

K oznámeniu č. 150/2014 Z. z.

**PROGRAM ON COOPERATION BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL FOR THE YEARS 2013 – 2016
IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE, CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT**

The Government of the Slovak 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 on Cultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation between the Government of the State of Israel and the Government of the Czech and Slovak Federative Republic signed in Prague on 29 April 1991.

Both Parties are convinced that this cooperation shall contribute to the development of their relations and to raising awareness, particularly among youth, of the history and culture of the people of both countries and agree to promote cooperation in order to improve and strengthen mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries.

have agreed on the following program on Cooperation for the years 2013, 2014, 2015 and 2016:

FIELDS OF COOPERATION

EDUCATION

Article 1

- 1.1** The Parties shall promote exchange of information and constructive contacts between the two countries, in various aspects of education.
- 1.2** The Parties shall encourage the development of cooperation between educational institutes of both countries.
- 1.3** The Parties shall, in accordance with their budgetary means, promote the exchanges of information, experience, documentation and experts in the following areas:
- The education system of both countries
 - Teacher training and life-long training for teachers
 - School organization and management
 - Education regulations (such as service regulations for teachers etc.)
 - Special needs education
 - Decentralization and school autonomy
 - Civic Education
 - Gifted children education
 - Cultural and religious integration of minority groups (including joint projects)

- Anti-drug programs (including joint projects)
- Foreign language teaching
- Formal and informal education
- Collaborative learning (i.e. Literature, cinema and more)
- Inclusive education
- Culture and Heritage
- Adult education (life long learning)
- Science and technology education
- Youth contribution to the community
- Development of life skills
- Arts education

In Slovakia information on the educational system can be obtained from the website of the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak republic: www.minedu.sk.

In Israel, information on the educational system can be obtained from the website of the Ministry of Education: www.education.gov.il.

- 1.4** The Parties are committed to preventing the publication of text books which encourage racism, anti-Semitism, and xenophobia, in order to counter prejudice and negative stereotypes. Each Party will bring to the attention of the other if such publications are detected.
- 1.5** The Parties shall put special emphasis on research and educational work related to the tragic fate of the Jewish community in the Slovak Republic during the Second World War under the Nazi occupation. The Slovak Party shall continue to include the issue of the Holocaust in the school curriculum.
- 1.6** The Parties stress the importance of enabling young people 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, anti-Semitism, and xenophobia. In this context, the Parties shall support educational activities undertaken at schools of all levels that aim at combating racism and anti-Semitism.

- 1.7** The Parties shall encourage participation of teachers and particularly, history teachers, in courses dealing with the history of the Holocaust and Anti-Semitism which are organized by the Yad Vashem Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem. The three-week courses for English speaking participants are conducted every year in July. The Israeli Party shall annually offer to the Slovak Party one scholarship for one participant from the Slovak Republic.
- 1.8** The Parties shall encourage the teaching of the language, literature, history and culture of the other country at their respective primary, secondary and higher education institutions. For this purpose, the corresponding experts from the partner country will be invited by respective institution at its own expense to deliver lectures, hold seminars and conduct other educational activities. The conditions under which the experts shall perform their respective activities in the receiving country shall be negotiated directly between the respective institutions of both countries.
- 1.9** The Parties shall encourage cooperation between schools on various projects based on Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

SCHOLARSHIPS

Article 2

- 2.1** The Israeli Party shall provide annually:
- 2.1.1** one (1) scholarship for Modern Hebrew summer language course ULPAN
- 2.1.2** one (1) specialization scholarships for one (1) academic year (eight months) for doctoral (PhD.) students or research students who wish to undertake studies in an Israeli university. Information for applicants (closing date for submitting applications, age limit, necessary documents, application forms, details on grant benefits etc.) will be available on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the State of Israel: and will be published annually through diplomatic channels.
- 2.2.** The Slovak Party shall provide annually:
- 2.2.1** one (1) scholarship for Summer School for Slovak Language and Culture "Studia Academica Slovaca" SAS
- 2.2.2** one (1) scholarship for one (1) academic year (eight months) for Israeli doctoral (PhD.) students.
- 2.3** These scholarships are subject to the budgetary frameworks of the Parties.

DIRECT COOPERATION BETWEEN UNIVERSITIES

Article 3

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

- 3.2** The Parties shall encourage participation of academics in national and international conferences/seminars and other similar events to be held in both countries while this program is in force.
- 3.3** The Parties shall cooperate together in the promotion of studies relating to the cultures, languages and modern history of each other's country in the respective universities.

SCIENCE

Article 4

- 4.1** The Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between scientific and research institutions. The content of this cooperation shall be agreed upon by the competent institutions of both countries.
- 4.2** The Parties shall encourage mutual exchange of scientific and research workers with the objective of research, studies, consultations and discussions in scientific disciplines. The terms and conditions of such exchanges shall be agreed upon by the relevant institutions and/or through diplomatic channels, as appropriate.
- 4.3** The Parties shall encourage joint scientific and technological research, research and development projects in areas of mutual interest, as well as the exchange of scientific and technical information and publications. Content and conditions of this cooperation shall be specified by the relevant institutions of both countries.

EXCHANGE OF CULTURE AND ART EXPERTS

Article 5

The Parties welcome the high level of reciprocal cultural activities, noting the valuable role played by cultural ties between the two countries. The Parties reaffirm their intentions to continue to encourage direct cooperation between cultural institutions, organizations and individuals in both countries.

The Parties shall encourage initiatives designed to assist public and private organizations and individuals engaged in promoting and sponsoring cultural activities of Israeli origin in Slovakia and cultural activities of Slovak origin in Israel.

- 5.1** The Parties shall encourage the exchange 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. In addition, the Parties shall encourage visits of art critics, science writers and journalists dealing with culture, with the aim of promoting a better understanding of the sociological and cultural developments taking place in the other country.

5.2 Performing arts festivals:

The Parties shall encourage the exchange of experts and artists for performances and participation in their festivals of the performing arts. The details relating to these exchanges, such as the number of artists and length of stays, will be based on principles of reciprocity, and will be agreed upon by the Parties and/or relevant institutions, as appropriate.

The Parties shall inform one another in advance through diplomatic channels about major international festivals to be held in their respective countries, in order to facilitate such participation. Information will also be published on the websites of the respective competent authorities and institutions.

5.3 Plastic Arts, photography and design:

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.

5.4 Architecture:

The Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between architects, architectural institutions and the exchange of architects, as well as information sharing and the promotion of exhibitions.

5.5 Museums and Exhibitions:

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

5.6 Music:

The Parties shall encourage 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 personal visits on a commercial and non commercial basis.

The Parties shall strive to facilitate the participation of their musicians as well as jurors and observers in major festivals, competitions and events organized in both countries.

5.7 Dance:

The Parties shall encourage the exchange of dancers, choreographers, dance experts, teachers and producers of dance festivals. The Parties shall also jointly participate in developing multilateral cultural cooperation.

5.8 Theatre:

The Parties shall encourage the exchange of actors, directors, playwrights, critics etc. The Parties shall also jointly participate in developing multilateral cultural cooperation.

5.9 The Parties shall enable annual visits of experts/artists/producers/curators in the above

mentioned various fields of arts, for a total period of not exceeding five (5) days each year. Projects shall be agreed upon by the Parties through diplomatic channels.

CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY**Article 6**

6.1 The Parties shall encourage 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.

6.2 The Parties shall encourage cooperation between relevant authorities and institutions regarding the prevention of illegal trade in cultural heritage goods in accordance with international law and their respective national Law.

6.3 The Parties shall encourage 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.

6.4 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 determined by the Israel Antiquities Authority and the Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic.

6.5 During the course of this Program, the Parties shall exchange one (1) expert each year from the fields of archaeology, preservation of antiquities, restoration of cultural heritage or conservation of monuments and architecture, for a period of up to five (5) days. Details in this regard shall be determined by the Israel Antiquities Authority and the Monuments Board of the Slovak Republic.

6.6 The Parties shall encourage cooperation aimed on improving the protection and management of sites entered in and under preparation for entry in the List of World Cultural Heritage and allow for mutual contact and exchange of experts in his field.

6.7 The Parties hereby undertake to respect the integrity of the national cultural heritage and its universal protection from damage, destruction and confiscation in the territory of the other state.

LITERATURE AND BOOK FAIRS**Article 7**

7.1 The Parties shall work jointly to promote the 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.

For this purpose the Parties shall annually exchange three (3) persons (writers, poets or translators) each for a stay of up to five (5) days, while this program is in force.

7.2 The Parties shall encourage the participation of writers and editors in seminars, workshops and poetry readings aimed at promoting greater understanding between the two literary communities. The Parties shall support participation of poets and writers in festivals and literary events for up to five (5) days annually.

7.3 The Parties shall encourage direct contacts between book publishers and national libraries.

7.4 Each Party shall extend invitations to the other for participation in their respective International Book fairs on a commercial basis and non commercial basis, while this Program is in force. The Slovak Party invites the Israeli Party to participate in the Bibliotéka International Book Fair. Information regarding this fair can be found at www.incheba.sk/biblioteka.

The Israeli Party invites the Slovak Party to participate in the Jerusalem International Book Fair that takes place every two years in Jerusalem. Details regarding this book fair can be found at: www.jerusalembookfair.com.

CINEMA and AUDIO-VISUAL

Article 8

8.1 The Parties shall encourage the participation of films and film-makers at international film festivals of the other country. 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.

8.2 The Parties shall encourage organizing film weeks of the other Party in their countries. Films that are screened in this framework shall have English subtitles, if the language of the film is not English.

8.3 Each Party shall encourage mutual visits of an expert or public figure in the field of cinema. For this purpose the Parties shall exchange annually two (2) experts each in the fields of cinema and audiovisual for a period of up to five (5) days to participate in festivals, conferences, reviews, meetings, retrospectives and other prestigious international events.

8.4 The Parties shall encourage cooperation between cinema and television experts as well as film and television institutes.

The Parties welcome the direct cooperation between the Film and Television Schools as well as between their national cinematheques and the exchange of students and teachers in this field.

8.5 The Parties express their interest in promoting co-productions between Slovak and Israeli film producers. The Parties shall discuss and conclude a co-production (of films and video) agreement, with the aim to facilitate future film co-productions.

8.6 The Parties shall encourage cooperation between the television authorities in the two countries, as well as the exchange of materials (feature and documentary) and experts in this area, on a commercial and non-commercial basis. In addition, the Parties shall encourage holding workshops on the topic of educational television, staff training and background material aimed at enhancing each country's knowledge and understanding of the other country.

ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

Article 9

9.1 The Parties shall promote reciprocal cooperation between the state archive and public institutions and libraries, in accordance with their respective legislation, through exchanges of experts, scientific publications, microfilms, books, digital information, document copies, databases and regulations. The exchanges shall be carried out in accordance with domestic laws and regulations of each country and will be subject to the budgetary frameworks of the Parties.

9.2 The Parties shall consider the exchange of one (1) archivist or librarian for up to five (5) days during period of this program in order to acquire information on the organization of the respective archives/libraries as well as study and research missions.

COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS

Article 10

The Parties shall cooperate in the field of education, science, culture, sports, youth and communications in the framework of UNESCO and other international organizations, with the purpose of exchanging information and the implementation of common programs of action.

YOUTH EXCHANGE

Article 11

11.1 The Parties agree that the exchange of youth and young adults constitute a major contribution to the relations between the two countries. They shall therefore support such programs. Emphasis shall be placed on the active participation of young people in the community

and the promotion of youth cooperation and networking through the specific youth activities.

- 11.2** The Parties shall encourage mutual projects of professionals and experts in the field of youth. Details in this regard shall be determined between the Israel Youth Exchange Authority and Slovak Youth Institute – IUVENTA.

SPORTS

Article 12

The Parties shall encourage cooperation in sports, mainly by exchanging of sports teams, trainers and experts in diverse disciplines. Details shall be worked out through mutual consultations between interested organizations of both countries. The terms and conditions of these exchanges shall be agreed upon between interested organizations of both countries.

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

Article 13

- 13.1** Each Party shall ensure legal means for the protection of intellectual property rights of all materials obtained in the framework of this Program, in accordance with the laws and regulations in force in its country.
- 13.2** Intellectual property rights acquired or created as a result of joint activity in accordance with this program of cooperation shall be allocated by mutually agreed conditions set out in separate agreements prior to commencing the joint activity in compliance with the national law of each Party.
- 13.3** Neither of the Parties shall transmit any commercially valuable confidential information obtained in pursuance of this Program to any third Party without prior written consent of the Party from which such information originated.

GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 14

Participants of exchanges under this Program of cooperation must speak language of the state of other Party or English language or another language, agreed mutually by the Parties.

Article 15

Participants of exchanges under this Program of cooperation are responsible, before travelling to the receiving country to arrange health insurance during their stay in the country of the other Party.

Article 16

Scholarships according to Article 2:

- 16.1** The terms and conditions of the specialization scholarships granted by the Israeli Party for one academic year shall be published yearly through governmental channels as well as on the website of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs: www.mfa.gov.il.
- 16.2** The Israeli Party shall submit to the Slovak Party the names and completed application forms of its scholarship candidates pursuant to Article 2.2.2 of this Program not later than January 15th of each year and for the SAS summer language school (Article 2.2.1) not later than May 15th of the relevant year.
- 16.3** Applications regarding scholarships candidates must include:
- a) CV
 - b) Notarized copies of documents of education in English translation
 - c) Certification of health status
 - d) Document regarding competence in the required language
 - e) Detailed program of study or research (with presenting institution and experts whom he/she plans to visit)
 - f) Recommendation for at least one university teacher
 - g) Letter of acceptance/invitation from a foreign university

Article 17

Exchange of individuals (lectures, artists, experts etc.): The exchange shall be regulated as follows:

- Each Party shall send to the other relevant information (curriculum vitae, objectives of the visit, languages spoken, proposed itinerary and scheduled arrival and departure dates) in English, at least sixty (60) days prior to the expected date of visit of the delegation or individuals.
- The receiving Party shall confirm the acceptance of the proposal within thirty (30) days.
- 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.
- Each individual and delegation shall be responsible for their own medical insurance.
- Agreed through diplomatic channels, unless they will not be agreed in separate agreements of relevant institutions

FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

CULTURE

Article 18

Financial and other provisions, as well as the schedules of the events, shall be agreed upon by

mutual consultations between the relevant authorities of both countries. Failing any special agreements, the financial provisions will be adjusted on the basis of reciprocity, namely:

The costs for sending and accepting delegations within the framework of this program shall be covered as follows:

The sending Party shall:

- cover the international travel expenses up to the first destination and upon return from the final location of the stay of accepting Party
- shall ensure the covering of transportation of special equipment
- ensure that persons sent within the frame work of this program shall be covered by health insurance pursuant to the valid regulations of sending Party

The receiving Party shall:

- cover the costs of accommodation in its country
- ensure the program of the visit

Exchange of exhibitions:

While this program of cooperation in force, the Parties may exchange exhibitions. The organizational and financial rules of these exhibitions shall be agreed upon directly by the Parties or through diplomatic channels.

EDUCATION

Article 19

Sending Party shall cover travel expenses to the destination and back for participants of exchanges under this Program of cooperation.

Article 20

Israeli Party shall provide Slovak participants of course in Yad Vashem under Article 1.7 scholarship, which includes tuition fees, accommodation and pocket money.

Article 21

21.1 The Israeli Party shall provide participants in the Summer Course of the ULPAN Language School /beneficiaries of the scholarships accepted within 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.

The Slovak Party shall provide Israeli students:

- 21.2** participants of summer language course SAS:
- a) free tuition;
 - b) appropriate accommodation and board;
 - c) free participation in excursions, arising out of the approved program
- 21.3** scholarship holders pursuant Article 2.2.2 (doctoral (PhD.) students):
- a) free tuition;
 - b) appropriate accommodation in dormitories;
 - c) monthly scholarship for covering expenditure for accommodation, board and local transport, according to internal legal regulations in force.

FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 22

22.1 The implementation of this program of cooperation shall be ensured by the competent authorities of Parties. The competent authorities in the Slovak Republic are the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic and Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic. The competent authorities in the State of Israel are the Division for Cultural and Scientific Affairs, Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

22.2 This Program does not exclude the realization of other exchanges in the cultural, scientific and educational fields.

22.3 The Parties agree that all initiatives mentioned in this Program shall be carried out within the limits of the funds allocated in their respective annual budgets.

22.4 All activities and exchanges realized in accordance with this Program shall be implemented in accordance with the Law of the Parties.

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

22.6 The Parties entrust their competent authorities with the implementation of this Program.

22.7 This Program can be amended or modified by mutual consent of the Parties. The amendments or modifications shall be made in writing.

22.8 This Program is subject to national approval by each of the Parties and shall come into force on the thirtieth day following the receipt of the later note confirming its approval. The Program shall remain in force until 31 December 2016. It shall be automatically extended for an additional period of three (3) years, unless one of the Parties notifies the other Party, in writing form, about its desire to terminate it ninety (90) days prior to its expiration date.

Done and Signed in Jerusalem (city) on 25TH of
November 2013, (date), which corresponds to the 22nd

day of kislev, 5774, in two original copies in the English
language.

For the Government of the Slovak Republic

Peter Burian

For the Government of the State of Israel

Zeev Elkin