

LETTER OF INTENT

between

ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY, GEORGIA

and

**HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM DRESDEN – ROSSENDORF e. V. (HZDR),
GERMANY**

Ilia State University (ISU), located at Ilia Chavchavadze Avenue 45, 0179 Tbilisi, Georgia and Helmholtz-Zentrum Dresden – Rossendorf e. V. (HZDR), located at Bautzner Landstraße 400, 01328 Dresden, Germany (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"), recognizing their shared commitment to scientific excellence, innovation, and international research collaboration, express their intention to strengthen their partnership in research and innovation.

This Letter of Intent builds upon the longstanding cooperation established through the Georgian-German Science Bridge (GGSB), an international research and education initiative that brings together Georgian universities and German Helmholtz research centres to promote scientific collaboration, researcher and student mobility, doctoral education, and knowledge transfer. Through the GGSB framework, the Parties have established valuable academic connections and identified opportunities for expanding joint research activities and fostering sustainable scientific partnerships between Georgia and Germany.

The purpose of this Letter of Intent is to provide a framework for developing long-term cooperation in research and innovation, with particular emphasis on collaborative scientific projects, researcher mobility, international funding opportunities, and the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

The Parties will make every reasonable effort to encourage direct collaboration between their researchers, research institutes, laboratories, and academic units. They intend to cooperate in the following areas:

- I. Development and implementation of joint research projects in fields of mutual scientific interest.
- II. Exchange of researchers, faculty members, postdoctoral fellows, doctoral candidates, and research staff for collaborative research, scientific training, and access to research infrastructure.
- III. Joint supervision and training of doctoral candidates and early-career researchers, including participation in doctoral schools, workshops, scientific schools, and other capacity-building activities.
- IV. Exchange of scientific publications, research data, academic materials, and information in accordance with applicable institutional policies and intellectual property regulations.
- V. Joint organization of scientific conferences, seminars, workshops, symposia, summer schools, and other research-oriented academic events.
- VI. Strengthening the collaboration established through the Georgian-German Science Bridge (GGSB) by developing new joint research initiatives, promoting interdisciplinary

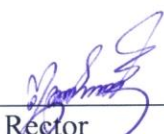
cooperation, expanding participation in international research consortia, and fostering collaboration with other Helmholtz Centres and GGSB partner institutions.

VII. Preparation and submission of collaborative proposals under international and national research funding programmes, including Horizon Europe, Marie Skłodowska-Curie Actions (MSCA), the German Research Foundation (DFG), the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD), and other relevant funding schemes.

The specific scope of joint activities, implementation arrangements, financial commitments, intellectual property rights, and the utilization of research results shall be agreed upon separately for each collaborative activity through specific agreements concluded between the Parties.

This Letter of Intent reflects the mutual intention of the Parties to strengthen their research cooperation and does not create legally binding obligations. It shall become effective upon signature by both Parties and shall remain valid for a period of five (5) years. It may be revised, amended, or renewed by mutual written consent. Discussions concerning its renewal should commence no later than six (6) months prior to its expiration.

FOR ILIA STATE UNIVERSITY:



Rector
Prof. Nino Doborjginidze

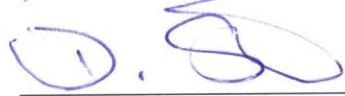
(Date) 07.09.2026

FOR HELMHOLTZ-ZENTRUM
DRESDEN – ROSSENDORF E. V.



Scientific Director
Prof. Sebastian M. Schmidt

(Date) 07.09.2026



Administrative Director
Dr. Diana Stiller

(Date)

31. AUG. 2026