

No. 32548

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**GERMANY  
and  
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA**

**Agreement for the promotion of German-American understanding in the field of broadcasting and for the conducting of exchange programs for broadcast professionals. Signed at Berlin on 19 May 1992**

*Authentic texts: German and English.*

*Registered by Germany on 8 February 1996.*

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**ALLEMAGNE  
et  
ÉTATS-UNIS D'AMÉRIQUE**

**Accord relatif à la promotion de l'entente germano-américaine dans le domaine de la radiodiffusion et pour l'organisation de programmes d'échange pour les professionnels de la radiodiffusion. Signé à Berlin le 19 mai 1992**

*Textes authentiques : allemand et anglais.*

*Enregistré par l'Allemagne le 8 février 1996.*

AGREEMENT<sup>1</sup> BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE FEDERAL REPUBLIC OF GERMANY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA FOR THE PROMOTION OF GERMAN-AMERICAN UNDERSTANDING IN THE FIELD OF BROADCASTING AND FOR THE CONDUCTING OF EXCHANGE PROGRAMS TO BROADCAST PROFESSIONALS

The Government of the Federal Republic of Germany  
and  
the Government of the United States of America:

recognizing the accomplishments of RIAS BERLIN over the past forty-five years as a transatlantic bridge dedicated to truth and democracy and its symbolism as an outstanding example of American-German cooperation,

guided by the wish to maintain the journalistic heritage and the transatlantic tradition of this respected, successful institution and to pass them to new generations of journalists, and

desiring to promote and deepen the mutual understanding between the people of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America through a greater exchange of broadcast journalists and professionals, as well as through promoting and honoring broadcast productions and other accomplishments in the field of journalism,

have agreed as follows:

**Article I**

There shall be established a commission to be known as the RIAS BERLIN Commission (hereinafter, "the Commission"), to be located in Berlin. The Commission shall be recognized by the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of the United States of America as a binational organization created and established to administer activities which carry out the purposes of the Commission and which are financed with funds made available to the Commission for such purposes.

<sup>1</sup> Came into force on 26 October 1992, i.e., one month from the date on which the Parties had informed each other (on 25 September 1992) of the completion of the national requirements, in accordance with article XIV (1).

## Article II

Whenever, in the present Agreement, the term “Minister of the Interior” is used, it shall be understood to mean the Minister of the Interior in the Federal Republic of Germany or any officer or employee of the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany as he or she may designate to act on his or her behalf.

Whenever the term “Chief of the Diplomatic Mission of the United States of America” is used, it shall be understood to mean the Chief of the Diplomatic Mission of the United States of America to the Federal Republic of Germany (acting under a Delegation of Authority from the Director of the United States Information Agency), or any officer or employee of the Government of the United States of America whom the Chief of Mission may designate to act on his or her behalf.

## Article III

(1) The purposes of the Commission shall be to:

- a) promote the exchange of persons and information in the field of broadcast journalism between the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America;
- b) support radio and television productions which contribute to the mutual understanding between the people of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America;
- c) provide financial support for the occasional transatlantic transmission of broadcast productions which further this mutual understanding in an outstanding way, pursuant to applicable laws and regulations; and
- d) award an annual prize each to the radio production and to the television production which best contribute to the mutual understanding between the people of the Federal Republic of Germany and the United States of America and have not been promoted by funds of the Commission.

(2) In carrying out its purposes, the Commission shall give special consideration to those productions and activities which, in the tradition of RIAS, address the unique circumstances and needs of the states which comprised the former German Democratic Republic.

## Article IV

(1) The Commission shall consist of ten members, five of whom shall be German citizens and five of whom shall be American citizens. In addition the Minister of the Interior of the Federal

Republic of Germany and the Chief of the Diplomatic Mission of the United States of America shall be Honorary Chairmen of the Commission.

(2) The Minister of the Interior shall have the authority to appoint and remove the German members on the Commission. The Chief of the Diplomatic Mission of the United States of America shall have the authority to appoint and remove the American members of the Commission.

(3) A chairman and vice-chairman, each with voting power, shall be selected by the Commission from among its members.

(4) The term of each member shall be three years and each shall be eligible for reappointment. Vacancies by reason of resignation, expiration of service or otherwise, shall be filled in accordance with the appointment procedures set forth in this article.

(5) The members shall serve without compensation but the Commission is authorized to pay the necessary expenses of the members in attending the meetings of the Commission and in performing other official duties assigned by the Commission.

#### Article V

The Commission shall make the organizational arrangements deemed necessary for the conduct of its affairs. It shall

- a) appoint an Executive Director,
- b) elect officers,
- c) establish necessary and appropriate procedures for managing its financial affairs,
- d) adopt such by-laws and
- e) appoint such committees as it shall deem necessary.

#### Article VI

(1) In fulfillment of the purposes for which it was established, the Commission may in particular:

- a) plan, adopt and carry out activities in furtherance of this Agreement;
- b) select free-lancers, trainees, writers, editors, artists and others in the field of broadcast journalism resident in either the Federal Republic of Germany or the United States of America to participate in exchange programs between those two countries;
- c) organize and carry out seminars and other educational gatherings which carry out a purpose of this Agreement;