

# **Cooperation Agreement**

between

**the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport  
of the Slovak Republic**

and

**NEDERLANDSE TAALUNIE**

## Preamble

The parties to this agreement

1. **The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic**, having its principal address at Stromová 1, 813 30 Bratislava, Slovakia, duly represented by Mgr. Ján Horecký, Minister
2. **Nederlandse Taalunie** (Union for the Dutch Language), an intergovernmental organization under public international law, established by the Treaty between the Kingdom of the Netherlands and the Kingdom of Belgium of 9 September 1980 and having its principal address at Paleisstraat 9, 2514JA, The Hague, the Netherlands, duly represented by Dr. G. Uslu, State Secretary for Education, Culture and Science of the Kingdom of the Netherlands and member of the Committee of Ministers of the Nederlandse Taalunie

(hereafter jointly referred to as the “**Contracting Parties**”)

recognise the mutual benefits to be gained through the establishment of this Cooperation Agreement and agree to the following:

## Article 1

### Purpose of the Agreement

The purpose of this Agreement is to promote academic cooperation in the field of the study and teaching of the Dutch language, and the literature and culture of Dutch-speaking countries and regions, which is one of the main aims of the *Nederlandse Taalunie*. The *Nederlandse Taalunie* acknowledges and values the long history of the study of Dutch language and literature at Comenius University in Bratislava.

This Agreement is intended to provide a framework for the existing cooperation and financial support for Dutch Studies at the Comenius University in Bratislava following the existing regulations of the Contracting Parties.

## **Article 2**

### **Areas of cooperation**

From the part of the *Nederlandse Taalunie* the areas of cooperation may include, but are not limited to:

- (a) the support of the academic staff at Dutch Studies;
- (b) the development of collaborative projects;
- (c) the organisation of academic and scientific activities, such as courses, lectures, exchanges, seminars, or conferences.

All activities shall be aimed at Dutch language acquisition; enhanced proficiency in Dutch; historical, variational, comparative, and other forms of linguistics of Dutch; the study of Dutch-language literature; the culture and history of the societies in which the Dutch language plays a role; translation studies and interpretation as well as mediation.

## **Article 3**

### **Financial conditions**

The financial support from the *Nederlandse Taalunie* in relation to Comenius University in Bratislava shall be defined in a special direct agreement between *Nederlandse Taalunie* and Comenius University in Bratislava.

The Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic shall support the establishment of permanent Dutch lectorate at Comenius University in Bratislava – Faculty of Arts from September 2023, by providing a regular salary for the said lecturer according to the national legal regulations.

## **Article 4**

### **Implementation**

In order to carry out and fulfil the aims of this Agreement, the Contracting Parties shall each appoint one or more representatives who shall manage the development and implementation of the collaboration activities. The representatives of the Contracting Parties can meet as and when necessary to review progress in the implementation of activities related to the areas of collaboration, define new areas and programmes of collaboration as well as discuss matters related to this Agreement.

## **Article 5**

### **Intellectual property, publication of articles**

All intellectual property held by a Contracting Party prior to entering into this Agreement or disclosed or introduced in connection with this Agreement and all materials in which such intellectual property is held, disclosed or introduced shall remain the property of the Contracting Party introducing or disclosing it.

Each Contracting Party may publish the findings of the collaborative activities of the Contracting Parties in the form of an article in a journal, newspaper or other magazine. A copy of the article to be published shall be provided to the other Contracting Party.

## **Article 6**

### **Confidential information and representation**

- (a) Neither Contracting Party shall use the name or logo of the other Contracting Party for any purpose whether in relation to any advertisement or other form of publicity without obtaining the prior written consent of the other Contracting Party.
- (b) All information furnished in relation to this Agreement by one Contracting Party to the other, which is clearly identified as proprietary or confidential at the time of disclosure, shall be kept confidential by the receiving Contracting Party and shall not be disclosed to any third party otherwise than to carry out the provisions of this Agreement, unless agreed in writing between the Contracting Parties.
- (c) The provisions of clause 6(b) above shall not apply to information in the public domain; information in the possession of the receiving Contracting Party prior to the disclosure of the information; information which is independently developed by the receiving Contracting Party; information required to be released by law; and information which is rightfully received by the receiving Contracting Party from third parties without any breach of confidentiality obligations.

## **Article 7**

### **Amendments**

This Agreement may be amended and supplemented in writing at any time by the mutual written consent of both Contracting Parties.

## Article 8

### Duration and termination of the agreement

- (a) This Agreement shall enter into force on the date that it is signed by both Contracting Parties and shall remain in force for a period of 5 years. The Agreement shall be automatically extended for a further period of 5 years unless it has been terminated in accordance with clause 8(b).
- (b) This Agreement may be terminated by either Contracting Party at any time with one year's notice. The termination of this Agreement shall however not necessarily affect the validity of the sub-agreements (if any) concluded between Contracting Parties in the framework of this Agreement. The sub-agreements shall remain valid for the duration stipulated in such agreements.

Done at Bratislava on 8<sup>th</sup> of March 2023, in two original copies.

On behalf of  
**the Ministry of Education, Science,  
Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic**

On behalf of  
**Nederlandse Taalunie**

\_\_\_\_\_ **v.r.** \_\_\_\_\_  
Mgr. Ján Horecký  
Minister

\_\_\_\_\_ **v.r.** \_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. G. Uslu, State Secretary for Education,  
Culture and Science of the Kingdom of the  
Netherlands  
member of the Committee of Ministers of the  
Nederlandse Taalunie