

**CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA  
AND  
THE PORTUGUESE REPUBLIC  
IN THE FIELDS OF LANGUAGE, EDUCATION, HIGHER  
EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY, CULTURE, SPORTS,  
YOUTH AND MASS MEDIA**

The Republic of Moldova and the Portuguese Republic, hereinafter referred to as "Parties",

Committed to develop and diversify the friendly relations between both States;

Based on the European Union initiatives for South-Eastern Europe;

Aware that co-operation in the fields of language, education, higher education, science and technology, culture, sports, youth and mass media contributes to a better understanding between nations;

Aiming at an active participation towards the consolidation of the Bologna Process objectives and of the European Higher Education Area;

Willing to establish a legal framework for this co-operation based on the principles of equality, reciprocity and mutual respect, according to their internal law and the applicable international conventions,

Agree as follows:

**Article 1**

**Fields of Co-operation**

1. The Parties shall encourage co-operation in the fields of language, education, higher education, science and technology, culture, sports, youth and mass media.
2. The Parties shall also encourage active co-operation between governmental and non-governmental organizations in the fields mentioned in the paragraph 1 of this Article.

**Article 2**

**Language and Culture**

The Parties shall facilitate, to the extent possible, the study and dissemination, in their territory, of the language and culture of the other Party.

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**Article 3**  
**Scholarships**

1. The Parties shall endeavour to provide scholarships to students and teachers and shall promote their participation in training courses, namely in the field of language and culture.
2. The fields, conditions, duration and arrangements for financing these scholarships shall be specified in the Co-operation Programmes established in Article 17 of this Agreement.

**Article 4**  
**Co-operation in the field of Education and Higher Education**

1. The Parties shall encourage co-operation actions, promoting the exchange of information on the educational systems of both States, of experiences of curricular innovation and of quality digital learning resources, promoting inclusion and equity for children and young people, from pre-school to secondary education.
2. The parties shall co-operate to accomplish the objectives of the Bologna Process and of the European Higher Education Area.

**Article 5**  
**Twinning between schools**

The Parties shall promote the establishment of twinning between schools and clusters of schools, with the aim to develop co-operation programmes and projects, based on the recognition and sharing of common values and principles, which enable the joint implementation of school and cultural activities, aimed at promoting better learning, citizenship, solidarity and co-operation between the school population and the institutions of the two States.

**Article 6**  
**Exchange of information on equivalence of studies and recognition of degrees and diplomas**

1. The Parties shall encourage the exchange of information on the educational systems in force, with a view to facilitating the processes for the equivalence of basic and secondary studies.
2. The parties shall encourage the exchange of information on their respective national systems of higher education, in order to facilitate the recognition of degrees and diplomas.

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#### **Article 7**

##### **Academic, Scientific, Technological and Cultural Co-operation**

The Parties shall support and promote academic, scientific, technological and cultural co-operation, as well as academic mobility within the framework of the Programmes and Projects launched by the European Union, UNESCO, OECD, and the Council of Europe.

#### **Article 8**

##### **Exchanges under this Agreement**

1. The Parties shall encourage the exchange of scholars, teaching staff, students, PhD candidates and researchers, as well as the participation in congresses, conferences and seminars and other events.
2. The application procedures and funding requests regarding the exchanges foreseen in the previous paragraph shall be established in specific arrangements.

#### **Article 9**

##### **Co-operation in the field of Culture**

The Parties shall promote co-operation in the field of culture, focusing on the following:

- a) Carrying out exhibitions, fairs and other cultural events, with the purpose of promoting the circulation of works of art, with the support of the competent authorities from each State;
- b) The exchange of experts in arts and the strengthening of relationships between artists from both States and the exchange of authors, critics and art-creators;
- c) Promotion of translations and publication of literary and artistic works;
- d) Mutual exchange of information and visits from experts in the fields of archaeology, museums, architecture and cultural heritage;
- e) Participation of experts in seminars, exhibitions, contests, master classes, festivals, conferences and scientific *symposia* organized by both Parties.

#### **Article 10**

##### **Safeguard of Cultural Heritage**

The Parties shall co-operate to prevent the illegal import, export, and transfer of ownership of cultural goods belonging to their cultural heritage, pursuant to the internal law of their respective State and the international conventions to which both their States are party.

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#### **Article 11**

##### **Co-operation in the field of Sports**

The Parties, through their governmental and non-governmental organizations responsible for the field of sports, shall promote co-operation in the field of sports, with a view of fostering participation in sport and physical activity, in the context of fight against doping, sport medicine, human resources development, volunteering in sport, high performance sport, ethics in sport, research and statistics in sport, and exchange of experts, coaches, administrators, officials, and sport practitioners.

#### **Article 12**

##### **Co-operation in the field of Youth**

The Parties shall support and encourage co-operation between their governmental authorities and youth organizations, through the exchange of information and documentation on youth policies and on the youth situation in each of the States.

#### **Article 13**

##### **Co-operation in the field of Mass Media**

The Parties shall encourage direct contacts between television and radio broadcasters from both States, in particular between entities engaged in public service missions.

#### **Article 14**

##### **Special conditions to facilitate the temporary importation of materials**

The Parties, to the extent permitted by their internal law and in accordance with the purposes of this Agreement, shall facilitate import and export of materials imported for non-commercial purposes.

#### **Article 15**

##### **Financial Arrangements**

The activities, programmes or projects implemented under this Agreement shall be subjected to the availability of financial and human resources of both Parties.

#### **Article 16**

##### **Joint Commission**

1. The Parties shall establish a Joint Commission to ensure the implementation of this Agreement and to settle any dispute concerning its interpretation and application.

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2. The Joint Commission shall be comprised by representatives designated by each Party.
3. The Joint Commission shall meet alternately in the territory of each Party whenever necessary and/or at the request of either Party.

#### **Article 17**

##### **Co-operation Programmes**

1. The respective authorities of the Parties may establish Co-operation Programmes for a specific period of time in order to implement this Agreement and establish specific forms of co-operation.
2. The Co-operation Programmes shall become a component part of the commitments undertaken by this Agreement and may establish financial commitments for their implementation.
3. Regardless of the deadline for their duration, and unless otherwise stated by the Parties, the mentioned Co-operation Programmes remain in effect until the signing of a new one.

#### **Article 18**

##### **Disputes Settlement**

Any dispute arising from the interpretation or application of this Agreement, which is not resolved within the framework of the Joint Commission, shall be settled through negotiation, through the diplomatic channels.

#### **Article 19**

##### **Revision**

1. This Agreement may be amended by request of either one of the Parties.
2. The amendments shall enter into force in accordance with the terms specified in article 22 of this Agreement.

#### **Article 20**

##### **Duration and termination**

1. This Agreement shall remain in force for a period of five (5) years, automatically renewed for equal and successive periods.
2. Either Party may denounce this Agreement upon a prior notification, in writing and through the diplomatic channels, sent at least one hundred and eighty (180) days prior to the date of expiry of each period.
3. In case of denunciation, this Agreement shall terminate on its expiry date.

4. In case of denunciation of this Agreement, any programme or project initiated within its validity shall remain in execution until its conclusion.

#### Article 21

##### Entry into force

This Agreement shall enter into force thirty (30) days after the reception of the latter of the notifications, in writing and through the diplomatic channels, conveying the completion of the internal procedures of each Party required for that purpose.

#### Article 22

##### Registration

Upon the entry into force of this Agreement, the Party in whose territory it is signed shall transmit it to the Secretariat of the United Nations for registration, in accordance with Article 102 of the Charter of the United Nations, and shall notify the other Party of the completion of this procedure as well as of its registration number.

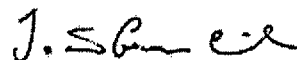
Done in *Kisbér*....., on the *11.* of *September*... 2023, in two originals, each in the Romanian, Portuguese and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE REPUBLIC OF  
MOLDOVA**



Nicolae Popescu  
Deputy Prime Minister,  
Minister of Foreign Affairs and  
European Integration

**FOR THE PORTUGUESE  
REPUBLIC**



João Gomes Cravinho  
Minister of Foreign Affairs