

MEMORANDUM FOR CABINET BY THE HON. PRIME MINISTER  
AND THE HON. MINISTER OF EDUCATION

Cultural Agreement with Italy

Preliminary exchanges have taken place with the Italian Embassy in connection with the conclusion of a cultural agreement between Malta and Italy. Such agreement would encourage and further stimulate the present cultural relations between the two countries and would promote the bonds of friendship and understanding existing between the peoples of Malta and of the Republic of Italy.

2. The general objects of the proposed agreement are:

- (1) To encourage the study of the language, literature, history, art, science, civilization, institutions and other cultural accomplishments of the people of each country through promoting the exchange of books and publications, dramatic and other performing groups and exhibitions and through the establishment of courses and chairs in institutions of higher learning;
- (2) To exchange graduates, teachers, technicians and other qualified persons wishing to improve their knowledge in the other country;
- (3) To establish scholarships and bursaries;
- (4) To establish reciprocal recognition of degrees;
- (5) To facilitate participation in specialized courses, meetings and seminars;
- (6) To facilitate access to monuments, archives, museums and other institutions of learning;
- (7) To exchange radio and television programmes;
- (8) To develop tourism;
- (9) To facilitate the staging of athletics and sports meetings and concerts;
- (10) To establish a Mixed Commission to consult on means for the furthering of the general

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purposes of the agreement, to plan the work required to be done under it and to supervise the execution of the agreement.

3. An agreement of this nature is beneficial to Malta because it assures a certain measure of planning and continuity in the various schemes of assistance in the cultural field which the Italian Government has approved or will approve in relation to Malta.

4. Although the envisaged agreement provides for cultural exchanges between the two countries, the contribution expected from a small country such as Malta would be commensurate to its size and would not be very onerous. Such contribution could take the form of affording facilities for the teaching of the Italian language, of making available of suitable premises for cultural activities, of facilitating archeological and other research in Malta. Another contribution which could be made by Malta is the facilities that the University of Malta provides for the teaching of English.

5. The provisions of the agreement would be applicable in accordance with the terms of the Constitutions and the laws and regulations of the two countries, and they would be subject to the concurrence of such private associations and companies as may be concerned.

6. Hon. Ministers are invited to agree that a demarche should be made for the conclusion of a cultural agreement with Italy on the lines suggested above. A preliminary draft of the agreement which would be proposed to Italy is attached to this Memorandum.

17th February, 1965.

DRAFT CULTURAL AGREEMENT WITH ITALY

The Government of Malta and the Government  
of the Republic of Italy:

In consideration of the bonds of friendship  
and understanding existing between the peoples of  
Malta and of the Republic of Italy;

In view of the expressed desire of both  
Governments for an agreement which would encourage and  
further stimulate the present cultural relations  
between the two countries;

Inspired by the determination to increase  
mutual understanding between the peoples of Malta and  
the Republic of Italy;

Agree as follows:

Article 1

Each contracting Party shall encourage the  
study of the language, literature, history, art, science,  
civilization, institutions and other cultural accomplish-  
ments of the people of the other Party by such means as  
promoting and facilitating the exchange of books,  
periodicals and other publications; the exchange of  
musical, dramatic, dance and other performing groups;  
the exchange of fine art and other exhibitions; and by  
the establishment of courses and chairs at institutions  
of higher learning.

Article 2

Both Parties shall provide for the exchange  
of post-graduate students for purposes of advanced

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scholarly and scientific study between Maltese and Italian universities and other institutions of higher learning. They shall also promote and facilitate the interchange of professors, teachers, technicians and other qualified individuals, from all walks of life wishing to improve their knowledge or to specialize in the territory of the other Party.

Article 3

Each Party shall, insofar as possible, establish scholarships, travel grants and other forms of assistance and provide facilities to students, scholars, technicians and artists of the other Party.

The procedure regulating the assignment of scholarships and the granting of the facilities aforementioned shall be established by the Mixed Committee referred to in Article 11 of this Agreement.

Article 4

The Contracting Parties shall examine the conditions under which a special agreement shall be reached for the reciprocal recognition of degrees conferred by their universities and other institutions of university level.

Article 5

Each of the Contracting Parties shall facilitate the participation of intellectuals, scientists, artists and technicians of the other Party to courses, meetings and seminars as opportunities arise.

Article 6 ....

Article 6

Each Party shall assist, insofar as possible, in providing information with regard to facilities, courses of instruction and other opportunities which may be of interest to nationals of the other Party.

Article 7

Each Contracting Party shall encourage and facilitate access on the part of scholars and students to its monuments, archives, libraries, laboratories, museums and other institutions of learning. The two Parties shall assist archaeological missions in carrying out archeological field work and excavations and encourage the exchange of copies and casts of antiquities and other works of art. The exchange of photographic copies of manuscripts and books shall also be encouraged.

Article 8

The Contracting Parties shall, as far as possible, encourage and assist in the exchange of radio and television programmes between radio and television companies and organisations of their countries.

Article 9

Both Parties shall favour the development of tourism between the two countries and agree to take measures to satisfy better the requests of tourists to acquaint themselves with the way of life, work and culture of their respective peoples.

Article 10

Each Party shall encourage and facilitate

/invitations ....

invitations from its athletic and sports organisations in order that athletes from one country can participate in athletic and sports exhibitions and contests in the other country.

Article 11

A Mixed Committee comprised of an equal number of representatives of the two Parties shall be set up to consult on means to further the general purposes of this agreement, to plan the work required to be done under this agreement and to supervise the execution of this agreement. The Committee shall be convened as necessary, but not less than once a year, alternately in the Republic of Italy and in Malta. The sessions shall be chaired by the senior member of the host delegation.

Article 12

This Agreement shall not have the effect of changing the domestic law of either country, and the responsibilities assumed by each country under this agreement shall be subject to its Constitution and applicable laws and regulations and will be executed within the framework of domestic policy, procedures and practices defining internal jurisdiction of Governmental and other agencies within the respective territories and in conformity with the principle of non-interference with the internal affairs of the other country.

Article 13

The present agreement shall be ratified as soon as possible and shall enter into force on the date of the exchange of instruments of ratification.

Article 14 ....

Article 14

The present Agreement shall remain in force until the expiry of six months from the date of its denunciation by either Party.

In witness whereof the undersigned duly authorised by their respective Government have signed this Agreement and have affixed their seals .

Done in two originals this            day of  
1965, in English and Italian, both  
texts being equally authoritative.