

## MEMORANDUM of UNDERSTANDING on INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION

between

# KARADENIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY (KTÜ), FACULTY OF SCIENCE, TRABZON, TÜRKİYE and

#### ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY (ILIA), FACULTY OF NATURAL SCIENCES AND MEDICINE, TBILISI, GEORGIA

In order to establish and further promote cooperation, Karadeniz Technical University (Üniversite mahallesi, 61080, Trabzon, Türkiye) Faculty of Science and LEPL Ilia State University, (3/5 K. Cholokashvili Avenue, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia) Faculty of Natural Sciences and Medicine join in the following Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on bilateral educational and cultural cooperation.

The two parties will endeavour to cooperate in education and research in areas of mutual interest. To the extent feasible, both parties will encourage direct contact and cooperation between academic staff, research institutions and students.

#### I. AREAS OF COOPERATION

Specific areas of cooperation between the two universities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

- 1. Exchange of academic staff;
- 2. Exchange of students;
- 3. Joint research activities, lecturing, supervision of postgraduate theses (in-person or online);
- 4. Participation in seminars, conferences and academic meetings;
- 5. Co-organization of short-term training programs and workshops;
- 6. Exchange of published academic materials and other information;
- 7. Internship of postgraduate students;

#### II. EXCHANGE OF ACADEMIC STAFF

- 1. Academic staff are responsible for their expenses during the period they are affiliated with the host institution (e.g., accommodation, visa expenses, R&D material, health insurance, etc.)
- 2. The host institution shall provide office space and give access to libraries and other facilities.
- 3. Duration of academic staff exchanges will be evaluated on an individual basis.
- 4. Academic staff exchanges remain subject to the approval of the host institution.
- Academic staff's salary is continued to be paid by their home institution and the host institution is not responsible for salaries.

#### III. EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS

- 1. The student exchange period consists of at least one semester. It cannot exceed one academic year.
- 2. Exchange students are responsible to adjust to the host institution's academic calendar.
- 3. Exchange students may take courses for credit, and the host institution shall issue a transcript and grades for exchange students under the same rules and regulations as for its own students. The Learning Agreement should be signed by relevant coordinators from both universities and an exchange student prior to the mobility, that will provide basis for credit recognition. The host institution will forward all Transcript of Records indicating the number of credits earned and grades achieved after the mobility to the designated office at the home institution. Credits obtained at the host institution toward the student's degree are to be awarded by the home institution in accordance with the Learning Agreement and other respective guidelines and procedures at the Home Institution
- 4. Exchange students will be selected and nominated by the home institution in accordance with the rules and procedures set forth by the home and host institutions. The host institution reserves the right to approve the academic programs and individual courses in which the exchange students are enrolled at the host institution. The host institution will exempt exchange students from tuition fee. Other all potential expenses (e.g., administrative fees, visa expenses, accommodation, health insurance, etc.) are the responsibility of the students.
- 5. During the procedures of student exchange, the exact number of students, timeframes, and other relevant conditions shall be determined in a separate agreement, which shall constitute an integral part of this Memorandum.

#### COLLABORATION ON RESEARCH AND ON OTHER SCIENTIFIC EDUCATIONAL ACTIVITIES

- Both parties will make every effort towards the development, materialization and application of research projects in fields which are of mutual interest.
- 2. Both parties shall take part in the organization of the international conferences through consultations, joint panels and common publications (depending on the availability of funds). These academic events can particularly encompass all topics related to social-cultural, political, environmental, and technical aspects, especially in light of the latest international scientific developments and the significance both universities attach to them.
- 3. This MOU shall last for five years from the date of signature and shall be reviewed and evaluated after this period. Either institution may terminate this MOU upon written notice to the other institution three months prior to the actual termination. Under such termination circumstances, the programs under way shall be allowed to be completed according to the terms that have been agreed upon.

### RENEWAL, TERMINATION, AND AMENDMENT

- This Memorandum of Understanding shall be signed in person by the official representatives of both organizations and both parties shall retain a signed copy.
- 2. Except where specified and agreed upon, this MOU will impose no financial obligations on the host institution. Each party shall make every effort to raise funds from various sources to make cooperation activities feasible.
- 3. This MOU shall remain in force unless either side provides a three-month notice of intent to terminate. Termination of this Memorandum shall not affect the continuation or completion of any activities, including student exchanges or joint research projects, that began before the termination date, unless the Parties agree otherwise in writing form.
- This MOU will become effective at the time signed by the authorized representatives of both parties.
- Permission is given to Ilia State University to use the official marks of Karadeniz Technical University, specifically the institutional name and/or institutional logo solely for the purposes of promoting and administering the collaborative activities between the institutions; provided, however, Ilia State University shall comply with partner university policies.
- 6. Permission is given to Karadeniz Technical University use the official marks of Ilia State University, specifically the institutional name and/or institutional logo solely for the purposes of promoting and administering the collaborative activities between the institutions; provided, that Karadeniz Technical University shall take all such reasonable degree of care as an institution of good ethical and normal prudence would expect in its own case.

Items not covered by this MOU may be determined and negotiated separately by both institutions without abrogating this MOU.

On behalf of

IV.

V.

Karadeniz Technical University

Prof. Dr. Hamdullah Çuvalcı Rector

On behalf of

Prof. Dr. Nino Doborjginidze

Ilia State University

Rector

Date: 24/06/2025