MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING IN THE FIELDS OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND RESEARCH BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORT AND YOUTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

AND

THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE AND INNOVATION OF HUNGARY

The Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth of the Republic of Cyprus and the Ministry of Culture and Innovation of Hungary, (hereinafter referred to individually as the "Participant" and collectively as the "Participants"),

RECOGNISING the need to expand and intensify their cooperation in the fields of higher education and research;

DESIRING to further enhance the close and friendly relations between their States;

CONSIDERING their common interest to promote and encourage their cooperation in the fields of higher education and research for the mutual benefit of both States, by strengthening partnerships and strategic collaboration that supports education and life-long learning and exchanges excellence and creativity in teaching and research; and

SHARING the conviction that these measures will also enhance the economic and social development of both States;

Have reached the following understanding:

PARAGRAPH 1

The Participants encourage the direct cooperation between the Institutions of Higher Education (including distance education Institutions of Higher Education) and other research Institutions established in both States in the fields of higher education and research, making optimal use of existing multilateral, bilateral, unilateral and European Union funded schemes and/or promoting the establishment of new ones.

Cooperation may, inter alia, include:

- I. Conduct of joint research activities;
- II. Exchange of information, scientific material and academic publications;
- III. Exchange of faculty members, researchers and administrative personnel;
- IV. Exchange of graduate and undergraduate students for study and research;
- V. Co-organization and participation in lectures, seminars and conferences and other scientific events:
- VI. Exchange of know-how and expertise on e-learning platforms, technologies and methodologies that support distance education;
- VII. Design, development and provision of joint inter-institutional programme of studies;
- VIII. Development and offering of conventional, online and hybrid joint/double degrees;
 - IX. Development and offering of short courses and micro credentials;
 - X. Conduct of joint ventures focusing on contribution to society and culture;
 - XI. Conduct of joint work on the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;
- XII. Applying for funded projects.

PARAGRAPH 2

This Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter referred to as «MoU») is signed with the object of strengthening and developing cooperation between the Participants and does not constitute a binding agreement under international law.

No provision of this MoU may be construed and implemented as creating legal rights or obligations under international law.

The cooperation in the framework of this MoU will not prejudice the rights and obligations of the Participants as these derive from international agreements to which they are Parties. The implementation of this MoU and all related activities must be in accordance with the applicable laws, regulations, rules, procedures and mechanisms of the two States.

PARAGRAPH 3

The Participants encourage the Institutions of Higher Education established in each State, to organize joint programmes, especially at the Master and PhD level, through direct institutional agreements.

PARAGRAPH 4

The Participants encourage the Institutions of Higher Education established in each State, to accept applications by students, scholars and researchers for participation in programmes of study and/or research projects, within the framework of European Union funded programmes.

PARAGRAPH 5

The Participants encourage their scientific community, their respective Institutions of Higher Education and research institutions to cooperate in the framework of EU-funded programmes on higher education and research.

PARAGRAPH 6

The Participants encourage the exchange of scholarship students, within the framework of European Union funded programmes. Details of the scholarships and application procedures will comply with the regulations of both States respectively.

PARAGRAPH 7

The Participants encourage and support their higher education institutions to offer language and cultural courses within the framework of European Union funded programmes and to conduct research of the other Participant's language and culture.

PARAGRAPH 8

The Participants encourage the cooperation and support strong linkages between Institutions of Higher Education and research promotion agencies in order to create concrete frameworks of

cooperation for their higher education and research institutions and to enable them to fully make use of existing instruments of funding for bilateral and international cooperation, including those funded by the European Union.

PARAGRAPH 9

The Participants will exchange information regarding the establishment and operation of their respective Institutions of Higher Education.

PARAGRAPH 10

The Participants will examine the possibility for signing an agreement on the mutual recognition of higher education qualifications issued by institutions of higher education by both States. The mutual recognition of higher education qualifications may promote the access and continuation of studies to institutions of Higher Education of the two States.

PARAGRAPH 11

The Participants will establish a joint committee in order to evaluate the landscape and state of cooperation and coordinate as regards all matters connected to this MoU. The modalities of the operation of this committee will be decided by the Participants.

PARAGRAPH 12

This MoU may be amended at any time by the mutual written consent of the Participants.

PARAGRAPH 13

Either Participant may terminate this MoU by giving six months' notice in writing, to the other Participant. The termination of this MoU will not affect the existing or ongoing programmes and projects, unless the Participants decide otherwise.

PARAGRAPH 14

The Participants will amicably settle any disputes arising out of the implementation or interpretation of provisions of this MoU by consultation.

PARAGRAPH 15

This MoU will come into effect on the date of its signature, and will remain in effect until 31 December 2026; however, all study programmes undertaken during its validity will be concluded according to the period defined by their relevant provisions. The Participants may decide, by their mutual written consent that the validity of this MoU may be extended.

For the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth of the Republic of Cyprus For the Ministry of Culture and Innovation of Hungary