

## Signature of an international cooperation agreement by the Council (20 September 1999)

**Caption:** Example of an international cooperation agreement, signed by the Council of the European Union on 20 September 1999.

**Source:** PRESS OFFICE/NEWSROOM. [ON-LINE]. [Brussels]: Council of the European Union, [15.11.2000]. 10856/99 (Press 272). Disponible sur <http://ue.eu.int/newsroom/newmain.asp?lang=1>.

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[http://www.cvce.eu/obj/signature\\_of\\_an\\_international\\_cooperation\\_agreement\\_by\\_the\\_council\\_20\\_september\\_1999-en-9373cfa3-8fd4-4197-927a-1445b5469a31.html](http://www.cvce.eu/obj/signature_of_an_international_cooperation_agreement_by_the_council_20_september_1999-en-9373cfa3-8fd4-4197-927a-1445b5469a31.html)

**Publication date:** 20/10/2012

## Signature of the Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and Argentina

The Agreement for scientific and technological cooperation between the European Community and Argentina was signed today :

### For the European Community, by :

- Mr. Erkki TUOMIOJA Minister of Trade and Industry, Finland
- Mr. Philippe BUSQUIN Member of the European Commission

### For Argentina, by :

- Mr. Juan-Carlos DEL BELLO Secretary of State for Science and Technology

The objective of this Agreement is to encourage, develop and facilitate cooperative activities between the Community and Argentina in fields of common interest where they are pursuing research and development activities in science and technology. This cooperation may cover all the activities included in the First Activity of the Fifth EC Framework Programme for research and technological development (RTD), i.e. the thematic programmes covering research fields as diverse as energy, life sciences, industrial technologies for small and medium-sized enterprises, transport, telematic applications, information and communication technologies, astrophysics and space exploitation, and marine sciences.

Argentine research entities may participate in RTD projects under the First Activity of the Framework programme and research entities established in the Community may reciprocally participate in Argentine projects in similar sectors of RTD.

The President of the Council, Mr. Tuomioja, pointed out that the present agreement represents an important step between the Argentine Republic and the EU. It implements the Framework Agreement of 1990 between the two parties which had specifically identified S/T cooperation as an area of particular interest and potential. It is recalled that the Fifth RTD Framework Programme, which entered into force early in 1999, provides for enhanced cooperation with developing and emerging economies, including through S/T cooperation agreements.

This is the first agreement with a Latin American country. It presents an important element in implementing the political commitments made in the Summit between the Heads of State and Government of the EU, Latin America and the Caribbean in Rio de Janeiro at the end of June 1999. Indeed, the agreement attaches particular importance to the joint promotion of scientific research and technical development as essential elements in the context of globalisation.

Scientific cooperation will also occupy a prominent place in the future Interregional Association Agreement between the EU and the Mercosur of which Argentina is a decisive member.

The S/T cooperation between the Community and Argentina has already achieved significant proportions ; during the period 1994-1998, corresponding to the Fourth Framework Programme, 57 Argentinian scientific teams participated in 44 different projects that had a total budget of 23.6 million EUROS. Together with Brazil, Argentina was the most active country in Latin America involved in EU research.

The signatories welcomed the present agreement as a means to further enhance S/T relations between the two parties by creating a new co-operation framework for a number of research areas. They expressed their hope that research entities of both parties will actively exploit the possibilities of this agreement.