

**AGREEMENT ON CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC
AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC**

The Government of the Republic of Estonia and the Government of the Italian Republic, hereinafter referred to as the Contracting Parties,

expressing their wish to strengthen friendship ties between their two countries and to promote mutual understanding and knowledge by developing their relations in the fields of culture, education, science and technology,

agreed on the following:

Article 1

The purpose of the Agreement is to develop and to carry out activities that will promote better mutual understanding of the cultural heritage of both countries and advance mutual cultural, educational, scientific and technological cooperation.

The Contracting Parties shall foster activities that in accordance with their national legislation promote and develop the knowledge, diffusion and teaching of the language of one Contracting Party on the territory of the other.

Article 2

The Contracting Parties shall support direct cooperation between academic institutions and scientific research institutes. The Contracting Parties shall support exchange and visits of lecturers, cultural historians and cultural figures.

Article 3

The Contracting Parties may whenever necessary request by mutual agreement the participation of international organizations in the financing of cooperation activities foreseen by the present Agreement or by further agreements stipulated in its framework.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall intensify their cooperation in the fields of music, dance, visual arts, theatre, cinema and folk art, through the exchange of artists and reciprocal participation at exhibitions, film festivals and other significant events.

The Contracting Parties shall periodically exchange high level exhibitions that illustrate their art and cultural heritage.

Article 5

The Contracting Parties shall foster on their territories, by mutual agreement and as far as their resources allow, the activities of reciprocal cultural institutions like cultural institutes ,cultural associations and educational institutions of the other Contracting Party.

Such institutions shall be granted for their activities whatever facilities are foreseen in the legislation of that Contracting Party where they operate.

Article 6

The Contracting Parties shall foster the study of the other Contracting Party's language and literature, establishing chairs and departments at its universities, and supporting translation of the other Contracting Party's literature and the exchange and training of translators.

Article 7

The Contracting Parties shall exchange informative documentation and experts on the educational system and its development, in order to compare teaching rules and plans and to stipulate an agreement on the mutual recognition of general and higher education certificates, diplomas and academic degrees according to plans worked out by joint committees of specialists convened through diplomatic channels.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall periodically coordinate their plans for cooperation and areas of research that they consider essential for achieving common scientific goals.

The Contracting Parties shall define by mutual agreement their priorities in pursuing their scientific goals.

In order to intensify their cooperation in the fields of science and technology the Contracting Parties shall foster:

- a. the exchange of scientific and technological information;
- b. the exchange of experts and specialists;
- c. the organization of joint conferences and seminars;
- d. the carrying out of joint research, studies and programs in the fields to be agreed upon.

The Contracting Parties support and contribute to the development of contacts and cooperation between their state or private scientific organizations and institutions that are relevant for the introduction of new technologies.

Article 9

The Contracting Parties shall promote their cooperation in the field of archaeology through exchange of experiences and symposia, seminars and joint research.

The Contracting Parties shall mutually cover the costs of the archaeological expeditions of the other Contracting Party on its own territory.

Article 10

The Contracting Parties shall mutually grant, if possible, to university students and graduates of the other Contracting Party, scholarships for studies and research at the graduate and postgraduate level.

Article 11

The Contracting Parties shall promote close cooperation of their respective authorities to avoid and hinder illegal import and export of art treasures, audiovisual works, protected or valuable documents and other items in accordance with the provisions of protection of art treasures and intellectual property enforced in their countries.

Article 12

The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation, exchange of information and experiences in the field of sports and youth activities.

Article 13

The Contracting Parties shall promote the exchange of information in the fields of politics, economics, culture and public life, exchanging for this purpose information specialists and cultural historians and cultural figures.

Article 14

The Contracting Parties shall foster cooperation in the field of education and the mutual knowledge of educational systems, especially through the exchange of experts.

Article 15

The Contracting Parties shall foster cooperation between archives, museums and libraries through the exchange of information, exhibitions and experts.

Article 16

The Contracting Parties shall foster contacts and cooperation between radio and television organizations.

Article 17

For the implementation of this Agreement the Contracting Parties shall form a committee, the task of which will be to observe the development of cultural and scientific cooperation and the preparation of programs spanning several years. The committee will meet alternately in the capital of each Contracting Party.

Article 18

This Agreement shall be subject to ratification.

This Agreement shall enter into force 60 days after the exchange of ratification instruments.

Article 19

This Agreement is concluded for an unlimited period of time. It may be amended in writing by mutual consent. The amendments shall enter into force on the same terms as the Agreement.

Each Contracting Party has the right to denounce this Agreement by written notification through diplomatic channels.

The denunciation of this Agreement shall enter into force 6 months after respective written notification has been forwarded to the other Contracting Party through diplomatic channels.

The denunciation of this Agreement does not affect the fulfilment of programs agreed upon while the treaty was in force, except when the Contracting Parties decide otherwise.

In witness whereof, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed the present Agreement.

Done in Tallinn this 22 day of May 1997 in two copies, in Estonian, Italian and English, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergent interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC