

Report of the proceedings of the Fifth Meeting held to review the implementation of the Cultural Agreement between the Republic of Finland and Ireland

Helsinki March 29 - 30, 2001

In accordance with Article 8 of the Cultural Agreement between the Republic of Finland and Ireland, which was signed on 3 September 1985 and entered into force on 27 February 1986, representatives of the two sides met in Helsinki on 29-30 March, 2001 and drew up the work programme set out hereunder.

The Finnish Delegation was led by Ms Margaretha Mickwitz, Director General for International Relations, Ministry of Education.

The Irish Delegation was led by Mr Pádraig Francis, First Secretary, Cultural Section, Department of Foreign Affairs.

A list of the members of both delegations is annexed to this report of proceedings (Annex 1).

1. OPENING REMARKS

Both sides noted with appreciation that the implementation of the bilateral Agreement has proceeded favourably. They noted also that bilateral contacts often take place directly between their respective institutions and organizations and stressed the importance of this form of cooperation.

Both sides also noted with satisfaction the multilateral cooperation within the framework of i.a. UNESCO, the Council of Europe, the European Union and the World Trade Organization, especially regarding cultural diversity.

Both sides took note of their enhanced cooperation in the framework of the education and youth programmes of the European Union, and noted that the Socrates (Erasmus/Comenius/Lingua) and Leonardo da Vinci programmes also provide opportunities to enhance the use and knowledge of the less widely used and taught languages. The two sides note with satisfaction the European Year of the Languages, which the Council of Europe and the European Union are organizing in 2001. They will endeavour to take advantage of this year for the benefit of the Finnish and Irish languages.

Both sides noted with satisfaction that they can also cooperate within the framework of the cultural programmes of the European Union (Culture 2000, Media Plus, e-Content).

The Finnish side informed the Irish side about the activities of the Finnish Institute in London, and drew attention to the possibilities which the Institute also offers for scientific and cultural exchanges between Finland and Ireland.

2. HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH

2.1. Cooperation between universities and scientific institutions

2.1.1 Both sides agreed to continue to promote cooperation between the universities and corresponding institutions of higher education in their respective countries as well as between the national authorities and institutions which deal with scientific research and technology. They also agreed to encourage joint research projects, seminars and exchange of scientific and scholarly publications in accordance, where appropriate, with agreements concluded directly between the institutions concerned.

Both sides noted with satisfaction the cooperation which has developed in this field since the Fourth Meeting in April 1997, including, in particular, the development of the Irish Studies programme at the Renvall Institute at the University of Helsinki.

2.1.2 Both sides noted with satisfaction the direct contacts between Finnish and Irish universities as well as possibilities for inter-university cooperation within the framework of the EU programmes in the field of higher education and research.

2.1.3 Both sides noted that the Finnish Centre for Exchange of Scientific Literature maintains contacts with 14 Irish scientific organizations and libraries.

2.1.4 Both sides encourage the direct cooperation between the Polytechnics (AMK-ammattikorkeakoulu) in Finland and the corresponding Irish institutions.

2.2. Exchange of professors, specialists and researchers

Both sides agreed to exchange annually up to three professors, lecturers, researchers or specialists who may give lectures or courses and initiate contacts in relevant fields (see Annex 2). Any visits which may be arranged will normally not exceed seven days.

3. SCHOLARSHIPS FOR SUMMER COURSES

3.1 The Finnish side informed the Irish side about the transfer of the Council for Finnish Studies at Universities Abroad (UKAN) from the Department for International Relations of the Ministry of Education to the Centre for International Mobility CIMO in 1998.

3.2 The Finnish side will support the participation of suitably qualified Irish students for summer courses of one month in the Finnish language, literature and culture organized by the Centre for International Mobility CIMO.

The Irish Department of Education and Science will propose the Irish candidates.

3.3 The Irish side will offer annually for suitably qualified Finnish students two (2) summer school scholarships in the Irish or English language, literature and culture.

3.4 The Centre for International Mobility CIMO will propose the Finnish candidates.

3.5 Information will be given annually, through both diplomatic and other suitable channels, about the deadline for the submission of applications and the financial provisions for these scholarships.

4. SCHOLARSHIPS

4.1 A brief description of the scholarship programmes, which both sides will offer to each other, is given below in Annex 2.

4.2 Both sides will annually inform the other side of the general and financial provisions of the scholarships and exchanges through both diplomatic and other suitable channels.

4.3 The Finnish Centre for International Mobility CIMO will take care of the administration of the scholarships and exchanges as indicated in Annex 2.

4.4 For the Irish side, the administration and exchanges specified in Annex 2 will be carried out by the Irish Department of Education and Science.

5. GENERAL, VOCATIONAL AND ADULT EDUCATION

5.1 Both sides will exchange annually one (1) expert in the field of education for a period of seven days within the quota specified in article 2.2.

5.2 Both sides will exchange, upon request, information and publications concerning education, educational systems and school curricula through diplomatic and other suitable channels.

5.3 The Finnish side informed the Irish side about the interest of the Finnish National Board of Education (Opetushallitus) to encourage direct contacts in the field of basic vocational education (nuorisooasteen ammatilliset oppilaitokset).

- 5.4 Both sides noted with satisfaction the possibilities for cooperation within the framework of the European programmes Socrates and Leonardo da Vinci in the fields of general, vocational and adult education.
- 5.5 Both sides noted with satisfaction the activities of the Finnish Summer High School Association (Kesälukioseura, www.freenet.hut.fi/kesalukioseura) and the Royal Dublin Society and encourage them to continue their cooperation in organizing summer courses for Finnish and Irish young people in Finland and in Ireland.

6. CULTURE AND THE ARTS

6.1 General

Both sides will encourage direct contacts between their respective institutions, both governmental and private, in the fields of culture and the arts. Both sides will continue to exchange detailed information on artistic events and festivals organised in their respective countries and encourage participation in these by artists of the other side.

The Finnish side informed the Irish side about the Network North project of the Nordic Council of Ministers, which will present Nordic culture in 2001-2002 in connection with various cultural events in Ireland, Northern Ireland, Scotland and Wales.

6.2 Fine Arts

6.2.1 Both sides note with satisfaction the direct bilateral contacts between the Artists' Association of Finland and the Association of Artists in Ireland and their cooperation in the framework of the European Visual Artists' Network EVAN.

6.2.2 Both sides encourage the exchanges in the framework of the international Artists in Residence -programme. In this context they note with satisfaction e.g. the exchanges in 1999 and 2000 between the Rauma artists Residence -Programme "Raumars" and the Tallaght Community Arts Centre, Dublin, as well as the exchange between the Helsinki International Artists-in-Residence Programme HIAP and the Irish Museum of Modern Art since 1999.

6.2.3 Both sides agreed to exchange artists and experts in the field of culture, as indicated in Annex 2. The total period of these visits for each side shall in principle not exceed 30 person days annually. These exchanges will be carried out by the Finnish Centre for International Mobility CIMO and the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs according to terms and conditions which will be conveyed annually through diplomatic and other suitable channels.

6.3 Music

6.3.1 Both sides noted with satisfaction the interest in Irish music in Finland and also encouraged the relevant bodies to develop contacts in the fields of contemporary and classical music. In this context they noted with satisfaction the great interest of the Finnish public for the Irish Festival in Finland, organised by the Finnish-Irish Society in September 2000 for the 15th time.

6.3.2 Both sides agree that cooperation between the Sibelius Academy in Finland and the Royal Irish Academy of Music be encouraged.

6.3.3 Both sides will encourage the direct contacts between the Society of Finnish Composers and the Association of Irish Composers and the Irish Contemporary Music Centre as well as the plans of the

Contemporary Ensemble Concorde, Galway, to organize an exchange concert of contemporary music in both countries. Both sides will also encourage other exchanges of music between the two countries.

6.4 Theatre and Dance

- 6.4.1. The participation in events or festivals in the field of performing arts should be based on direct agreements between the organizations and the artists concerned, specifying the financial and other terms.
- 6.4.2 Both sides encourage direct contacts in the field of professional and amateur theatre. Both sides also encourage direct contacts in the field of contemporary dance.

6.5 Cinema

- 6.5.1 Both sides agreed to continue to exchange information and documentation on important current events in the field of international festivals and film archives, as well as the exchanges of experts. The sides will encourage the direct contacts of the Finnish Film Foundation and the Finnish Film Archive with the corresponding Irish organizations such as the Irish Film Board and the Irish Film Centre.
- 6.5.2 Both sides expressed their interest in encouraging the showing of their films in their respective film festivals.

6.6 Exhibitions

Both sides discussed the possibilities and plans for exchanging exhibitions during the validity of this programme, such as the plan of the Kunsthalle Helsinki (Taidehalli, the Art Exhibition Hall in Helsinki), to organize in Helsinki in the autumn of 2002 an exhibition of contemporary Irish Art. They agreed to facilitate the exchange between the respective institutions. The arrangements will be agreed on a case-by-case basis by the institutions concerned.

6.7 Language, Literature and Translation

- 6.7.1 Both sides noted with satisfaction that Irish has been taught at the University of Helsinki since 1980 and expressed the wish that modern Irish would soon be taught in Finland again.
- 6.7.2 Both sides expressed the hope that the possibilities of beginning the teaching of Finnish at university level in Ireland would be investigated. The Finnish side noted that the Finnish language is taught to children of Finnish origin, as an out-of-school activity, in Dublin.
- 6.7.3 Both sides noted with satisfaction the activities of the Finnish Society for Celtic Studies (Suomen Keltologinen Seura/ Finlands Keltologiska Sällskap, SFKS), especially the conference organized at the University of Jyväskylä in November 1997.
- 6.7.4 Both sides noted with satisfaction the direct cooperation between the writers' unions of both countries.
- 6.7.5 The Finnish side informed the Irish side about the grants for translators of Finnish literature into foreign languages which the Finnish Literature Information Centre (Suomen kirjallisuuden tiedotuskeskus, www.finlit.fi) offers. The Irish side informed the Finnish side about the work of the Ireland Literature Exchange (ILE).

- 6.7.6 Both sides shall encourage direct contacts between the Finnish Association of Translators and Interpreters, Suomen kääntäjien ja tulkkien liitto (<http://www.megabaud.fi/~sktl/>) and the Irish Translators' Association (ITA).

7. FOLKLORE

Both sides will continue to promote contacts and exchanges between their experts in the field of folklore. The sides noted with satisfaction the direct exchanges in this field.

8. ARCHIVES, LIBRARIES AND MUSEUMS

- 8.1 Both sides agreed to encourage direct cooperation between their National Archives, Libraries and Museums and recommended that exchanges to explore areas of cooperation take place under the provisions contained in this programme.
- 8.2 The Finnish Library Association will organize an international seminar on the theme "Public Libraries for Information and Media Literacy" in Finland in 2002. The Association would welcome two (2) representatives from Ireland to take part in this seminar.
- 8.3 Both sides also encourage contacts between their museum organizations (for the Finnish side, Finnish Museums' Association/ Suomen Museoliitto) in the framework of the Network of European Museum Organizations NEMO.

9. MEDIA

Both sides will encourage direct contacts between their respective radio and television organizations. They will encourage, where possible, the showing on television of each other's programmes including drama, film and documentaries.

10. YOUTH AND SPORT

Youth

- 10.1 Both sides agreed to encourage direct cooperation between their youth organizations and other appropriate institutions and the exchange of information and documentation in this field, as well as greater use of the EU programmes.
- 10.2 Both sides noted that the Youth Action Programme provides new opportunities for cooperation between youth, youth workers and youth researchers in both countries.

Sport

- 10.3 Both sides will endeavour to increase their contacts in the field of sport and physical education. Direct contacts will take place concerning the exchange of experts in disciplines to be agreed by the national sports authorities of each country.

11. BI-NATIONAL SOCIETIES

Both sides took note of the activities of the cultural and bi-national societies in Finland and in Ireland, aimed at promoting understanding between their respective countries. The sides also noted

with appreciation that the Finnish-Irish Society in Finland will celebrate its 50th anniversary in 2004.

12. GENERAL AND FINANCIAL CONDITIONS

The general and financial conditions applying to exchanges and exhibitions carried out under articles 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 inclusive are set out in Annex 3.

13. NEXT MEETING

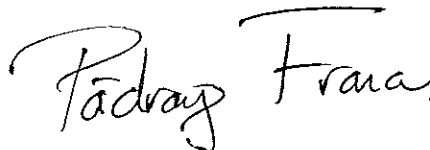
The next meeting of the competent representatives of the sides will be held in Ireland. The date of the next meeting between the two sides shall be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

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Signed at Helsinki on 30 March 2001 in two equally authentic copies in the English language.



Head of Finnish Delegation



Head of Irish Delegation

Delegation of Finland:

Ms Margaretha Mickwitz, *Head of Delegation*
Director General for International Relations
Ministry of Education

Ms Eva Paajanen
Counsellor for Cultural Affairs
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Ministry of Education

Ms Monica Melén-Paaso
Senior Advisor
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Ms Katri Pallari
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Mr Pertti Anttinen
First Secretary
Embassy of Finland, Dublin

Dr Anders Ahlqvist
Professor, National University of Ireland, Galway
Docent, University of Helsinki

Ms Eila Lehtipuro
Second Secretary
Press and Culture Department
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Ms Ulla-Maija Anttila
Exchanges Coordinator
Centre for International Mobility CIMO

Secretary of the Delegations:
Ms Helena Lalu-Toivio
Secretary for International Relations
International Relations
Ministry of Education

Delegation of Ireland:

Mr Pádraig Francis, *Head of Delegation*
First Secretary
Cultural Section
Department of Foreign Affairs

Ms Lorraine Christian
Second Secretary
Embassy of Ireland, Helsinki

Mr Séamus Beirne
Higher Executive Officer
Department of Education and Science

Ms Anna Donegan
Higher Executive Officer
Department of Arts, Heritage, Gaeltacht and the Islands

Present also

H. E. Mr Gearóid Ó Broin
Ambassador of Ireland
Helsinki

Finnish provision for Ireland:

Scholarships for students, researchers or specialists

- A2.1 The Centre for International Mobility (CIMO) will inform the Irish authorities annually about the quota, financial terms, application periods and other information concerning applications.
- A2.2 The annual quota to be reserved for the Irish students, researchers or specialists in the framework of the bilateral exchange amounts to eighteen (18) months, which may be divided into several scholarships of varying length, but not less than four (4) months.
- A2.3 Two short visits to Finnish universities and research institutes are reserved annually for teachers and researchers from universities. The length of a visit should normally not exceed one week. Additional exchanges may take place by special agreement.
- A2.4 There shall be an annual quota of thirty (30) person days for visits by artists and experts in the field of culture to Finland. In general, the length of visits should not exceed one week.

Conditions for academic year scholarships

- A2.5 Candidates for academic year scholarships may be proposed by the Irish authorities. The final approval of the recipients shall be made by the Finnish Centre for International Mobility. Students should preferably have established contacts beforehand with the Finnish university of their choice.
- A2.6 The scholarship period is usually 4 - 9 months, and the grant is intended to cover the living expenses of a single person in Finland. In 2001 the monthly scholarship was FIM 4,100 (€ 689). An additional FIM 500 (€ 84) per term is given as a setting up allowance (for registration fees etc.).
- A2.7 The Centre for International Mobility may also grant travel allowances for Finns who receive a scholarship from the Irish authorities on the basis of the bilateral exchange.

Financial Details of Scholarships granted by Finland

- A2.8 **Academic Year Scholarships**
Monthly payment of FIM 4,100 (€ 689) and FIM 500 (€ 84) per term.
- A2.9 **Exchange of professors, researchers and experts**
Accommodation
Subsistence per diem: FIM 161 (€ 26) in 2001.
- A2.10 **Summer Scholarships**
Irish students, who are expected to have studied Finnish for at least a term or to have comparable basic knowledge, will receive from the Finnish Party a scholarship, course fees and accommodation. Each scholar will be responsible for paying travelling expenses to and from Finland and within the country.

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- A2.11 In the case of educational expert and cultural exchanges the sending side will meet the costs of international travel by the most economic route to the receiving country.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS - PERSON EXCHANGE

Irish provisions for Finland

General

A2.12 Ireland offers two academic year and two summer school scholarships.

Specialisation Scholarships

A2.13 Candidates must be under 35 and should have a university degree or equivalent higher educational qualifications and have excelled during their studies.

A2.14 The specialisation scholarship holders shall be selected by the sending side. Each candidate shall be subject to the approval of the receiving side.

A2.15 The sending side will forward the names of candidates for scholarships by 1 April of the year in which the candidate proposes to commence his or her course of studies. The receiving side will endeavour to inform the sending side by 1 July of each year whether the proposed candidate and programme of studies have been accepted.

A2.16 The sending side shall, as far as possible, provide exact details on the arrival of scholarship holders at least three weeks in advance.

A2.17 Each candidate's application will be accompanied by a detailed explanation of the reasons for the choice of the study programme and a detailed curriculum vitae and where relevant, a list of publications. Where possible, both sides will provide application forms to be completed by candidates for scholarships.

A2.18 Finnish students studying in Ireland will receive:

- a scholarship allowance, of IR£3280 (€ 4165) per annum or IR£410 (€ 520) monthly allowance;
- tuition fees, paid directly to the third-level institutions chosen;
- use of facilities in the relevant institution;
- such free medical assistance as they may be entitled to under EU regulations.

Summer Scholarships

A2.19 Candidates for summer scholarships shall be selected by the sending side and recommended to the host side whose approval shall be required.

A2.20 Finnish students will receive from the Irish side a scholarship of IR£720 (€ 915). Each scholar will be responsible for paying registration and tuition fees, accommodation and living expenses and travelling expenses to and from Ireland and within the country.

Exchange of professors, experts and other persons

A2.21 The exchange of persons will be effected on the following basis:

A2.22 The sending side will provide the host side, at least three months in advance, with the curriculum vitae, desiderata and exact dates of the departure and arrival of the individuals concerned.

A2.23 To the charge of the country of origin:

International travel expenses (outward and return journey) to point of destination

A2.24 To the charge of the host country:

In Ireland:

- daily allowance of IR£35 (€ 45) accommodation (bed and breakfast),
- daily subsistence of IR£35 (€ 45),
- weekly travel costs not exceeding IR£50 (€ 64) within Ireland
- such free medical assistance as they may be entitled to under EU regulations.

A2.25 All monies detailed above will be increased annually in line with inflation.

GENERAL AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

A3.1 The following general provisions were agreed:

- (a) Cultural activities and exchanges shall be carried out within the limits of the financial resources at the disposal of the two sides;
- (b) the activities and exchanges envisaged in this programme shall not exclude other initiatives or visits which might be proposed and agreed in advance by both sides through diplomatic channels;
- (c) the organization of music, dance and theatre performances should be based in principle on a direct agreement covering financial and other terms between the organizations and artists involved in such events. State subsidies should be considered as supplementary.

A3.2 EXCHANGE OF EXHIBITIONS

Arrangements will be discussed and agreed on a case-by-case basis and in general the following provisions will apply:

A3.3 Responsibilities of the sending organization:

design, preparation, production and packing of the exhibition; International transport to its first location in the receiving country and return transport from its last location to the country of origin or to another country,

insurance from nail to nail;

supply of the material for the production of the catalogue (texts, photos, transparencies, etc.);

travel expenses (outward and return journey) for a maximum of two experts accompanying the exhibition to supervise the mounting and/or dismantling as well as packing and/or unpacking of the works.

A3.4 Responsibilities of the host organization:

making available appropriate exhibition halls with the necessary security infrastructure (climatic conditions, guards, etc.);

providing the necessary staff for loading and unloading, packing and unpacking, mounting and dismantling of the exhibition;

printing of the catalogue, if necessary, and the posters and invitations;

organising general publicity as well as the opening ceremony for the exhibition;

accommodation costs for a maximum of two experts accompanying the exhibition and supervising the mounting and/or dismantling; the duration of any such visit will be agreed in advance;

providing the country of origin with copies of all material published in connection with the exhibition (catalogue, poster, invitation, etc.).

In case of damage, the host organization will not proceed with the restoration of the works without the prior approval of the sending organization, and will supply all relevant documentation and assis-

tance to enable the sending organization to pursue any claim for compensation from the relevant insurance company.

A3.5 Other Conditions

All other conditions will be arranged on a case-by-case basis.