MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

ON CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELDS OF EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND CULTURE

between

the Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of Finland

and

the Ministry of Culture, Higher education and Research of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

Luxembourg
18.5.2009
The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture of the Republic of Finland and

the Ministry of Culture, Higher education and Research of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg

desirous to develop cooperation between the two countries in the fields of education, science and culture,

convinced that such cooperation will contribute to better mutual understanding and enhancement of relations at different levels,

have agreed as follows:

I HIGHER EDUCATION

1. The Parties agree to further direct cooperation between the universities and other relevant educational institutions in their respective countries, as well as between institutions that deal with scientific research and technological development. They also agree to encourage joint research projects, in accordance, where appropriate, with agreements concluded directly between the institutions concerned.

2. The Parties will exchange information on higher education studies and degrees in order to facilitate the appropriate evaluation of studies and degrees taken in the other country. The Parties will encourage direct relations between the relevant institutions in both countries.

3. On the Finnish side The Centre for International Mobility CIMO awards and administers scholarships for international students, postgraduate students (after Master-level), researchers (postgraduates after Master-level degree or postdoctorates), teachers and administrative staff of universities. More information on the scholarships can be found on CIMO's web service at http://finland.cimo.fi. A brief description of scholarship programmes and financial provisions that both Parties offer to each other is given in Annex I (Finnish) and Annex II (Luxembourgish).

II VOCATIONAL AND ADULT EDUCATION

4. During the period of validity of this Memorandum of Understanding the Parties will encourage exchange of delegations in the field of education. The terms of cooperation will be specified through direct consultations between the institutions concerned.

5. Upon requests the Parties will exchange information and documentation on the structure, content and organisation of education.
III SCIENCE AND RESEARCH

6. The Parties will encourage cooperation in science and research between universities, academies of science and other relevant institutions.

7. Cooperation can take the following forms:
   a) joint research projects,
   b) exchange of scientists, experts and professors,
   c) joint participation in relevant international research programmes,
   d) exchange of information on science and technology policy issues

8. The Parties will encourage cooperation in supporting and promoting the principles of sustainable development in the fields of science and research.

All relevant details will be specified directly between the institutions concerned.

IV CULTURE

9. The Parties will encourage direct contacts between their institutions in the fields of arts and culture.

10. The Parties will inform each other about festivals and other important cultural events in their respective countries.

11. The Parties will, in accordance with their respective legislations, cooperate in preventing the illicit trafficking of cultural property.

12. The Parties will encourage cooperation in the preservation of cultural heritage and in restoration of cultural and historical monuments.

13. The Parties will encourage the development of their cooperation within the multilateral framework such as UNESCO, notably the implementation of the Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and related communication, or the Council of Europe, notably the Cultural Routes programme.

14. The Parties agree on the possibilities of exchanging exhibitions. The arrangements shall be agreed upon on a case by case basis by the institutions concerned.

15. The Parties will promote literature and poetry of each other's country and encourage translation of their literary works. The Finnish Party informs the Luxembourg Party about the grants for translators of Finnish literature into foreign languages offered by the Finnish Literature Information Centre FILI.

16. The Parties will encourage cooperation between the Luxembourg and Finnish archives, libraries and museums. The forms and the extent of cooperation will be decided directly by the institutions concerned.
17. The Parties will encourage cooperation between professional ensembles, actors, singers, directors and other performers in the field of theatre.

18. The Parties agree to exchange information and documentation on important current events in the field of film festivals and film archives.

19. The Parties will encourage direct contacts in the field of music. The exchange will be based on direct agreements between the organisations and artists concerned. The Luxembourgish Party informs the Finnish Party about the possibility for grants for Finnish participants to summer master-classes.

V YOUTH AND SPORTS

20. The Parties will encourage direct cooperation between respective organisations and institutions in the field of youth.

21. The Parties will encourage the development of the relations and exchanges between sport organisations and other institutions in the field of physical education and sports. Such activities as well as financial conditions will be directly agreed between the institutions concerned.

VI OTHER FORMS OF COOPERATION

22. The Parties will encourage various forms of cooperation initiated by civil society of the two countries.

VII FINAL PROVISIONS

23. The present Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force until a new one is concluded.

The present Memorandum of Understanding will be applied temporarily from the day of its signing and will enter into force when the Luxembourg Party notifies the Finnish Party that the conditions required for its entry into force have been fulfilled.

Done and signed in Luxembourg on 18.5.2009, in two original copies in the English language.

For the Finnish Party

Jaana PALOJÄRVI
Director general
Ministry of Education, Science and Culture

For the Luxembourgish Party

Guy DOCKENDORF
Director for International Relations
Ministry of Culture, Higher education and Research
The Finnish Government Scholarship Pool
administered by Centre for International Mobility CIMO

The Finnish Government offers scholarships for postgraduate studies, research and teaching at a higher education institution or public research institute in Finland. Nationals of the following countries, with which Finland has bilateral scholarship agreements, may apply:

Australia, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, China, Cuba, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, India, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Luxembourg, Mexico, Mongolia, the Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey and Ukraine.

The scholarship authorities in each cooperating country are invited to present applications for up to 10 candidates for the Finnish Government Scholarship Pool.

To be eligible, the applicant must

- intend to pursue postgraduate studies as a visiting student, participate in a research project or teach at a higher education institution or public research institute in Finland; priority will be given to doctoral studies
- have established contact with the Finnish receiving institution before applying
- have a letter of invitation from the academic supervisor in Finland; the invitation should also include a timetable
- have earned at least a Master-level degree before applying
- not have spent more than one year already at a Finnish higher education institution immediately before the intended scholarship period in Finland
- be able to give proof of sufficient skills in speaking and writing the language needed in study / research
- be a national of one of the eligible countries listed above

Duration

Scholarships can be granted for periods of three (3) to nine (9) months. The academic year in Finland lasts from September to May. The autumn term begins in September and ends by 20 December. The spring term starts in January and ends in May.

The scholarship includes a monthly allowance of EUR 1 200. The allowance is sufficient for one person only.

Travel expenses: Expenses due to travel, international or in Finland, are not covered by CIMO.

Insurance: Scholarship recipients are recommendended to make arrangements for sufficient insurance coverage for their stay in Finland.

Application procedure: The application form can be downloaded from CIMO's web service at http://finland.cimo.fi.
Luxembourgish scholarships

Luxembourgish scholarships for university students or students of other post-secondary education institutions and for young researchers for studies and/or research in Luxembourg obey to the following rules:

The total annual quota of scholarships amount to 16 months, which may be divided into several scholarships of a varying length, however not less than 4 months.

Within the total quota mentioned above, visitor scholarships of short duration (not exceeding 15 days each) may be reserved for scientific, educational and cultural experts of Finland to establish or strengthen contacts with their colleagues or corresponding institutions in Luxembourg, as well as for music students who wish to attend summer master-classes.

Candidates for these scholarships are nominated by the competent authorities in Finland and the final approval of the recipients is made by the Ministry of Culture in Luxembourg. A condition for approval is the acceptance by the receiving institute in Luxembourg.

Scholarships

The monthly scholarship includes an allowance of EUR 650, free accommodation during the scholarship holder’s stay, free tuition and a unique amount of EUR 250 for didactical material.

Short visits

A visitor scholarship (15 days maximum) covers accommodation in a guest room or a hotel plus a daily allowance of EUR 50, the amount being determined annually.

Summer scholarship holders at master-classes will benefit of free tuition, free accommodation plus a daily allowance of EUR 25.

Travel

Expenses due to international travel to or from Luxembourg are not covered by the Luxembourgish authorities. The scholarship recipient will pay also his local transportation (at the place of study/research).

Insurance

Scholarship holders are expected either to be in possession of a valid European social security card (E128) or to make arrangements for sufficient insurance coverage for their stay in Luxembourg.