

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF
CHINA
ON MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF HIGHER
EDUCATION CERTIFICATES, DIPLOMAS
AND DEGREES
(DRAFT)**

Intending to facilitate cooperation in education and science, and to promote talent mobility between the two countries, the Government of the Slovak Republic and the Government of the People's Republic of China (hereinafter referred to as 'Parties') have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

PURPOSE

The Agreement aims to facilitate the access to higher education and the mutual recognition of higher education documents on completed education and degrees in the Slovak Republic and higher education certificates and degrees in the People's Republic of China.

ARTICLE 2

SCOPE

The Agreement relates to higher education documents on completed education and degrees awarded by higher education institutions recognised according to the legislation of the Slovak Republic at the time the award was made, and higher education certificates and degrees awarded by Chinese higher education institutions and research institutes with authority to award degrees recognised by the Government of the People's Republic of China at the time the award was made.

ARTICLE 3
**STRUCTURES OF HIGHER EDUCATION CERTIFICATES,
DIPLOMAS AND DEGREES IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC
AND THE PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

**1. HIGHER EDUCATION DOCUMENTS ON COMPLETED
EDUCATION CERTIFICATES AND DEGREES IN THE
PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF CHINA**

According to the legislation of the People's Republic of China, higher education certificates in the People’s Republic of China include the Graduation Certificate of Special Course Education, the Graduation Certificate of Regular Course Education, the Graduation Certificate (Master’s Level) and the Graduation Certificate (Doctoral Level); higher education degrees in the People’s Republic of China include the Bachelor's Degree, the Master's Degree, and the Doctoral Degree.

Graduation Certificate of Special Course Education

A senior secondary school graduate or a student with the equivalent education level, after passing the National College Entrance Examination and being admitted, may study at a higher education institution. The student may be awarded the Graduation Certificate of Special Course Education upon completion of a two-year to three-year study with relevant requirements met.

A student may also obtain the Graduation Certificate of Special

Course Education after passing the National Test for Self-Taught Students with relevant requirements met.

Graduation Certificate of Regular Course Education and Bachelor's Degree

A senior secondary school graduate or a student with the equivalent education level, after passing the National College Entrance Examination and upon meeting the requirements for admission, may study at a higher education institution. The student may be awarded the Graduation Certificate of Regular Course Education upon completion of a four-year higher education programme (in the case of Medicine, or certain other majors, a five-year programme) with relevant requirements met, and may be awarded the Bachelor's Degree upon successfully meeting the degree requirements.

A Graduation Certificate of Special Course Education holder or a student with the equivalent education level may also obtain the Graduation Certificate of Regular Course Education after passing the National Test for Self-Taught Students with relevant requirements met, and is entitled to apply for and be awarded the Bachelor's Degree from an institution with awarding authority after successfully meeting the degree requirements.

Graduation Certificate (Master's Level) and Master's Degree

A Bachelor's Degree holder or a student with the equivalent

education level may be admitted to a higher education programme at a Master's Degree awarding institution (a higher education institution or a research institute with authority to award the Master's Degree) after passing the admission examination to study or research for two or three years, and be awarded the Graduation Certificate (Master's Level) with relevant requirements met, and the Master's Degree after successfully meeting the degree requirements.

A Bachelor's Degree holder may also, by means of part-time study, apply for and be awarded the Master's Degree by an institution with awarding authority after successfully meeting the degree requirements.

Graduation Certificate (Doctoral Level) and Doctoral Degree

A Master's Degree holder or a student with the equivalent education level may be admitted to a higher education programme at a Doctoral Degree-awarding institution (a higher education institution or a research institute with authority to award the Doctoral Degree) after passing the admission examination to study or research for three to four years, and may be awarded the Graduation Certificate (Doctoral Level) with relevant requirements met, and the Doctoral Degree after successfully meeting the degree requirements.

A Master's Degree holder or a student with the equivalent education level may also apply for and be awarded the Doctoral Degree by an awarding institution by means of part-time study leading to the successful achievement of the degree requirements.

Some institutions that have authority to award the Doctoral Degree offer integrated Master and Doctor Degree awarding programmes. A Bachelor's Degree holder who is enrolled in such programme may be awarded the Doctoral degree after at least five years of study or research leading to the successful achievement of relevant requirements.

2. HIGHER EDUCATION DOCUMENTS ON COMPLETED EDUCATION AND DEGREES IN THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

According to the legislation of the Slovak republic, the higher education documents on completed education in the Slovak republic include: diplomas awarding degrees of Bachelor (abbr. “Bc.”), Master (abbr. “Mgr.” or “Mgr. art.”), Engineer (abbr. “Ing.” or “Ing. arch.”) Doctor (abbr. “MUDr.”, “MDDr.”, or “MVDr.”), Doctor of Philosophy (abbr. “PhD.”) or Doctor of Art (abbr. “ArtD.”), the certificates of State examination and diploma supplement.

Bachelor’s Degree

A student that has graduated from complete secondary education or complete secondary vocational education by passing the secondary school-leaving examination, may enroll in Bachelor study programmes after fulfilling entry requirements, and may be awarded a Bachelor’s Degree (abbr. “Bc.”) upon successful completion of at least three-year study with at least 180 ECTS credits acquired and achievement of other study programme requirements.

Master's Degree, Engineer's Degree, and Doctor's Degree

A Bachelor's Degree holder that has fulfilled entry requirements of Slovak higher education institutions may enroll in Master's, Engineer's, or Doctor's study programmes, and may be awarded a Master's Degree (abbr. "Mgr." or "Mgr. art."), an Engineer's Degree (abbr. "Ing." or "Ing. arch."), or a Doctor's Degree (abbr. "MUDr.", "MDDr.", or "MVDr.") upon completion of at least one-year study with at least 60 ECTS credits acquired and achievement of other study programme requirements.

With regard to specifics of the field of study, Master's, Engineer's and especially Doctor's Degree may also be awarded upon completion of an integrated programme with at least 300 ECTS credits acquired and achievement of other study programme requirements. Such programme is accessible to a student that has graduated from complete secondary general education or complete secondary vocational education by passing the secondary school-leaving examination.

Degree of Doctor of Philosophy and Doctor of Art

A Master's Degree, Engineer's Degree, or Doctor's Degree holder may enroll in Doctoral Degree study programmes after fulfilling entry requirements and may be awarded a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (abbr. "PhD.") or Doctor of Art (abbr. "ArtD.") by means of at least three-year study with at least 180 ECTS credits acquired and achievement of other study programme requirements.

ARTICLE 4

ACCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR SLOVAK STUDENTS TO CHINESE HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

1. A student that has graduated from complete secondary general education or complete secondary vocational education in the Slovak republic by passing the secondary school-leaving examination may be considered for admission to a higher education programme leading to the Graduation Certificate of Special Course Education in the People's Republic of China on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education institution are met.

2. A student that has graduated from complete secondary general education or complete secondary vocational education in the Slovak republic by passing the secondary school-leaving examination may be considered for admission to a higher education programme leading to the Graduation Certificate of Regular Course Education and/or the Bachelor's Degree in the People's Republic of China, on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education institution are met.

3. A holder of a Bachelor's Degree awarded by a recognised Slovak higher education institution in the Slovak Republic may be considered for admission to a higher education programme leading to the Graduation Certificate (Master's Level) and/or the Master's Degree in the People's Republic of China, on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education institution are met.

4. A holder of a Master's, Engineer's, or Doctor's Degree awarded by a recognised Slovak higher education institution in the Slovak Republic may be considered for admission to a higher education programme leading to the Graduation Certificate (Doctoral Level) and/or the Doctoral Degree in the People's Republic of China, on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education institution or research institute are met.

5. The higher education institutions and research institutes in the People's Republic of China retain the right to determine other requirements for entry to all courses of study according to their own regulations.

6. The official names of the certificates, diplomas and degrees are listed in the comparative table, which forms the Annex of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 5

ACCESS REQUIREMENTS FOR CHINESE STUDENTS TO SLOVAK HIGHER EDUCATION INSTITUTIONS

1. A senior secondary school graduate or a student with the equivalent education level from a recognised education institution in the People's Republic of China, may be considered for admission to higher education study programmes leading to a Bachelor's Degree in the

Slovak Republic or combined study programmes leading to a Master's, Engineer's or Doctor's Degree on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education institution are met.

2. A holder of a Graduation Certificate of Special Course Education or a student with the equivalent education level from a recognised education institution in the People's Republic of China may be considered for admission to higher education study programmes leading to a Bachelor's Degree or integrated study programmes leading to a Master's, Engineer's or Doctor's Degree in the Slovak Republic on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education institution are met.

3. A holder of a Graduation Certificate of Regular Course Education and/or the Bachelor's Degree from a recognised education institution in the People's Republic of China may be considered for admission to higher education study programmes leading to a Master's, Engineer's, or Doctor's Degree in the Slovak Republic on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education institution are met.

4. A holder of a Graduation Certificate (Master's Level) and/or the Master's Degree from a recognised education institution in the People's Republic of China may be considered for admission to higher education study programmes leading to a Degree of Doctor of Philosophy (PhD.) or Doctor of Art (ArtD.) in the Slovak Republic on condition that specific requirements of the admitting higher education

institution are met.

5. The higher education institutions in the Slovak republic retain the right to determine other requirements for entry to all courses of study according to their own regulations.

6. The official names of the certificates, diplomas and degrees are listed in the comparative table, which forms the Annex of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 6

COMPLIANCE WITH NATIONAL LEGISLATION

1. The recognition of certificates, diplomas and degrees provided for in this Agreement does not exempt the holders from the obligation to comply with the requirements relating to the admission to a higher education institution in which admission is requested.

2. The recognition of certificates, diplomas and degrees in regard to practice of profession is subject to the legislation of each of the Parties.

ARTICLE 7

UPDATING OF INFORMATION

The Parties shall inform each other, through diplomatic channels, about changes to their respective state systems of education, certificates, diplomas and degrees, covered by this Agreement.

ARTICLE 8

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute between the Parties arising out of the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled amicably through consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

ARTICLE 9

AMENDMENTS

This Agreement may be amended by mutual consent of the Parties. The proposals for amendments are introduced through an Exchange of Notes between the Parties through diplomatic channels. The approved amendments shall form an integral part of this Agreement.

ARTICLE 10

COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS

1. In order to facilitate the implementation of this Agreement, the Parties shall, through their respective executing authorities in the field of education, establish a Committee of Experts with the following terms of reference:

- a. Discussion and clarification of issues arising from the

interpretation or application of this Agreement; and

b. Preparation and discussion of proposals of amendments into the text of this Agreement.

2. The information on the composition of the Committee of Experts shall be communicated through diplomatic channels.

3. The Committee of Experts can be convened for its sessions upon the request of either Party. The venue and time of the session shall be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

ARTICLE 11

COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

The competent authorities responsible for the implementation of this Agreement shall be:

- a. In the case of the Government of the Slovak Republic, the Ministry of Education, Science, Research and Sport of the Slovak Republic; and
- b. In the case of the Government of the People's Republic of China, the Ministry of Education of the People's Republic of China.

ARTICLE 12

ENTRY INTO FORCE AND TERMINATION

1. This Agreement shall be concluded for an indefinite period of time and shall come into force on the first day of the second month following the date of receiving of the last written notification by which the Parties notify through diplomatic channels that all national legal conditions necessary for the Agreement to come into force have been fulfilled.

2. Either Party may terminate the Agreement by addressing the written notification to the other Party through diplomatic channels. In such case, the termination of the Agreement shall take effect six (6) months after the date on which the notice of termination was received by the other Party.

3. The termination of this Agreement shall not affect any decisions on recognition of higher education certificates, diplomas and degrees adopted prior to the termination of this Agreement, taken in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement.

4. The provisions of the Agreement shall be applicable to certificates, diplomas and degrees awarded by accredited higher education institutions in the People's Republic of China and in the Slovak Republic, after entry into force and prior to the termination of this Agreement.

DONE at _____ on _____ in
the year 2019 in three originals, each in Slovak, English and Chinese
languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergent
interpretations between any of the texts, the English text shall prevail.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE SLOVAK
REPUBLIC**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC
OF CHINA**

ANNEX

Comparative table

Name of the certificate/diploma/degree (China)	Name of the certificate/diploma/degree (Slovak republic)
Certificate of senior secondary school graduation 高中毕业证书 “gaozhong biye zhengshu”	Secondary-school leaving certificate „Vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške“
Graduation Certificate of Special Course Education 专科毕业证书 “zhuanke biye zhengshu”	No direct equivalent.
Graduation Certificate of Regular Course Education 本科毕业证书 “benke biye zhengshu” and/or Bachelor’s Degree 学士学位证书 “xueshi xuwei zhengshu”	Diploma (“Diplom”) awarding the degree of - “bakalár, Bc. ”
Graduation Certificate (Master’s Level) 硕士研究生毕业证书 “shuoshi yanjiusheng biye zhengshu” and/or Master’s Degree 硕士学位证书 “shuoshi xuwei zhengshu”	Diploma (“Diplom”) awarding the degree of - “magister, Mgr.” - „magister umenia, Mgr. art“ - “inžinier, Ing.” - “inžinier architekt, Ing. arch.” - “doktor všeobecného lekárstva, MUDr.” - “doktor zubného lekárstva, MDDr.” - “doktor veterinárskeho lekárstva, MVDr.”
Graduation Certificate (Doctoral Level) 博士研究生毕业证书 “boshi yanjiusheng biye zhengshu” and/or Doctoral Degree 博士学位证书 “boshi xuwei zhengshu”	Diploma (“Diplom”) awarding the degree of - „philosophiae doctor, PhD.” - „artis doctor, ArtD.”