MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF EDUCATION, HIGHER EDUCATION AND SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR

The Government of the Republic of Moldova, represented herein by the Ministry of Education, Culture and Research,
and
The Government of the State of Qatar, represented herein by the Ministry of Education and Higher Education,

Referred to hereunder as the „Contracting Parties",

Desiring to consolidate and expand friendship ties and to promote and enhance cooperation in educational and scientific areas between both countries, and to achieve the objectives of common interest, taking into account the laws and regulations applied in both countries,

Have agreed the following,

First: Basis of Cooperation

Article (1)

The Contracting Parties will develop cooperation relations between the two countries in all educational and scientific areas, within the framework of this Memorandum, based on:

1. The adoption of equality and respect for mutual interests.
2. Respect of the national legislation of each of the two countries.
3. Ensure equal and effective protection of intellectual property rights in all matters relating to business and joint ventures and exchange of information and experiences in the framework of this Memorandum and in accordance with the legislation of the Contracting Parties and with the international treaties to which and the State of Qatar and the Republic of Moldova are parties.
4. Distribution of intellectual property rights to participants, resulting from cooperation projects under this Memorandum, commensurate with the contribution of each Contracting Party according to the conditions stipulated in the agreements and contracts for each project.

Second: Cooperation in General Education

Article (2)

The Contracting Parties, within the framework of the common interest to develop the performance of the general education system in each of these two countries, will encourage giving priority for cooperation on topics in the following sub-areas:

1. School management and leadership.
2. Learning and teaching.
3. Curriculum standards.
4. Standards and performance.
5. Professional development.
6. Needs of additional support for students.
7. Community partnership.
8. Educational Assessment:
   - evaluation of the performance of teachers and school leaders according to quality controls;
   - evaluation of institutional performance;
   - assessment of student performance (internationally and locally).
9. Modern teaching aids used or developed by any of the Contracting Parties.
10. Technologies used or developed by any of the Contracting Parties to teach foreign languages.
11. All other related issues that can be agreed on between partners from both countries.

Article (3)

The Contracting Parties will adopt, within the framework of cooperation for the development of expertise, resources and knowledge in the subjects mentioned in Article (2) of this Memorandum, the most effective and appropriate forms and means of cooperation as required by the nature of each subject, in particular:

1. Exchange of visits of delegations of specialists and experts in the areas stipulated in the previous Article (2) of this Memorandum.
2. Exchange of information and experiences on policies and solutions adopted by each of the Contracting Parties.
3. Exchange of studies and achievements between the Contracting Parties.
4. Organization of training courses and joint workshops.

5. Setting up joint development projects.

Article (4)

The Contracting Parties will encourage the development of cooperation relations between the schools in the two countries through the following:

1. Exchange of visits of student delegations and school sport teams.
2. Organization of educational, scientific, artistic and literary school exhibitions.

Third: The field of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Technology

Article (5)

The Contracting Parties will encourage deepening their ties in the field of higher education, scientific research and technology by providing financial and administrative support to government agencies, research institutes, universities and public and private institutions in both countries to develop and implement programs, projects and other forms of scientific and technical cooperation between them, based on separate agreements through diplomatic channels and within the framework of this Memorandum.

Article (6)

The Contracting Parties will encourage universities, research institutes and public and private institutions in both countries to cooperate in the field of higher education and scientific research and technology through partnership projects within the framework of international cooperation programs that are funded by international agencies and organizations.

Article (7)

The Contracting Parties will encourage the setting up of the rules of academic recognition and exchange of information on certificates and diplomas granted by educational institutions and the distinctive academic programs in both countries.

Article (8)

The Contracting Parties will encourage the exchange of information, documents and resources about the culture, civilization, history and geography of the two countries in order to ensure the correct display of these aspects in the books, materials and university sources and other educational and scientific publications.

Article (9)

The Contracting Parties, within the framework of their common interest to develop higher education, academic and applied research in each of the two countries, shall give priority to cooperation on topics in the following areas:

1. Quality assurance and accreditation in higher education.
2. Advanced educational programs.
3. Use of modern technology in higher education.
4. Management of scientific research within academia.
5. Training and supervision of research for graduate students.
6. All other related issues that can be agreed on between partners from both countries.

Article (10)

The Contracting Parties will work on developing initial and in-service professional training of the specialists in accordance with the needs of the national and international economy. The Contracting Parties shall cooperate in the following aspects:

1. Adjusting the process of formation of specialists in vocational education and training and higher education to the current and prospective needs of the international and national labour market.

2. Strengthening the system of lifelong learning in accordance with the needs of the persons and socio-economic demands.

Article (11)

Cooperation is to be carried out through the adoption of the most appropriate forms and means for each topic, particularly:

1. Exchange of visits of delegations of higher education officials, faculty members and researchers from universities and research centres in both countries.

2. Exchange of information, expertise, research and studies in the areas of use of modern technology and development of educational aids in higher education.

3. Organization of seminars and lectures on educational programs and advanced research topics.

4. Organization of conferences, training courses and workshops between the countries on issues of common concern.

5. Conduct of joint research activities on topics of interest in both countries.

6. Acceptance of post-graduate students in areas agreed upon by the Contracting Parties and that each Contracting Party shall provide all necessary facilities for the delegated students, according to the national legislation in force in both countries.

7. Participation of the faculty staff from universities in two countries in post-graduate programs and joint supervision, according to the rules in force in both countries.

8. Access of the faculty staff and researchers to sabbatical leaves spent in the two countries.

Fourth: General Provisions

Article (12)

Mechanisms to be followed for each form of the proposed cooperation will be coordinated and agreed on according to the theme of cooperation and the needs of the cooperating bodies in both countries through the approved communication channels.

Article (13)

Members of the delegations participating in seminars, courses, workshops and all other matter related to the exchange of visits between the Contracting Parties, as well as the dates and duration of such seminars and meetings, will be determined by exchange of letters through approved channels of communication, provided that the other Contracting Party is notified at least four (4) months prior to the set date.

Article (14)

The participants of Contracting Party in the study programs and visits will bear the expenses of travel back and forth to the host Contracting Party, and the host Contracting Party will facilitate accommodation, local transportation and medical treatment in emergency cases of the delegations of the other Contracting Party in accordance with the rules in force in both countries.

Article (15)

Financial support to the activities provided by this Memorandum shall be provided within the limits of the available financial means of the Contracting Parties.

Article (16)

Any dispute that may arise between the Contracting Parties concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum will be settled amicably through consultation and cooperation between the Contracting Parties.

Article (17)

The provisions of this Memorandum or any text of its script may be amended by written agreement of the Contracting Parties; such amendments will come into effect in accordance with the procedures stipulated in Article (18) of this Memorandum.

Article (18)

This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the last notification received by the Contracting Parties in writing, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of internal legal procedures necessary for this Memorandum to enter into force.

This Memorandum shall remain in force for a period of (3) three years and will automatically be renewed for other similar periods, unless either Contracting Party notifies the other Contracting Party, in writing, of its desire to terminate the Memorandum, at least (6) six months prior to the date of termination or expiration, through diplomatic channels.

The termination or expiration of this Memorandum will not affect the existing or continuing programs and projects until completed, unless the Contracting Parties agree otherwise.

In witness of the aforementioned, the undersigned signatories, authorized by their respective governments, have signed this Memorandum.

This Memorandum is done and signed in the city of Doha on 17./12./2018 AD, corresponding to 10 Rabi Al-Akhar 1440 Hijri, in two original copies in the Romanian, Arabic and English Languages, each having equal validity, and in case of discrepancy in the interpretation, the English language shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE STATE OF QATAR