

Memorandum of Understanding

between

**Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH
52425 Jülich, Germany**

– hereinafter referred to as JÜLICH –

and

**Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation
Georgia**

– hereinafter referred to as FOUNDTION –

on Scientific Cooperation

The Forschungszentrum Jülich (JÜLICH, Germany) and the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (FOUNDATION, Georgia), hereinafter referred to as the Parties,

- Taking into consideration the Agreements between the Government of the Federal Republic of Germany and the Government of Georgia on "Cooperation in the Field of Culture", signed on 25 June, 1993 (Article 4);
- Intending to develop and strengthen cooperation between universities, research institutions and researchers of both countries,

have agreed as follows:

Article I – General Provisions

- (1) Being guided by common interests, the Parties express the readiness to promote cooperation within the limits of their competence between the universities, research institutions and researchers of the Germany and Georgia.
- (2) For implementation of the provisions of the present Memorandum, a Joint Research and Education Programme will be elaborated in order to establish a set of exact measures, procedures and the frame for rights and obligations of the Parties.
- (3) The present Memorandum shall impose no financial obligation on either Party. The financial contribution of each party to support scientific activities shall be determined on the basis of mutual agreement.
- (4) The Parties express the readiness to facilitate the elaboration and implementation of the provisions on the protection of intellectual property rights of the scientific research institutions and researchers of Germany and Georgia within the framework of joint scientific cooperation programmes.
- (5) The Parties shall designate their own information centres or contact persons responsible for notifying researchers of Germany and Georgia of the entry into force of the provisions of the present Memorandum.

Article II – Amendments, Terms, Extension

- (1) The Parties shall have the right to introduce amendments and additions to the present Memorandum by mutual agreement. These amendments and additions shall be drawn up as a separate agreement and the integral part of the present Memorandum.
- (2) The present Memorandum shall enter into force upon its signature by authorized representatives of both Parties and shall cease to be valid upon the implementation of

the joint undertakings in the framework of joint Research and Education Programmes and in case the negotiations are terminated, at the latest, however, on June 16, 2020.

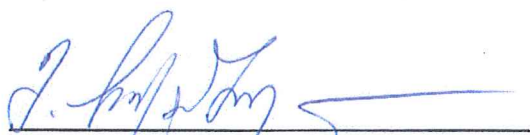
Article III – Final Provisions

- (1) The present Memorandum shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties based on other agreements and shall not preclude the right of the Parties to use other forms of cooperation.
- (2) In case of intention of either Party to terminate the present Memorandum, the Parties shall without delay hold bilateral consultations in order to agree on the terms of withdrawal acceptable to both Parties.
- (3) Any dispute arising between the Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Memorandum shall be resolved through negotiations.
- (4) The Parties shall designate their own information centres or contact persons responsible for notifying researchers of Germany and Georgia of the entry into force of the provisions of the present memorandum.
- (5) Signed in Jülich, on June 16, 2015 in two copies in English, and two in Georgian language. Both documents are equally authentic.

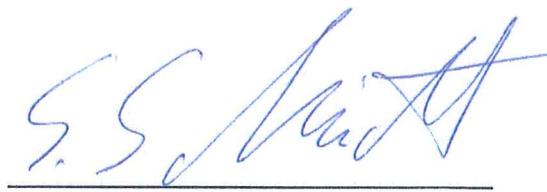
Jülich, 16th of June 2015

For Shota Rustaveli National Science
Foundation

For Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH



Prof. Dr. Marine Chitashvili
Director General



Prof. Dr. Sebastian M. Schmidt
Member of the Board of Directors

Agreement
on

**JÜLICH-GEORGIA Joint Programme for
Master and PhD Students**

Jointly funded by:
Forschungszentrum Jülich (JÜLICH)
and
Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (FOUNDATION)

Based on the Memorandum of Understanding concluded between Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (hereinafter referred to as "the FOUNDATION") and Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (hereinafter referred to as "JÜLICH") the parties agree to announce a Joint Research and Education Programme (hereinafter referred to as "the Programme").

1 Scope

The parties agree to implement the Programme in order to further intensify and strengthen the cooperation between Germany and Georgia and provide support to Master and PhD students from Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgian Technical University, Ilia State University or any other Georgian university (by mutual consent of JÜLICH and this university) to ensure their internships at JÜLICH.

Legal basis:

- Memorandum between the Forschungszentrum Jülich (JÜLICH, Federal Republic of Germany) and the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation (SRNSF, Georgia) on Scientific Cooperation (June 2015) - Annex 1;
- Letter of Intent between the Ministry of Education and Science of Georgia (MoE) and Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH) on strategic partnership (2014) - Annex 2;
- Memorandum of Understanding between Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, Jülich, Germany (JÜLICH) and Georgian Partner Institutions (GEORGIA): Ivane Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU), Georgian Technical University (GTU) on the extension and expansion of mutual scientific cooperation (2010) - Annex 3;
- Amendment to the Memorandum of Understanding between Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH) and Georgian partner institutions (GEORGIA), Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University (TSU), Georgian Technical University (GTU) (2014) - Annex 4.

2 Purpose and Objectives of the Programme:

2.1 Purpose of the Program is to:

- enable Georgian students the access to the world-leading scientific research center JÜLICH to experience and conduct frontier research in fundamental and applied sciences.
- assist JÜLICH in recruiting the best and the brightest students from Georgian universities and prepare Master and PhD theses for further progress of Georgian science.

- upon completion of the internship, the students are expected to return back to Georgia to apply to and share with the local universities and research institutes their skills and knowledge gained at JÜLICH.

2.2 Objectives of the Programme:

The FOUNDATION and JÜLICH will provide Georgian Master and PhD-students the opportunity to carry out a Master/PhD thesis related research at JÜLICH during their internship, and to establish long-term cooperation with researchers at JÜLICH as well as in German universities or non-university research institutions in the following agreed research fields:

- a) Mathematics;
- b) Information Technologies;
- c) Natural Sciences;
- d) Engineering Sciences;
- e) Life Science and Health.

2.3 Target groups:

- 2.3.1 Up to three positions annually for Master students holding a Bachelor degree (or equivalent) in the agreed research fields in order to conduct research for their Master thesis at JÜLICH.
- 2.3.2 Up to three positions annually for a PhD students, up to the age of 30 years, holding a Master degree (or equivalent) in the agreed research fields for preparing PhD thesis at JÜLICH.

3 Duration and validity:

- 3.1 The agreement shall enter into force on signature by both parties and is valid until 16 June 2020.

- 3.2 The duration of the internship for Master students should be in compliance with curricula of their home university.
- 3.3 The internship for PhD students is granted for a period up to 3 years with a possible prolongation up to 6 months. The prolongation should be agreed upon between the Foundation and JÜLICH and based on the formal request of the universities/research institutes involved. The accumulated duration of research stays at JÜLICH must not be shorter than 8 months in each academic year and/or 4 months in each academic semester.

4 Funding:

The grants, jointly funded by the Foundation and JÜLICH, consist of:

- 4.1 Targeted grant funding for the physical persons defined in the articles 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 of this Agreement. Grant installment, totaling 900 € per month for Master students and 1400 € per month for PhD students and includes daily allowance, health, accident and Personal Liability Insurance;
- 4.2 Travel grants for the physical persons defined in the articles 2.3.1 and 2.3.2 of this Agreement includes:
- a) One travel annually within EU for participation in a scientific event with high relevance to the topic of the Master/PhD study;
 - b) Up to two return travels annually between Georgia and Germany (economy class).
- 4.3 Targeted grant funding is allocated equally by JÜLICH (50%) and the FOUNDATION (50%).
- 4.4 The travel expenses within EU are covered by JÜLICH.
- 4.5 Return travels between Georgia and Germany is funded by the FOUNDATION.

5 Application submission procedure:

- 5.1 By introduction of, Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgian Technical University, Ilia State University or any other Georgian university (by mutual consent of JÜLICH and this university), the potential beneficiary of the Programme should submit to the FOUNDATION electronic version of application and its hard copy, in English and in Georgian languages.
- 5.2 Application should contain the following documents:
- a) Filled application form – cover sheet (in English and in Georgian);
 - b) Official invitation letter of the host institute (supervisor) of JÜLICH¹;
 - c) Letter of recommendation of the sending university (supervisor) in Georgia (in English);
 - d) Certificate of the highest previous scientific degree (Georgian and English/German versions)²;
 - e) Certificate of ability to communicate in German and/or English language³;
 - f) Tabular curriculum vitae (CV);
 - g) List of publications (if available) in English with titles, coauthors, place and date of publication, other necessary details;
 - h) Research plan (1 – 2 pages in English), agreed with the host institute of JÜLICH, confirmed by the official letter on headed paper of JÜLICH and signed by supervisor from JÜLICH's host institute.
- 5.3 The FOUNDATION process only complete applications. Incomplete applications will be rejected on formal grounds.

¹ The invitation (“Confirmation of Supervision”) by a JÜLICH scientist must be written on the official letter headed paper of JÜLICH (including Address, Telephone, Fax, and Email) and it must be signed by JÜLICH's supervising scientist. The invitation **must specify the length of the planned research stay**. The invitation can be submitted by fax or email scan.

² Qualification certificates, Diploma or Master Certificates have to be submitted in German or English translations, which can be certified by the university administration.

³ The language certificate to confirm the applicant's German or English language skills can also be provided by the university administration.

6 Granting procedures and reporting:

- 6.1 The FOUNDATION provides eligibility check of submitted applications including availability of all documents listed in the article 5.2.
- 6.2 In case of (technical) inaccuracy, the FOUNDATION requests applicants to resubmit corrected document within 5 days span.
- 6.3 The FOUNDATION prepares the integrated list of proposals submitted by Master and PhD students (up to 3 proposals in each category) from the universities mentioned in the article 5.1 and send it by e-mail to JÜLICH together with the complete set of respective documents for consideration and approval.
- 6.4 Final endorsement on submitted applications is decided by JÜLICH.
- 6.5 Based on documents approved by JÜLICH, the FOUNDATION concludes grant agreements with the respective persons (Master and PhD students) and allocates 50% of targeted grant funding (monthly grants) as well as covers up to two return travels expenses from Georgia to Germany.
- 6.6 After finishing the Programme, in 21 days upon their arrival to Georgia, grantees - Master and PhD students, should submit to the FOUNDATION brief report (in English and Georgian) on implemented research. In case of funding the return travels between Georgia and Germany, grantee should submit to the FOUNDATION the financial report (together with respective documents/copies).
- 6.7 Together with the report(s), in the same period, grantees should submit to the FOUNDATION the letter (in English) of their supervisor at the host institute of JÜLICH containing his/her evaluation of the grantees research in the frame of the Programme.

7 Contact persons

Contact at the FOUNDATION:

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Contact at JÜLICH:

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Jülich, 16.06.2015

For Shota Rustaveli National Science
Foundation

For Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH



Prof. Dr. Marine Chitashvili
Director General



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Member of the Board of Directors