

RECOMMENDATION No. 29

concerning

THE INTERNATIONAL INTERCHANGE OF TEACHERS
(1950)

The International Conference on Public Education,

Convened at Geneva by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and the International Bureau of Education, and being assembled on the sixth of July for its thirteenth session, adopts on the seventh of July, nineteen hundred and fifty, the following recommendation:

The Conference,

Convinced that one of the most effective and practical ways of promoting a deeper understanding among peoples of different nationalities and cultures and of raising educational standards, is the international exchange of teachers and educators,

Bearing in mind also that it is necessary to associate governments in the facilitation and promotion of programmes providing for the interchange of educators between countries and for non-permanent appointments of teaching personnel abroad,

Submits to the Ministries of Education of the various countries the following recommendation:

1) That wide publicity be given, among governmental or private institutions and professional organizations concerned with education and with the promotion of international understanding, to programmes for non-permanent appointments and the interchange of teachers;

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2) That particular attention be given, in the continuation or planning of programmes for the promotion of international cultural relations, to the interchange of teachers and the establishment of non-permanent posts abroad;

3) That such interchange schemes and arrangements for non-permanent appointments be extended where possible to other countries and to other regions, and that they be broadened to include all categories of teachers;

4) That steps be taken to ensure that teachers sent abroad on non-permanent appointments or interchange arrangements do not lose status, superannuation rights, etc., during their period of teaching abroad;

5) That steps be taken to encourage educational institutions to receive teachers from abroad, and to release teachers for periods of teaching in other countries, and, with this end in view, to consider the removal, as far as possible, of legal or administrative obstacles to such movements;

6) That steps be taken to remove restrictions on the exportation or importation of currency for persons appointed to non-permanent appointments abroad and interchange posts, and, where necessary, to make special arrangements with respect to taxation of persons engaged on such teaching appointments;

7) That steps be taken financially to support interchange schemes and arrangements for non-permanent appointments, handicapped through lack of subsidy for transportation, cost-of-living differential, or other necessary expenses;

Takes note of and supports the following recommendations to the Director-General of Unesco, of the Meeting of Experts on the International Interchange of Teachers convened by Unesco:

“The Committee of Experts recommends to the Director-General that he continue to promote the international interchange of teachers and arrangements for non-permanent appointments abroad:

a) by keeping governments aware of the importance of these exchanges in order to promote international understanding,

b) by giving wide dissemination to information on opportunities to teach abroad,

c) by encouraging public and private educational institutions to promote exchange programmes,

d) by publishing and disseminating reports of Member States on their experiences in the field of teacher interchange and non-permanent appointments abroad, and rendering advice, on request, for the organization of programmes,

e) by placing the services of its educational clearing-house at the disposal of persons requiring information on the educational structure of other countries and the significance of academic qualifications, and

f) by enabling experts of interchange programmes to meet periodically to study developments in the field of interchange and non-permanent appointments abroad and to develop plans to meet new problems and requirements.

“The Committee views with particular concern the needs of certain less developed areas of the world, for advanced specialized teaching staff from abroad. It recommends to the Director-General that he assist in the recruitment of suitable personnel in accordance with the capacity of his Organization, and suggests in particular that he:

a) invite Member States to investigate and inform him of their requirements,

b) give wide publicity to the requirements,

c) study the various possibilities of recruiting exchange personnel, and

d) in exceptional cases and when particularly requested to do so, undertake direct recruitment of exchange personnel on behalf of Member States.”