



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA

AND

THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS

ON

COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION

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INTRODUCTION

The Government of the Republic of Malta and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus (hereinafter jointly referred to as “the Participants” and each of them, individually, as “the Participant”).

DESIRING to promote and strengthen friendly bilateral relations and co-operation between the two countries in the fields of research and innovation;

RECOGNISING the importance of research and innovation in the development of their national economies;

WISHING to strengthen and develop scientific and technological co-operation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit,

HAVE REACHED the following understanding:

PARAGRAPH 1 COMPETENT AUTHORITIES

- (1) The Competent Authorities responsible for the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding (“MoU”) will be:
 - (a) in the case of the Republic of Malta, the Parliamentary Secretariat for Youth, Research and Innovation; and
 - (b) in the case of the Republic of Cyprus, the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy.

- (2) For the purpose of implementing this MoU, the Parliamentary Secretariat for Youth, Research and Innovation of Malta shall nominate Science Malta, as the “Implementing Participant” for Malta, and the Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy of Cyprus may nominate the Research and Innovation Foundation (“RIF”) or any other designated participant, as the “Implementing Participant” for Cyprus.



PARAGRAPH 2

OBJECTIVE

- (1) The Participants will encourage and support cooperation in the field of Research and Innovation ("R&I") between research entities, universities, research institutes and industrial enterprises established in Malta and Cyprus according to the provisions of this MoU and the domestic laws of each country.

PARAGRAPH 3

FORMS OF COOPERATION

- (1) The cooperation will have the following forms in particular:
 - (a) Joint research and development projects or initiatives;
 - (b) Exchange of individual scientists and experts for the purpose of
 - conducting research work,
 - delivering lectures,
 - establishing new scientific contacts for developing joint projects, and
 - attending scientific events;
 - (c) Organising and participating in joint scientific meetings, conferences, symposia, courses, workshops, exhibitions, etc; and
 - (d) Institutional exchanges between the Implementing Participants to foster closer cooperation in the R&I sector, the adoption of best practices and mutual beneficial knowledge sharing.
- (2) Participants will also collaborate within the context of participation in the European Union Framework Programmes ("EUFPs") for R&I and other Mediterranean initiatives such as the Partnership for Research and Innovation in the Mediterranean Area ("PRIMA").
- (3) The executive details concerning this cooperation will be elaborated by the Joint Committee referred to in Paragraph 5 of this MoU.



PARAGRAPH 4
AREAS OF COOPERATION

- (1) The Participants will develop cooperation in the following areas:
 - (a) Marine and maritime technologies;
 - (b) digital technologies;
 - (c) health and well-being;
 - (d) sustainable use of resources;
 - (e) smart manufacturing; and
 - (f) aerospace, aviation and space.

- (2) The areas referred to in sub-Paragraph (1) are non-exhaustive and the Participants may engage in other areas, such as, for example, those defined through the comparison of priorities emerging from their respective national strategies.

PARAGRAPH 5
JOINT COMMITTEE

- (1) For the purpose of implementing this MoU, a Joint Committee composed of representatives from each Participant will be established.
- (2) The Joint Committee will be co-chaired between the Participants.
- (3) The tasks of the Joint Committee will be as follows:
 - (a) Identifying the areas of cooperation in accordance with Paragraph 4 and elaborating the executive details of such cooperation in accordance with Paragraph 3 of this MoU;
 - (b) creating favourable conditions for the implementation of this MoU;
 - (c) facilitating the implementation of joint programmes and projects; and
 - (d) encouraging exchange of experience arising from this MoU and evaluating proposals for its further development.
- (4) The Joint Committee meetings will be organised virtually or in person by mutual decision when matters requiring detailed discussion arise. However, the Joint Committee may also operate by correspondence. An initial Joint Committee meeting will take place to commence the collaborative activities.
- (5) The Joint Committee may determine its own rules of procedure.



PARAGRAPH 6
FINANCING

- (1) The Participants will finance the actions of cooperation referred to in this MoU in accordance with their budgetary availability, and as provided by their national legislation.
- (2) Unless otherwise jointly decided, each Participant will bear its own costs and expenses for its participation in activities under this MoU, in accordance with the national legislation of their Countries. The capacity of each Participant to carry out activities and programmes under this MoU will be subject to the availability of its funds, personnel and other resources.
- (3) Unless otherwise specifically decided by the Participants, the respective Participant will fund the beneficiaries of its own country.
- (4) Cooperation activities involving other interested entities will not entail any exchange of funds; any entity interested in cooperation activities will bear the costs related to its own participation, subject to the availability of appropriate funds.

PARAGRAPH 7
INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY RIGHTS

- (1) Each Participant will ensure appropriate protection of intellectual property rights generated from the collaboration pursuant to this MoU, consistent with the national laws of their respective States and the international conventions to which their States are contracting parties.
- (2) The title to, and intellectual property rights in, or in relation to, any document or material supplied by one Participant to the other Participant under this Memorandum will remain with the Participant supplying the document or material. Such title and rights will be respected and protected by the Participant receiving the document or material.
- (3) An agreement about on ownership of intellectual property rights will be signed between cooperating partners before the execution of a joint R&I project. The said agreement will be concluded in compliance with the relevant legislation of the Participants.


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PARAGRAPH 8
USE OF DOCUMENTS, INFORMATION AND OTHER DATA

- (1) Each Participant will use documents, information and other data received for the implementation of this Memorandum only for the purpose and objectives of this Memorandum.
- (2) The Participants accept that the provisions of this Paragraph will remain in effect, notwithstanding the expiration or termination of this Memorandum.

PARAGRAPH 9
DATA PROTECTION

- (1) The Participants accept that any processing of personal data through this collaboration will take place in accordance with Regulation (EU) 2016/679 on the protection of natural persons with regards to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data, and repealing Directive 95/46/EC (Data Protection Directive) (“General Data Protection Regulation”).
- (2) In cases where personal data will need to be transferred or processed in pursuit of this MoU, the Participants will come to an understanding on the processing of personal data in accordance with the General Data Protection Regulation.

PARAGRAPH 10
IMPLEMENTATION AND LEGAL ASPECTS

- (1) This MoU does not create, nor is it intended to create, any legally binding rights and/or obligations under international law.
- (2) With respect to the cooperation activities established under this MoU, the Participants will take, in accordance with the respective national legislations of their States, all necessary measures to ensure the best possible conditions for their implementation.
- (3) This MoU will not affect the validity or execution of any obligation arising from any international treaties or agreements concluded by the Participants.

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PARAGRAPH 11
SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

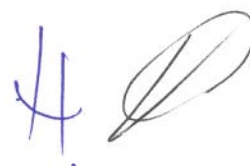
- (1) Any divergence related to the interpretation or implementation of this MoU will be settled amicably through consultations within the Joint Committee or between the Participants through diplomatic channels, without reference to any third party or international tribunal, organisation or forum.

PARAGRAPH 12
AMENDMENTS

- (1) Either Participant may request, in writing, an amendment of all or part of this MoU.
- (2) Any amendment in writing approved by the Participants will be submitted through diplomatic channels and will form part of this MoU.
- (3) An amendment will come into effect on such date as may be determined by the Participants and will form an integral part of this MoU.

PARAGRAPH 13
COMING INTO EFFECT, DURATION AND TERMINATION

- (1) This MoU will come into effect on the day that it is signed by the Participants.
- (2) This MoU will be valid for a period of three (3) years. Prior to the end of this period, the Participants will review the MoU and decide whether to renew it for further periods of three (3) years by mutual agreement. Either Participant may notify the other, in writing, of its intention to terminate this MoU.
- (3) The termination will come into effect within thirty (30) days from the date of receipt of the written notification.
- (4) The termination of this MoU will not affect the projects or programmes carried out under this MoU and not fully executed at the time of the termination of this MoU.



IN WITNESS WHEREOF the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto, have signed this MoU in duplicate.

SIGNED at Forum Copenhagen on this 16th day of July 2025.



Mr Keith Azzopardi Tanti
Parliamentary Secretary for Youth, Research and Innovation
For Ministry for Education, Sports, Youth, Research and Innovation

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF MALTA



Mr. Nicodemos Damianou
Deputy Minister to the President of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy
For Deputy Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digital Policy

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CYPRUS