AGREEMENT

between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on cultural, scientific and technological cooperation

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

Convinced that cultural, scientific and technological cooperation constitutes one of the essential elements in bilateral relations,

Considering the mutual interest in strengthening the friendly relations between the two Countries,

Wishing to enhance mutual understanding and cooperation through the development of cultural, scientific and technological relations, also with the intention of facilitating, encouraging, and promoting cultural cooperation, as laid down in Article 70 of the Agreement on Partnership and Cooperation between the European Union and the Kyrgyz Republic, signed in Brussels on 9 February 1995,

Have agreed for the following:

Article 1 Purposes

The purpose of this Agreement is to promote the expansion and strengthening of the links between scientific research organisations and institutes, higher education institutions, other education and training institutions and organizations, legal entities and individuals of the States of the Contracting Parties by creating favourable conditions for cooperation and development on a mutually beneficial and balanced basis.

Article 2 Areas of cooperation

The Contracting Parties shall promote cooperation in the following areas: culture and arts, restoration, preservation and protection of the cultural heritage, museums, libraries, safeguarding, enhancing the significance and promoting respective archive and documentary assets, school and University-level education and related cooperation, tourism, exchange of updated

information and documentation on school educational systems. The Contracting Parties shall promote the development of cultural, scientific and technological cooperation through the implementation of the following activities: realization of joint scientific research and technological projects and possible exchange of research instruments and materials; exchange of scholars, researchers and technical experts, in order to implement technical and scientific programs, projects and other activities related to scientific and technological cooperation; holding of seminars, symposiums and other scientific meetings; exchange of technical and scientific information; joint implementation of activities aimed at increasing cooperation on technologies and innovation; other forms of scientific and technological cooperation, as may be agreed by the Contracting Parties.

Article 3 University education and research

In the field of University education the Contracting Parties shall promote the development of cooperation related to the exchanges of experience and knowledge acquired in the University, particularly in the scientific and technological sectors, through the organization of seminars, exchanges of lecturers and researchers in their research laboratories and academic establishments. The Contracting Parties shall exchange scientific reports published at the end of their scientific cooperation meetings.

The Contracting Parties shall also promote initiatives that would improve the knowledge, the expansion and the teaching of each other's language on the territory of the other Contracting Party. For this purpose they shall expand the learning of each other's languages and literatures in the States of the Contracting Parties through increasing the number of professorship departments and lecturers.

The Contracting Parties shall encourage, in particular, the elaboration and issuance of Italian-Kyrgyz and Kyrgyz-Italian dictionaries.

The Contracting Parties shall promote the development of cooperation between relevant higher education institutions in the field of music, dance, art and design, through the conclusion of agreements on exchanges of students and lecturers, the implementation of joint activities, including those related to artistic production.

Article 4 Education

In the field of school education, the Contracting Parties shall promote the development of cooperation in order to increase:

- a) exchanges of experiences in teaching methods, educational materials and programs used in the school systems of the two countries;
- b) exchanges of teachers, experts, students, as well as exchanges between institutions, organisations and entities related to education and enhancement of qualification, with the purpose of improving teaching methods and

educational materials.

The Contracting Parties shall promote possible cooperation between their Universities and cooperation between their public institutions in charge of the youth issues, as well as the initiatives of associations, bodies, and local organisations aimed at the exchange of experiences on important issues for the development of international cooperation.

Article 5 Scholarships

In the framework of this Agreement, within their means and based on the principle of reciprocity, the Contracting Parties shall provide citizens of the other Party with scholarships for attending University courses (including 1st and 2nd level postgraduate master's degrees), PhDs, courses on Italian language and culture and on the teaching of the Italian language, as well as courses at high level education institutes on arts, music and dance.

Article 6 Cooperation in the field of culture and art

The Contracting Parties shall promote direct contacts and cooperation between organisations and institutions in the field of fine and performing arts, literature, architecture and decorative arts to participate in festivals, performances, exhibitions and other events arranged in both Countries. They shall also encourage the exchange of representatives of different fields of culture, including fine and performing arts, to share knowledge and experience to hold art and design events.

The Contracting Parties shall encourage the translation and publication of essays and literary works of the other Party, also through awards and bonuses.

Moreover, they shall promote direct cooperation between museums, archives and libraries in order to protect, preserve and restore the cultural heritage, the safeguarding and management of the cultural landscape; they shall promote the widest cooperation in the field of archaeology through the exchanges of information, publications and experiences, by organising symposiums and seminars, joint research, excavation, restoration and other initiatives aimed at raising the significance and preservation of their respective archaeological and cultural heritage.

Article 7

Cooperation in combating the illicit trafficking of the works of art

The Contracting Parties shall promote close cooperation in preventing and combating the illicit trafficking of the works of art, cultural assets, archaeological finds, documents and other objects of historical and artistic value, as well as the exchange of information aimed at combating criminal activities in the illicit trading of the works of art.

The Contracting Parties shall act in compliance with their national legislation on banning and preventing the illicit import, export and transfer of the property of cultural assets.

Article 8

Cooperation in the field of mass media, sports and the youth policy

The Contracting Parties shall promote investments on projects of major interest for both Parties in the field of physical education and sports. The Parties shall encourage the participation of experts in seminars, courses, scientific conferences concerning the development of physical education, sports and the youth policy, by organising study tours, contests and other appropriate initiatives. They will promote cooperation between organizations and institutions dealing with young people issues to develop the exchanges of experiences and the initiatives on matters of international importance.

The Contracting Parties shall encourage direct contacts between public radio and television broadcasters.

Article 9

Scientific and technological cooperation: activities and fields

The Contracting Parties shall promote scientific and technological cooperation between public and private academic institutions, research institutions and scientific organizations, within the financial means provided by each Party, through:

- a. exchange visits by scientific delegations and researchers;
- b. exchange of scientific and technical information;
- c. joint scientific and technical researches in areas of common interest;
- d. creation of joint laboratories;
- e. organization of seminars, workshops, conferences and exhibitions in the fields of common interest;
- f. any other form of cooperation the Parties may agree upon;
- g. concluding conventions and agreements between institutions.

In order to implement this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall sign their respective cooperation plans summing up the concrete initiatives under this Agreement and the financial issues negotiated for their implementation.

The initiatives will be financed by the respective State authorities according to the field of their activities within the approved budget of Ministries and Agencies for the relevant year, as well as through sponsorships and financial allocations.

Article 10 Coordinating Bodies

The national bodies responsible for the implementation of this Agreement shall be the Ministry of Education, University and Research of the Italian Republic and the State Authorities competent for culture, education and science of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Article 11

Information, technology transfer and intellectual property

The Contracting Parties shall promote exchanges of technological information, as well as joint activities of scientific cooperation aimed at technology transfer.

The Contracting Parties shall implement and develop cooperation in the field of protection and use of intellectual property according to the national legislations of the Parties and the international treaties of which the two States are members, and, as for the Italian side, in full compliance with the framework provided for by the European Union legislation in this field.

Article 12 Joint Committee

To implement this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall establish a Joint Committee whose tasks include drawing up long term executive programs and setting up priorities and practical areas of educational, scientific and technological cooperation between the Contracting Parties.

The Committee shall monitor that cooperation takes place in the most favourable conditions, periodically evaluating the status of programs, the initiatives and perspectives.

This Committee shall meet alternately in the capitals of both Parties in the days agreed through diplomatic channels.

Article 13 Dispute settlement

Any disputes that may arise relating to the interpretation and application of this Agreement shall be settled between the Contracting Parties by negotiation. This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Contracting Parties and any amendment shall be formally agreed in separate Protocols which shall be an integral part of this Agreement.

Article 14 Entry into force and denunciation

This Agreement shall be of unlimited duration and shall enter into force from the date of receipt of the last written notification, through diplomatic channels, of the execution by the Contracting Parties of the respective internal procedures necessary for its entry into force.

Each Contracting Party may denounce this Agreement by written notification through diplomatic channels. In this case, this Agreement shall terminate upon six months' written notice to the other Contracting Party. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect the validity of the treaties and agreements signed before the termination itself and not completely or partially executed at the time of termination, unless the Contracting Parties decide otherwise.

The present Agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Contracting Parties, deriving from other international agreements to which they are the Parties.

Done in Bishkek on February 14, 2013, in two original copies, each in the Italian, Kyrgyz, Russian and English languages, all the texts being equally authentic. If any dispute arises concerning the interpretation of the provisions of this Agreement, the text in English shall prevail.

For the Government of the Italian Republic

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For the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic

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LAVORI PREPARATORI

Senato della Repubblica (atto n. 1142):

Presentato dal Ministro degli affari esteri e della cooperazione internazionale Enzo Moavero Milanesi (Governo Conte-I) il 13 marzo 2019. Assegnato alla 3ª commissione permanente (affari esteri, emigrazione) in sede referente il 17 aprile 2019, con i pareri delle commissioni 1ª (affari costituzionali), 2ª (giustizia), 5ª (bilancio) e 7ª (pubblica istruzione).

Esaminato dalla 3ª commissione (affari esteri, emigrazione) in sede referente il 4 giugno 2019 e il 29 ottobre 2019.

Esaminato in aula e approvato il 30 ottobre 2019.

Camera dei deputati (atto n. 2231):

Assegnato alla III commissione (affari esteri e comunitari) in sede referente il 5 novembre 2019, con i pareri delle commissioni I (affari costituzionali), II (giustizia), V (bilancio) e VII (cultura).

Esaminato dalla III commissione (affari esteri e comunitari) in sede referente, il 1° settembre e il 29 settembre 2020.

Esaminato in aula il 2 novembre 2020 e approvato, con modificazioni, il 23 marzo 2021.

Senato della Repubblica (atto n. 1142-B):

Assegnato alla 3ª commissione (affari esteri, emigrazione) in sede referente il 31 marzo 2021, con il parere della commissione 5ª (bilancio). Esaminato dalla 3ª commissione (affari esteri e comunitari) in sede referente, il 4 maggio e il 25 maggio 2021. Esaminato in aula e approvato definitivamente il 26 maggio 2021.

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