

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

between

THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

and

**THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION
(EIPA)**

With the aim to progress further knowledge in the fields of particular interest for the development of Europe, notably its law, economy, institutions, public management and administration, as well as EU policies;

With the aim to promote cooperation in these fields and to encourage joint research and training, the Government of Republic of Bulgaria, represented by the Minister of State Administration, referred to henceforth as 'MDA', and the European Institute of Public Administration, referred to henceforth as 'EIPA', have agreed to the following:

ARTICLE 1

1. The Parties undertake to cooperate in the field of training and research in administrative science and to facilitate the participation of Bulgarian public employees in EIPA activities.
2. They will create a position at EIPA for an expert which will be reserved for a Bulgarian national (referred to henceforth as: position).
3. After the Agreement has entered into force, the MDA shall inform EIPA about the Bulgarian representative appointed as per Article 1.2 above.
4. The specific forms of cooperation shall be specified in detailed agreements complying with EIPA's general policy outlined in the annexed statement which defines the regular use of the associated countries contributions.
5. Additional activities of particular importance to the development of the Bulgarian administration can always be undertaken on the basis of appropriate separate funding.

ARTICLE 2

1. The teaching and research of the holder of the position will concern relations between the European Union and Bulgaria, the implications of the Internal Market for Bulgaria as well as other subjects relating to European integration.
2. The holder of the position will participate in EIPA activities, particularly in courses or seminars organized by EIPA for Bulgarian public servants.
3. He/She will be responsible for identifying the activities which are suitable for and in the interest of the Bulgarian institutions concerned.

ARTICLE 3

1. In order to fill or re-fill the position, the MDA in coordination with the Minister for European matters will propose one or more candidates to EIPA whose qualifications meet EIPA requirements. If EIPA rejects a candidate, its decision shall be motivated. The final choice will be made in accordance with the selection procedures in force at EIPA.
2. As a general rule, the holder of the position will be recruited for a period of one year minimum and of three years maximum, depending on the grade. The mandate may be renewable or shortened if there are special reasons which will be notified 3 months in advance by either party.
3. The conditions of employment of the holder of the position will be those applied to the faculty members of EIPA.

ARTICLE 4

1. The MDA will notify the Director-General of EIPA of the person or organization that will act as the liaison officer located in Bulgaria.
2. EIPA will receive a limited number of Bulgarian experts on sabbatical leave for studies or research on European integration, for periods up to one year.
3. EIPA will receive Bulgarian Government officials to attend a *stage* at EIPA on a rotational basis and familiarize them with the EU process from the structural and institutional point of view, as well as from the personnel point of view.



4. The salaries, grants or accommodation costs for the visitors mentioned in Article 4, paragraphs 2 and 3, will be paid by the Bulgarian institutions or by the persons concerned. These costs will not be higher than those charged to Member States.
5. EIPA shall provide IPAEI with one copy, free of charge, of each publication issued as of 2001.

ARTICLE 5

1. MDA will reimburse the salary of the holder of the position to EIPA.
2. MDA will pay EIPA an annual institutional contribution of EUR 30,000. In 2003 MDA shall continue to pay an additional institutional contribution of EUR 10,000 due for the year 1999 in accordance with the agreed instruments' plan. In 2003, EIPA shall provide additional services as compensation. By means of this contribution EIPA will cover the overhead costs, corresponding to the position of the holder at EIPA (office, computer, other facilities, secretarial assistance, etc.) irrespective whether he/she is appointed, as well as the travel and accommodation costs of the representative on EIPA's Board of Governors. In this respect the 'Policy concerning the countries associated with EIPA through cooperation agreement' will apply.
3. The Bulgarian contribution will be mutually and periodically reviewed.
4. Once Bulgaria has become a full member of the European Union, the contribution will be institutionalized and reviewed annually as it is now for the Member States.

ARTICLE 6

The Parties will consult together on the implementation of this agreement at least once a year, and if requested by either of the Parties.

ARTICLE 7

1. The present agreement is signed for a period of validity of 3 years and its force shall be continued automatically for new periods of one year unless one of the contracting parties informs the other contracting party of its intention to terminate its effect with a written notice six months before the end of the respective one year period.

2. The present agreement shall be in force from the date of receiving of the notice of the Government of the Republic of Bulgaria that all constitutional requirements for its entry into force have been fulfilled.
3. After the elapse of the 3-year period as per p. 1 of the present article, the present agreement can be modified upon the mutual consent of both contracting parties by written notice.

ARTICLE 8

1. MDA may authorize any official institution to act on behalf of the MDA in the practical implementation of this agreement.
2. The present framework agreement does not affect any other specific agreements with Bulgarian organizations, either currently existing or entered into in the future. Existing or future agreements of this kind will be taken into account in the implementation of this agreement.

ARTICLE 9


This agreement has been drawn up in English only. This text will be considered to take precedence.

Signed at Maastricht
on 27 February 2003

For the Ministry of State
Administration


The Minister of State Administration
Dimitar Kalchev

For the European Institute
of Public Administration


The Director-General
Prof. Gérard Druesne

ANNEX

INDICATIVE ANNUAL COOPERATION PROGRAMME

Actions	Numbers of experts	Costs to be covered by
Bulgarian expert to hold a position at EIPA	1 expert from the Bulgarian public administration to hold a position at EIPA for a period of minimum 1 and maximum 3 years upon the decision of the Bulgarian party	Salary paid by the Bulgarian authorities, costs for support of the expert in EIPA covered by the institutional fee paid by the Republic of Bulgaria
Bulgarian government officials to attend a 1-month stage at EIPA	Up to 2 experts from the Bulgarian public administration per year (*)	Costs to be covered by the institutional fee paid by the Republic of Bulgaria
Bulgarian government officials to attend specialized seminars organized by EIPA	Up to 10 experts from the Bulgarian republic administration per year (*)	Participation fees for the seminars to be covered by the institutional fee paid by the Republic of Bulgaria. All other costs to be covered by the respective Bulgarian institution
Bulgarian representative (the full member or the substitute member) to attend the meetings of the EIPA Board of Governors	1 representative twice per year	All costs to be covered by the institutional fee paid by the Republic of Bulgaria
Provision from EIPA to the IPAEI of copies of publications	1 copy of each publication issued as of 2001	Free of charge
Translation of EIPA publications in Bulgarian language		The "General Agreement EIPA/NISPAcee for the translation of EIPA publications" shall apply to the translation of EIPA publications into Bulgarian

(*) in the overall limit set in EIPA's "Policy statement concerning the associated countries"