

**PROGRAM OF CULTURAL, EDUCATIONAL AND SCIENTIFIC, SPORTS AND YOUTH  
COOPERATION  
BETWEEN  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA  
AND  
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL  
FOR THE YEARS 2017-2020**

The Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the State of Israel (hereinafter referred to as “the Sides”), guided by their desire to strengthen their friendly relations and to promote exchanges in the spheres of culture, education and science, sports and youth based on the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the State of Israel on Cooperation in the fields of Culture, Science and Education signed in Jerusalem on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1994, have agreed on the following Program of Cooperation for the years 2017, 2018, 2019 and 2020.

Both Sides are convinced that the 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.

## **FIELDS OF COOPERATION**

### **1. EXCHANGE OF CULTURE AND ART EXPERTS**

#### **General review**

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

The Sides shall encourage initiatives design to assist state and private organizations and individuals to promote cultural activities of Armenian origin in Israel and cultural activities of Israeli origin in Armenia.

**1.1.** The Sides 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, symposiums, mutual performances, workshops, exhibitions and meeting involving the exchange of information and experiences. The Sides shall encourage visits of art critics, culturologists and journalists working in the sphere of culture for wide coverage of cultural developments taking place in the other Side's country.

**1.2. Performing arts festivals:**

The Sides shall encourage the exchange of artists, as well as their participation in performing arts festivals taking place in their countries. The terms and conditions of such exchange shall be agreed upon by the relevant institutions.

The Sides shall inform each other in advance about the main international festivals to be held in their respective countries through diplomatic channels. Information will also be published on the websites of the respective competent authorities and institutions.

**1.3. Visual arts, photography and design:**

The Sides shall cooperate in the field of fine arts' and handicraft fairs, photography and design. They shall encourage the exchange of exhibitions and cooperation between artists, folk craftsmen, culturologists.

**1.4. Museums and Exhibitions:**

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

The Sides shall encourage the exchange of contemporary art exhibitions including works of art from museums, official and alternative exhibition spaces, private galleries, art schools and galleries, and the realization of joint contemporary arts projects; as well as historical exhibitions related to key periods and themes in each nation's annals.

**1.5. Music:**

The Sides shall encourage the presentation of the work of their composers in the other Side's country. They shall also encourage 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 musicians.

The Sides shall strive to facilitate the participation of their musicians as well as juries in main festivals, competitions and events organized in both countries.

#### **1.6. Dance:**

The Sides shall encourage the exchange of dancers, choreographers, dance specialists and producers of dance festivals.

#### **1.7. Theatre:**

The Sides shall encourage the exchange of actors, directors, playwrights, critics and the other specialists of the sphere.

**1.8.** The Sides shall enable annual visits of experts/artists/producers/curators in the above mentioned fields of arts, for a total period of not exceeding five (5) days each year.

## **2. CULTURAL HERITAGE AND ARCHAEOLOGY**

**2.1.** The Sides will endeavor to cooperate in the protection of cultural heritage, exchanging information on relevant national legislations. The Sides may encourage activities aimed at preserving sites of mutual interest.

**2.2.** The Sides 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.

**2.3.** The Sides encourage direct cooperation between relevant authorities and institutions with a view of preventing the illegal trade in cultural heritage goods in accordance with their international commitments and respective national legislations.

**2.4.** The Sides 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 Sides.

- 2.5. The Sides shall encourage the relevant authorities in their countries to exchange information and publications of archaeological 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 Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia and Israel Antiquities Authority.
- 2.6. During the course of this Program, the Sides shall exchange one (1) expert each year from the fields of preservation of cultural heritage and archaeology for a period of up to five (5) days. Details shall be determined by the Ministry of Culture of the Republic of Armenia and the Israel Antiquities Authority.

### **3. LITERATURE AND BOOK FAIRS**

- 3.1. The Sides shall jointly encourage the exchange of translations of contemporary prose, poetry and other literary works. The Sides shall also encourage the distribution of these translated works.

For this purpose the Sides 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 effect.

- 3.2. The Sides shall encourage writers and editors of their countries to participate in seminars, workshops, poetry readings. The Sides shall encourage the participation of poets and writers in the other Side's country's festivals and literary events for up to five (5) days annually.

- 3.3. The Sides shall encourage direct contacts between book publishers and national libraries.

- 3.4. Each Side 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 effect.

### **4. CINEMA and AUDIO – VISUAL**

- 4.1. The Sides shall encourage the participation of films and film-makers in each other's countries international film festivals. The Sides shall encourage cinema retrospectives of the other Side's country as part of international film festivals being held in their

country. Information regarding main film festivals shall be exchanged through diplomatic channels.

- 4.2. Each Side shall encourage holding film weeks of the other Side's country in its own country. The films to be presented in the framework of these film weeks shall have English subtitles, if they are not in English.
- 4.3. Each Side shall encourage mutual visits of specialists in the field of cinema. For this purpose the Sides shall exchange annually two (2) specialists 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.
- 4.4. The Sides welcome the direct cooperation between the Film and Television Schools as well as between their national cinema foundations including the exchange of students and lecturers of this field.
- 4.5. The Sides express their interest in promoting co-productions between Armenian and Israeli film producers. The Sides shall discuss and examine the possibility of signing a co-production (of films and video) Agreement, with the aim to facilitate future film co-productions.

## **5. ARCHIVES AND LIBRARIES**

- 5.1. The Sides shall encourage reciprocal cooperation between the archive departments of state 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 realized in accordance with national legislation of each country and will be subject to the budgetary possibilities of the Sides.
- 5.2. The Sides 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 structure of the archives/ libraries as well as study and research missions.

## **6. EDUCATION**

**6.1.** The Sides shall promote exchange of information and constructive contacts between the two countries, in various aspects of education.

**6.2.** The Sides shall encourage the development of cooperation between educational institutes of both countries.

**6.3.** The Sides 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;
- 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;
- Informal and formal 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 the Republic of Armenia information on the educational system can be obtained from the website of: [www.edu.am](http://www.edu.am)

In Israel, information on the educational system can be obtained from the website of the Ministry of Education: [www.education.gov.il](http://www.education.gov.il)

**6.4.** The Sides 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 Side will bring to the attention of the other if such publications are detected.

**6.5.** The Sides shall explore potential research cooperation between The Armenian Genocide Museum & Institute (AGMI) in Yerevan and Yad Vashem – The World Holocaust Remembrance Center, in Jerusalem.

**6.6.** The Sides will explore the possibility of participation by Armenian teachers in seminars at the International School of Holocaust Studies (Yad Vashem) in Jerusalem.

**6.7.** The Sides shall act to encourage the teaching of the language, literature, history and culture of the other Side's country at their respective primary, secondary and higher education institutions. For this purpose, the corresponding experts from the partner country will be invited 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 become the subject of negotiations between the respective institutions of both countries or through diplomatic channels.

**6.8.** The Sides shall encourage cooperation between schools on various projects based on Information and Communications Technology (ICT).

## **7. SCHOLARSHIPS**

**7.1.** The Armenian Side shall offer one (1) annual Armenian summer language courses and annual scholarships for one (1) academic year (eight months) each for post-graduate or research students who wish to undertake studies in Armenian University.

**7.2.** The Israeli Side shall offer one (1) annual Modern Hebrew summer language courses and one (1) specialization scholarship for one (1) academic year (eight

months) each for post-graduate or research students who wish to undertake studies in Israeli higher education institutions.

Information for application (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: <http://www.mfa.gov.il>.

**7.3.** These scholarships are subject to the budgetary frameworks of the Sides.

## **8. COOPERATION BETWEEN HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS**

**8.1.** The Sides shall encourage the exchange of publications, literature, research materials and other information in the field of higher education.

**8.2.** The Sides shall enable participation of three (3) academics in national and international research 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 effect.

**8.3.** The Sides shall cooperate in the promotion of studies relating to the cultures, languages and modern history of each other's country in the respective higher education institutions.

## **9. SCIENCE**

**9.1.** The Sides 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.

**9.2.** The Sides 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 exchange shall be agreed upon by the relevant institutions and/or through diplomatic channels, as appropriate.



- 9.3.** The Sides 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.
- 9.4.** The Sides shall encourage direct cooperation between higher education institutes, academies of sciences, and other scientific research institutions.

## **10. SPORTS**

- 10.1.** The Sides shall encourage cooperation in the field of sport, mainly by organizing joint training camps, participation in international tournaments to be organized in two countries, exchange of sports teams, trainers and specialists of the field, as well as exchange of experience between the Sides. The terms and conditions of the activities under this Paragraph shall be agreed upon.
- 10.2.** The Sides shall organize mutual visits of delegations to each other's countries. The dates and details in this regard shall be determined between the The Ministry of Sport and Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and the Ministry of Culture and Sports of the State of Israel.
- 10.3.** The Sides are encouraged to exchange invitations for participation in the events held in sports field in both countries.

## **11. YOUTH EXCHANGE**

- 11.1.** The Sides 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.
- 11.2.** Emphasis will 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.
- 11.3.** The Sides shall encourage mutual projects of professionals and experts in the field of youth. Details in this regard shall be determined between the State

Authority for Youth Affairs of the Republic of Armenia and the Israel Youth Exchange Authority.

## **12. COOPERATION IN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS**

The Sides shall cooperate in the fields of culture, education, science, sports and youth in the framework of UNESCO and other international organizations with the purpose of exchanging information and the implementation of joint programs of action.

## **13. INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY**

**13.1.** Each Side shall ensure legal means for the protection of intellectual property rights of all materials obtained in the framework of this Program, in accordance with its national legislation.

**13.2.** Intellectual property rights acquired or created as a result of joint activity in accordance with this Program will be allocated by mutually agreed conditions set out in separate arrangements prior to commencing the joint activity.

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

## **14. FINANCIAL PROVISIONS**

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 arrangements, the financial provisions will be the following:

**14.1.** The Sending Side shall cover the international travel expenses of their delegations, and ensure the covering of transportation of special equipment and medical insurance.

**14.2.** The Receiving Side shall cover the expenses of accommodation in its country and local transportation.

**14.3.** All the initiatives in the framework of this Program shall be carried out within the limits of the funds allocated in the Sides' respective annual budgets.

**14.4. Exchange of individuals (experts etc.):** The exchange shall be regulated as follows:

- Each Side shall send to the other data (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 Side shall confirm the acceptance of the proposal within thirty (30) days, or as soon as it is possible.
- Invited persons or delegations should be able to communicate in either the language of the Receiving country or institutions, or English or any other mutually agreed upon.
- Each individual and delegation shall be responsible for their own medical insurance.

## **15. FINAL PROVISIONS**

**15.1.** This Program does not exclude the realization of any other cooperation in the framework of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Armenia and the Government of the State of Israel on Cooperation in the fields of Culture, Science and Education signed in Jerusalem on 19<sup>th</sup> December 1994.

**15.2.** All disagreements that might arise in the course of this Program shall be settled through consultations and diplomatic negotiations.

**15.3.** This Program may be modified by the mutual written consent of the Sides and shall be fixed in a separate protocol comprising an integral part of this Program.

**15.4.** Any activity carried out by each Side pursuant to this Program, shall be in accordance with its national legislation.

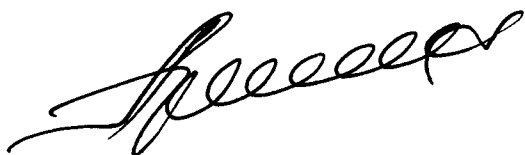
**15.5.** This Program shall come into effect on the date of its signature and shall remain in effect until 31<sup>st</sup> of December 2020, unless either Side notifies the

other through diplomatic channels of its intention to terminate it, at least ninety (90) days prior to the date of its intended termination.

15.6. The termination of this Program shall not affect the implementation of the activities already initiated in its framework and not completed by the date of termination.

Signed in Yerevan on 25<sup>th</sup> of July, 2017, which corresponds to the 2  
day of Av 5777 in the Hebrew calendar, in two original copies in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA



FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE STATE OF ISRAEL



22/7 '17