

**Agreement
between
the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic
and
the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia
on Co-operation in the Field of Education and Science**

The Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (hereinafter referred to as the „Contracting Parties“),

Desiring to strengthen and develop friendly relations between the Contracting Parties on the basis of co-operation in the field of education and science,

Convinced that this co-operation shall contribute to further development of mutual relations and enhance mutual understanding between the people of the two countries,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Contracting Parties shall upon request exchange information and documents related to their national systems of education, most notably legislative changes in the field of primary, secondary, vocational and higher education, about curricula and curriculum timetables of primary, secondary and vocational education institutions and about accredited study programmes of higher education institutions, about the system of education and continuing teacher training.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall upon request exchange information and documents about issues concerning the management, organisation and content of primary, secondary, vocational and higher education, as well as the organisation, management and financing of science and research in both countries.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties shall support the participation of scientists, educational experts and students in scientific conferences, congresses and symposia held in the Czech Republic and in Georgia, as well as the development of co-operation in individual fields of research and science.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall support co-operation and the initiation of direct contacts between institutions of vocational and higher education and other educational, scientific and research institutions in the Czech Republic and Georgia, in compliance with the respective laws and regulations of their states.

Article 5

Considering the need to strengthen scientific and technological co-operation, the Contracting Parties shall promote the creation of contacts and co-operation of both countries in the field of science, technology, development and innovation.

The Contracting Parties shall further encourage co-operation in multilateral programmes and projects of the European Union and joint participation of research organisations of the Czech Republic and Georgia in international competitions of scientific and technological projects of the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation.

Article 6

In order to preserve the national identity, the Contracting Parties shall promote, in compliance with the respective laws and regulations of their states, teaching of the mother tongue and activities of expatriate community in the state of the other Contracting Party.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties shall support teaching of the language and literature of the country of the other Contracting Party. For this purpose, upon request of the receiving Contracting Party submitted in writing through diplomatic channels, the Contracting Party shall seek to send teachers of the Czech language and literature and the Georgian language and literature to teach at public higher education institutions in the country of the respective Contracting Party.

Article 8

1. The Contracting Parties may reciprocally exchange delegations of experts in the field of education and science for an aggregate duration of ten (10) days per annum to study issues related to education and science and to deliberate issues of further co-operation.

2. The specific conditions of each exchange, including the determination of the number of members, the composition of delegations, and the date of the visits shall be negotiated through diplomatic channels between the Contracting Parties.

3. The sending Contracting Party, in accordance with respective domestic laws and regulations, shall cover all costs associated with a business trip of its experts sent to the country of the receiving Contracting Party pursuant to this Article.

Article 9

The Contracting Parties, guided by the principle of reciprocity, shall promote exchange of academic staff and researchers at public higher education and research institutions for the purpose of study and lecturing visits for an aggregate duration of two (2) months per year. The duration of an individual visit shall not exceed one (1) month.

Article 10

The Contracting Parties, guided by the principle of reciprocity, shall promote exchange of students of Bachelor, Master and Doctoral study programmes organised at public higher education institutions of the Czech Republic and Georgia. The duration of one study visit may range from a minimum of two (2) to a maximum of nine (9) months. Total study period of all participants from each side should not exceed twenty seven (27) months per year.

Article 11

The Contracting Parties, guided by the principle of reciprocity, shall mutually provide each year two (2) scholarships for attending the Summer School in the country of the other Contracting Party. The list of available courses shall be mutually exchanged through diplomatic channels no later than 1st February of each calendar year.

Article 12

The Contracting Parties, within the framework of co-operation pursuant to this Agreement shall encourage the adoption of the most effective and appropriate forms and means of co-operation. The mechanism to be followed for each proposed area of co-operation shall be coordinated and agreed through diplomatic channels. The priority sub-areas of co-operation referred to in Articles 9, 10 and 11 hereof shall be agreed between parties annually, no later than 1st February of each calendar year.

Article 13

1. The Czech Contracting Party shall ensure that its nominees sent to Georgia pursuant to Articles 9, 10 and 11 hereof are reimbursed international travel expenses to the predetermined destination in Georgia and back provided that the candidates at the time of the reimbursement of international travel expenses are employed or enrolled to study at a public higher education institutions in the Czech Republic.

2. The Georgian Contracting Party shall ensure that its nominees sent to the Czech Republic pursuant to Articles 9, 10 and 11 hereof are reimbursed international travel expenses to the predetermined destination in the Czech Republic and back provided that the candidates at the time of the reimbursement of international travel expenses are employed or enrolled to study at a public higher education institutions of Georgia.

Article 14

The obligations of each Contracting Party pursuant to this Agreement are subject to its respective domestic laws and regulations concerning finance and depend on the availability of the relevant financial resources.

Article 15

This Agreement shall not rule out the organisation of further forms of co-operation on which the Contracting Parties agree in writing through diplomatic means.

Article 16

This Agreement may be altered and amended upon mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties. Any alterations and amendments must be done in writing and shall enter into force upon signature. Such amendments are an integral part of the Agreement.

Article 17

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be resolved between the Contracting Parties by means of consultations and/or negotiations.

Article 18

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force until 31 December 2020. The validity of this Agreement shall be automatically extended until a new Agreement enters in force unless either of the Contracting Parties notifies other Contracting Party in writing, through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate this Agreement. In such case the Agreement shall terminate six (6) month after the date of the receipt of this termination notice by the other Contracting Party.

2. Programmes of exchange, projects and activities commenced pursuant to this Agreement during the validity of this Agreement shall be completed regardless of the termination of this Agreement, unless the Contracting Parties agree otherwise.

Done at Tbilisi on ...¹⁶... November 2017, in two originals, each in the Czech, Georgian and English languages, all text being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Education, Youth
and Sports of the Czech Republic

Dana Prudíková
Deputy Minister

For the Ministry of Education
and Science of Georgia

Mikheil Chkhenkeli
Minister