

**AGREEMENT
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA
AND
THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA
ON
SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION**

The Government of the Republic of Austria and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

Recognizing that scientific and technological cooperation based on mutual benefit and equality represents an important basis of the relationship between the Parties and at the same time an element for ensuring stability in Europe,

Given the positive experience gained thanks to good bilateral relations in the area of scientific and technological cooperation between the Parties as well as the need to improve that relationship to the mutual benefit,

Taking into consideration the rapid growth of scientific and technological knowledge as well as the internationalization of science and technology,

With a desire to deepen the cooperation in the area of science and technology in accordance with political, economic and social conditions, especially with regard to the integration processes in Europe,

Accepting the importance of improving coordination of bilateral relations in the area of science and technology,

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall support the development of scientific and technological cooperation in accordance with the laws of the Parties to the agreement on a reciprocal basis, with regard to their priorities in the area of science and research.

Article 2

(1) The Parties shall encourage the development of direct scientific and technological interrelations between their government institutions, institutions of higher education, academies of sciences and centres for scientific and technological research.

(2) The Parties shall support the participation of scientists and experts in joint projects within the framework of current and future European and international programs consistent with their respective national laws.

Article 3

The cooperation provided for in Article 1 shall contain, particularly the following forms:

1. Exchange of scientific and technological information, documents and publications;
2. Exchange of scientists and experts within the framework of bilateral scientific projects approved by the Parties for the purpose of implementation of scientific and technological cooperation;
3. Exchange of scientists and experts for the purpose of consultations, lectures and special studies;
4. Implementation and support of joint bilateral and multilateral scientific events.

Article 4

- (1) According to this agreement no financial transactions between the Parties are foreseen.
- (2) Financial support for joint scientific projects in accordance with Article 3 shall be provided for the mobility of scientists and experts. Each Party shall cover the travel expenses for outgoing persons and accommodation expenses for incoming persons and, if necessary, shall assist in finding suitable accommodation.
- (3) Institutions of the Parties shall ensure that their outgoing persons are sufficiently insured for health.

Article 5

- (1) To implement this agreement, the Parties shall establish a Joint Commission for scientific and technological cooperation, hereinafter referred to as the Joint Commission.
- (2) The tasks of the Joint Commission generally include:
 1. Consultation on basic issues concerning scientific and technological cooperation;
 2. Agreement on the areas and forms of cooperation;
 3. Recommendations to the Parties' public authorities responsible for managing cooperation in accordance with Article 7, paragraph 1;
 4. Evaluation of scientific and technological cooperation;
 5. Resolving any disputes that may arise from the implementation of this agreement.
- (3) As required, the Joint Commission may establish working groups for the identified areas of cooperation and invite experts to the Joint Commission's meetings.
- (4) The Joint Commission shall meet alternately in Austria and Bosnia and Herzegovina in the period determined by both parties, usually once every two years.
- (5) The working language of the Joint Commission is English.

Article 6

Protection of intellectual property rights arising from the cooperative activities under this agreement shall be governed by agreements between cooperating institutions of the Parties. Intellectual property rights shall be protected by the provisions of the existing laws of the respective national laws of the Parties as well as international agreements on intellectual property rights that are applicable to Parties.

Article 7

(1) The authorities responsible for the implementation of this agreement are the Federal Ministry of Science, Research and Economy for Austria and the competent Ministries of Science for Bosnia and Herzegovina.

(2) The main tasks of the implementation of scientific and technological cooperation as specified in Article 3 are as follows:

1. Call for proposals for projects of bilateral scientific cooperation,
2. Evaluation of project proposals in accordance with paragraph 1,
3. Selection and approval of project proposals based on results of the evaluation in accordance with paragraph 2.

Article 8

The Parties shall consult through diplomatic channels should any disputes arise in terms of the interpretation or implementation of this agreement.

Article 9

(1) This agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the month in which the Parties have notified each other in writing through diplomatic channels that the conditions for the agreement's entry into force have been met.

(2) This agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period of time. Either Party may terminate this agreement in writing, through diplomatic channels, at any time. The termination of this agreement shall become effective six months after the date of receipt of the notification of termination by the other Party.

(3) This agreement may be amended only with the written consent of both parties.

(4) Termination of this agreement shall not affect - joint projects based on this agreement that were not completed at the time of termination.

Done in Sarajevo on 8 February 2016, in five original copies, in German, English, Bosnian, Croatian and Serbian languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of a difference in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**For the Government of the Republic of
Austria**

Sebastian Kurz

**For the Council of Ministers of Bosnia
and Herzegovina**

Adil Osmanović