



# AGREEMENT OF SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

Between the

# ARISTOTLE UNIVERSITY OF THESSALONIKI, GREECE and "FAN S. NOLI" UNIVERSITY, KORÇË, ALBANIA

The contracting parties: 1) The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki, Greece, represented by its Rector, Professor NIKOLAOS G. PAPAIOANNOU and 2) "Fan S. Noli" University represented by its Rector, Prof.dr. DHIMITRI BELLO agreed on the following:

#### ARTICLE I

The Aristotle University of Thessaloniki and "Fan S. Noli" University advance the collaboration inaugurated by the Memorandum of Understanding signed in 2021 by establishing this Agreement of Scientific Cooperation. It's purpose is to encourage cooperation in teaching and research in areas of mutual interest, as well as exchange of students, faculty and staff between the two institutions. Details for each activity will be specified in a working program, prepared in the year before the realization of the program.

#### ARTICLE II

#### 1. Exchange of academic staff

The Contracting Parties shall exchange up to one (1) academic staff members annually, for up to seven (7) days each.

The home institution shall bear travel expenses for its academic staff member(s), provided that related funds are available.

The host institution shall bear the expenses of accommodation and per diem, provided that related funds are available. The host institution will also supply with access to library, working space and technological facilities.

#### 2. Exchange of students

#### 2.1. Participants.

Participants will be undergraduate or graduate students in "Fan S. Noli" University and the AUTh. Participants must be enrolled at the home institution as full-time, degree-seeking students for an entire academic year prior to departure for the exchange program. If admitted, participants will be full-time, for-credit, non-degree students at the host institution.

#### 2.2. Exchange Quota.

Each institution will send two (2) exchange student/s per semester, unless otherwise mutually agreed by the parties. Other equivalent combinations of number of exchange students and duration of study

may be substituted.

Permissible quotas unused in any one year may be transferred to subsequent years, but in no event shall there be more than four (4) exchange students per academic year for each institution. The parties will strive to timely address imbalances.

#### 2.3. Application.

The home institution will nominate applicants and submit their completed applications to the host institution. The host institution retains the right to refuse any applicant if the applicant does not fulfill the minimum requirements of the host institution and those specific to the College and/or Department to which application is made. The host institution reserves the right to exclude students from restricted enrollment programs. Exchange student applications under this program will be evaluated according to the criteria and policies that govern this Agreement, the host institution, and the corresponding oncampus program.

#### 2.4. Academic Credit.

Academic credit earned at the host institution may be transferred to the home institution in accordance with the home institution's academic policies.

#### 2.5. Student Responsibilities.

Each participating student will be responsible for the following:

- a. Compliance with all rules, statutes, procedures, and regulations of the host institution and host country, in addition to compliance with those of the home institution;
- b. Compliance with immigration rules and regulations;
- c. Costs associated with accommodation and other living expenses:
- d. Costs associated with passports, visas, and all legally required documentation:
- e. Costs associated with all required and optional vaccinations and inoculations;
- f. Payment of tuition and fees to the student's home institution;
- g. Premiums to maintain in full force and effect a policy of health insurance and international insurance coverage for emergency evacuation, repatriation of mortal remains, accidental death and dismemberment, and all costs associated therewith, which should be issued before their arrival to the host institution.

#### 2.6. Institutional Responsibilities.

Each institution will:

- a. Appoint a faculty or staff member to serve as coordinator for this program;
- b. Inform participating students of the goals, regulations, and students' responsibilities:
- c. Provide information concerning immigration rules and regulations to the participating students, upon request;
- d. Submit nominations and completed applications by the host institution's established deadlines:
- e. Assist, to the best of their ability, participating students in finding appropriate and acceptable housing accommodations, such cost to be borne by the participating students;
- f. Provide funding or scholarships to financially assist students, on condition that related funds or scholarships are available:
- g. Exempt of tuition fees to the host institution.

## 3. Common research programs

Members of the academic staff, serving at both, Institutions, can collaborate in Common research projects. The results will be jointly published to the mutual benefit of both Institutes.

### Publications etc.

Collaboration in publications and scientific events between both Institutions is desirable.

#### 5. Working program

For the realization of the activities mentioned above, a Working program covering a whole academic year is to be drawn each year.

The Working program will include the names of faculty, students and/or research associates, who will visit the two Institutions respectively, the specific academic purpose of visit (e.g. detailed teaching schedule and content, description of research program, description of program of study etc.), the time and terms of stay in the host country on a basis of absolute mutuality and equality concerning their number, as well as the department and laboratories where the Common research programs will be carried out.

#### **ARTICLE III**

No financial commitment whatsoever on either signatory to this document is intended or implied. Both Institutions will actively seek in national and international programs opportunities aimed at the provision of funds to carry out activities that will promote the development of cooperation.

#### ARTICLE IV

This agreement will be valid immediately after the authorized representatives of both institutions have signed it. The agreement is valid for five (5) full years but it may be renewed upon mutual decision of the two parties.

The contracting parties declare that they have read the present document and have agreed on all terms and conditions herein. The agreement issued in two (2) copies in English is signed by both contracting parties.

For the Aristotle University of Thessaloniki

The Rector

Prof. NIKOLAOS G. PAPAIOANNOU

Thessaloniki... 31.1.2023

For the "Fan S. Noli" University

The Rector

PROF.DR. DHIMITRI BELLO

Korçë