of exchanging information and implementing common programmes of action.

6. COOPERATION IN CULTURE AND THE ARTS

General review

Both sides welcome the high level of reciprocal cultural activities, noting the valuable role played by cultural ties between the countries. Both sides reaffirm their intention to continue to encourage direct cooperation between cultural institutions, organizations and individuals in the two countries.

Both sides will encourage initiatives designed to assist public and private organizations and individuals engaged in promoting and sponsoring cultural activities of Israeli origin in Austria and cultural activities of Austrian origin in Israel.

Both sides will support the exchange of experts, artists and artistic groups participating in tours, festivals and other cultural events. These will include conferences, symposia, mutual performances, workshops, artistic exposures. These will also include meetings involving the exchange of information and experiences in the field of music, theatre, dance, literature, film, visual and plastic arts, architecture and design.

Up to twenty (20) work-days will be allotted by each side within the duration of the present MoU for the purpose of such exchanges, subject to budgetary limitations.

The details relating to these exchanges will be based upon the principle of reciprocity.

6.1. Festivals:

Both sides will inform each other in advance about major international festivals to be held in their respective countries. The diplomatic missions will provide information to each other. Information will also be published on the websites of the respective competent authorities.

6.2. Visual Arts, architecture, photography and design:

Both sides express their interest to cooperate in the field of the fine arts. They will encourage the exchange of exhibitions and cooperation between artists and art experts.

Both sides will encourage direct cooperation between architects and their institutions and the exchange of architects as well as the sharing of information.

6.3. Museums and Exhibitions:

Both sides will encourage direct contacts between museums and galleries and similar institutions of both countries, including exchanges of specialists, curators, materials, special exhibits and information.

6.4. Music:

Both sides welcome the presentation of the work of their composers in the other country. They will also encourage direct contacts between musicians (conductors, soloists, etc.), music organizations, institutions, associations, orchestras and conservatoires in the area of classical and contemporary music, including the exchange of recording and personal visits on a commercial and non commercial basis.

Both sides will strive to facilitate the participation of their musicians as well as jurors and observers in major festivals, competitions and events organized in both countries.

6.5. Dance:

Both sides will encourage the exchange of dancers, choreographers, teachers, dance experts, members of dance institutions, and producers of dance festivals. Both sides will also jointly participate in developing multilateral cultural cooperation.

6.6. Theatre:

Both sides will encourage the exchange of actors, directors, playwrights, critics etc. Both sides will also jointly participate in developing multilateral cultural cooperation.

6.7. Both sides will encourage visits of art critics, science writers and journalists dealing with culture, with the aim of promoting a better understanding of the sociological and cultural developments taking place in the other country.

7. LITERATURE

7.1. Both sides will work jointly to encourage the translation of contemporary prose, poetry and other literary works of their country into the languages of the other side. Both sides will also encourage the distribution of these translated works.

7.2. Both sides will encourage writers and editors to participate in seminars, workshops and poetry reading, festivals and literary events aimed at promoting greater understanding between the two literary communities.

7.3. Both sides will encourage direct contacts between book publishers and national libraries.

7.4. The Israeli side invites the Austrian side to participate in the Jerusalem International Book Fair that takes place every two years in Jerusalem.

8. ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

8.1 Both sides will encourage the reciprocal cooperation between the archive departments of state and public institutions and between libraries, through exchanges of experts, scientific publications, microfilms, books, digital information and document copies, databases and regulations. The exchanges will take place in accordance with the domestic laws and regulations of each country and will be subject to the budgetary frameworks of both sides.

8.2 Both sides will encourage the direct exchange of archivists and librarians in order to acquire information on the organization of the respective archives / libraries as well as study and research missions. Details will be determined between the competent authorities of both sides.

9. FILM

9.1. Both sides will encourage the participation of films and film-makers in each other's international film festivals. Both sides will encourage special cinema retrospectives of the other country as part of the international film festivals being held in their country.

9.2. Both sides will encourage holding film weeks of the other side in their own country. Each side will encourage mutual visits of experts or figures in the field of cinema.

9.3. Both sides welcome direct cooperation between cinema and television experts as well as film and television institutes.

Both sides welcome direct cooperation between the Film and Television Schools as well as between their national cinemathèques and the exchange of students and teachers.

9.4. Both sides express their interest in promoting co-productions between Israeli and Austrian film producers.

9.5. Both sides will encourage cooperation between the television authorities in the two countries, as well as the exchange of materials (feature and documentary) and experts in this area, on a commercial and non commercial basis, and the holding of workshops on the topic of educational television, staff training and background material aimed at enhancing each country's knowledge and understanding of the other country.

10. SPORTS

Both sides will encourage cooperation in sports, mainly by exchanging sports teams, trainers and experts in diverse disciplines. Details will be worked out through mutual consultations between interested organizations of both sides. The terms and conditions of these exchanges will be determined between interested organizations of both sides.

11. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

11.1. Both sides will encourage cooperation in the protection of cultural heritage, keeping each other informed about relevant national laws and regulations. In addition they will encourage activities targeted at preserving locations of mutual interest.

11.2. Both sides will encourage direct cooperation between institutions in the fields of the protection of cultural heritage, exchange of professionals and academic experts, information and publicity material as well as information on seminars.

11.3. Both sides will encourage cooperation with a view to preventing the illegal trade in cultural heritage goods in accordance with international law and their respective national law.

11.4. Both sides will encourage cooperation in the fields of archaeological excavations, urban conservation and architecture research.

11.5. Both sides will encourage the relevant authorities in their respective countries to exchange information and publications of archeological content.

11.6. Both sides will encourage the exchange of experts from the fields of archaeology, preservation of antiquities, restoration of cultural heritage or conservation of monuments and

architecture in order to exchange information on matters of their speciality within the limits of their budgetary resources.

Details in this regard will be determined by the Israel Antiquities Authority and the Austrian Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture.

12. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

12.1. Both sides will ensure appropriate and efficient protection of intellectual property rights of all materials obtained on the basis of this MoU, in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in their respective countries and in accordance with the international agreements to which they are both parties.

12.2. Intellectual property rights acquired as a result of joint activity will be allocated by mutually agreed conditions set out in separate contracts and agreements.

12.3. No side will transmit any information obtained in pursuance of this MoU to any third party without prior written consent of the other side.

13. MISCELLANEOUS

13.1. The implementation of this MoU will be carried out through the relevant authorities of each side.

13.2. The Annex „General and Financial Terms will form an integral part of this MoU.

13.3. This MoU does not exclude the possibility of other exchanges in the cultural, scientific and educational fields.

13.4. Both sides share the view that all initiatives mentioned in this MoU will be carried out within the limits of the funds allocated in their respective annual budgets.

13.5. All activities and exchanges realized under this MoU will be implemented in accordance with the Law of each side.

13.6. All differences that might arise in the course of this MoU will be settled through diplomatic channels.

13.7. This MoU will become effective on the date of signature and will remain so until 31 December 2014.

13.8. This MoU can be extended for additional periods of 3 years each, by mutual consent of both sides. Each extension will be made in writing.

13.9. This MoU can be amended or modified by mutual consent of both sides. The amendments or modifications will be made in writing.

Signed in Vienna on March 31, 2011, which corresponds to 25 Adar bet, 5771, in two original copies in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

Dr. h.-n. Václav Jiráček

For the Government of the Republic of
Austria

A. Bar

For the Government of the State of Israel

ANNEX 1
GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

1. Financial and other provisions, as well as the schedule of the events, will be determined by mutual consultation between the relevant authorities of both sides.

2. The financial provisions, failing any special understandings, are adjusted on the basis of reciprocity, namely:

- The sending side will cover the international travel expenses of their delegations and representatives, including the transportation of professional equipment and exhibits.
- The receiving side will cover the costs of accommodation in its country.

3. Exchange of individuals (artists/experts etc.)

The exchange of experts will be regulated as follows:

- Each side will send to the other side the bio-data (curriculum vitae, objectives of the visit, languages spoken, proposed itinerary and scheduled arrival and departure dates) in English at least two (2) months in advance of the expected date of visit of the delegation or individuals.
- The receiving side will confirm its acceptance within one (1) month of the proposal.
- Invited persons or delegations should know either the language of the receiving side or English.
- Medical insurance will be under the responsibility of each traveler.

ANNEX 2
MEMBERS OF THE DELEGATIONS

The Israeli Delegation:

Mr. Alon Bar

Head of Israeli Delegation

Deputy Director General, Head of the Department of Cultural Relations

Ms. Lea Rosenberg

Deputy Director General,

Director of the Division of International Relations and UNESCO

Ministry of Education

Ms. Nilly Cohen

Deputy Director & Dance Department Director

Ministry of Culture and Sports

H.E. Mr. Aviv Shir-On

Ambassador

Embassy of the State of Israel in Vienna, Austria

Ms. Galit Ronen

Deputy Chief of Mission,

Embassy of the State of Israel in Vienna, Austria

The Austrian Delegation:

Mr. Hans-Martin Windisch-Grätz

Head of Delegation

Deputy Head of Department for Coordination, Planning, Financing and Evaluation of Cultural Policy

Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Ms. Martina Maschke

Head of Department for International Bilateral Affairs - Education

Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture

Ms. Christine Kissler

Department for International Bilateral Affairs - Education

Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture

Ms. Anna Steiner

Deputy Head of Department for Bi- and Multilateral Cultural Affairs

Federal Ministry for Education, Arts and Culture

Ms. Christine Buzeczki

Deputy Head of Department for International Cooperation

Federal Ministry for Science and Research

Mr. Alexander Wojda

Department of Coordination, Planning, Financing and Evaluation of Cultural Policy

Federal Ministry for European and International Affairs

Ms. Birgit Klausser

Federal Ministry for Economy, Family and Youth

Deputy Head of Unit International Family and Youth Affairs