

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**BETWEEN**

**THE GOVERNMENT OF CATALONIA  
(SPAIN)**

**AND**

**THE UNITED NATIONS  
EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION  
(UNESCO)**

UNESCO Headquarters

Paris, 3 June 2013

**HEREIN GATHERED**

On the one hand,

Hon Irina Bokova, Director-General of the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO);

On the other hand,

Rt Hon Artur Mas, President of the Government of Catalonia (*Generalitat de Catalunya*)

**WHEREAS**

**FIRST.** The UNESCO is the United Nations system organization with competency in the fields of education, science, culture and communication

**SECOND.** The Article 198 of the Statute of Autonomy of Catalonia states that "The Government should participate in relevant international bodies on matters of outstanding interest to Catalonia, especially UNESCO and other cultural bodies, in the form prescribed by the corresponding regulations."

**THIRD.** As established by the Statute of Autonomy of Catalonia, and notwithstanding the exclusive competency of the Spanish State, the Government of Catalonia has powers in UNESCO's areas of activity.

**FOURTH.** The Government of Catalonia's primary goal of its international exposure activities is the deepening of relations with multilateral agencies, for their commitment to the challenges and choices posed by a globalized world.

**FIFTH.** The Government of Catalonia recognizes the role of Catalan UNESCO Civil Network, which works in collaboration with the Spanish National Commission for UNESCO, and consists of the Catalan UNESCO Chairs, the UNESCO Centre of Catalonia, the Catalan Federation of UNESCO Associations and Clubs, the Group of Catalan Libraries Associated to UNESCO, and the UNESCO Associated Schools Network.

**SIXTH.** Both the Government of Catalonia and UNESCO share the goal of promoting dialogue and cooperation with a view to a future of peace, coexistence and welfare in the Euro-Mediterranean region.

**SEVENTH.** The memorandum signed on October 11, 2006 has had positive results and has also served to encourage collaboration between UNESCO and the Government of Catalonia on education, science, culture and communication, in the context of relations between Spain and UNESCO and in coordination with the Spanish National Commission for UNESCO.

Both signatories agree to sign this Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with the following

## **COMMITMENTS**

**FIRST.**

This Memorandum of Understanding is intended to disseminate UNESCO's activities in Catalonia, to promote a collaboration framework, and to strengthen collaboration between UNESCO and the Government of Catalonia in areas of common interest, notwithstanding the competencies of the Spanish State and its relations with UNESCO. It is also intended to facilitate Catalan institutions' participation in UNESCO-led international meetings, projects and programs of mutual interest in accordance with UNESCO rules and regulations.

## **SECOND. Thematic areas**

For the development of collaboration mentioned in the first clause, the following thematic areas shall be promoted:

### **1. Education**

Improving the quality of education and the diffusion of universally shared values, as well activities promoting human rights and sustainable development.

Education for All Program to meet basic learning needs of population sectors with fewer opportunities, enhancing multilingual intercultural education.

### **2. Culture**

Reflection on the role of culture in the context of globalization and cultural pluralism, with special attention to the Convention on Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions.

Standard setting instruments in the area of culture, such as those related to the protection of tangible, intangible and underwater cultural heritage.

Strengthening the links between culture and development, as well as the relation between culture and peace through capacity-building activities and a shared use of knowledge.

Creative industries.

### **3. Social and human sciences**

Social and human sciences, global governance, social transformation with special emphasis on human rights, interculturalism, immigration, racism, as well as xenophobia and gender equality.

#### **4. Natural sciences**

Technological development, innovation and improvement of scientific, technical and human capacities to participate in the emerging knowledge societies, build peace, eradicate poverty and promote sustainable development.

#### **5. Communication and information**

Building inclusive knowledge societies based on information and communication and promoting freedom of expression and information.

#### **6. UNESCO special topics**

Collaboration with initiatives related to biodiversity, oceans and climate change; education for sustainable development; culture of peace and dialogue among civilizations; Millennium Development Goals; ICTs in education and science teaching; research and development systems; youth and post-conflict situations.

### **THIRD. Cooperation instruments**

Cooperation instruments within the framework of the Government of Catalonia's powers, are listed below:

#### **1. Secondment and Scholarship Program**

Secondment of Experts and Scholarships for internships at UNESCO headquarters in accordance with UNESCO rules and regulations.

#### **2. Support to UNESCO projects**

Direct funding for UNESCO cooperation projects considered of common interest, according to the current program and budget approved by UNESCO General Conference through the appropriate UNESCO modalities for managing funds including funds-in-trust, special accounts and/or appropriations to the regular programme.

### **3. UNESCO values diffusion in Catalonia and awareness-raising**

Translation into Catalan of UNESCO reports and relevant documentation. Any costs for translation into Catalan would be borne by the Government of Catalonia. Organization of awareness-raising campaigns on the occasion of UNESCO- and UN-promoted international years, decades and days.

When wishing to start one of these cooperation instruments, the Government of Catalonia shall inform UNESCO through the Spanish Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Cooperation.

#### **FORTH. Catalan UNESCO Civil Network**

To develop the target detailed in the preceding clause, the Government of Catalonia, in collaboration with the Spanish National Commission for Cooperation with UNESCO, supports and collaborates with the Catalan UNESCO Civil Network, consisting of the Catalan UNESCO Chairs, the UNESCO Centre of Catalonia, the Catalan Federation of UNESCO Associations and Clubs, the Catalan the Group of Catalan Libraries Associated to UNESCO, and the UNESCO Associated Schools Network, to:

- Support to the Catalan UNESCO Civil Network
- Promote activities and dissemination of produced materials

#### **FIFTH. Signatories' commitment**

For the implementation of the above objectives and Action Lines, the signatories to this Memorandum of Understanding agree to the following commitments regime:

##### **I. Consultation and information exchange**

Each signatory shall provide the information and advice necessary for the completion of the action lines included in this Memorandum of Understanding in accordance with each signatory's applicable law, rules and regulations.

##### **II. Memorandum implementation**

Subject to the availability of the necessary technical and financial resources, UNESCO and the Government of Catalonia shall cooperate on the development of the action lines included in this Memorandum of Understanding.

Any funds made available to UNESCO in connection with the present Memorandum of Understanding will be used by UNESCO in accordance with its regulations, rules and procedures. UNESCO shall not enter into any commitments in excess of funds available.

When individual projects are identified and approved, for each project, the signatories will sign a binding agreement, hereinafter referred to as a "Project agreement", which will be contained within the framework of this MoU and which will define the rights and obligations of the signatories.

These lines of action shall be implemented at the joint initiative of the signatories.

Similarly, to give compliance to the actions and projects under this Memorandum of Understanding, the signatories may prepare specific addendums as deemed necessary, in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures.

#### **SIXTH.**

The support of UNESCO and of the Government of Catalonia shall, subject to each signatory's rules and regulations, be mentioned in each and every one of the activities and resulting public information related to the lines of action referred to in this Memorandum of Understanding.

#### **SEVENTH.**

For the most appropriate implementation and monitoring of the contents of this Memorandum of Understanding, UNESCO and the Government of Catalonia shall designate representatives who shall meet regularly.

#### **EIGHT.**

This Memorandum of Understanding replaces and supersedes all prior agreements, especially the Memorandum of Understanding signed on October 11, 2006.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall commence on the day following its signature and will last four years. This Memorandum of Understanding may be extended and/or amended by mutual written agreement of the signatories.

In case of any difference of views arising from the present Memorandum of Understanding, the signatories shall make reasonable good faith efforts to resolve the dispute amicably.

In witness thereof, the signatories sign this Memorandum of Understanding in six copies, two in Spanish, two in English and two in Catalan, the English version being authoritative.

Paris, 3<sup>rd</sup> of June 2013

For the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO)

Irina Bokova

Director General