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**PROGRAMME FOR CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC**

**CO-OPERATION BETWEEN**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF FINLAND AND**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC**

In accordance with the provisions of Article 5 of the Agreement between the Government of the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and the Government of the Republic of Finland on co-operation in the cultural, scientific and related fields, signed in Helsinki on 12 October 1973, and with reference to the exchange of letters on 24 March 1994 between the Czech Republic and the Republic of Finland by which the countries have agreed that certain agreements concluded between the Czechoslovak Socialist Republic and Finland will be applied as between the Czech Republic and Finland, representatives of the government of the Czech Republic and the Republic of Finland (hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties) have agreed on the following Programme.

## **I. EDUCATION**

### **Article 1**

The Contracting Parties will promote direct co-operation and exchange between universities and other educational institutions in both countries, in particular within the framework of the programmes of the European Union, the Council of Europe and other international organisations. The terms of the co-operation will be agreed upon and specified through direct contacts between the institutions concerned.

### **Article 2**

The Contracting Parties will encourage expert co-operation in evaluation and development of educational systems, exchange of documentation, information and experience concerning various aspects of the educational systems of both the countries.

### **Article 3**

The Contracting Parties will encourage closer co-operation between the Czech and Finnish research funding organisations by means of their own funding instruments, namely exchange of peers for scientific evaluation regarding research proposals, research programmes, doctoral training and other instruments.

### **Article 4**

The Contracting Parties will encourage the teaching of the Finnish language and culture at Charles University in Prague and the teaching of the Czech language at the University of Helsinki. The Participating Parties will regularly supply the respective departments of the Finnish and Czech studies with appropriate literature and periodicals as well as audiovisual and computer-based material.

### **Article 5**

In Finland the Centre for International Mobility CIMO administers summer courses in Finnish language and culture and offers special study and training programmes for students of Finnish at universities abroad. Students of Finnish from the Czech Republic shall apply for these scholarships directly from CIMO.

### **Article 6**

The Czech Party will annually offer the Finnish Party four scholarships for language courses at the Summer Schools of Slavonic Studies organised in the Czech Republic. Students of the Czech language from the Republic of Finland shall apply for these scholarships through the Embassy of the Czech Republic in Finland.

## **II. SCHOLARSHIPS**

### **Article 7**

A description of the scholarship programmes, which the Contracting Parties will offer to each other, is in Annexes I and II, which form integral parts of this Programme. The Contracting Parties will annually inform each other of the general and financial provisions of the scholarships.

### **Article 8**

On the Finnish side the Centre for International Mobility, CIMO, operates Finnish government scholarship programmes and is responsible for funding and carrying out the exchanges based on bilateral agreements and cultural programmes. A description of the scholarship programme, called the Finnish Government Scholarship Pool is given in Annex I.

### **Article 9**

The nominations for scholarship study stays at Czech public higher education institutions submitted by the Finnish Party will be accepted and administered by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports. A description of the scholarship programme is given in Annex II.

## **III. YOUTH AND SPORTS**

### **Article 10**

The Contracting Parties will encourage direct co-operation between youth institutions, youth organisations and those active in youth field in both countries.

### **Article 11**

The Contracting Parties will encourage the development of the relations and exchanges between the organisations and other institutions in charge of sports. Such activities will be carried out on the basis of direct agreements between the institutions concerned.

## **IV. CULTURE**

### **Article 12**

The Contracting Parties will promote direct co-operation and exchange between the institutions, organisations and other actors in the field of arts and culture in both countries, in particular in the framework of the programmes of the European Union the Council of Europe and other international organisations. The terms of the co-operation will be agreed upon and specified through direct contacts between the institutions concerned.

### **Article 13**

The Contracting Parties will encourage expert co-operation in the field of culture and exchange of information on various aspects of their cultural policies, management and organisation.

#### Article 14

The Contracting Parties will encourage institutions and organisations in both countries to organise art and other exhibitions and to take part in festivals, international meetings, seminars and other cultural events organised in the two countries.

The Contracting Parties will exchange information about planned exhibitions.

#### Article 15

The Contracting Parties will inform each other about the conditions, terms and programmes of cultural events. The organisations of cultural performances should in principle be based on a direct agreement covering financial and other terms between the organisations and artists involved in such events. State subsidies shall be considered as supplementary.

#### Article 16

The Contracting Parties will encourage direct contacts between their institutions responsible for the protection of cultural heritage. The Contracting Parties will promote the exchange of information and literature on restoration and preservation of historical monuments.

The Contracting Parties will encourage co-operation aimed at preventing illegal trade in cultural heritage goods, in accordance with international law and valid national laws and regulations in the two countries.

#### Article 17

The Contracting Parties will encourage exchange of music, theatre, dance and all other artistic groups and individuals participating in tours, festivals and other cultural events.

#### Article 18

The Contracting Parties will encourage direct co-operation between the national and institutional libraries of both countries, and promote contacts between their library organisations, particularly in exchange of publications and experience. The Contracting Parties will promote direct co-operation between Czech and Finnish writers and translators as well as their organisations and associations.

#### Article 19

The Contracting Parties will encourage co-operation in the sphere of non-professional artistic activities and traditional folk art.

#### Article 20

The Contracting Parties will promote mutual presentation of films in international film festivals organised in their respective countries and also mutual participation of representatives of cinematography in national film festivals of the other country. The Contracting Parties will encourage direct co-operation between the film archives of both countries.

Article 21

The Contracting Parties will encourage direct co-operation in the field of mass media. The form and substance of the co-operation shall be agreed upon directly between the organisations concerned.

**V. FINAL PROVISIONS**

Article 22

The Contracting Parties shall support co-operation which shall be based on direct agreements between respective organizations of both countries. These agreements shall state forms and terms of co-operation, including financial ones.

Article 23

The activities and exchanges envisaged in this programme shall not exclude other initiatives or visits which might be proposed and agreed upon in advance by both sides through diplomatic channels.

Article 24

The present Programme shall come into effect on the day of signature and shall remain valid until a new one is concluded unless one of the Contracting Parties withdraws from it earlier by a six month's written notice at the latest.

Done in Helsinki on the 26th of September 2006, in two original copies in the English language.

**For the government of the Republic of Finland**

**For the government of the Czech Republic**

## **ANNEX I**

### **FINNISH SCHOLARSHIPS**

#### **The Finnish Government Scholarship Pool**

The Finnish Government offers scholarships for post-graduate studies, research and teaching at a higher education institution or public research institute in Finland. Nationals of countries, with which Finland has bilateral scholarship agreements, may apply for these scholarships.

The Czech Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports is invited to present applications for up to 10 candidates for the Finnish Government Scholarship Pool. The deadline for the nomination of scholarship candidates is 1 February each year.

#### **General terms**

The successful candidates for scholarships are expected to pursue post-graduate studies, participate in a research project or teach at a higher education institution or public research institute in Finland. It is necessary that the candidates for scholarships have earned at least a Master-level degree before beginning of the scholarship period in Finland and have not spent more than one year at a Finnish higher education institution immediately before the intended scholarship period in Finland. The candidates for scholarships must include in their application a letter of invitation from the receiving institute.

#### **Scholarships**

The scholarship period is usually three (3) to nine (9) months and the grant is intended to cover the living expenses of a single person in Finland. In 2006 the monthly scholarship is EUR 1000. The Finnish Party will pay the scholarships free of income tax. The academic year in Finland lasts from September to May. The autumn term begins in September and ends by 20 December. The spring term starts in January and ends in May.

Expenses due to travel, international or in Finland, are not covered by the Centre for International Mobility, CIMO.

#### **Medical care**

Students and postgraduate students paying the student union fee of a Finnish university are entitled to benefit from the student health services. Czech recipients of scholarships are recommended to make arrangements for insurance coverage for their stay in Finland.

#### **Application procedure**

The application form can be obtained from the Centre for International Mobility CIMO. The form can also be downloaded from CIMO's web service at <http://finland.cimo.fi>.

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic will forward up to 10 complete applications to CIMO via the Finnish embassy.

#### **Language courses**

As of 2005 the former quotas no longer apply to summer courses in Finnish language and culture administered by CIMO. The university students in Finnish language and culture will send their applications directly to CIMO/UKAN (Finnish Studies at Universities abroad), which will inform the applicants of the final selection.

CIMO shall provide free tuition and accommodation for the participants. The students may also apply to CIMO for travel grants.

## **ANNEX II**

### **CZECH SCHOLARSHIPS**

#### **Nomination and financial conditions**

The quota to be reserved for students of Bachelor's, Master's and Doctoral study programmes and researchers from the Republic of Finland amounts to ten months within one academic year.

The deadline for submitting applications for the granting of scholarships in the Czech Republic is the 31 March of each year, for the next subsequent academic year. Applications shall be submitted to the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport through the Embassy of the Republic of Finland in Prague.

Applications for scholarships must be submitted on the application forms issued by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic and accompanied by all supporting documents. Information on conditions for scholarship stays at public higher education institutions is available in English on the web site of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sport of the Czech Republic on the Internet address [www.msmt.cz](http://www.msmt.cz).

The Czech Party will provide the accepted candidates with

- Studies at public higher education institutions under conditions identical to those applied to citizens of the Czech Republic.
- A grant to students of Bachelor's and Master's study programmes according to the valid legal and financial regulations of the Czech Republic. In the year 2005 the amount was 7000, -Czech Crowns a month. This amount includes assistance towards accommodation costs.
- A grant to students of Doctoral study programme according to the valid legal and financial regulations of the Czech Republic. In the year 2005 the amount was 7500, -Czech Crowns a month. This amount includes assistance towards accommodation costs.
- Lodging in student hostels under conditions identical to those applied to citizens of the Czech Republic.
- Board in student canteens under conditions identical to those applied to citizens of the Czech Republic.

#### **Travel expenses**

The Czech party does not pay scholarship holders from the Republic of Finland the international return fare expenses or domestic travelling expenses in the Czech Republic.

#### **Medical care**

Scholarship holders from the Republic of Finland are recommended to make arrangements for insurance coverage for their stay in the Czech Republic.