

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN**

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

AND

**THE MINISTER OF EDUCATION, CULTURE AND RESEARCH
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

CONCERNING

COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION

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

- BASED on the friendly relations which exist between their two countries;
- BEING AWARE of the fact that the cooperation in the field of education contributes to a better understanding between nations;
- TAKING NOTE of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministers responsible for education, science and research in South Eastern Europe, signed in Istanbul in May 2007 and RECOGNIZING that regional cooperation in the framework of the Education Reform Initiative of South Eastern Europe and the EU-Strategy for the Danube Region is of utmost importance for the promotion of education reform, as well as peace and prosperity in the region of South Eastern Europe;
- RECOGNISING the impressive results of the joint projects managed by KulturKontakt Austria respectively its legal successor OeAD-GmbH and the Austrian educational coordinator in Chisinau;
- WITH THE DESIRE to deepen and broaden the cooperation in the field of education

have reached the following understanding:

Article 1

Both Sides welcome the bilateral cooperation in the field of education based on the principles of mutual respect and partnership in view of supporting educational reforms in the Republic of Moldova.

Article 2

Both Sides encourage the exchange of the experience and know-how transfer at expert and policy

levels in the field of education, offering each other information e.g. concerning the governance of systems of education, curricula and didactic materials, new teaching and learning approaches.

Article 3

Both Sides welcome the activities of KulturKontakt Austria respectively its legal successor OeAD-GmbH operating in the field of educational cooperation on behalf of the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research as well as the work of an Austrian educational coordinator in Chisinau. From 01.2020 onwards KulturKontakt Austria is transferred to the OeAD-GmbH, the Austrian Agency for International Cooperation in Education and Research.

Article 4

The Austrian educational coordinator in Chisinau is deployed by the Austrian Federal Ministry of Education, Science and Research, whereby KulturKontakt Austria respectively its legal successor OeAD-GmbH is in charge of the logistical, financial and content-level management.

Article 5

The Moldovan Side provides the necessary office space (rent, heating, electricity, maintenance and telephone line) for the educational coordinator and his/her assistant/s.

The Austrian Side covers all costs related to the employment of the educational coordinator. The Austrian Side also covers communication costs (phone, fax and internet) for the educational coordinator and his/her assistant/s.

The official name of the office is "KulturKontakt Austria Project Office Chisinau" respectively "OeAD Project Office Chisinau".

Article 6

Both Sides encourage the development of direct relations and cooperation between teacher training institutions in Moldova and the Austrian University Colleges of Teacher Education.

Article 7

The Austrian Side will offer Moldavian teachers of German language at all levels, especially those who are in multiplier function, the opportunity to attend "German as a Foreign Language" two week training seminars on specific subjects related to Austrian Studies as well as on German instruction methodology held throughout Austria. Further information can be found at the website www.kulturundsprache.at.

Moldavian institutions being interested in Austrian Diploma for German Language (Österreichisches Sprachdiplom Deutsch, ÖSD, information at www.osd.at) are welcome to apply for a license to become ÖSD examination centers.

Article 8

Both Sides welcome an intensive exchange of experience in the area of Vocational Education and Training (VET), with a specific focus on raising the quality of VET through income generation by

VET schools, effective school based quality assurance and new teaching/learning approaches in school and company based learning settings. This cooperation will also take place in the framework of the EU-instrument "European Neighborhood Policy" (ENP).

Both Sides encourage economic schools to foster entrepreneurship education including the co-operation of practice firms (virtual companies).

Article 9

Both Sides welcome the continuation of the co-operation in the field of enhancing access and equity of education and training systems, with a specific focus on increasing access to quality education and training by students with special educational needs.

Article 10

Both Sides encourage the intensification of contacts between Moldavian and Austrian schools through school partnership programs and participation in multilateral school networks.

Article 11

This Memorandum of Understanding is effective upon signature by both Sides. It will remain in operation until the end of 2023 and can be renewed upon mutual understanding of both Sides.

Article 12

Either Side may cancel this Memorandum of Understanding at any time, in writing. In that case, it ceases to be effective six months after receipt of the notification by the other Side.

Article 13

The present Memorandum of Understanding does not result in new financial obligation, in the creation of any new obligations regarding international law nor will it have any effect on existing legislation.

Signed on 03.01. 2020 in four original duplicates, in English and Romanian languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**Federal Minister of Education, Science and
Research of the Republic of Austria**

**Minister of Education, Culture
and Research of the Republic of Moldova**

Iris Rauskala

Corneliu Popovici