

**AGREEMENT**  
**of cooperation between**

**Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples**  
**(Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa - Napoli)**

and

**Democritus University of Thrace**  
**(Dimokriteio Panepistimio Thrakis)**

The Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples (Italian: Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa - Napoli), Italy, and the Democritus University of Thrace (Greek: Dimokriteio Panepistimio Thrakis), Greece, hereinafter referred as "the Parties", enter into this agreement in view of establishing co-operation.

**I. OBJECTIVES**

The primary objective of the Cooperation Agreement is to promote understanding between the parties, and to stimulate individual and institutional relations in the fields of interest for both parties. The development of this cooperation has the purpose of tuning these contacts into long-term and self-supporting.

**II. ACTIVITIES**

**II.1.** Activities provided for under this Cooperation Agreement are subject to further development and shall include, but not restricted to:

- Joint project proposals in the R&D cooperations of the European Union, NATO, as well as regional and bilateral (trans-boundary) R&D cooperations.
- Short- and long-term visits to students and teaching staff for exchange of experience, undergraduate - postgraduate study, teaching and joint research.
- Joint research between institutes, chairs and individual scientists.
- Exchange of scientific and technical publications and information.
- Reciprocal admission of fellows.
- Interchange of visiting professors and lecturers. Participation in scientific conferences and events organised by the partner University. Joint organization of scientific conferences on mutually agreed issues.

**II.2. STUDENT EXCHANGE**

- Contracting of a bilateral agreement for the exchange of students who will be able to attend the curriculum of one or two semesters in one or more courses. The number of the students cannot exceed number five per academic year. The students themselves will cover the expenses of transportation.
- The Parties will accept students upon the recommendation of the coordinator.
- The home University will select students to take part in the exchange cooperation.
- The home University is responsible for the testing of the exchange student's language skills.

- The exchange students will remain enrolled at their home University. The students will be enrolled at the receiving University as guest students.
- The exchange students will not pay any tuition fees, if applicable in the host University.
- The parties will guarantee the provision of suitable accommodation for the students, free of any charge.

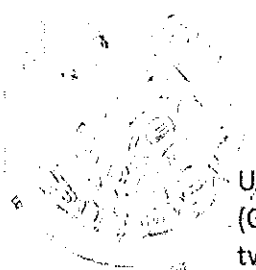
### II.3. EXCHANGE OF ACADEMIC STAFF

- The sending side, in nominating the exchangee for the Cooperation, shall provide the receiving side the following information:
  - a) Curriculum Vitae of the exchangee
  - b) Bibliography of the exchangee's publications
  - c) Complete description of the exchangee's proposed activity, including identification of Institutions and individuals, with whom consultation or cooperation is proposed.
  - d) Concise statements of the exchangee's objective in the cooperation
  - e) Suggested primary and alternative dates and duration of the visit.
- The sending side will attempt to provide the receiving side with written notice of the proposed activity at least 45 days in advance of starting date. The receiving side shall reply in writing within 20 days on the acceptance or declination of nominations.
- Both Parties undertake to care, as far as possible, for the needs of visitors from the partner University and to arrange suitable accommodation. The accommodation may be provided by the host university on the basis of reciprocity.
- The home University will continue to pay the salary of academic staff members during their stay abroad. The receiving University will make no salary payments to the visiting member of staff. Both Parties will make efforts to compensate academic staff members for any extra expenditure, which incurs.
- The home University or the member of staff will be personally responsible for any travel expenses.

### II.4. COOPERATION BETWEEN THE SUOR ORSOLA BENINCASA UNIVERSITY OF NAPLES, ITALY, AND THE DEMOCRITUS UNIVERSITY OF THRACE, GREECE

Apart from the aforementioned general provisions concerning the cooperation between the two institutions, it is agreed that there will be a specialised form of cooperation between the Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples (Italian: Università degli Studi Suor Orsola Benincasa - Napoli), Italy, and the Democritus University of Thrace (Greek: Dimokriteio Panepistimio Thrakis), Greece. This cooperation will be focused upon the following subjects:

- Creation of joint capabilities for mutual research and participation in joint scientific projects, which will be carried out *inter alia* through the mutual exchange of Academic staff.
- Joint organization of scientific conferences, symposia and meetings aiming at the development of the common scientific areas of study and research.
- Summer schools / courses to support the learning of the Italian and/or Greek language by students of the Institute at the premises of the Suor Orsola Benincasa



University of Naples (Italy) at the premises of the Democritus University of Thrace (Greece) or via e-learning, according to mutually agreed arrangements between the two Parties to Section II.4.

- Establishment of enhanced cooperation at the postgraduate level including joint postgraduate programs between the parties, exchange of postgraduate and doctoral students and postdoctoral research. The application of the above provision will be subject to a specialised agreement between the Parties to Section II.4.

## **II.5. EXPANSION OF THE COOPERATION**

The participating Institutions agree to extend the aforementioned activities (Sections II.1 – II.4) to other departments or faculties that might express their interest to establish relations and cooperate.

## **III. COORDINATORS**

Within the parties, the Rectors are designated and shall serve as the coordinating units for the day-to-day operation of the cooperation undertaken in this agreement.

## **IV. RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COORDINATORS**

- The Coordinators of both parties shall have primary responsibility for coordinating the joint activities assuring the success of the Cooperation within their possibilities and competence.
- The Coordinators of both Parties shall have primary responsibility for selecting the Parties' staff members for taking part in the Cooperation, as well as for those to be sent to the respective country.
- The sending side shall have primary responsibility for nominating the Parties' staff members for taking part in the Cooperation and proposing the itineraries and appointments consistent with the objectives of the Cooperation. The receiving side shall have primary responsibility for organising a cooperation consistent with the request and interests of the sending side.
- The Coordinators of both parties shall have primary responsibility for all official communications under the cooperation, as set out in paragraph V of this agreement.

## **V. COMMUNICATION BETWEEN THE COORDINATORS**

Only communications between the Coordinators of both parties shall constitute official requests or commitments.

## **VI. FUNDING PRINCIPLES**

The agreement places no financial obligations on either of the parties. Subject to availability of funds under the applicable laws and regulations of both Parties.

## **VII. EFFECTIVE DATE AND DURATION**

This agreement enters into force upon the date of signature by both Parties and shall remain in force for five years. It may be extended for five consecutive years by written agreement of the parties. Either Party may terminate it at any time, with a 60 days' period of notice. In such cases the commitments made to staff and students already participating

in the Cooperation must be honoured. It may be amended at any time by mutual written agreement of the Parties.

Done in two copies in the English language, equally valid for both Parties.

Naples/Komotini, 12 March 2015

On behalf of the  
Suor Orsola Benincasa University of Naples

On behalf of the  
Democritus University of Thrace

Prof. Lucio D' Alessandro  
Rector

Professor Athanasios Karabinis  
Rector