

**PROGRAM ON EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC, CULTURAL AND YOUTH
COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE CZECH REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL**

The Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the State of Israel (hereinafter referred to as the "Parties");

Guided by their desire to strengthen their friendly relations and to promote exchanges in the spheres of culture, education and science;

Based on the Agreement between the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic and the Government of the State of Israel on Co-operation in the Field of Culture, Education and Science, signed in Prague on 29 April 1991;

Convinced that this cooperation will contribute to the development of their relations and to raising awareness of the history and culture of the people of both countries and

Desirous of promoting their cooperation in order to improve and strengthen mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries;

Noting with satisfaction the signing of the Work Plan for Support of Joint Czech – Israel Scientific Research Projects between the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and the Ministry of Science and Technology of the State of Israel signed in Jerusalem on 29 May 2018;

Taking into consideration the ratification of the Agreement on Film Co-Production between the Government of the Czech Republic and the Government of the State of Israel signed in Jerusalem on November 8, 2017,

Valuing the high level of reciprocal cultural activities,

Noting the significant role played by cultural ties between the two countries,

Reaffirming their intentions to continue to encourage direct cooperation between cultural institutions, organizations and individuals in both countries,

Have agreed on the following Program of Cooperation.

PART I

EDUCATION

Article 1

The Parties shall promote exchange of information and encourage constructive contacts and the development of cooperation between educational institutions of both countries.

Article 2

The Parties shall promote the exchange of information, experience and documents related to:

- the education system of both countries;
- initial and in-service teacher training;
- school organization and management;
- regulations applying to education;
- education of pupils with disabilities and special educational needs;
- school decentralization and self-management;
- civic education and education for gender equality;
- education of gifted children and pupils;
- cultural integration of minority groups;
- anti-drug programs;
- foreign language teaching;
- formal and informal education;
- inter-disciplinary learning and teaching;
- inclusive education;
- culture and heritage in education;
- adult education (lifelong learning);
- science and technology education;
- youth contribution to the community;
- development of life skills;
- arts education;
- vocational training and technical education;
- technologies and innovation tools assisting schools, teachers and pupils;
- Holocaust education and research.

Article 3

The Parties shall inform each other on opportunities open to schools of various types to co-operate by means of projects utilizing Information and Communications Technology.

Article 4

The Parties are ready to exchange information and examples of good practice related to e-learning, including the design and utilization of various e-learning tools, such as digital books, learning management software, long distance learning environments as well as information on teacher training in this area.

Article 5

The Parties shall strive to continue co-operation in the framework of the TZEMACH/Cemach PROJECT.

Article 6

The Parties shall exchange information on the enhancement of creativity and innovation in education to cultivate the sense of innovation and creativity among teachers and students.

Article 7

The Parties shall exchange information on the teaching of the language, literature, history and culture of the other country at their respective primary, secondary and higher education institutions.

Article 8

The Parties shall work to prevent, within the limits of their powers, the use of publications, which encourage racism, antisemitism and xenophobia, at schools in order to counter prejudice and negative stereotypes. Each Party shall bring to the attention of the other if the publication or use of such publications are detected.

Article 9

1. The Parties shall put special emphasis on research and educational work related to the tragic fate of the Czech Jewish community during the Second World War under the Nazi occupation.

2. The Parties, having included the issue of the Holocaust in the school curriculum and having systematically supported educational projects inspiring tolerance in pupils and students, shall continue their efforts aimed at promoting inventive methods of cultivating ethically correct attitudes in young people, including projects utilizing materials and facts on the Holocaust and pointing out the dangers of extremism in current societies.

Article 10

The Parties stress the importance of enabling pupils to learn about the Holocaust during their schooling, with reference also to the contents of the Stockholm Declaration of January 2000 and the United Nations resolution 60/7, of November 1st 2005, designating 27 January as an annual International Day of Commemoration in memory of the victims of the Holocaust, which emphasizes the unique historical character of the Holocaust and denounces the still lingering dangers of genocide, racism, antisemitism, and xenophobia. In this context, the Parties shall support educational activities undertaken at schools of all levels that aim at combating racism and antisemitism.

Article 11

1. The Parties shall encourage participation of Czech teachers in professional development seminars focused on the history of the Holocaust and antisemitism organised in cooperation with Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem, the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and the Terezín Memorial.

2. The Parties shall keep supporting the organisation of one-day seminars for secondary school teachers and other educators in individual regions of the Czech Republic, in co-operation with Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center in Jerusalem.

Article 12

1. Without prejudice to the authority of the Israel Council for Higher Education (CHE) in the field of higher education and the autonomy of higher education institutions, the Parties shall cooperate as follows:

2. The Parties shall promote the exchange of publications, literature, research materials and other information in the field of higher education.

3. The Parties shall enable, subject to available resources, participation of up to three (3) academics in national and international conferences/seminars and other similar events to be held in both countries for a period of up to five (5) days each, while this Program is in force.

4. The Parties shall inform each other on the studies relating to the culture, languages and modern history of the other country in the respective higher education institutions.

Article 13

Visit of delegation of experts in education

The Parties shall facilitate, subject to available resources, the visit of a delegation comprising up to three (3) members for a period of up to five (5) days during the period of validity of this Program to share expertise and hands-on experience on matters of their interest in the area of education.

PART II

SCHOLARSHIPS

Article 14

1. The Israeli Party shall offer annually six (6) Modern Hebrew summer language course scholarships for students enrolled in Bachelor, Master and Doctoral study programmes of public institutions of higher education or graduates from Bachelor, Master and Doctoral study programmes of public institutions of higher education in the Czech Republic who wish to follow a language course in Israel.

2. The nominees recommended for the award of summer language scholarships do not strictly need to hold a Bachelor's degree, but should be a year before finalizing their bachelor degree.

3. Information for applicants (closing date for submitting applications, age limit, necessary documents, application forms, details on grant benefits etc.) shall be available on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the offer of scholarships shall be confirmed annually through diplomatic channels.

Article 15

1. The Czech Party shall offer annually six (6) scholarships for attending the Czech language courses at the Summer Schools of Slavonic Studies, organized by several public institutions of higher education in the Czech Republic, to university/college students of or graduates from institutions of higher education in Israel, accredited by the Council of Higher Education in Israel.

2. The nominees recommended for the award of summer language scholarships do not strictly need to hold a Bachelor's degree, but should be enrolled in a year preceding the year of graduation from their Bachelor's degree course.

3. Information for applicants (closing date for applications, age limit, necessary documents, application forms, details on grant benefits etc.) shall be available on the website of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports of the Czech Republic and the offer of scholarships shall be confirmed annually through diplomatic channels.

PART III

SCIENCE

Article 16

1. The Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between scientific and research institutions and institutions of higher education, namely by publicizing information on opportunities open to the respective institutions and organizations in the area of research and development.

2. The Parties shall promote exchange of information on opportunities for scientific and research workers to co-operate with their counterparts in the other country to encourage joint research, studies, consultations and discussions between scientists and researchers.

Article 17

The Parties shall encourage joint basic and applied research, research and development projects in areas of mutual interest, by means of R&D programmes announced for this purpose and in compliance with their terms and conditions as well as the exchange of scientific and technical information and publications.

PART IV

EXCHANGE OF CULTURE AND ART EXPERTS

Article 18

The Parties shall strive for implementation of exchanges of music, theatre, visual and plastic arts, design, dance and all other artistic groups or individuals participating in tours, festivals and other cultural events, including conferences, symposia, mutual performances, workshops, artistic exposures and meetings involving the exchange of information and experiences with the aim of promoting a better understanding of the sociological and cultural developments taking place in the other country.

Article 19

1. Within their competences the Parties shall encourage the exchange of experts and artists for performances and participation in festivals of the performing arts. The details relating to these exchanges, such as the number of artists and length of stays, shall be agreed upon by the relevant institutions and/or through diplomatic channels, as appropriate.

2. The Parties shall inform each other in advance through diplomatic channels about major international festivals to be held in the respective country. Information will also be published on the websites of the respective competent authorities and institutions.

Article 20

1. The Parties shall cooperate in the field of fine arts, handicraft fairs, photography and design. They shall encourage the exchange of exhibitions and cooperation between artists, folk craftsmen, art experts and specialists in traditional folk works.

2. The Parties shall within their competences seek direct cooperation between architects, architectural institutions and the exchange of architects, as well as information sharing and the promotion of exhibitions.

3. The Parties shall encourage direct contacts between museums, galleries as well as memory institutions in both countries, including exchanges of specialists, curators, materials, special exhibits and information.

The Parties shall encourage the exchange of contemporary art exhibitions including works of art from museums, official and alternative exhibition spaces, private galleries, artist training schools and galleries, and the realization of joint contemporary arts projects.

4. The Parties shall develop activities focused on the presentation of the work of their composers in the other country. They shall also support direct contacts between musicians (conductors, soloists, etc.), music organizations, institutions, associations, orchestras and conservatories in the areas of classical and contemporary music, including the exchange of recordings and welcome the participation of their jurors and observers in major festivals, competitions and events organized in both countries under the terms of conditions set by the organizers of such festivals, competitions and events.

5. The Parties shall inform each other on the possible exchanges of professionals in the field of dance and theatre. The details relating to this exchange shall be agreed upon by the relevant institutions and shall be implemented according to the available budgetary framework.

Article 21

1. The Parties shall encourage cooperation in the protection of cultural heritage, exchanging information about relevant national laws and regulations. In addition, they shall encourage activities aimed at preserving sites of mutual interest.

2. The Parties shall facilitate the development of direct cooperation between institutions in the field of the protection of cultural heritage. They shall also exchange professionals, academic experts, information and publicity material as well as information on seminars. The concrete content of such cooperation shall be agreed upon between relevant institutions of both Parties.

3. The Parties shall encourage cooperation between relevant authorities and institutions with a view of preventing the illegal trade in cultural heritage goods in accordance with their respective national laws and regulations.

4. The Parties shall strive for implementation of direct cooperation in the field of archaeological excavations, urban conservation and architecture research. Details of this cooperation shall be agreed upon by the competent authorities of both Parties.

5. The Parties shall encourage the relevant authorities in their respective countries to exchange information and publications of archeological content. They shall also encourage the organization of joint seminars on subjects of mutual interest to be held during the course of this Program. Details in this regard shall be based on budgetary frameworks of Parties and shall be agreed upon by the relevant institutions of Parties and/or through diplomatic channels.

6. The Parties shall make an effort to implement exchanges of professionals from the fields of archaeology, preservation of antiquities, restoration of cultural heritage or conservation of monuments and architecture. The details relating to these exchanges, such as the number of delegates and length of stays, shall be agreed upon by relevant institutions and/or through diplomatic channels, as appropriate, nevertheless always depending on the available budgetary resources and the current needs of the relevant institutions.

Article 22

1. The Parties shall strive to promote the cooperation in the field of literature and literary festivals. The Parties shall jointly work to promote translation of contemporary prose, poetry and other literary works of their country into the languages of the other Party. The Parties shall also encourage the distribution of these translated works. Depending on the budgetary framework the Parties shall support the exchange of writers, poets or translators. The detail relating to such exchanges shall be agreed upon by relevant institutions and/or through diplomatic channels, as appropriate.

2. The Parties shall motivate writers and editors to participate in seminars, workshops and poetry readings aimed at promoting greater understanding between the two literary communities. The details relating to these exchanges shall be agreed upon by relevant institutions and/or through diplomatic channels, as appropriate and shall be based on particular budgetary framework of the Parties.

3. The Parties shall endeavour direct contacts between book publishers and national libraries.

4. The Parties shall inform each other on possible participation in the International Book Fairs to be held in their respective country.

Article 23

1. The Parties shall launch the participation of films and film-makers in each other's international film festivals. The Parties shall promote special cinema retrospectives of the other country as part of international film festivals being held in their country. Information regarding major film festivals shall be exchanged through diplomatic channels.

2. The Parties shall within their competences encourage holding film weeks of the other Party's country in their own country. Films that are screened in this framework shall have English subtitles, if the language of the film is not English. Holding of such film shows shall always be explored with regard to budgetary options of the Parties.

3. The Parties shall encourage mutual visits of experts and public figures in the field of cinematography to participate in festivals, conferences, reviews, meetings, retrospectives and other prestigious international events. The details relating to these exchanges shall be agreed upon by relevant institutions and/or through diplomatic channels, as appropriate, always with regard to the budgetary framework of both Parties.

PART V

COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Article 24

The Parties shall cooperate in the field of education, science, culture and youth in the framework of international organizations, such as the Council of Europe and the European Union, with the purpose of exchanging information and the implementation of common programs of action.

PART VI

YOUTH EXCHANGE

Article 25

The Parties agree that the exchange of youth constitutes a major contribution to the relations between the two countries. They shall therefore encourage direct co-operation between youth organizations in both countries, namely by mediating contacts and exchange of information on opportunities open to the youth organizations in this regard.

Emphasis will be placed on the active participation of youth in the community and the promotion of youth cooperation and networking through the specific youth activities.

Article 26

The Parties shall encourage direct co-operation of professionals and experts in the field of youth. In the Czech Republic, policy-related matters are managed by the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports, whereas the implementation of specific projects and exchanges falls within the terms of reference of the youth organizations concerned. The umbrella youth organization in the Czech Republic is the Czech Council for Children and Youth. The Israeli agency responsible for all such activities is the Israel Youth Exchange Authority.

PART VII

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Article 27

No Party shall transmit any information falling within the scope of laws and regulations governing the protection of intellectual property rights and obtained in pursuance of this Program to any third party without a prior written consent of the other Party. This provision refers both to information originating exclusively from entities in the country of the other Party and information generated within the framework of joint activities.

PART VIII

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Article 28

Exchange of delegations under Article 12 par. 3 and Article 13

1. The sending Party shall notify the other Party of its intention to organize a visit of its delegation to the other country at least two (2) months before the delegation's arrival.
2. The programme of visit is subject to approval by both Parties.
3. The sending Party shall cover the international travel expenses of its delegation.
4. The receiving Party shall cover the expenses for accommodation in its country for a period of up to five (5) days.

Article 29

Exchange of youth

When implementing a possible exchange of youth delegations, each comprising up to ten (10) persons, under Articles 5 and 26 of this Program, the Czech Party shall consider the possibility of covering the accommodation expenses, for the mutually

agreed period of the Israeli delegation's visit to the Czech Republic. A visit to the Czech Republic should be announced at least three months in advance.

Article 30 Culture

1. No later than two (2) months before the planned beginning of the visit, the sending Party shall submit to the receiving Party a proposed list of nominated person(s) according to this Program, which shall contain:

- a) The first name and surname of the nominated person(s) and a brief description of his/her professional activity;
- b) The date of the visit;
- c) Proposed program of the visit.

2. The sending Party shall cover the international travel expenses to the capital of the receiving country and back.

3. The receiving Party shall cover the expenses for accommodation in its country for the mutually agreed period of stay, however up to five (5) days.

4. The schedule of visit shall be coordinated directly between the sending and receiving institutions.

5. The sending Party shall cover the cost of health insurance that meets the legal requirements for entry and stay in the territory of the state of the receiving Party.

Article 31 Other general conditions of exchanges of individuals under this Program

The invited persons or delegations should be able to communicate in either the language of the receiving country or institution, or English or any other language mutually agreed upon.

Article 32 Scholarships

1. The Israeli Party shall provide participants in the Summer Course of the ULPAN Language School / beneficiaries of the scholarships accepted under Article 14 of this Program with the following:

- a. free tuition;
- b. allowance to cover the living expenses in accordance with the conditions of the language school / academic institutions;
- c. health insurance, with the exception of dental care and chronic diseases.

2. The Czech Party shall ensure that the participants in language courses accepted under Article 15 of the present Program are provided with free board and lodging during the period of the course and that the respective course fees as well as the expenses for participation in any excursions organized as part of the summer language course concerned are covered.

3. The scholarships are subject to the budgetary frameworks of the Parties and their offer follows the principle of reciprocity.

Article 33

The Czech Party shall ensure that the expenses for international travel to the predetermined destination in the State of Israel and back incurred by its nominees sent to the State of Israel under Article 14 of the present Program are covered provided that the nominees are, at the time when their international travel tickets are purchased, employed or enrolled in a course of study at a public institution of higher education in the Czech Republic.

PART IX

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 34

The Parties agree that all activities mentioned in this Program will be carried out within the limits of their available resources and in accordance with their respective national laws and regulations.

Article 35

All differences or disputes that might arise in the course of this Program shall be settled amicably through diplomatic channels.

Article 36

This Program may be modified by mutual consent of the Parties. The modifications shall be made in writing.

Article 37

This Program shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall remain in force until 31 December 2024. Thereafter, its validity shall be extended for an additional period of three (3) years, unless either Party submits to the other Party

a tree (3) months' written notice of its termination. The intention to terminate its validity shall be communicated by a Diplomatic Note.

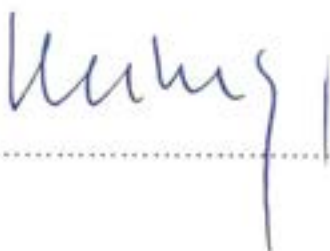
Article 38

The termination of this Program shall not affect the completion of ongoing activities agreed upon and commenced prior to its termination.

Done in Prague on ¹⁹..... October 2022, which corresponds to the 24th day of Tishrei, 5783 in the Hebrew calendar, in two original copies in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

**For the Government
of the Czech Republic**

**For the Government
of the State of Israel**


.....
.....