



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.

5 Application submission procedure:

5.1 By introduction of, Iv. Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University, Georgian Technical University, Ilia State University, Agricultural University of Georgia, and Kutaisi International 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 form of a template prepared by the FOUNDATION) 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 Additional conditions:

- 7.1 Either Party may terminate this Contract at any time by giving thirty (30) days written notice to the other Party. Any dispute arising between the Parties concerning the interpretation or application of the present Contract shall be resolved through negotiations.
- 7.2. This Contract is drawn up in two copies in English, and two in Georgian language. Both documents are equally authentic.
- 7.3 Amendments and / or additions to the contract may be made only by mutual agreement of the parties in writing, which is an essential part of the contract. In case of change in the requisites of the

parties to the contract, it is sufficient to send only a written notice to the other party by the party and therefore does not require an amendment in the contract.

8 Force Majeure:

The terms of the contract or any of them may be suspended, changed or revoked due to force majeure circumstances and will not be considered as non-compliance or breach of the terms of the contract and therefore will not result in liability of the parties to the contract.

9. Contact persons:

Contact at the FOUNDATION:

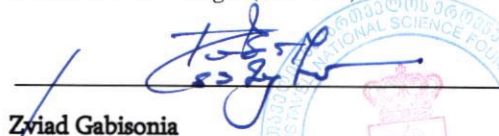
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Jülich, 28 July 2020

For Shota Rustaveli National Science
Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG)



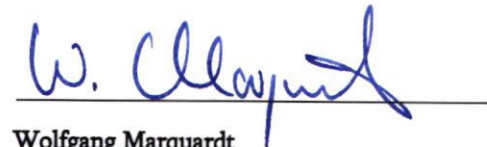
Zviad Gabisonia
Director General



Jaba Samushia



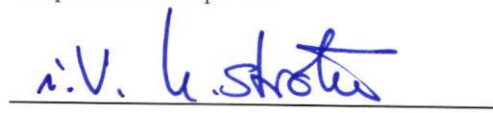
For Forschungszentrum Jülich GmbH



Wolfgang Marquardt
Chairman of the Board of Directors



ppa. **Norbert Drewes**
Corporate Development



i.V. **Hans Ströher**
Director of Nuclear Physics Institute, IKP-2