

AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA  
AND THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY  
RENEWING A PROGRAMME OF COOPERATION  
IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

ACUERDO  
ENTRE LOS ESTADOS UNIDOS DE AMÉRICA  
Y LA COMUNIDAD EUROPEA  
POR EL QUE SE RENUOVA EL PROGRAMA DE COOPERACIÓN  
EN MATERIA DE ENSEÑANZA SUPERIOR Y  
DE ENSEÑANZA Y FORMACIÓN PROFESIONALES

DOHODA  
MEZI SPOJENÝMI STÁTY AMERICKÝMI  
A EVROPSKÝM SPOLEČENSTVÍM,  
KTEROU SE OBNOVUJE PROGRAM SPOLUPRÁCE  
V OBLASTI VYSOKOŠKOLSKÉHO VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ  
A ODBORNÉHO VZDĚLÁVÁNÍ A PŘÍPRAVY

AFTALE  
MELLEM USA OG DET EUROPÆISKE FÆLLESSKAB  
OM FORNYELSE AF SAMARBEJDSPROGRAMMET  
FOR VIDEREGÅENDE UDDANNELSE  
OG ERHVERVSUDDANNELSE

ABKOMMEN  
ZWISCHEN DEN VEREINIGTEN STAATEN VON AMERIKA  
UND DER EUROPÄISCHEN GEMEINSCHAFT  
ZUR ERNEUERUNG DES KOOPERATIONSPROGRAMMS  
IM BEREICH DER  
HOCHSCHUL- UND BERUFSBILDUNG

AMEERIKA ÜHENDRIIKIDE  
JA EUROOPA ÜHENDUSE VAHELISE  
KÕRG- JA KUTSEHARIDUSALASE  
KOOSTÕÕPROGRAMMI  
UUENDAMISE LEPING

ΣΥΜΦΩΝΙΑ  
ΜΕΤΑΞΥ ΤΩΝ ΗΝΩΜΕΝΩΝ ΠΟΛΙΤΕΙΩΝ ΤΗΣ ΑΜΕΡΙΚΗΣ  
ΚΑΙ ΤΗΣ ΕΥΡΩΠΑΪΚΗΣ ΚΟΙΝΟΤΗΤΑΣ  
ΓΙΑ ΤΗΝ ΑΝΑΝΕΩΣΗ ΤΟΥ ΠΡΟΓΡΑΜΜΑΤΟΣ ΣΥΝΕΡΓΑΣΙΑΣ  
ΣΤΗΝ ΤΡΙΤΟΒΑΘΜΙΑ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗ ΚΑΙ  
ΤΗΝ ΕΠΑΓΓΕΛΜΑΤΙΚΗ ΕΚΠΑΙΔΕΥΣΗ ΚΑΙ ΚΑΤΑΡΤΙΣΗ

ACCORD  
ENTRE LES ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE  
ET LA COMMUNAUTÉ EUROPÉENNE  
RENOUVELANT UN PROGRAMME DE COOPÉRATION  
DANS LE DOMAINE DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT SUPÉRIEUR ET  
DE L'ENSEIGNEMENT ET DE LA FORMATION PROFESSIONNELS

ACCORDO  
TRA GLI STATI UNITI D'AMERICA  
E LA COMUNITÀ EUROPEA  
CHE RINNOVA IL PROGRAMMA DI COOPERAZIONE  
IN MATERIA D'ISTRUZIONE TERZIARIA E  
D'ISTRUZIONE E FORMAZIONE PROFESSIONALI

NOLĪGUMS  
STARP AMERIKAS SAVIENOTAJĀM VALSTĪM  
UN EIROPAS KOPIENU  
ĀR KO ATJAUNO PROGRAMMU SADARBĪBAI  
AUGSTĀKĀS IZGLĪTĪBAS UN  
ARODIZGLĪTĪBAS UN ARODAPMĀCĪBU JOMĀ

JUNGTINIŲ AMERIKOS VALSTIJŲ IR  
EUROPOS BENDRIJOS SUSITARIMAS,  
ATNAUJINANTIS BENDRADARBIAVIMO PROGRAMĄ  
AUKŠTOJO MOKSLO BEI PROFESINIO ŠVIETIMO IR  
MOKYMO SRITYSE

MELLÉKLET  
MEGÁLLAPODÁS AZ AMERIKAI EGYESÜLT ÁLLAMOK  
ÉS AZ EURÓPAI KÖZÖSSÉG KÖZÖTT  
A FELSŐOKTATÁSBAN, A SZAKOKTATÁSBAN  
ÉS A SZAKKÉPZÉSBEN TÖRTÉNŐ  
EGYÜTTMŰKÖDÉSRE IRÁNYULÓ PROGRAM MEGÚJÍTÁSÁRÓL

FTEHIM  
BEJN L-ISTATI UNITI TA' L-AMERIKA  
U IL-KOMUNITÀ EWROPEA  
LI JĠEDDED PROGRAMM TA' KOPERAZZJONI  
FL-EDUKAZZJONI SUPERJURI,  
FL-EDUKAZZJONI VOKAZZJONALI U FIT-TAHRIG

OVEREENKOMST  
TUSSEN DE VERENIGDE STATEN VAN AMERIKA  
EN DE EUROPESE GEMEENSCHAP  
TOT VERNIEUWING VAN EEN SAMENWERKINGSPROGRAMMA  
OP HET GEBIED VAN HET HOGER ONDERWIJS,  
HET BEROEPSONDERWIJS EN DE BEROEPSOPLEIDING

UMOWA  
MIĘDZY STANAMI ZJEDNOCZONYMI AMERYKI  
A WSPÓLNOTĄ EUROPEJSKĄ  
ODNAWIAJĄCA PROGRAM WSPÓLPRACY  
W ZAKRESIE SZKOLNICTWA WYŻSZEGO ORAZ  
KSZTAŁCENIA I SZKOLENIA ZAWODOWEGO

ACORDO  
ENTRE OS ESTADOS UNIDOS DA AMÉRICA  
E A COMUNIDADE EUROPEIA  
QUE RENOVA O PROGRAMA DE COOPERAÇÃO  
NO DOMÍNIO DO ENSINO SUPERIOR E  
DO ENSINO E FORMAÇÃO PROFISSIONAIS

DOHODA  
MEDZI SPOJENÝMI ŠTÁTMI AMERICKÝMI  
A EURÓPSKYM SPOLOČENSTVOM,  
KTOROU SA OBNOVUJE PROGRAM SPOLUPRÁCE  
V OBLASTI VYŠŠIEHO VZDELÁVANIA,  
ODBORNÉHO VZDELÁVANIA A ODBORNEJ PRÍPRAVY

SPORAZUM  
MED ZDRUŽENIMI DRŽAVAMI AMERIKE  
IN EVROPSKO SKUPNOSTJO  
O OBNOVITVI PROGRAMA SODELOVANJA  
NA PODROČJU VISOKEGA ŠOLSTVA  
TER POKLICNEGA IZOBRAŽEVANJA  
IN USPOSABLJANJA

AMERIKAN YHDYSVALTOJEN  
JA EUROOPAN YHTEISÖN  
VÄLINEN SOPIMUS  
KORKEA-ASTEEN KOULUTUKSEN  
JA AMMATILLISEN KOULUTUKSEN  
YHTEISTYÖOHJELMAN UUSIMISESTA

AVTAL  
MELLAN AMERIKAS FÖRENTA STATER  
OCH EUROPEISKA GEMENSKAPEN  
OM FÖRLÄNGNING AV SAMARBETSPROGRAMMET  
INOM HÖGRE UTBILDNING OCH  
YRKESINRIKTAD UTBILDNING

USA/CE/X 1b

AGREEMENT  
BETWEEN  
THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA AND  
THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY  
RENEWING A PROGRAM OF COOPERATION  
IN HIGHER EDUCATION AND  
VOCATIONAL EDUCATION AND TRAINING

USA/CE/en 1

THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

of the one part, and

THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY,

of the other part,

(hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Parties"),

NOTING that the Transatlantic Declaration adopted by the European Community and its Member States (hereinafter referred to as "the European Community") and the Government of the United States of America (hereinafter referred to as "the United States") in November 1990 makes specific reference to strengthening mutual cooperation in various fields which directly affect the present and future wellbeing of their citizens, such as exchanges and joint projects in education and culture, including academic and youth exchanges;

NOTING that the new Transatlantic Agenda adopted at the EU-US Summit in December 1995 in Madrid refers under Action IV - Building Bridges Across the Atlantic - to the EC/US Agreement establishing a Cooperation Programme in Education and Vocational Training as a potential catalyst for a broad spectrum of innovative cooperative activities of direct benefit to students and teachers and refers to the introduction of new technologies into classrooms, linking educational establishments in the United States with those in the European Union and encouraging the teaching of each other's languages, history and culture;

NOTING that the 1997 "Bridging the Atlantic: People to People Links" Transatlantic Conference underlined the potential for cooperation between the European Community and the United States of America in the field of non-formal education;

NOTING that at the EU-US Summit in June 2005, leaders agreed on an initiative to enhance transatlantic economic integration and growth which identified education cooperation as one of the tools "to increase synergies across the Atlantic as we become more knowledge-based economies" and committed to work to "renew and reinforce the US-EU Agreement on Higher Education and Vocational Training, which includes the Fulbright/European Union Program, to boost education cooperation and transatlantic exchanges between our citizens;"

CONSIDERING that the adoption and the implementation of the 1995 Agreement Between the European Community and the United States of America Establishing a Cooperation Program in Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training and the 2000 Agreement Between the European Community and the United States Renewing a Programme of Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training give effect to the commitments of the Transatlantic Declaration and constitute examples of highly successful and cost-effective cooperation;

ACKNOWLEDGING the crucial contribution of education and training to the development of human resources capable of participating in the global knowledge-based economy;

RECOGNIZING that cooperation in education and vocational training should complement other relevant cooperation initiatives between the European Community and the United States;

ACKNOWLEDGING the importance of ensuring complementarity with relevant initiatives carried out in the field of higher education and vocational training by international organizations active in these fields such as OECD, UNESCO and the Council of Europe;

RECOGNIZING that the Parties have a common interest in cooperation in higher education and vocational education and training;

EXPECTING to obtain mutual benefit from cooperative activities in higher education and vocational education and training;

RECOGNIZING the need to widen access to the activities supported under this Agreement, in particular those activities in the vocational education and training sector; and

DESIRING to establish a formal basis for continued cooperation in higher education and vocational education and training,

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

#### ARTICLE I

##### Purpose

This Agreement renews the 2000 Cooperation Programme in Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training (hereinafter referred to as "the Program"), originally established under the 1995 Agreement Between the European Community and the United States of America establishing a Cooperation Programme in Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training.

## ARTICLE 2

### Definitions

For the purpose of this Agreement:

1. "Higher education institution" means any establishment, according to the applicable laws or practices, which offers qualifications or diplomas at the higher education level, whatever such establishment may be called;
2. "Vocational education and training institutions" means any type of public, semi-public or private body, which, irrespective of the designation given to it, in accordance with the applicable laws and practices, designs or undertakes vocational education or training, further vocational training, refresher vocational training or retraining; and
3. "Students" means all those persons participating in learning or training courses or programs which are run by higher education or vocational education and training institutions as defined in this Article.

ARTICLE 3

Objectives

1. The general objectives of the Program shall be to:
  - (a) Promote mutual understanding between the peoples of the European Community and the United States including broader knowledge of their languages, cultures and institutions; and
  - (b) Improve the quality of human resource development in both the European Community and the United States, including the acquisition of skills required to meet the challenges of the global knowledge-based economy.
2. The specific objectives of the Program shall be to:
  - (a) Enhance collaboration between the European Community and the United States in the domains of higher education and vocational training;
  - (b) Contribute to the development of higher education and vocational training institutions;

(c) Contribute to individual participants' personal development for their own sake and as a way to achieve the general objectives of the Program; and

(d) Contribute to transatlantic exchanges between EU and US citizens.

3. The operational objectives of the Program shall be to:

(a) Support collaboration between higher education and vocational training institutions with a view to promoting joint study programs and mobility;

(b) Improve the quality of transatlantic student mobility by promoting transparency, mutual recognition of qualifications and periods of study and training, and, where appropriate, portability of credits;

(c) Support collaboration between public and private organizations active in the field of higher education and vocational training with a view to encouraging discussion and exchange of experience on policy issues; and

(d) Support transatlantic mobility of professionals with a view to improving mutual understanding of issues relevant to EC/US relations.

ARTICLE 4

Principles

Cooperation under this Agreement shall be guided by the following principles:

1. Full respect for the responsibilities of the Member States of the European Community and the United States of America and the autonomy of higher education and vocational education and training institutions;
2. Mutual benefit from activities undertaken through this Agreement;
3. Broad participation across the different Member States of the European Community and the United States of America; and
4. Recognition of the full cultural, social, and economic diversity of the European Community and the United States of America.

## ARTICLE 5

### Program Actions

The Program shall be pursued by means of the actions described in the Annex, which forms an integral part of this Agreement.

## ARTICLE 6

### Joint Committee

1. A Joint Committee is hereby established. It shall comprise an equal number of representatives from each of the Parties.
2. The functions of the Joint Committee shall be to:
  - (a) Review the cooperative activities envisaged under this Agreement; and
  - (b) Provide a biannual report to the Parties on the level, status, and effectiveness of cooperative activities undertaken under this Agreement.

3. The Joint Committee shall meet every second year or as agreed upon by the Parties, with such meetings being held alternately in the European Community and the United States.

4. Decisions of the Joint Committee shall be reached by consensus. Minutes, comprising a record of the decisions and principal points, shall be taken at each meeting. These Minutes shall be approved by those persons selected from each side to chair jointly the meeting, and shall, together with the biannual report, be made available to appropriate Minister-level officials of each Party.

#### ARTICLE 7

##### Monitoring and Evaluation

The Program shall be monitored and evaluated as appropriate on a cooperative basis. This shall permit, as necessary, the reorientation of activities in light of any needs or opportunities becoming apparent in the course of its operation.

ARTICLE 8

Funding

1. Activities under this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of funds and to the applicable laws and regulations, policies and programs of the European Community and the United States. Financing will be, to the extent possible, on the basis of an overall matching of funds between the Parties. The Parties shall attempt to offer Program activities of comparable benefit and scope.
2. Costs incurred by or on behalf of the Joint Committee shall be met by the Party to whom the members are responsible. Costs, other than those of travel and subsistence, which are directly associated with meetings of the Joint Committee, shall be met by the host Party.

ARTICLE 9

Entry of Personnel

Each Party shall use its best efforts to facilitate entry to and exit from its territory of personnel, students, material and equipment of the other Party engaged in or used in cooperative activities under this Agreement.

ARTICLE 10

Other Agreements

This Agreement shall not replace or otherwise affect other agreements or activities undertaken in the fields covered between any Member State of the European Community and the United States of America.

ARTICLE 11

Territorial Application of this Agreement

This Agreement shall apply, on the one hand, to the territories in which the Treaty establishing the European Community is applied and under the conditions laid down in that Treaty and, on the other hand, to the United States.

## ARTICLE 12

### Entry into Force and Termination

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date on which the Parties shall have notified each other in writing that their legal requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement have been fulfilled, whichever is the later date. This Agreement replaces the 2000 Agreement Between the European Community and the United States Renewing a Programme of Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training in its entirety.

2. This Agreement shall remain in force for eight years and may be extended or amended by mutual written agreement.

Amendments or extensions shall enter into force on the first day of the month following the date on which the Parties shall have notified each other in writing that their requirements for entry into force of the agreement providing for the amendment or extension in question have been fulfilled.

3. This Agreement may be terminated at any time by either Party by providing twelve months' written notice. The expiration or termination of this Agreement shall not affect the validity or duration of any pre-existing arrangements made under it.

ARTICLE 13

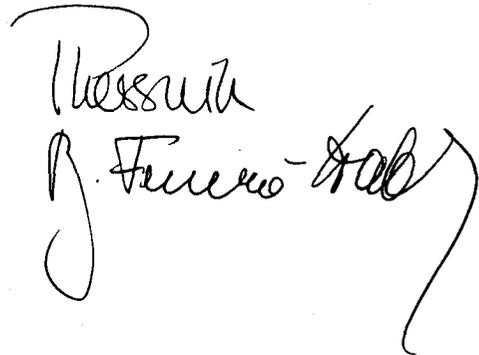
Done at Vienna this twenty-first day of June 2006, in duplicate in the English, Czech, Danish, Dutch, Estonian, Finnish, French, German, Greek, Hungarian, Italian, Latvian, Lithuanian, Maltese, Polish, Portuguese, Slovak, Slovenian, Spanish and Swedish languages, all texts being equally authentic. In the event of discrepancies, the English language shall prevail.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized, have signed the present Agreement.

For the United States of America  
Por los Estados Unidos de América  
Za Spojené státy americké  
For Amerikas Forenede Stater  
Für die Vereinigten Staaten von Amerika  
Ameerika Ühendriikide nimel  
Για τις Ηνωμένες Πολιτείες της Αμερικής  
Pour les Etats-Unis d'Amérique  
Per gli Stati Uniti d'America  
Amerikas Savienoto Valstu vārdā  
Jungtinių Amerikos Valstijų vardu  
az Amerikai Egyesült Államok részéről  
Għall-Istati Uniti ta' l-Amerika  
Voor de Verenigde Staten van Amerika  
W imieniu Stanów Zjednoczonych Ameryki  
Pelos Estados Unidos da América  
Za Spojené štáty americké  
Za Združene države Amerike  
Amerikan yhdysvaltojen puolesta  
På Amerikas förenta staters vägnar



For the European Community  
Por la Comunidad Europea  
Za Evropské společenství  
For Det Europæiske Fællesskab  
Für die Europäische Gemeinschaft  
Euroopa Ühenduse nimel  
Για την Ευρωπαϊκή Κοινότητα  
Pour la Communauté européenne  
Per la Comunità europea  
Eiropas Kopienas vārdā  
Europos bendrijos vardu  
az Európai Közösség részéről  
Għall-Komunità Ewropea  
Voor de Europese Gemeenschap  
W imieniu Wspólnoty Europejskiej  
Pela Comunidade Europeia  
Za Európske spoločenstvo  
za Evropsko skupnost  
Euroopan yhteisön puolesta  
På Europeiska gemenskapens vägnar



ANNEX

ACTIONS

ACTION 1 – Joint European Community/United States Consortia Projects

1. The Parties shall provide support to higher education and vocational education and training institutions which form joint EC/US consortia for the purpose of undertaking joint projects in the area of higher education and vocational education and training.
2. Each joint consortium must be formed by a multilateral partnership of EC and US higher education and vocational training institutions.
3. Joint consortia projects should normally involve transatlantic mobility of students in the framework of joint study programs, with a goal of parity in the flows in each direction, and should foresee adequate language and cultural preparation.
4. Appropriate authorities on each side will jointly agree upon the eligible subject areas for joint EC/US consortia based on priority fields which are key to EC-US cooperation.

ACTION 2 – Excellence (follow-up) Mobility Projects

The Parties may provide financial support for student mobility to joint consortia of higher education and vocational training institutions that have a proven track record of excellence in the implementation of joint projects funded by the Parties.

**ACTION 3 – Policy-oriented measures**

The Parties may provide financial support to multilateral projects involving organizations active in the field of higher education and vocational training with a view to enhancing collaboration between the European Community and the United States as regards the development of higher education and vocational training. Policy-oriented measures may include studies, conferences, seminars, working groups, benchmarking exercises and address horizontal higher education and vocational training issues, including recognition of qualifications.

**ACTION 4 – " Fulbright-Schuman" Grants**

The Parties intend to provide scholarships to highly qualified professionals (including professionals-in-training, who may be engaged in advanced studies at universities and professional schools) who want to undertake studies or training, in areas of specific relevance to the EU/US relationship, which would be jointly identified by the Parties. For the purpose of promoting " Fulbright-Schuman" grants and supporting grantees, the Parties may provide financial support to an organization that they shall jointly designate.

**ACTION 5 – Alumni Association**

The Parties may provide financial support to Alumni Associations involving students who have participated in exchanges supported by the EC/US cooperation program in higher education and vocational training. Alumni Associations may be run by organizations that the Parties shall jointly designate.

#### PROGRAM ADMINISTRATION

Administration of these Actions shall be implemented by the competent officials of each Party.

These tasks may include:

1. Deciding upon the rules and procedures for the presentation of proposals, including the preparation of a common set of guidelines for applicants;
2. Establishing a timetable for publication of calls for proposals, submission and selection of proposals;
3. Providing information on the Program and its implementation;
4. Appointing academic advisors and experts;
5. Recommending to the appropriate authorities of each Party which projects to finance;
6. Providing financial management; and

7. Promoting a cooperative approach to program monitoring and evaluation.

As a rule, the European Community will provide support for the use of the European Community project partners; the United States will provide support for United States project partners. In providing support, the Parties may have recourse to flat-rate grants, scales of unit costs and/or scholarships.

**TECHNICAL SUPPORT MEASURES**

Funds may be used for the purchase of services necessary to the implementation of the Program. In particular, the Parties may have recourse to experts; may organize seminars, colloquia or other meetings likely to facilitate the implementation of the Program; and may undertake evaluation, information, publication and dissemination activities.

Brussels, 19 March 2007

### **NOTE VERBALE**

The Mission of the United States of America to the European Union presents its compliments to the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union and has the honor to confirm that it has received the General Secretariat's note SGS6/15746 of December 7, 2006 confirming that the Council, on behalf of the European Community, has completed its procedures necessary for entry into force of the Agreement Between the United States of America and the European Community Renewing a Programme of Cooperation in Higher Education and Vocational Education and Training signed in Vienna on June 21, 2006.

The Mission hereby notifies the General Secretariat that the Government of the United States has also fulfilled its legal requirements for entry into force of the Agreement. Therefore in accordance with Article 12 (1), the Agreement shall enter into force April 1, 2007.

The Mission of the United States of America to the European Union avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union the expression of its highest consideration.

