

## Poland

### PROGRESS REPORT<sup>1</sup>

#### on recent developments regarding S&T cooperation in/with the WBC (June 2013 / Budva until December 2013 / Zagreb)

#### 1 Policy actions

(e.g. essential changes in the political authorities, administrative bodies, agencies, institutions, personnel, development/launch of new national funding programmes, etc.)

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#### 2 Legislative initiatives - development of the legal and strategic framework

##### **Albania**

Due to the expiry of the Program for Cooperation in the field of science and higher education, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Albania work on the text of the new program. The program is still consulted by both parties. Polish counter-proposal was submitted to the Albanian party on September 6, 2012.

##### **Bosnia and Herzegovina**

Department of Public and Cultural Diplomacy of Polish Foreign Ministry sent a draft Agreement between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina on cooperation in culture, education and science of April 2011, together with the justification and negotiating instructions for consultations. This agreement would replace the outdated Agreement on Cultural Cooperation between the People's Republic and the Federative People's Republic of Yugoslavia, signed in Belgrade on July 6, 1956. Ongoing consultation process. Ministry of Foreign Affairs has not yet started the official procedure in PL by the Council of Ministers.

##### **Macedonia**

On March 4, 2012, the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland has forwarded via the Polish Embassy in Skopje the Polish proposal of Cooperation

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<sup>1</sup> The progress reports are collected in preparation of the meetings of the Steering Platform on Research for the Western Balkan Countries and will be provided for download from the WBC-INCO.Net homepage ([www.wbc-inco.net](http://www.wbc-inco.net)) about one week before the meeting takes place. Therefore please submit your report to [office@wbc-inco.net](mailto:office@wbc-inco.net) until May 29, 2013.

Programme in science higher education between the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland and the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia to the preliminary arrangements. Macedonian side welcomed the Polish proposal to initiate the conclusion procedure of the agreement. On 1 Dec. 2012, the Polish Prime Minister accepted to start final negotiations. The Agreement was signed on 10 September 2013. The first call for academic exchange has been launched.

### **Montenegro**

The Agreement between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Council of Ministers of Montenegro on cooperation in culture, education and science signed on 26 October 2012, entered into force on 6 November 2013 (90 days after the receipt of the later note). The Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs presented a note to Montenegro to submit the draft Executive Programme.

### **Serbia**

Department of Public and Cultural Diplomacy of Ministry of Foreign Affairs sent on April 4, 2012 to the Ministry of Science and Higher Education of Poland, the Serbian Ministry counter-proposal to the Agreement between the Government of the Polish Republic and the Council of Ministers of Serbia on cooperation in culture, education and science with a request for comment on the Serbian proposal. The Agreement on cooperation in the field of culture, education and science was signed on 23-24 October 2013 during the visit of the Secretary of State in the Polish Ministry of Foreign Affairs to Serbia. The Agreement is subject to ratification - has not yet entered into force.

## **3 Important events, meetings, training activities, etc.**

### **State visit of the Polish President and the Ministry of Science and Higher Education to Macedonia, 10 September 2013**

During the visit, the Minister of Science and Higher Education of Poland, prof. Barbara Kudrycka, and the Minister of Education and Science of the Republic of Macedonia, Spiro Ristovski, in the presence of the Presidents of both countries, signed the Agreement on Cooperation in Science and Higher Education.

The document regulates the rules of academic exchanges and exchanges of specialists in the field of higher education, including: setting limits and forms of exchange, the conditions of its financing, granting of benefits and organizational conditions. Implementation of the agreement will have an impact on raising the level and quality of education in colleges and universities, as well as professional development of teaching and development of young academic staff.

Minister Barbara Kudrycka also participated in bilateral talks and the meeting of the President of Poland with the Prime Minister of the Republic of Macedonia, Nikola Gruevski.

**4 Development of international cooperation and actions on integration into ERA**

(e.g. new bilateral/international agreements, memberships, support structures, important international projects, programmes, etc.)

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**5 Statistics - major changes / updates of relevant statistical data**

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**6 Assessment of the developments and outlook on the next 6 months**

*(Optional personal opinion)*

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**Appendix: additional data**

*(Delete if not applicable.)*

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