

AGREEMENT
FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION, SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH AND
TECHNOLOGY BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR

The Government of the Republic of Bulgaria, represented by the Ministry of Education and Science,

And

The Government of the State of Qatar, represented by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education,

hereinafter referred to as the "Contracting Parties"

Desiring to strengthen and expand friendship ties and to promote and enhance cooperation in the field of general education, higher education, scientific research and technologies between both countries, as well as to achieve the goals and objectives of common interest, taking into account the laws and regulations applied in both countries,

Have agreed upon the following,

I: Basis of Cooperation

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall develop cooperation between the two countries in all educational and scientific areas, within the framework of this Agreement, based on the following:

1. Equality and respect for common interests.
2. Compliance with the national legislation in each of the two countries.
3. Provision of equal and effective protection of intellectual property rights in accordance with the legislation of the Contracting Parties and the international treaties to which the State of Qatar and the Republic of Bulgaria are Parties.

4. Sharing the intellectual property rights among the participants, resulting from cooperation projects within this Agreement with a view to the, contribution of each Party in line with the conditions agreed upon by the Parties.

II: General Education

Article 2

The Contracting Parties, within the framework of common interest, shall promote the development of achievement in the general education system in each of the two countries, by prioritizing the cooperation of the topics in the following sub- fields:

1. School management.
2. Training and teaching.
3. Curricula.
4. Pedagogical specialists' professional development.
5. Necessity for additional students' support.
6. Performance evaluation of teachers, directors and other pedagogical staff for providing quality of education.
7. Evaluation of students' performance.
8. Modern teaching methods used or developed by any of the Contracting Parties.
9. Technologies used or developed by any of the Contracting Parties to teach foreign languages.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties, within the framework of cooperation for development of expertise, resources and knowledge in the subjects mentioned in Article 2 in this Agreement, shall encourage the adoption of the most effective and appropriate forms and means of cooperation as required by the nature of each subject, and in particular the following:

1. Exchange of visits of delegations from specialists and experts in the fields mentioned in Article 2.
2. Exchange of information and experiences in policies and decisions adopted by each of the Contracting Parties.
3. Exchange of studies and achievements between the Contracting Parties.
4. Organization of joint training courses and workshops.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the development of cooperation between the schools in both countries through the following:

1. Exchange of visits of students' delegations and school sports teams.
2. Organization of educational, scientific, artistic and literary school exhibitions.

III: The Field of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Technology

Article 5

The Contracting Parties shall encourage and deepen their ties in the field of higher education, scientific research and technology, in line with this Agreement.

Article 6

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the exchange of information about educational documents, which are issued by higher education institutions of both countries, as well as about the legislation in regulation of the academic recognition of the education, which has been acquired abroad.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the exchange of information, documents and resources about the culture, civilization, history and geography of the two countries in order to ensure the proper reflection of these aspects in scientific works, school books and other school aids.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the exchange of information on questions related to the evaluation of quality and accreditation in higher education institutions and shall encourage concluding agreements, in reference to the organization and supervision of scientific research, as well as to cooperation in the field of master, doctoral programmes and scientific research, in accordance with the legislation of both countries in the field of higher education.

Article 9

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the mutual cooperation through the organization of scientific seminars and lectures; conferences, and training workshops on topics of common interest and in

accordance with the strategic plans of the respective organizations. The implementation of cooperation via funding joint subjects on a competition principle shall be implemented depending on the conditions and requirements of the respective financial organizations in both countries.

IV: General Provisions

Article 10

Mechanisms to be followed for each field of the proposed cooperation fields will be coordinated and agreed upon in line with subject of cooperation and the needs of cooperation bodies in both countries via approved communication channels.

Article 11

Members of the delegations participating in seminars, courses, conferences and all other matter related to the exchange of visits between the Contracting Parties, as well as the dates and duration of such seminars and meetings shall be determined through approved communication channels provided that the other Contracting Party is notified at least four (4) months prior to the set date. All visits shall be in line with the financial opportunities of the Parties.

Article 12

The sending Contracting Party shall bear the expenses of its own delegation for travelling back and forth to the host Contracting Party, and shall also cover the medical insurance, and the host Contracting Party shall bear the expenses of accommodation, local transportation on the territory of the country for the members of the delegation taking part in seminars, conferences, courses and other events with regard to the agreement clauses and the medical treatment in emergency cases for the delegations of the other Contracting Party, in accordance with the existing legislation in both countries.

Article 13

Any dispute that may arise between the Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be settled amicably via consultation and mutual cooperation between the Contracting Parties.

Article 14

The provisions of this Agreement or any text thereof may be amended by written consent of the Contracting Parties. Such amendments shall enter into force pursuant to the same procedures stipulated in Article 15 of this Agreement.

Article 15

This Agreement shall enter into force as of the date of the mutual written notification of the Contracting Parties, through diplomatic channels about the completion of the internal legal procedures of the national legislation in both countries and the effective date for this Agreement to enter into force shall be the date of receipt of the last notification issued by either Contracting Party.

This Agreement shall remain valid for a period of three (3) years and shall be automatically renewed for next 3-year periods, unless either Contracting Party notifies the other Contracting Party, in writing, of its desire to terminate the Agreement, at least six (6) months prior to the date of termination or expiration of its agreed upon period.

The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the existing or continuing programs and projects until their completion, unless the Contracting Parties agree otherwise.

In witness of the afore-mentioned, the undersigned signatories, authorized by their respective governments, have signed this Agreement.

This Agreement is signed in the city ofon/..../201....AD, corresponding to --/--/143- Hijri, in three original copies each one in Bulgarian, Arabic and English languages, all texts being equally authentic, and in case of discrepancy in the interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

**FOR
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF
BULGARIA
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE**

**FOR
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR
THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND HIGHER
EDUCATION**