



Agreement

on

JÜLICH-GEORGIA Joint Programme for Master and PhD Students

Jointly funded by:

Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH)

and

LEPL Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (FOUNDATION)

Based on the Memorandum of Understanding (from July 2020) concluded between LEPL Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG) (hereinafter referred to as “the FOUNDATION”) and Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (hereinafter referred to as “JÜLICH”) the parties agree to extend and update their 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 (TSU), Georgian Technical University (GTU), Ilia State University (ISU), Agricultural University of Georgia (AUG), and Kutaisi International University (KIU) (or any other Georgian university by mutual consent of JÜLICH and this university) to ensure their internships at JÜLICH

Legal basis:

- Memorandum of Understanding between the Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH, Federal Republic of Germany) and the LEPL Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG, Georgia) on **Research, Education and Knowledge Transfer Cooperation** (signed in July 2020) - Annex 1;
- Memorandum of Understanding between Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH, (JÜLICH, Federal Republic of Germany) and Ministry of Education, Science, Culture and Sport of Georgia (MESCS) on *The **long-term** scientific and educational cooperation in the framework of the Georgian-German Science Bridge (GGSB)* (signed in April 2020) - Annex 2;
- Amendment to the Agreement on the **JÜLICH-GEORGIA Joint Programme for Master and PhD Students** jointly funded by Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH (JÜLICH) and LEPL Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG) (signed in May 2016)- Annex 3.

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 carry out Master and PhD thesis work for further progress of Georgian science.

Upon completion of the internship, the students are expected to return back home 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 internships, in order 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 or at German universities cooperating with JÜLICH.

2.3.2 Up to **three** positions annually for a **PhD students**, holding a Master degree (or equivalent) in the agreed research fields for preparing a PhD thesis at JÜLICH or at German universities cooperating with JÜLICH.

3 Duration and validity:

3.1 The agreement shall enter into force signature by both parties and is valid until 31st December 2026.

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. In case of prolongation, the Foundation shall not be liable for providing any additional funding. The accumulated duration of research stays at JÜLICH or at German Universities cooperating with 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 monthly 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.