

**AGREEMENT**

**BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC  
AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION ON  
MUTUAL RECOGNITION OF EDUCATION, QUALIFICATIONS  
AND ACADEMIC DEGREES**

The Government of the Slovak Republic and the Government of the Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Striving for the development of friendly relations and cooperation between the Russian Federation and the Slovak Republic in the field of education and science,

Desiring to ensure mutual recognition of education, qualifications and academic degrees obtained in the Slovak Republic and in the Russian Federation,

Considering the Agreement between the Government of the Slovak Republic and the Government of the Russian Federation on Cooperation in the Area of Culture, Education and Science, signed in Bratislava on February 13, 1995,

Having regard to the provisions of The Convention on the Recognition of Qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region, concluded in Lisbon on April 11, 1997 (hereinafter – Lisbon Convention),

Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

For the purpose of application of the present Agreement the following terms shall be applied

- 1) „Qualification“ according to the Article 1 of the Lisbon Convention is defined as:
  - a) „higher education qualification“ – any degree, diploma or other certificate issued by a competent authority attesting the successful completion of a higher education programme;
  - b) „qualification giving access to higher education“ – any diploma or other certificate issued by a competent authority attesting the successful completion of an education programme and giving the holder of the qualification the right to be considered for admission to higher education;
- 2) „regulated professions“ — professions, specialties and (or) trainings whereby the access to professional activities is regulated by the national legal provisions and requires formal recognition of professional qualification or specialist accreditation;
- 3) „recognized educational and research institutions“ – educational institutions of all types/levels which belong to the national education system of the Slovak Republic and the Russian Federation, research institutions and other legal entities that carry out educational activities by state accredited study programmes as well as conduct scientific research and (or) have the right to grant academic degrees in accordance with the legislation of the States of the Parties.

## **Article 2**

1. The present Agreement aims to facilitate the process of mutual recognition of education, qualifications and academic degrees obtained in the Slovak Republic and in the Russian Federation for the access of their holders to continue training and perform activities with the exception of access to the regulated professions in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.
2. Within the framework of bilateral consultations the Parties will consider the possibility of concluding a separate agreement aimed at facilitating the access to certain regulated professions.

### **Article 3**

1. The present Agreement applies to education, qualifications and academic degrees obtained at recognized educational and research institutions in the Slovak Republic and in the Russian Federation, and (or) awarded in accordance with the legislation of the States of the Parties.
2. The present Agreement also applies to education, qualifications and academic degrees envisaged by this Agreement, obtained at recognized educational and research institutions of the Slovak Republic and the Russian Federation, and (or) awarded in accordance with the legislation of the States of the Parties before the entering into force of this Agreement.

### **Article 4**

1. Secondary general education, confirmed by the certificate of secondary general education (аттестат о среднем общем образовании) or secondary professional education confirmed by the diploma of secondary professional education (диплом о среднем профессиональном образовании), obtained in the Russian Federation, and secondary general education or secondary professional education, confirmed by the school leaving examination certificate (vysvedčenie o maturitnej skúške), obtained in the Slovak Republic, are recognized as being comparable and enable access of their holders to continue training in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties
  - a) by study programmes of secondary professional education and higher education — Bachelor studies and Specialist studies — in the Russian Federation,
  - b) by Bachelor study programmes (first cycle of higher education) and by study programmes which join the first and the second cycles of higher education in the Slovak Republic.
2. Admission to the study programmes envisaged in paragraph 2 of the present article is processed in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

## **Article 5**

Academic record or certificate of period of study, issued to the person who mastered a part of educational programme at the recognized educational and research institution, may be recognized upon admission of its holder to study programmes of corresponding level in the Slovak Republic and the Russian Federation while considering the volume and content of the received training in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

## **Article 6**

1. Higher education, confirmed by the bachelor's diploma (диплом бакалавра), obtained in the Russian Federation, and first cycle of higher education, confirmed by the diploma awarding the academic degree of bachelor (Bakalár, abbr. "Bc"), obtained in the Slovak Republic, are recognized as being comparable and enable access of their holders to continue training in accordance with the legal provisions of the States of the Parties:

- a) by study programmes of higher education — Master studies in the Russian Federation,
- b) by Master, Engineer study programmes (second cycle of higher education) with exception of joined first and second cycles of higher education in the Slovak Republic.

2. Admission to the study programmes envisaged in paragraph 1 of the present article is processed in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

3. Higher education and higher education qualifications indicated in paragraph 1 of the present article enable access of its holders to perform activities with the exception of regulated professions in the Slovak Republic and in the Russian Federation in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

## **Article 7**

1. Higher education, confirmed by the specialist's diploma (диплом специалиста) or the master's diploma (диплом магистра), obtained in the Russian Federation, and the second cycle of higher education or joined first and second cycles of higher education in Master, Engineer and Doctor study programmes, confirmed by diploma awarding the academic degree of Master (as defined in the Annex) or another corresponding academic degree, obtained in the Slovak Republic, are recognized by the Parties as being comparable and enable access of their holders to continue training in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties:

- a) by study programmes of higher education — study programmes preparing of scientific and pedagogic staff in aspirantura (adjunctura), as well as programmes of assistantship training in the Russian Federation,
- b) by Doctoral study programmes (third cycle of higher education) in the Slovak Republic.

2. Admission to the study programmes envisaged in paragraph 1 of the present article is processed in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

3. Higher education and higher education qualifications indicated in paragraph 1 of the present article enable access of its graduates to perform activities with the exception of regulated professions in the Slovak Republic and in the Russian Federation in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

## **Article 8**

The academic degree of candidate of sciences (кандидат наук), envisioned by the state academic attestation system obtained in the Russian Federation and the third cycle of higher education in doctoral study programme, confirmed by the diploma awarding the academic degree of Doctor of Philosophy (philosophiae doctor, abbr. „PhD.“) or Doctor of Arts (artis doctor, abbr. „ArtD.“), obtained in the Slovak Republic, are recognized by the Parties as being comparable, and enable

access of its holders to perform activities with the exception of regulated professions in the Russian Federation and in the Slovak Republic, in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

### **Article 9**

The recognition of education, qualifications and academic degrees, defined by this Agreement, does not exempt their holders from the obligation to satisfy the requirements necessary for admission to study programmes or for performing activities with the exception of regulated professions in accordance with the legislation of each of the States of the Parties.

### **Article 10**

1. For the purpose of application of the present Agreement, the Parties provide the exchange of all available information, in particular
  - a) information on recognized educational and research institutions and on state accredited study programmes in the Slovak Republic and in the Russian Federation,
  - b) lists and specimens of the higher education qualifications, qualifications giving access to higher education, diplomas of academic degrees referred to in the present Agreement as well as issued by each Party prior to the entry into force of the present Agreement,
  - c) description of the levels of education, lists of regulated professions, fields of study and training together with the relevant qualifications and academic degrees,
  - d) information on the state academic attestation systems, established by the legislation of the States of the Parties, fields of study in which the academic degrees are awarded, as well as information on organizations which have the right to award academic degrees independently
2. Information, mentioned in the point 1 of the present Article, shall be provided by the national information centres of the States of the Parties, envisaged by the Article IX.2 of the Lisbon Convention.

## **Article 11**

1. To solve any questions arising from the interpretation or implementation of the present Agreement, as well as to solve any questions resulting from the changes to the systems of education and to the relating legislation of the States of the Parties, including proposals of supplements or amendments to the present Agreement, a joint Expert committee shall be established by the authorities responsible for management of education and science of each Party.

2. The joint Expert committee shall consist of a maximum of 4 experts appointed by each Party. The information on the representatives of the Parties who compose the Expert committee, as well as the information on the date and venue of each meeting shall be communicated in writing via diplomatic channels.

## **Article 12**

1. This Agreement may be amended and supplemented by consent of the Parties through additional protocols.

2. All disputes between the Parties regarding the interpretation or implementation of the present Agreement shall be settled through consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

## **Article 13**

1. The present Agreement shall be concluded for an indefinite period of time and shall enter into force on the first day of the second month following the date of the receipt of the last written notification via diplomatic channels, by which the Parties notify each other that their respective internal procedures for its entry into force have been completed.

2. Either Party may terminate the present Agreement by sending the written notification to the other Party via diplomatic channels. In such case, the termination of the Agreement shall take effect 12 (twelve) months after the date on which such notification was received by the other Party.

3. The termination of the present Agreement shall not affect the decisions on recognition of the education, qualifications and academic degrees adopted prior to the date of termination of the present Agreement.

4. The provisions of the present Agreement shall be applicable to education, qualifications and academic degrees obtained upon completion of studies in the territory of the other Party, which began prior to the termination of the present Agreement.

Done at ..... on ..... in duplicate, each in Slovak, Russian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of disagreement, in order to interpret the provisions of the present Agreement, the English text shall be used.

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT  
OF THE RUSSIAN FEDERATION**