



## Economic and Social Council

Distr.  
GENERAL

E/1982/3/Add.1  
27 January 1982  
ENGLISH  
ORIGINAL: RUSSIAN

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### IMPLEMENTATION OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANT ON ECONOMIC, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL RIGHTS

Reports submitted in accordance with Council resolution  
1988 (LX) by States parties to the Covenant, concerning  
rights covered by articles 13 to 15

#### UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS

[28 April 1981]

During the period that has elapsed since submission to the Economic and Social Council in 1980 of the report on the implementation in the USSR of the provisions of articles 10 to 12 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, <sup>1/</sup> there have been important new legislative and other official actions in the Soviet Union which are directly related to the guaranteeing of the rights and freedoms of Soviet citizens, particularly in the economic, social and cultural spheres. These include the USSR laws of 25 June 1980 on the fundamental powers of territorial and regional Councils of People's Deputies and Councils of People's Deputies of autonomous regions and autonomous areas, on the protection of atmospheric air, on the protection and utilization of fauna, on amendments and additions to the Fundamentals of Shipbuilding Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics and Autonomous Republics (Official Gazette of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, 1980, No. 27), the Decree of the Presidium of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR "On the organization of work with regard to the instructions from voters" of 1 September 1980 (Official Gazette of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, 1980, No. 36), and the Fundamentals of the Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics concerning Administrative Violations, of 23 October 1980 (Official Gazette of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR, 1980, No. 44).

The legislative acts adopted provide new evidence of the steady development of socialist democracy and the strengthening of the legal basis of State and public life. The questions of maintaining legality and preserving law and order are inextricably connected with the education of citizens in the spirit of scrupulous and unswerving implementation of the Constitution of the USSR and other legislative acts and the observance of State discipline. The main goal of improving and

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1/ E/1980/6/Add.17.

developing the Soviet legislative system is to ensure the fullest possible satisfaction of the material and spiritual needs of Soviet citizens and comprehensive guarantees of their rights and freedoms.

A survey of the situation with regard to the protection in the USSR of the rights and freedoms covered by articles 13 to 15 of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights is presented below.

#### ARTICLE 13. THE RIGHT TO EDUCATION

One of the major socio-cultural achievements of the Great October Socialist Revolution is the right of citizens to education. Article 45 of the Constitution of the USSR states:

"Citizens of the USSR have the right to education. This right is ensured by free provision of all forms of education, by the institution of universal, compulsory secondary education and broad development of vocational, specialized secondary and higher education, in which instruction is oriented towards practical activity and production; by the development of extramural, correspondence and evening courses; by the provision of State scholarships and grants and privileges for students; by the free issue of school textbooks; and by the provision of facilities for self-education."

As can be seen from the above-quoted article of the Constitution of the USSR, the right to education in the USSR is guaranteed on a broader scale than is provided for in the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights. Article 13 of the Covenant establishes the need to make primary education compulsory and available free to all. The Constitution of the USSR guarantees that all forms of education shall be free, including higher education, and provides for the institution of universal compulsory secondary education.

The principle of providing education free of charge extends in the USSR to general-education schools and to vocational, specialized secondary and higher educational establishments. Students are provided free of charge not only with instruction but also with access to laboratories, study-rooms, auditoriums, reading rooms, libraries and other auxiliary educational facilities, sports centres and installations, sports equipment and the like. The principle of providing education free of charge is supplemented by many privileges and advantages. Thus, children of unmarried mothers have the right to free maintenance at boarding schools. A special fund has been established for providing material assistance to those needing it.

The State gives grants and allowances to students and provides hostels for those who need them. Persons who study while continuing to work in productive jobs are granted leave with pay for the period of their examinations or are allowed to work a shorter work week or a shorter work day. Blue-collar and white-collar workers who study at schools for working youth while remaining in productive jobs are granted a work week which is one day shorter than usual, and those studying at schools for rural youth are granted a work week which is two days shorter. During the days they are released from work, workers who study are paid 50 per cent of their average earnings, but not less than a prescribed minimum amount.

By a resolution adopted by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of the USSR on 24 November 1977 (Compendium of resolutions of the Government of the USSR, 1978, No. 1, p. 1), provision is made for a transition, in accordance with the Constitution of the USSR, to the free use of textbooks by those studying at secondary general-education schools during the years 1978-1983. Those studying at higher, specialized secondary, and vocational educational establishments in the USSR are granted the right to the free use of textbooks and other educational literature through the libraries of those establishments.

One of the most important conditions for the comprehensive development of the personality is the creation of a modern system of public education. In accordance with article 25 of the Constitution of the USSR, in the Soviet Union "there is a uniform system of public education, which is being constantly improved, that provides general education and vocational training for citizens, serves the communist education and intellectual and physical development of youth, and trains them for work and social activity".

The system of public education in the USSR serves as a solution to the main problems of a socialist State, among which the Constitution of the USSR lists perfecting socialist social relations, transforming them into communist relations, and furthering the consolidation of peace and the development of international co-operation. Education in the USSR promotes the development of mutual understanding and friendship between all nations and nationalities and the strengthening of peace and security throughout the world.

The Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics on Public Education, adopted on 19 July 1973, define the principles of the organization and functioning of the system of public education and regulate other problems relating to the field of education.

The system of public education in the USSR is based on the following fundamental principles:

The equality of all citizens of the USSR in respect of receiving education, irrespective of race and nationality, sex, attitude towards religion, and property and social status;

The compulsory nature of education for all children and teenagers; the State and social nature of all educational establishments;

The freedom to choose the language of instruction; education may be conducted in the mother tongue or the language of another people of the USSR;

The free provision of all types of education, medical service, the full maintenance of some students by the State, the provision of scholarship grants and other material assistance for students;

The uniform nature of public education and continuity between all types of educational establishments, which ensures the possibility of going from the lowest to the highest stages of education;

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The unity of instruction and communist education; the co-operation of the school, family and public in the upbringing of children and adolescents;

Ties between the instruction and education of the rising generation and work experience, the practice of building communism;

The scientific nature of education and its constant improvement on the basis of the latest achievements of science, technology and culture;

The humane nature and high moral standards of education and upbringing;

Co-education;

The secular nature of education.

In the USSR the church is separate from the State and the school from the church (article 52 of the Constitution). All constitutional and other rights and freedoms of citizens, including the right to education, are guaranteed by the State, irrespective of citizens' attitude towards religion. The Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics on Public Education provide that officials and citizens who commit violations of the law in the field of public education shall be liable to the penalties established by the legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics. Violation of the laws concerning the separation of school and church entails criminal liability (article 142 of the Criminal Code of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic and the corresponding articles of the criminal codes of the other Union Republics).

The system of public education in the USSR includes pre-school education, general education, extramural instruction, vocational education, specialized secondary education and higher education. The individual links of the system are closely interrelated: a general-education school prepares students for subsequent instruction in vocational or specialized secondary and higher educational establishments where, on the basis of the fundamental skills acquired in the general-education school, they are trained for their work activity in the practical field.

The first link in the system of education and instruction of the rising generation consists of children's pre-school establishments - nursery schools, kindergartens and combinations of the two. These establishments in the USSR are designed for the instruction of children under the age of seven years. In addition to full-time children's pre-school establishments, in rural areas there are established temporary (seasonal) kindergartens for the spring, summer and autumn work periods.

The most important link in the system of education in the USSR is the general-education school, which prepares the younger generation for life and work and equips young men and women with the skills necessary for working in modern production. At the same time, the school solves the problems of shaping a well-rounded and harmoniously developed personality which combines spiritual wealth, moral purity and physical fitness.

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All children who have reached the age of seven years by the beginning of the school year receive instruction in the general-education school. They are given an opportunity to study in their native language. Their parents or the persons acting in the parents' stead have the right to choose a school with the appropriate language of instruction for the children. In addition to the language in which the instruction is conducted, the students may, if they wish, study the language of another people of the USSR.

The network of schools includes educational establishments of various kinds: secondary general-education schools, schools with training for production, schools with intensified study of individual subjects, schools with extended hours, boarding schools, evening schools (late-shift schools) and correspondence schools for working youth, schools for the education of children with defects in their physical or mental development, sanatorium and forest schools, and specialized schools.

The period of instruction in the secondary general-education school is 10 years. For schools in which the instruction is conducted in a language other than Russian, an 11-year period of instruction may be established with the permission of the Council of Ministers of the USSR. In evening (late-shift) and correspondence general-education schools a three-year term of instruction has been established (grades 9, 10 and 11).

Depending on local conditions, there are separate beginners' schools with grades 1 to 3 (or 1 to 4), eight-year schools with grades 1 to 8, and secondary schools with grades 1 to 10 (or 1 to 11); the unity and continuity of all levels of general secondary education are maintained.

Students who complete the eight grades receive an eight-year-education certificate which entitles them to enter the ninth grade of a general-education school or to enter a specialized or vocational secondary school. Those who complete their studies in the secondary general-education school are given a secondary-education certificate which entitles them to enter an institution of higher education, a technical school, or a specialized secondary school for a shorter period of study. Those who complete vocational training in the secondary school also receive a certificate of the skill learned with an indication of the grade awarded by the qualification commission.

The principal aims of the vocational schools are:

- (a) The provision of training geared to the national economy for young skilled workers, who receive a well-rounded education and technical and cultural training and acquire a skilled trade that meets the present needs and future development of modern production and scientific and technological progress;
- (b) The provision of a vocational and general secondary education to young persons in vocational secondary schools;
- (c) The moulding of a Marxist-Leninist world outlook and the inculcation of high moral qualities;
- (d) Aesthetic and physical training.

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The system of vocational education comprises three basic types of educational establishments: the secondary vocational school, providing a 3 to 4-year course of instruction for workers with a secondary education; technical schools providing a 1 to 1.5-year course of instruction in a trade for secondary-school leavers; and evening (late-shift) vocational schools which accept young workers who have had no vocational training.

The network of establishments for vocational education in the Soviet Union is constantly being developed. During the tenth five-year plan, the number of establishments increased by 1,040, and it has now reached 7,300, with a total of over 3.7 million students. The existing network offers all young men and women the possibility of entering a vocational school of their choice and takes account of their wishes.

The provision of general secondary education in the Soviet Union is based on the successful solution of the problem of eight-year general education. This is in turn based on the solution of a broad range of administrative and pedagogical problems and on a raising of the standard of the entire teaching and education process. Of importance in this regard are the provision of transport for students living three or more kilometres from school, expansion of the network of boarding facilities in schools, and an increase in the student intake in schools with extended hours or schools offering extended hours to some groups. In the 1979/80 school year, a total of some 11.8 million children and adolescents attended boarding schools, schools with boarding facilities, and schools and groups with extended hours; 25 per cent of pupils in schools and groups with extended hours and in schools with boarding facilities receive free meals, while 75 per cent of those in schools with boarding facilities pay half the cost of meals.

The Soviet Union has a network of schools for children and adolescents with physical or mental handicaps. General-education recuperative, sanatorium-style forest schools are provided for those children who require prolonged treatment. Sick children are sometimes assigned work to be done at home. A system of general-education boarding schools and children's homes is being organized for children and adolescents deprived of parental care or of the necessary conditions for being brought up within the family. Schoolchildren whose parents are, for various reasons, in financial straits receive everything they need to continue their studies (footwear, clothing and the like) from special school funds.

A total of 99.2 per cent of the eight-year day-school leavers continue their studies in various types of educational institutions which provide a full secondary education. Thus, the major goal of providing all youth in the Soviet Union with compulsory secondary education has been virtually achieved. As stated in the decision adopted on 22 December 1977 by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union relating to the further improvement of education, the instruction of students attending general-education schools and preparing them for work:

"The completion of the transition to universal compulsory secondary education is an outstanding achievement of the Communist Party and the Soviet people, of the socialist social system. Under conditions of developed socialism, the younger generation of our country start out with a full secondary education, which creates new opportunities for the further growth of

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the productivity, spiritual culture and awareness of the working people, for the formation of man in communist society."

The basic documents defining the contents of education in Soviet schools are the instruction plans and programmes. The "instruction plan" (curriculum) is an official document which lists the subjects for study in a given type of school and indicates their distribution by years of study (by grades), and the number of hours per week and per year devoted to the study of each subject.

The curriculum includes subjects in the humanities and the natural-science-mathematics courses, labour education, fine arts, music and physical culture. This structure of the curriculum ensures the all-round, harmonious development of the students.

The "instruction programme" (syllabus) defines the scope and contents of the knowledge, abilities and skills required for each subject, and indicates the contents of individual sections, together with their distribution by years of study. Standard curricula and syllabuses for subjects prescribed throughout the Union are approved by the Ministry of Education of the USSR. Using the standard curricula as a basis, the ministries of education of the Union Republics prepare curricula which are mandatory for all schools in each Union Republic.

The modernization of the content of education and the introduction of new curricula and syllabuses have been enormously important for Soviet general-education schools. During the past 10 years, the content of education has been revitalized, new textbooks and teaching aids have been prepared, and the standards of training and education in school have been raised. The new syllabuses were based on the principles of instruction at a high level of complexity, at a faster rate of coverage of study material and at a higher standard of theoretical knowledge.

The improvement in curricula content did not take the form of adding new subjects and sections to the traditional courses. The main feature of the improvement was a change in the structure of the subjects for study and a raising of their scientific and theoretical level in accordance with modern scientific theories. In each subject, the leading ideas were determined, and they provided the framework for developing the specific content of the syllabus. This principle was applied to the preparation of syllabuses both in the humanities and in the natural-science-mathematics courses.

Modernization of the contents of the curriculum required a corresponding improvement in methods of learning. Soviet schools now attach great importance to various kinds of independent study using textbooks, dictionaries, reference books and original sources. The close link between theory and practice makes it possible to avoid an excessively academic approach to the acquisition of knowledge.

The unified basis of the curricula and syllabuses and of the pedagogical principles for organizing studies ensures the unity of the Soviet school. This provides continuity in the work of the school and all other types of educational establishment, which enables each school-leaver to exercise free choice in pursuing his or her education. In the Soviet Union there are no "blind-alley" schools,

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attendance at which would preclude entry to higher education or any category of vocational school.

Within a period of 10 years, the Soviet school provides each student with a high level of general education and polytechnical training, and the opportunity to continue study in any type of higher or specialized secondary educational establishment and to acquire any skill within the vocational education system. Polytechnical training in the general-education secondary school ensures that, in the process of studying the basic principles of science as laid down in the curriculum, syllabuses and textbooks, the students familiarize themselves with the basic sectors of production and the principal trades, with modern engineering and technology, economics and the organization of labour in modern industrial and agricultural socialist enterprises. Polytechnical training includes vocational guidance, providing the students with a free choice of occupation and the subsequent opportunity to change their occupation fairly quickly by undergoing brief retraining.

The Soviet general-education school prepares the entire younger generation for active working life. Labour training and education in the general secondary school follows a system comprising the following components: labour as a subject of study; socially useful and productive work of students as part of workers' collectives; practical summer work in agriculture; and basic pre-vocational training of senior students in various skills, the most common being car and tractor operation and maintenance.

Higher education in the USSR is an integral part of the country's national education system, and constitutes its highest and final level. In the USSR, higher education is provided at universities, institutes, academies and other educational establishments which are classified as higher educational establishments. Higher educational establishments offer day, evening and correspondence courses. The main types of higher educational establishments in the Soviet Union are universities, polytechnical institutes and specialized institutes, such as medical, agricultural and teacher-training institutes.

The most important tasks of the higher educational establishments are:

(a) To train highly qualified specialists who have a mastery of Marxist-Leninist theory, thorough theoretical knowledge and practical experience both in their specialty and in the organization of mass-political and educational work;

(b) To imbue students with lofty moral qualities, with communist consciousness and culture, with socialist internationalism, with Soviet patriotism, and with a readiness to defend the socialist homeland; to provide for the physical education of students;

(c) To improve continually the quality of the training received by specialists, taking into account the requirements of modern industry, science, technology and culture and the prospects for development in these fields;

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(d) To conduct scientific research with a view to enhancing the quality of the training received by specialists and achieving social, scientific and technological progress;

(e) To produce textbooks and school supplies;

(f) To train research and teaching staff;

(g) To improve the skills of the teaching staff at secondary and higher educational establishments and also of specialists with higher education who work in the various branches of the national economy.

All Soviet citizens, foreign citizens and stateless persons who have completed their secondary education are entitled to enter the higher educational establishments. In practice, this means that any young person may attend a higher educational establishment because secondary education in the Soviet Union is not only universal but also compulsory. The higher educational establishments exert a major influence on the activities of all types of educational establishments by training teachers for them, producing school literature and devising new teaching methods and techniques. The higher educational establishments also serve as a basis for the main forms of the continuing education provided for workers; courses to improve the skills of diplomaed specialists, additional training for cadres, post-graduate courses, national universities and the like.

The Soviet system of higher education is a people's system in the full sense of the word. It was created for the people and serves the people's interests, providing all the necessary material and moral guarantees to ensure that every citizen, without restriction, can receive a higher education, including student grants and dormitory accommodation and the free use of school facilities, libraries and the like. Higher education is being developed systematically and uniformly in all the Republics, with due regard to the social, economic, demographic and nationality conditions in each area of the country.

At present there are 883 higher educational establishments in the USSR. All Soviet higher educational establishments are equivalent and usually offer five years of instruction; their instructional and scientific work is organized in keeping with university traditions. Higher educational establishments and their branches are currently operating in 340 towns and major population centres. For example, each Republic, economic area or region of the country has universities and institutes in its own territory. The higher educational establishments have a total enrolment of 5.2 million persons, and 800,000 specialists are graduated from them each year. In 1979 there were 13.5 million specialists with a higher education working in all branches of the national economy. Of those specialists, 4.7 million were engineers, 3.5 million were teachers and physicians, and 1.3 million were scientific workers. This saturation of the national economy with personnel having a higher education makes it possible to pursue an effective scientific and technological production policy and to solve essential social problems relating to public health, the training of young people for work and for life in society, and the enrichment of the spiritual life of the nation.

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The present stage in the activities of Soviet higher educational establishments is determined by the factors which characterize the country's development at a time when socialism and the scientific and technological revolution have come of age and the tasks of strengthening the national economy by stepping up scientific and technological progress have moved to the forefront of social and economic construction. With a view to further broadening the role of higher education in the life of our society, an expanded programme of improving the performance of the country's universities and institutes is now being carried out. The programme is set forth in a resolution on the further development of higher education and the improved training of specialists, adopted in June 1974 by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of the USSR. At the heart of this programme is the comprehensive improvement in the instruction and education of students on the basis of their in-depth study of scientific, technological and cultural achievements and of advances in the production sector. The basic trends in the improvement of the instruction and education process derive from the concept of the "all-round" specialist, which has demonstrated its value both in the field of higher education and in the national economy. Such a specialist combines a sound theoretical background in the basic sciences (such as mathematics, physics, chemistry and biology), a study of which serves to broaden his scientific horizons while increasing his professional mobility, with a specific emphasis on the applied sciences that ensures the rapid and effective integration of graduates into the productive sector of today.

At present the main trends in the improvement of the activities of Soviet higher educational establishments include efforts to enhance the effectiveness of the scientific research they conduct. To that end, steps are being taken to reorganize the planning of scientific work on the basis of a programmatic and special-purpose approach, so that research subjects may be more closely linked to the most urgent and important theoretical and practical issues. Approximately 80 per cent of the ongoing scientific work at higher educational establishments is done at the request of enterprises and organizations in the national economy. This promotes the involvement of academics and teachers in putting new scientific ideas into practice. In addition to the active utilization of the results of scientific investigations, students are being enlisted on a large scale for research, with a view to enriching the content of education in the USSR. Thus, during the 1979/80 school year, about 2 million specialists-in-training took part in various forms of scientific work. In order to stimulate greater interest in creative scientific work among students, competitions in all scientific fields are systematically held.

The Soviet system of higher education currently has 380,000 teachers, of whom 17,500 are professors and Doctors of Sciences and 160,000 are lecturers and Candidates of Sciences. Such qualifications among teachers ensure a high quality of teaching and research.

Closely related to the system of higher education is the system of upgrading the skills of specialist workers, a process now under way at institutes for further training, the faculties and divisions of higher educational establishments, research institutions, advanced-training courses and leading enterprises.

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During the 1978/80 school years, education was provided in the USSR to 98 million people - 37 per cent of the population - in the various sectors of the educational system. There were 44.4 million persons receiving instruction at general-education schools, 3.9 million at vocational schools, factory apprenticeship institutions, and vocational-training facilities for office workers, 4.6 million at specialized secondary schools, and 5.2 million at higher educational establishments. Another 40.2 million were trained in new occupations, improved their qualifications or were involved in other forms of training.

In 1979, there were 139.1 million people in the USSR with higher or secondary education (complete or incomplete), including:

- 14.8 million with higher education (complete);
- 3.2 million with higher education (incomplete);
- 23.5 million with specialized secondary education;
- 45.1 million with general secondary education;
- 52.5 million with secondary education (incomplete).

Out of every 1,000 economically active people, 805 have higher or secondary education (complete or incomplete); 100 of them have higher education and 705 have secondary education (complete or incomplete).

Men and women have attained virtually the same level of education: 810 of every 1,000 men and 801 of every 1,000 women in the economically active population have higher or secondary education (complete or incomplete).

The educational level of the rural population is increasing at a particularly rapid rate.

It is also important to note that the education is improving rapidly in all the Union Republics and Autonomous Republics of the USSR, without exception.

#### ARTICLE 14. PRINCIPLE OF COMPULSORY EDUCATION, FREE OF CHARGE FOR ALL

The article in question is not applicable to the USSR, where a system providing all forms of education free of charge has already been established.

#### ARTICLE 15. THE RIGHT TO TAKE PART IN CULTURAL LIFE

Firm constitutional and other guarantees afford ample opportunity in the USSR for citizens to take part in cultural life. Under article 46 of the USSR Constitution:

"Citizens of the USSR have the right to enjoy cultural benefits. This right is ensured by broad access to the cultural treasures of their own land and of the world that are preserved in State and other public collections; by the development and fair distribution of cultural and educational institutions throughout the country; by developing television and radio broadcasting and the publishing of books, newspapers and periodicals, and by extending the free library service; and by expanding cultural exchanges with other countries."

The importance of meeting the spiritual needs of the people is constantly growing in a developed socialist society. The rise in material opportunities is accompanied by heightened intellectual, moral and cultural awareness among the citizens. The USSR affords conditions favouring the creation and dissemination of cultural treasures of every kind. According to article 27 of the Constitution, "The State concerns itself with protecting, augmenting and making extensive use of society's cultural wealth for the moral and aesthetic education of Soviet people and for raising their cultural level."

Institutions and publications concerned with culture and learning have assumed enormous importance in the Soviet Union, which in 1979 had about 350,000 libraries of all kinds in operation. The centralization of the public library service in the late 1970s was a vital step in enhancing the role of libraries. As a result, libraries of a radically new type have been established in rural areas and relatively small towns, drawing on a common stock of books, with centralized acquisition and cataloguing facilities. Readers are now able to select the reading matter that interests them from large collections ranging from 125,000 volumes up to 600,000 in rural and up to 800,000 in urban library systems.

Between 1918 and 1978 the USSR published more than 3 million books and pamphlets in editions totalling more than 50 billion copies in 153 languages, including 89 languages spoken by peoples of the USSR. The policy regarding literary and artistic periodicals pursues the same aim of ensuring that readers are kept regularly and extensively informed of new publications in the USSR and abroad. Between 1960 and the end of 1975, for example, the number of periodicals rose from 202 to 213, and circulation increased from 243 million to 935 million copies.

The right to enjoy the achievements of culture is also secured by the development of television and radio. By the end of the 1970s approximately 85 per cent of the population were able to watch television programmes, 83 families in every 100 had television sets, and in the areas covered by television broadcasts there were virtually no urban and relatively few rural families without a set.

Thanks to a significant expansion of the over-all volume of television broadcasting, the amount of broadcasting time allocated to artistic programmes increased markedly over the same period. The average length of time devoted daily by the Central Television Service to broadcasting cinema films and film features created for television was 1.9 hours in 1960, 2.4 hours in 1965, 3.9 hours in 1973, and 7.1 hours in 1975. The scope for learning about the arts through the television screen has been enhanced still further by the fact that viewers can now receive several different programmes and can select from among those broadcast on

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different channels at any given time the one most attractive to them; interest in television access to the arts has also been heightened by the change-over to colour transmission of the overwhelming majority of broadcasts by the Central Television System and major television broadcasting centres.

Virtually the entire population can be reached by radio broadcasts. In the 1960s the format of the second programme of the All-Union Radio System was changed to a round-the-clock news and music programme called "MAYAK", and a fifth programme was introduced.

Major advances also have been made in sound recording. Electrical record-players with fairly high fidelity have become extremely widespread and, in conjunction with the long-playing records which rapidly gained popularity, have made it far more convenient to reproduce musical and other recordings. Pressings of gramophone records have grown rapidly, from 148 million discs in 1964 to 207 million in 1978. In actuality the output of the sound industry has grown even faster, since the proportion of long-playing records in the annual record production figures has risen sharply. The total playing time of all the records produced was almost six times as long in 1978 as in the 1960s. The production of cassette tapes containing classical and light music and literary recordings has also grown rapidly.

The cinema is developing rapidly in the Soviet Union. A new policy of building large, modern cinema theatres and clubs has meant that the number of seats in auditoriums with built-in facilities is growing faster than the number of projection systems. There were 10.5 million seats available to the general public in 1960, and 24.3 million in 1975. At the same time, film output has increased. Whereas between 1961 and 1965 studios in the USSR released an average of about 110 new features every year, between 1966 and 1970 the number rose to about 120, and in the next five years to about 130.

Since the mid 1960s the country's theatre network has expanded considerably. There were 47 opera houses and ballet theatres by the end of the 1970s (in contrast with 37 in 1965), 30 musical-comedy theatres (instead of 25), 340 drama theatres (instead of 309), 50 theatres for young audiences (instead of 42) and 115 puppet theatres (instead of 82). Many new theatres have been built in recent years, particularly in the Trans-Caucasian region, Central Asia and Kazakhstan. The new facilities include such important establishments as the Moscow Children's Musical Theatre, the young people's theatres at Sverdlovsk and Gorky, the opera houses and ballet theatres at Krasnoyarsk and Kishinev, and the new theatre at Chardzhou. The growth in opportunities available to the general public is most clearly shown in the number of performances staged: 283,000 in 1978, in contrast with 227,000 in 1960.

The extensive circle of circus devotees has been provided with 16 new permanent circuses added to the 46 which existed in the country at the beginning of the 1960s. The greatest increase in circus-building occurred in the 1970s, when 13 new modern circus buildings were put into operation. In addition to stationary circuses, the country has 16 touring companies and 20 other circus enterprises ("circus on the stage" groups and menageries).

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Public concerts have developed considerably in the Soviet Union. In the mid-1960s the country's various concert organizations included 14,400 performers, but by the end of the 1970s the number was over 23,000. The country had over 500 musical ensembles in 1971, but in 1980 there were about 900. New light-music companies have been springing up particularly rapidly; in 1978 there were 560, as against 283 at the beginning of the decade. The growth in the number of concerts also testifies to the substantial growth of artistic performances: in 1960 there were 317,000 concerts, but in 1978 there were approximately 564,000.

The network of art museums has expanded significantly over the past two decades. There were 203 such museums in 1978. In addition, new exhibition halls have been opened in major cultural centres, promoting a new surge in exhibition activity. In the early 1970s some 3,000 different art exhibitions were organized every year; in 1976, for example, such exhibitions numbered 7,000.

Clubs have a special place in the system of cultural benefits. In contrast to most other institutions, which specialize entirely or mainly in the dissemination of one type of artistic value, the activity of the club in the USSR is polyfunctional, since it provides contact with the cinema, the theatre, music and the fine arts. By the end of the 1970s, the number of clubs in the country had reached 136,000; 86 per cent of all clubs are located in rural areas. In the tenth five-year plan alone, 5,200 clubs and palaces of culture were built in the Soviet Union, and over 11,000 autonomous clubs came under the management of directorates and district departments of culture.

It should be stressed that the rights provided for in article 46 of the Constitution are realized in the USSR without any discrimination and are not subject to any unlawful restrictions. All citizens enjoy the achievements of culture equally in the USSR "without distinction of origin, social or property status, race or nationality, sex, education, language, attitude to religion, type and nature of occupation, domicile or other status" (article 34, USSR Constitution). The equality of citizens of the USSR in cultural matters, as in economic, political and social matters, is guaranteed through legislation designed to facilitate the further improvement of socialist democracy and the strengthening of the legal basis of State and social life.

Citizens of the USSR are using the existing opportunities for access to culture constantly and on an ever-growing scale. In 1978, theatre attendance was at 117.5 million, as against 91.1 million in 1960. The number of circus spectators has nearly doubled in recent years: 65.9 million in 1978, compared with 34 million in 1960. In 1960 there were 11.4 million visits to art museums under the direction of the USSR Ministry of Culture; in 1978, that figure rose to 43.7 million. To these statistics must be added the tens of millions of people who have viewed various exhibitions organized by museums and by the USSR Union of Artists at special exhibition halls and clubs.

In the early 1960s, State public libraries lent some 500 million copies of literary works to readers each year, but by 1977 that figure had reached 1,147 million. In earlier years, 53 million people had used the State public libraries, but in the last half of the 1970s more than 100 million readers used them.

In November 1977, the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted a resolution "On measures to facilitate the further improvement of cultural services for the rural population", which outlined a broad programme for future cultural development in villages, raising the standards of work of cultural and educational institutions and strengthening their material and technical base. The implementation of these measures will undoubtedly facilitate a fresh upsurge of multi-faceted cultural and educational activity in villages, the harmonious development of the personality and the solution of the political, economic, and social problems of agricultural workers.

The "Main Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for the Years 1981-1985 and until the Year 1990", adopted at the Twenty-sixth Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union, envisage for the eleventh five-year plan the further development of socialist culture and art, the enhancing of their roles in the formation of a Marxist-Leninist world view and the fuller satisfaction of the diverse spiritual needs of Soviet citizens.

Cinema services for the population will be improved, and the widespread use of the cinema in child-rearing and instructional work is planned. There are also plans for improving the activities of cultural and educational institutions. The network of public libraries and clubs will be expanded and their role as centres for workers' amateur artistic activities and for recreation will be enhanced. The work of museums will be improved, as will the preservation and popularization of historical and cultural monuments. The printed-matter needs of the population and the economy will be more fully met. Television and radio programming will be developed further, and a second country-wide television channel is to be introduced.

With regard to the use and practical application of scientific advances, it should be noted that article 21 of the USSR Constitution specifically provides for the improvement of working conditions, safety and labour protection and the scientific organization of work and the reduction and ultimate elimination of physical labour through comprehensive mechanization and automation of production processes. All this is the result of the practical application of the achievements of scientific and technological progress. In the USSR the scientific and technological revolution, which is one of the most important objective factors promoting modernization, is being carried out under conditions of strict co-ordination of the economy on a State-wide scale, with planned regulation and allocation of resources in the interest of the entire society. Large-scale State measures for preserving and improving the environment, cleaning up the air of cities and keeping seas, rivers and lakes clean are being carried out in the Soviet Union.

The decisions of the Communist Party and of the Soviet Government provide for a broad programme of comprehensive mechanization and automation of production and the replacement of arduous manual labour by mechanization.

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The goal of socialist production is the rational development of the economy in the interests of the fullest satisfaction of people's needs and the enhancement of their well-being. In the Final Report of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to the Twenty-fifth Congress of the Party, L. I. Brezhnev said:

"We as Communists proceed on the basis that only in the conditions of socialism will the scientific and technological revolution take a direction which truly corresponds to the interests of mankind and society. Similarly, only on the basis of accelerated scientific and technological progress can the final problems of the social revolution be solved and communist society built."

The USSR has set itself the task of ensuring a high level of personal consumption of goods and services in the best possible combination with opportunities for the individual to realize his potential both in work and in other areas of social life. However, success in life and the social significance of the individual's activities cannot be measured solely by the level of consumption of goods and services. The most important indicator of the role of individuals in society lies in their creative social activity, their moral qualities, and this presupposes not only increased material well-being but also the development of various forms of creative activity and the satisfaction of the various spiritual needs of the individual.

In the "Main Guidelines for the Economic and Social Development of the USSR for the Years 1981-1985 and until the Year 1990", it is noted that during the tenth five-year plan the rate of scientific and technological progress was accelerated, new technology was incorporated into the economy on a broader scale, and the technical level of production was raised. Soviet science made a great contribution to the solution of those problems. Through scientific and technological progress and improvement in management, production efficiency was increased and the productivity of social labour grew by 17 per cent.

The next five-year plan provides for the further acceleration of scientific and technological progress. A policy of more rapid retooling of production and the construction and delivery of machinery, equipment and finished machine systems for the comprehensive mechanization and automation of production will be consistently applied in all branches of the economy.

The effectiveness of scientific research must be enhanced and the interval between the making of scientific and technological discoveries and their application in production needs to be considerably reduced. Measures will be taken to improve the co-ordination of the activities carried out by scientific establishments, to strengthen the link between basic and applied research, on the one hand, and production, on the other, and to reinforce the material and technical basis of scientific, draughting and design organizations.

On the basis of economic growth and greater efficiency of social production, a further improvement in the people's well-being is planned. Thus, real per capita income will increase by 16 to 18 per cent. The average monthly pay of manual and non-manual workers will increase by 13 to 16 per cent and by the end of the



five-year plan will have reached 190 to 195 roubles. The income of collective farmers from the public production of farms will increase by 20 to 22 per cent.

The intention is to implement an extensive programme for the expansion of State assistance to families with children and to newly-weds, the improvement of the working and living conditions of working women and the enhancement of the social support system. These programmes, when implemented, will make a considerable contribution to the construction of the material and technical basis of the new communist society.

The Constitution of the USSR guarantees the right of an individual to the protection of the moral and material interests resulting from any scientific, literary or artistic production of which he is the author.

Article 47 states: "The rights of authors, inventors and innovators are protected by the State."

Copyright, as one of the human rights, is protected by the legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics and by a series of measures designed to implement this right. Section IV of the Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics is devoted entirely to copyright. The civil codes of all the Union Republics also include sections on copyright, in which the basic provisions on Soviet copyright are developed and elaborated.

The main purpose of the system of legislative norms regulating copyright is to establish conditions which promote creative activity by writers, artists, composers, scientific workers and others engaged in literary, scientific and artistic work.

Under the law, in the territory of the USSR copyright to a work belongs to the author and his successors. The author has the right to publish, reproduce and circulate his work under his own name, under an assumed name (pseudonym) or without indication of name (anonymously). The law also provides that the author has the right to the integrity of his work and to receive remuneration for the use of his work.

The moral right of the author (i.e. with respect to the name and to the integrity of the work) is guaranteed by both the all-Union legislation and the legislation of the Republics. The Civil Code of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, for example, states that in the publication, public performance or any other use of a work, it shall not be permitted, unless the author's consent has been obtained, to make any change in the work itself, in its title or in the designation of the author's name (article 480). If those rights of the author are infringed, he has protection under civil law (he can institute legal proceedings for the restoration of the breached right) and the infringer is liable to a penalty for plagiarism (in accordance with the Criminal Code).

The basic rights of the author - the right to publication, the right to the name and the right to the integrity of the work - are of an exclusive nature under Soviet law: the author alone is entitled to decide whether the publication of his work is permissible and timely.

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The law provides that the use of an author's work (in the original language or in translation) is permitted only with the consent of the author or his successors. Exceptions to this rule (use without such consent) are strictly confined within the limits established by law and apply only to cases of works already published. Exceptions of this nature are permitted in the interests of society with a view to creating the conditions for free access by the public as a whole to the works in question. Thus, for example, it is permissible, without the author's consent or the payment of a fee (but an indication of the name of the author of the work used is obligatory), to reproduce in scientific and critical works and in educational and political-educational publications either published scientific, literary and artistic writings in their entirety or excerpts from them and to reproduce published works for non-profit scientific or educational purposes.

Except in the cases laid down by law (article 103 of the Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics), the use of a work either with or without consent carries with it the obligation to pay a fee.

The right to a fee is protected by a series of normative provisions. The law provides that it is the duty of an organization which uses the work to pay a fee in accordance with the rates established by the Governments of the USSR and the Union Republics in legally binding acts and ordinances. The imposition of such restrictions is a reliable guarantee of copyright: the organization using the work cannot stipulate in a contract or pay a lower fee than that established in the relevant government ordinance for the type of work concerned and the use made of it.

The way in which the material rights of the author are implemented in practice is well illustrated by the fact that in the USSR the overwhelming majority of writers, dramatists and composers do not work for hire, the reason being that they are able to support themselves solely with the earnings (fees) derived from their professional creative activity.

One of the ways of guaranteeing the observance of copyright is through the strict regulation by law of questions relating to the assignment of the author's legal rights to the party that uses the work, whether for publication or public performance or for a film, radio or television production. It should be emphasized that under Soviet legislation the transfer of copyright is prohibited: copyright can belong only to the author himself; in contrast with the legislation of the majority of capitalist States, Soviet copyright law does not permit copyright to be assigned even partially to a publisher, radio or television organization, film studio or other party. In accordance with this rule, the so-called publisher's share does not exist in the USSR, and the remuneration due to the author is paid in full to the author himself (or his successors).

Under the terms of a contract with an organization, the author may assign, for a period stipulated by the contract, only one of his legal rights: the right to the reproduction and distribution of his work. Such contracts are of a standard type, and they are worked out and finally agreed upon with the participation of the professional authors' associations, which are tvorcheskie soyuzy (unions of creative artists). Accordingly, the law specifies that "any terms of a contract made with the author which place him in a position less advantageous than that

accorded by law or standard contract shall be invalid and shall be replaced by the terms established by law or standard contract" (Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics, article 101).

The law relating to invention, which deals with discoveries, inventions and innovative proposals, is regulated by the Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics and also by the Statute on Discoveries, Inventions and Innovative Proposals of 21 August 1973, which was approved by the Council of Ministers of the USSR.

The author of a discovery has the right to demand recognition of his authorship and priority of discovery, which are certified by a diploma. The author of a discovery is entitled to remuneration (Fundamentals of Legislation of the USSR and the Union Republics, article 107).

According to article 47 of the Constitution of the USSR, Soviet citizens "in accordance with the aims of building communism, are guaranteed freedom of scientific, technical and artistic work. This freedom is ensured by broadening scientific research, encouraging invention and innovation, and developing literature and the arts. The State provides the necessary material conditions for this and support for voluntary societies and unions of workers in the arts, and organizes the introduction of inventions and innovations in production and other spheres of activity".

The outstanding aspects of Soviet culture, which is considered an inalienable right of the people, not a type of service sold for maximum profit, are its humanism and its broadly based and multinational character. Soviet citizens active in the fields of science, literature and the arts work independently of commercial considerations and producers. This is the basis for the freedom of creative work, which is guaranteed by the Constitution of the USSR.

Thanks to the untiring efforts of the Communist Party and the Soviet State, aimed at developing science and technology, literature, and true freedom of scientific, technical and artistic work, and to the awareness of their duty to the people, Soviet scientists, writers, and cultural workers are creating outstanding works which are worthy of our time. The immortal works of Gorky, Mayakovsky, A. Tolstoy, Sholokhov, Fadeev, Fedin, Tvardovsky, Tikhonov, Gamzatov, Shostakovich, Prokofiev, Sarian, Gudiashvili, Aitmatov and many other representatives of Soviet culture, who were inspired by a sense of duty to their peoples and heeded the call of their hearts and consciences, have become a permanent part of the treasure-house of Soviet and world literature.

In accordance with article 51 of the Constitution of the USSR, the Soviet Government grants its creative workers the right to associate in public organizations. The unions of creative artists of the USSR (the Writers' Union, the Artists' Union, the Composers' Union, the Journalists' Union, the Architects' Union and the Film Producers' Union) on the one hand unite, organize and mobilize the literary and artistic intelligentsia in the creation of works imbued with lofty ideas and craftsmanship, encourage their members to participate in social and civic activities, provide them with specific material and other types of support; and, on the other hand, they participate actively in the cultural, ideological and socio-political life of society.

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The statutes of the unions of creative artists define the tasks and goals of these organizations. The statute of the Film Producers' Union of the USSR provides that the Union shall assist in the creation of cinematographic works of merit which reaffirm the principles of communist ideology and promote the formation of artistic taste. The statute of the Artists' Union of the USSR states that the Union's primary task is to create ideological, highly artistic works of all types and genres in the field of fine arts and works in the field of art criticism which promote the building of communism in our country. The goals and tasks of the other unions of creative artists are formulated in a similar manner.

In their activities the unions of creative artists focus much attention on the discussion of ideological and creative problems, the improvement of professional craftsmanship and the exchange of ideas with similar organizations of creative artists in the Union Republics, and oversee the working conditions of their members. The types of organizational work are extremely diverse: they include congresses, conferences, competitions, seminars, discussions, meetings, and weeks and decades of literature and art.

The unions of creative artists provide continuing assistance to those young people active in the arts who are not part of their membership. The Film Producers' Union of the USSR has a special section for work with young people. The Journalists' Union of the USSR organizes the training of young people as industrial, rural and social correspondents.

The members of the unions of creative artists enjoy the material support of their unions. Within these unions, funds have been set up in order to assist the work of writers, artists, composers and others, provide cultural and welfare facilities, and improve their living conditions. These funds are formed through deductions, made according to a scale established by law, from the income of enterprises, organizations, and administered funds, together with the enrolment fees and monthly dues of union members. The funds are used to organize the work of the members in creating artistic works, arrange missions, and provide material assistance (grants, loans, etc.). They are also used for the popularization and distribution of the works of union members.

The achievements of Soviet scientists in the conquest of space and in the development of mathematics, mechanics, solid-state physics, quantum electronics, the theory of automatic control, chemical physics, biology and the social sciences are known far beyond the borders of the USSR. It is the policy of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union to develop major science and fundamental research and to devote constant attention and concern to the applied sciences. This is the task of the main centre for Soviet science, the Academy of Sciences of the USSR and also of the academies of sciences of the Union Republics, academies of different branches of science, over 60 research institutes and design offices within the higher education system and nearly 1,300 research laboratories and sectors, the activities of which are co-ordinated by the Ministry of Higher and Specialized Secondary Education of the USSR. In 1976, the number of workers in the scientific field totalled 1,253,500, as against 11,600 in 1913.

The country's scientific and technological societies comprise 23 societies representing different branches of science and technology; their members are the 8.5 million vanguard of the Soviet Union's scientific and technological intelligentsia. Each year, these societies draft more than 180,000 recommendations on such important questions as ways of accelerating the application of the results of scientific research and design work in industry; the creation of new machinery and equipment and new progressive technological processes and means of automating production; improvements in the use of the secondary energy resources of industry and in environmental protection; and many others.

Very useful work is done by the All-Union Society of Inventors and Innovators, a voluntary mass public organization with over 6 million members. The Society contributes actively to developing science and technology, to accelerating scientific and technological progress and to making workers' technical creativity more widespread and effective. It is responsible for public supervision of compliance with existing legislation in the field of inventions and innovations, provides legal and technical assistance to inventors and innovators and protects the State's interests in this field and the rights of inventors and innovators. In 1978 alone, inventors and innovators put forward four million proposals. Each year, as many as 4,000 names of models of new technology are created and as many as 40,000 inventions are registered.

The number of people engaged in amateur artistic activities in the Soviet Union is on the increase. Associations attached to State and trade union clubs had 10 million members in 1965, 13 million in 1970, 15 million in 1975 and 18 million in 1978. In all, more than 25 million people throughout the country, including school children, are involved in organized forms of amateur artistic activity. To these should be added the vast numbers of people independently engaged in drawing, music, photography etc.

In order to enhance the opportunities for worker creativity, on 23 March 1979 the Council of Ministers of the USSR adopted a resolution on measures to further develop amateur artistic creativity in the country (Compendium of resolutions of the Government of the USSR, 1979, No. 10, p. 62). The resolution adopted by the Central Committee of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union and the Council of Ministers of the USSR on 13 August 1979 on the further development of medical science in Siberia and the Far East (Compendium of resolutions of the Government of the USSR, 1979, No. 23, p. 144) was motivated by concern for scientific creativity. On 8 May 1979, the Council of Ministers of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic (RSFSR) adopted a special resolution on the further improvement of the conditions of remuneration for the creative labour of Soviet writers (Compendium of resolutions of the Government of the RSFSR, 1979, No. 14, p. 90). In order to improve such conditions, similar resolutions have been adopted in other Union Republics.

Considerable work is being done in the USSR to protect and make use of historical and cultural monuments. According to article 68 of the Constitution of the USSR concern for the preservation of historical monuments and other cultural values is a duty and an obligation of citizens of the USSR. On 29 October 1976, the Supreme Soviet enacted a Law on the protection and use of historical and

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cultural monuments which regulates public relations in the field of the protection and use of such monuments with a view to ensuring their preservation for present and future generations and their effective use for scientific study and propaganda in the interests of the communist education of workers.

State control over the protection and use of historical and cultural monuments is exercised by the Council of Ministers of the DSSR, the Councils of Ministers of the Union Republics, the Councils of Ministers of the Autonomous Republics and the Executive Committees of the territorial, regional, area, district, city, village and settlement Soviets of Working People's Deputies, as well as by State agencies for the protection of historical and cultural monuments specially authorized to this end (article 6 of the above-mentioned Law). In the USSR, State supervision of the protection and use of monuments is designed to ensure that all ministries, departments, State, co-operative and public enterprises, organizations and institutes and individual citizens fulfil their responsibilities for maintaining the established order for the protection, use, registration and restoration of historical and cultural monuments.

Trade unions, youth organizations, societies for the protection of historical and cultural monuments, scientific societies, unions of creative artists and other public organizations and also individual citizens help the State agencies to take steps to protect, use, uncover, register and restore historical and cultural monuments and to disseminate knowledge about them (article 8 of the Law). The societies for the protection of historical and cultural monuments, which have now been organized in virtually all the Union Republics, are especially important for the fulfilment of this noble responsibility. The largest of these is the All-Russian Society for the Protection of Historical and Cultural Monuments, whose main function is to draw wide sections of the population into participating directly in the preservation of our nation's material and spiritual wealth. The Society has grown into one of the country's most popular public organizations. By 1979, it had over 13 million individual members and thousands of collective members.

Historical and cultural monuments, regardless of their ownership, are subject to State registration under article 9 of the said Law. Accordingly, objects and documents which are the personal property of citizens and have significant historical, scientific, artistic, or other cultural value are considered historical and cultural monuments and are also subject to State registration.

The use of historical and cultural monuments is a most topical and acute problem. Their use for economic or other purposes is permitted in our country provided that it is not to the detriment of their safety and does not impair their historical or artistic integrity. Funds accruing from the use of monuments are credited to special accounts of the State agencies responsible for the protection of the monuments in question, and are used by those agencies solely for the protection, restoration, preservation and maintenance of the monuments.

Enterprises, organizations and institutions which own or use monuments are responsible for safeguarding them. Historical and cultural monuments which are being used in ways inconsistent with their character and significance and which are exposed to the threat of destruction or damage may be confiscated from the

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enterprises, organizations or institutions, in accordance with specific legislation of the Soviet Union (article 16 of the Law).

The restoration, preservation and maintenance of monuments are carried out with the permission and under the supervision of the State agencies responsible for the protection of monuments. The necessary funds are provided by the users or the owners of the monuments and by the State agencies responsible for their protection. The amounts spent on the upkeep and restoration of monuments are increasing every year. Thus, within the past decade alone, there has been a fourfold increase in such expenditure in the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic. The All-Russian Society has undertaken the financing of work on a number of major projects. An operational association known as "Rosrestavratsia" is functioning in the Republic; there is also a scientific research and planning institute for restorations. A unified code for historical and cultural monuments in the Republic is being elaborated.

Under articles 19 and 20 of the Law, with a view to the protection of monuments of value from the standpoint of history, archaeology, town-planning and architecture, and monumental works of art, the authorities are designating protected areas, in which building is restricted and areas where the natural landscape is protected. Within these areas, excavation, construction or other work, and economic activities are prohibited. Groups of historical and cultural monuments may be designated as historical or cultural preserves.

Projects involving the planning, construction and reconstruction of towns and other population centres which have monuments of value from the standpoint of history, archaeology, town-planning and architecture, or monumental works of art, are subject to the agreement of the appropriate agencies for the protection of monuments and of the societies for the protection of historical and cultural monuments. The demolition, displacement or alteration of monuments constituting immovable property are, as a rule, prohibited.

Soviet legislation also lays down procedures to safeguard monuments during construction work, excavation or prospecting at archaeological monuments, permits the collection of historical and cultural monuments, makes it illegal to move them out of the USSR and establishes criminal or administrative liability for the breach of legislation governing the protection and use of historical and cultural monuments.

In carrying out a comprehensive programme of scientific, literary and artistic development, the Soviet Union promotes wide-ranging contacts and exchanges in the cultural, information, educational and other fields. Such contacts, in various forms, are taking place with more than 120 States.

The Soviet Union leads the world in publishing foreign literature in translation. Every year hundreds of books by foreign authors are translated into the languages of the peoples of the USSR. They include more than 300 works by American authors, some 150 books by English writers and the same number by French writers.

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Every year the Soviet Union buys dozens of films abroad, which it puts into mass circulation, and televises, on a large scale, programmes from other countries. The Soviet Union participates actively in international film festivals. The international cinema-going public is showing increasing interest in such festivals held in the Soviet Union. Participants in the eleventh Moscow international film festival in 1979, came from 102 countries and included representatives of the United Nations, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO), the Chilean patriotic forces, the Palestine Liberation Organisation and five international cinematographic organisations. The unprecedented number of people attending the Festival included 1,292 foreign visitors and 850 representatives of the press, and 662 films were screened.

The Tashkent international film festival for countries of Asia, Africa and Latin America has become very important in promoting progressive film makers. This Festival - one of the world's largest - affords the master film-makers of the developing countries, who lack the means to gain a foothold in the major film centres of the capitalist world, an opportunity to present their works. In 1979, 92 countries (as against 84 in 1978) were represented among the participants and visitors at the film-makers' forum.

Imbued with the precepts of humanism, Soviet higher educational establishments help other States to train their own national specialists. Their efforts are expanding constantly. In the past 15 years alone, the number of foreigners studying in the Soviet Union has more than quadrupled and there are now more than 80,000 of them. As already noted, the higher educational establishments of the USSR are open to the citizens of any country, regardless of their social origin, sex, race, creed, property status or political conviction. One-year preparatory courses have been specially organised for foreigners unfamiliar with the Russian language. The overwhelming majority of foreign nationals studying in the USSR are supported by Soviet study grants and are entitled to student housing and free medical service. They have the same access as all other students to auditoriums, laboratories, libraries, canteens, club houses and athletic facilities. Foreign students must also meet the general requirements set for all students and may study any subject in the curriculum; they thus have the opportunity to acquire the same level of learning as the other students and a full higher education. Foreign students in the USSR are taught with due regard for the natural and climatic conditions and level of technical and economic development of their home countries.

The Soviet Union not only trains specialists in its own higher educational establishments, but it also participates in setting up such establishments abroad and in organising their work. Soviet technical, economic and organisational assistance made possible the establishment of polytechnical institutes at Conakry (Guinea), Kabul (Afghanistan) and Bahar-Dar (Ethiopia); the National Petroleum, Gas and Chemistry Institute in Algeria; the Rangoon Technological Institute in Burma; the Bombay Technological Institute in India; and many others. Some 20,000 specialists have already been trained in 48 higher educational establishments and specialised secondary schools built with the help of the Soviet Union. Our country has provided these educational establishments with laboratory equipment, teaching aids, study material and textbooks. Many of those establishments have become major pedagogical and academic centres in their countries. The Bombay Technological



Institute, for example, was built with Soviet help and has employed Soviet teachers; it has trained a body of post-graduate students, conducts major research and enjoys an excellent reputation. Work is now in progress in the Soviet Union on the designing, construction and equipping of about 10 new educational establishments in countries in Asia and Africa.

The equipping of educational establishments is usually accompanied by pedagogical assistance, which most frequently takes the form of sending Soviet specialists on long-term teaching assignments. About 2,000 specialists from Soviet higher-educational establishments are now working in only 33 newly independent States of Asia, Africa and Latin America which have set out to achieve economic and cultural autonomy. They lecture, conduct practical work, help organise research and Russian language teaching and introduce students to the achievements of Soviet science, technology and culture. Large teams of Soviet teachers are at work in such countries as Algeria, Afghanistan, Guinea and India. More than 900 Soviet teachers go abroad every year to provide practical and pedagogical help in organizing Russian language teaching. The admittance to our country of foreign language and literature students and Russian language teachers for partial training and for courses to improve their qualifications has become an effective form of co-operation. Some 10,000 persons were in our country for that purpose in 1979 alone.

One facet of the Soviet State's policy to promote and develop international contacts and co-operation in science and culture was the Soviet Union's accession in 1973 to the International Universal Copyright Convention with a view to creating the best possible climate for stimulating the creativity of authors and for expanding international cultural exchanges in literature, science and art.

In connexion with its accession to the Convention, in September 1973 the USSR established the All-Union Copyright Agency. It was formed by the unions of creative artists, including the unions of writers, composers, artists, architects and journalists and by State organizations which enjoy copyright protection.

The major task of the Agency is to ensure copyright protection for Soviet and foreign authors and their successors for the use of scientific, literary and art works in Soviet territory and to Soviet authors and their successors in the use of such works abroad; to help familiarize the peoples of other countries in every way possible with the finest works of Soviet literature, science and art; to promote cultural exchanges and to expand international cultural and scientific co-operation.

The Agency now co-operates with the copyright organisations of most States parties to the Convention and represents the Soviet Union in the Intergovernmental Copyright Committee. Since 1974 the Agency has been a member of the International Confederation of Societies of Authors and Composers.

Under the Agency's charter, agreements and contracts are concluded with foreign copyright organizations and societies which provide for the reciprocal representation of their interests; and agreements and contracts covering the transfer and acquisition of copyrights are concluded with publishing houses and with organizations responsible for the public performance of musical, literary and dramatic works.

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Business relations with more than a thousand publishing houses, copyright agencies and theatrical and musical organisations in more than 60 countries in Western Europe, North and South America, Asia, Africa and Australia are being expanded and strengthened. In the six-year period from 1974 to 1980, the Agency bought from or sold to other countries the rights to nearly 35,000 works of science, literature and art. These data are one indication of the contribution which the Soviet Union is making to the promotion of international cultural co-operation and to the implementation of the relevant provisions of the Final Act of the Helsinki Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe.

In the summer of 1980, the Twenty-second Olympic Games were held in Moscow with great success. Despite the most ingenious efforts of those who supported the boycott of the Moscow Olympics, representatives of 81 countries took part in them. Thirty-six world and 74 Olympic records were set at the Moscow Games. The preparations for them truly involved the entire country. All the Union Republics, scores of ministries and departments, the staffs of many enterprises and construction projects, creative artists and public and sports organisations took part. The success of the Moscow Olympics made a solid contribution to the development of friendship and co-operation among peoples. In arranging contacts and expanding co-operation, the Soviet Union is motivated by a concern for the promotion of peace and mutual understanding.

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The information which has been supplied shows that the USSR is fully implementing the provisions of the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights.

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