

PROGRAM OF CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL
FOR THE YEARS 2009-2011

The Government of the Republic of Lithuania 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 and education, based on the Agreement on Cultural, Educational and Scientific Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Lithuania and the Government of the State of Israel signed in Jerusalem on October 2nd, 1994 have agreed on the following program of Cooperation for the years 2009, 2010 and 2011.

Both Parties are convinced that this cooperation shall contribute to the development of their relations and to raising awareness, particularly among youth in both countries, of the history and culture of the Lithuanian and Jewish peoples, the Republic of Lithuania and the State of Israel.

1. EDUCATION

Both Parties agree to promote cooperation in order to improve and strengthen mutual understanding and friendship between the two countries:

1.1. Both Parties shall encourage the cooperation between educational institutions of both countries.

1.2. Both Parties shall encourage exchange of information and experts.

The Parties shall promote good and constructive relations between the two countries in various fields of education.

1.3. Both Parties, taking into account their budgetary means, shall undertake to promote the exchange of information, experience, documentation and experts in the following areas:

- the educational systems of both countries
- teacher training and life-long learning for teachers
- organisation of education process;
- education regulations;

- education for special needs;
- decentralisation and school autonomy;
- civic education;
- work with gifted children;
- cultural integration of national minority groups (including the implementation of joint projects);
- implementation of drug prevention programs (including the implementation of joint projects);
- methodology of foreign language teaching;
- non-formal education;
- community schools (Jewish community schools or national minority schools);
- development of collaborative learning networks;
- education for equal opportunity-narrowing gaps;
- culture and heritage;
- education for equal opportunities between the genders;
- adult education;
- science and technology education;
- youth integration into the community.

In Lithuania information on the educational system is provided by the website of the Ministry of Education and Science at: www.smm.lt.

In Israel information on the educational system is provided by the website of the Ministry of Education at: www.education.gov.il.

1.4. Both Parties are committed to preventing the publication of textbooks, which encourage racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia in order to counter prejudice and negative stereotypes. Each Party shall bring to the attention of the other Party any detection of such publications.

1.5. Both Parties shall put special emphasis on research and educational work related to the tragic fate of the Jewish community in Lithuania during the Second World War under the Nazi occupation.

1.6. The Parties shall stress the importance of enabling young people to learn about the Holocaust during their schooling, in accordance with the Stockholm Declaration (adopted at the International Conference on the Holocaust held in January 2000). In this context, the Parties shall support educational activities undertaken in schools of all levels that aim at combating racism, anti-Semitism and xenophobia.

1.7. The Parties shall encourage participation of teachers, history teachers in particular, in the courses dealing with the history of the Holocaust and anti-Semitism which are organised by Yad Vashem, the Holocaust Martyrs' and Heroes' Remembrance Authority in Jerusalem. Three-week courses for English speaking participants shall be conducted every year in January and July.

1.8. The Parties shall act to promote the teaching of the language, literature, history and culture of both countries in their respective higher education institutions. For this purpose, the corresponding experts from the partner country shall be invited to deliver lectures, hold seminars and conduct other educational activities. The conditions under which the lecturers will perform their respective activities in the receiving country shall be negotiated between the respective institutions of both countries.

1.9. Both Parties shall encourage cooperation among schools on various projects based on Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

1.10. The Parties understand the importance of reciprocal recognition of educational certificates, diplomas and academic degrees. The Parties shall exchange information and documentation and shall consider holding negotiations in accordance to the rules and regulations of each country.

The Parties shall assist each other in solving problems concerning recognition of diplomas, research degrees and academic titles.

2. SCHOLARSHIPS

2.1. The Lithuanian Party shall annually offer one scholarship for Lithuanian (Baltic studies) summer courses and one scholarship for specialisation studies or research not exceeding a period of 10 months for postgraduate students and researchers of higher education and research institutions of the State of Israel.

2.2 The Israeli Party shall annually offer one scholarship for summer language courses (Modern Hebrew) and one scholarship for specialisation studies for one academic year (eight months) for postgraduate and doctoral students and researchers 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.) shall be annually published on the website of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at www.mfa.gov.il and spread through diplomatic channels. The scholarships are subject to the budgetary frameworks of the Parties.

2.3. Competent institutions of the Parties shall annually exchange information concerning the scholarships offered, requirements for the candidates, closing dates for submitting applications, etc. no later than by the end of the calendar year. The information shall also be published on the websites of competent institutions of the Parties, the addresses of which shall be specified annually by exchanging offers on scholarships through diplomatic channels.

3. SCIENCE

3.1. The Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between scientific and research institutes. The content of this cooperation shall be agreed upon by the competent institutions.

3.2. The Parties shall encourage mutual exchange of scientific and research workers with the objective of promoting research, studies, consultations and discussions in scientific disciplines. The respective institutions of both countries shall agree on terms and conditions of such exchange.

3.3. The Parties shall encourage joint scientific and technological research and joint projects in the areas of mutual interest, as well as exchange of scientific and technical information and publications.

4. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

4.1. The Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between universities, academies of sciences and other scientific research institutions.

4.2. Both Parties shall exchange publications, literature, research material and other information in the field of higher education.

4.3. Both Parties shall enable the participation of three (3) scientific workers 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 Programme is in force. The registration charges/fees in respect of such participants shall be borne by the host country.

4.4. The Parties shall cooperate in the promotion of studies relating to the cultures, languages and modern history of each other's country in their respective universities.

5. YOUTH EXCHANGE

5.1. Both Parties agree that the exchange of youth and young adults constitutes a major contribution to the relations between the two countries. They shall therefore encourage such exchanges.

The emphasis should be placed on the active participation of young people themselves and the promotion of youth cooperation and networking through different youth programmes.

5.2. The Parties shall encourage mutual projects of professionals and experts in the field of youth.

Details in this regard shall be determined between the Lithuanian Department of Youth Affairs under the Ministry of Social Security and Labour and Lithuanian Youth Council and the Israel Youth Exchange Council.

6. COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS

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

7. EXCHANGE OF CULTURE AND ART EXPERTS

General review

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

The Parties shall endeavour to support initiatives designed to assist public and private organisations and individuals engaged in promoting and sponsoring cultural activities of Lithuanian origin in Israel and cultural activities of Israeli origin in Lithuania.

7.1. The Parties shall support the exchange of artistic groups or individuals participating in tours and festivals, including conferences, symposia, mutual performances, workshops, artistic exposures as well as meetings involving the exchange of information and experience in the fields of music, theatre, dance, visual and plastic arts, design and so on.

7.2. Festivals: Both Parties shall encourage exchange of experts and artists for performances and participation in their festivals of music, dance and theatre. The details relating to these exchanges, such as the number of artists and length of stays, shall be based on principles of reciprocity.

Both Parties shall inform each other in advance about major international festivals to be held in their respective countries, in order to facilitate such participation. The diplomatic missions shall provide information in each other country's capital. The information shall also be published on the websites of the respective embassies and foreign ministries.

The Lithuanian Party invites the Israeli Party to participate in the major following festivals:

- International jazz festivals in Vilnius (annual, in November), in Kaunas (annual, in April-May), in Birštonas (annual, in March) and in Klaipėda;

- Vilnius Festival (annual, in June);
- Christopher Summer Festival (annual, in July-August, in Vilnius);
- Pažaislis Music Festival (annual, in July-August);
- International Festival of Modern Dance (annual, in October, in Kaunas);
- International Festival of Modern Music *Gaida* (annual, in October);
- International Poetry Festival *Poezijos pavasaris* (annual, in May);
- International Festival of Early Music *Banchetto musicale* (annual, in September);
- International Puppet Theatre Festival *Šypsos lėlės ir vaikai* (annual, in May, in Kaunas);
- International Theatre Festival *Sirenos* (annual, in September).

The Israeli Party invites the Lithuanian Party to participate in the major following festivals:

- Israel Festival in Jerusalem (annual, in May/June);
- Artur Rubinstein International Piano Master Competition (triennial, dates variable);
- Carmiel International Dance Festival (annual, in July);
- International Exposure at the Suzanne Dellal Centre for Dance in Tel-Aviv (annual, in December);
- International conference, Isra-Drama and international exposure for theatre (annual in December);
- Jerusalem International Book Fair (biennial, in February);
- Red Sea International Jazz Festival (annual, in August);
- Haifa International Theatre Festival for Children and Youth (annual, in April);
- Safed International Klezmer Festival (annual, in July or August);
- Dance-Europa at the Suzanne Dellal Centre for Dance and Theatre (annual, October-November);
- Felicija Blumental International Music Festival (annual, in May);

- International Festival for Puppet Theatre in Jerusalem (annual, in August);
- Keshet Eilon International Violin Master courses in western Galilee (annual, in September);
- Kfar Blum Chamber Music Festival (annual, in July);
- Folk Dance Festival M.A.T.A.F (annual, in July-August);

7.3. Plastic arts, architecture, photography and design: The Parties shall develop cooperation in the fields of fine arts and handicraft fairs.

They shall encourage exchange of exhibitions and cooperation between artists, folk craftsmen, art experts and specialists in traditional folk art works.

The Parties shall support the exchange of exhibitions while this Program is in force and shall promote visits of exhibition curators or experts in the restoration of art, for a period not exceeding four (4) days. Projects shall be agreed upon by the Parties through diplomatic channels.

Both Parties shall encourage direct cooperation between architects and their institutions and the exchange of architects as well as the sharing of information and promotion of exhibitions. For this purpose, both Parties shall exchange one (1) expert for a period of up to five (5) days while this Program is in force.

7.4. Museums and exhibitions: The Parties shall encourage direct contacts between museums and galleries and similar institutions of both countries, including exchanges of specialists, curators, material, special exhibits and information.

7.5. Music: The Parties shall support the presentation of the work of their composers in the other country. They shall also support direct contacts between musicians (conductors, soloists, etc.), music organisations, institutions, associations, orchestras and conservatoires in the area of classical and contemporary music.

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

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

7.7. Theatre: the Parties shall encourage the exchange of actors, directors, playwrights, critics and others. The Parties shall also jointly participate in developing multilateral cultural cooperation.

7.8. 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. Four (4) days shall be allotted for this purpose.

7.9. Gastronomic culture: The Parties shall welcome the possibilities to cooperate in the field of gastronomic culture, in order to promote their respective gastronomic traditions. For this purpose, both Parties shall exchange up to three (3) experts for a period of up to four (4) days while this Programme is in force.

8. LITERATURE AND BOOK FAIRS

8.1. Both Parties shall work jointly to promote the translation of contemporary prose, poetry and other literary works of their country into the language of the other country. Both Parties shall also encourage the distribution of the works thus translated in their respective languages.

The respective bodies of the Parties shall exchange three (3) persons (writers, poets or translators) each for a stay of up to five (5) days while this Programme is in force.

8.2. Both Parties shall encourage writers and editors to participate 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.

Five (5) days shall be allotted annually for this purpose.

8.3. Both Parties shall encourage direct contacts between book publishers and national libraries.

8.4. Each Party shall extend invitation to the other for participation in their respective international book fairs on a commercial and non-commercial basis, while this Programme is in force.

The Lithuanian Party shall invite the Israeli publishers to participate in the annual Vilnius International Book Fair.

The Israeli Party shall invite the Lithuanian Party to participate in the Jerusalem International Book Fair that takes place every two years in Jerusalem.

9. ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES

9.1. Both Parties shall promote the reciprocal cooperation between the archive departments of state and public institutions and between libraries, in accordance with their respective legislation, through exchanges of experts, scientific publications, microfilms, books, digital information and document copies, databases and regulations. The exchanges

shall take place in accordance with domestic legal provisions and shall be subject to the budgetary frameworks of both countries.

9.2. Both Parties shall consider the exchange of one archivist or librarian for a period of up to five (5) days on each occasion in order to acquire information on the organisation of the respective archives/libraries as well as of study and research missions.

10. CINEMA AND AUDIO-VISUAL

10.1. The Parties shall encourage the participation of films and film-makers in the international film festivals of the other country. Both Parties shall promote special cinema retrospectives of the other country as part of the film festivals being held in their country.

The Lithuanian Party notifies the Israeli Party of the following film festivals held in Lithuania:

- International Film Festival *Kino pavasaris* (annual, in March);
- International Short Film Festival *Tinklai* (annual, in September);
- International Animated Film Festival *Tindirindis* (annual, in October);
- Vilnius International Documentary Festival (annual, in November).

The Israeli Party notifies the Lithuanian Party of the following major film festivals that are held in Israel:

- Jerusalem International Film Festival (annual, in July);
- Haifa International Film Festival (annual, in October);
- International Student Film Festival in Tel-Aviv (biennial, in June);
- International Women's Film Festival in Rehovot (annual, in September);
- Doc-Aviv International Documentary Film Festival in Tel-Aviv (annual, in April);
- World Jewish Film Festival in Beer-Sheva (annual, in November).

10.2. The Parties shall assist each other in sending of films, subject to their legal and financial regulations.

10.3. The Parties shall encourage the holding of film weeks of the other Party in their own country. Films shall be screened by both countries and have English subtitles if the

language of the film is not English as well as meet local legislation requirements regarding language usage.

Each Party shall encourage reciprocal visits of an expert or personality in the field of cinema. For this purpose, the Parties shall exchange annually two (2) experts in the world of cinema and audiovisuals for a period of up to five (5) days, for participation in festivals, conferences, reviews, meetings, retrospectives and other prestigious international event.

10.4. The Parties shall encourage cooperation between cinema and television experts as well as film and television institutions of the two countries.

Both Parties welcome the proposal for cooperation between film and television schools as well as between their national cinematheques and shall formulate proposals for the exchange of students and teachers of both film schools.

10.5. Both Parties shall express their interest in promoting co-productions between Lithuanian and Israeli film producers. Both Parties shall discuss a co-production (of films and video) agreement, which shall facilitate future film co-productions.

10.6. The Parties shall encourage cooperation between the television authorities in the two countries as well as the exchange of material (feature and documentary) and experts in this area, on a commercial and non-commercial basis, and the holding of 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.

11. SPORTS

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

12. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY

12.1. Both Parties shall encourage cooperation in the protection of their cultural heritage and shall keep each other informed on relevant national laws and regulations. In addition, they shall encourage activities aimed at preserving locations of mutual interest.

12.2. Both 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.

12.3. Both Parties shall encourage cooperation with a view to preventing illegal trade in cultural heritage goods, in accordance with international law and national laws and regulations in force in the two countries.

12.4. Both Parties shall encourage cooperation in the field of archaeological excavations, urban conservation and architecture research. Details of this cooperation shall be agreed by relevant institutions of both countries.

12.5. The Parties shall encourage the relevant authorities in their respective countries to exchange archaeological information and publications. They shall also encourage the organisation of the joint seminars on subjects of mutual interest to be held during the course of this Programme. Details in this regard shall be determined by relevant institutions of both countries.

12.6. During the course of this Program, the Parties shall exchange one (1) expert from the fields of archaeology, antiquities preservation, cultural heritage restoration and conservation of monuments and architecture, for a period of up to four (4) days, in order to exchange information on the above matters.

13. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

13.1. Each Party shall ensure legal means for the protection of intellectual property rights of all materials obtained on the basis of this Agreement, 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 will be allocated by mutually agreed conditions set out in separate agreements prior to commencing the joint activity.

13.3. No Party shall transmit any commercially valuable confidential information obtained in pursuance of this Agreement to any third Party without prior written consent of the other Party.

14. MISCELLANEOUS

14.1. The general and financial terms mentioned in the Annex shall form an integral part of this Program.

14.2. This Program shall not exclude the realisation of other exchanges in the fields of culture, science and education.

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

14.4. All activities and exchanges realised under this Program shall be implemented in accordance with the Law of both countries.

14.5. All additional matters that might arise in the course of this Program shall be settled through diplomatic channels.

14.6. The Parties shall entrust their competent institutions with the implementation of this Program.

14.7. This Program shall come into force on the date of its signature and shall be in force until 31 December 2011.

14.8. This Program may be extended for additional periods of three years each, by mutual consent of the Parties. Each extension shall be made in writing.

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

Done in Vilnius on 22 June 2009 which corresponds to 22 June, 5769, in two original copies in the English language, all texts being equally authentic.

**For the Government of the Republic of
Lithuania**

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

Arūnas Štikonas

Avigdor Liebesman

ANNEX

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

1. Financial and other provisions as well as the schedule of the events shall be agreed upon by mutual consultations between the interested agencies of both countries. Failing any special agreements, the financial provisions are agreed upon on the basis of reciprocity, namely:

1.1. The Sending Party shall cover the round trip travel expenses of their delegations and representatives, including the transporting of the professional equipment and exhibits.

1.2. The Receiving Party shall cover the costs of accommodation in the country.

2. Exchange of experts (teachers, researchers, artists, writers, translators, etc.).

2.1. The exchange of experts (teachers, researchers, artists, writers, translators, etc.) shall be regulated as follows:

Each Party shall send to the other Party the personal data (names, curricula vitae, objectives of the visit, languages spoken, proposed itinerary and scheduled arrival and departure dates) in English at least two (2) months in advance of the expected date of visit of the delegation or individuals.

2.2. The Receiving Party shall confirm its acceptance within one (1) month of the proposal submission.

2.3. The invited person(s) or delegation should know either the language of the Receiving Party, English or any other language mutually agreed between the Parties.

2.4. The Sending Party shall cover the round trip travel expenses of its representatives.

2.5. The Receiving Party shall cover the expenses of accommodation in its country.

3. Scholarships

The terms and financial conditions of the scholarships granted by the Parties shall be published yearly through the diplomatic channels as well as at the websites:

In Lithuania – on the website of the Education Exchanges Support Foundation:
<http://www.smpf.lt>;

In Israel – on the website of the Israeli Ministry of Foreign Affairs:
<http://www.mfa.gov.il>.

The Sending Party shall cover health insurance and the round trip expenses to and from the place of destination for the winners of scholarships of the other Party.

4. Exchange of Exhibitions:

Exchanges of exhibitions shall be implemented under the following conditions:

a) The Sending Party shall cover the costs of transportation of exhibits to and from the predetermined destination in the country of the Receiving Party;

b) The Receiving Party shall cover the costs of transportation of exhibits within its territory and costs related to the organisation of the exhibition, including costs connected with its installation and dismantlement, unless the Parties agree otherwise. The Receiving Party shall inform the public about the exhibition;

c) The Sending Party shall bear the costs of insurance of the exhibits;

d) The Receiving Party shall cover accommodation for the specialists (artists/curators) accompanying the exhibition in accordance with the financial provisions of the present Programme. The Parties shall agree upon the number of persons accompanying the exhibition and on the duration of their stay.