ULUSLARARASI KIBRIS ÜNİVERSİTESİ
CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

TIMES HIGHER EDUCATION / IMPACT RANKINGS EVIDENCE FACT FILE

SDG 17 / INDICATOR 17.2.4
International Collaboration and SDG Best Practice

Cyprus International University • North Cyprus – Türkiye • www.ciu.edu.tr



SDG 17	17.2.4	11
Partnerships for the Goals	International collaboration to review comparative approaches and develop best practice on the SDGs	Agreements with universities in nine countries outside Türkiye, in the MoU archive

Purpose of this evidence file

This fact file answers THE Impact Rankings SDG 17 measure 17.2.4: “Does your university as a body, through international collaboration and research, review comparative approaches and develop international best practice on tackling the SDGs?” It reads the supplied collaboration document and the 40 MoU files in the Tüm MoUlar archive, adds what ciu.edu.tr shows on international partners, benchmarking and rankings, and sorts the evidence into what is signed, what is practised and what is not yet shown. Where the record does not match CIU’s wording it says so, and every drafted item is marked as a proposal.

INDICATOR 17.2.4

International collaboration and SDG best practice at a glance

CIU has many recent international agreements and is benchmarked each year; the record does not yet show a comparative review or a best practice that came from one.

The question and the answer

Question. Does your university as a body, through international collaboration and research, review comparative approaches and develop international best practice on tackling the SDGs?

Answer: partly. The MoU archive holds 11 agreements with universities in nine countries outside Türkiye, nearly all signed between November 2024 and September 2026. Three of them, with Cross River State (Nigeria), Hawler Medical (Iraq) and Sulaimani (Iraq), and one with Tarsus University (Türkiye), contain a clause to collaborate "in data collection, research and ongoing projects intended to meet UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both on and off campus". One, with Craiova (Romania), names the "exchange of academic materials and best practices". CIU also submits to UI GreenMetric (64th of 1,477 universities in 2024) and THE Impact Rankings each year, and hosted a GreenMetric workshop in October 2023. What is missing is a comparative review, a joint output or a named best practice taken from a partner.

11	4	0
Agreements with universities in nine countries outside Türkiye, in the archive	MoUs with an SDG research and data clause (three abroad, one in Türkiye)	Joint SDG outputs or comparative reviews found in the files or on ciu.edu.tr

Headline result

The channels exist. Signed MoUs, a yearly GreenMetric and THE submission, and a workshop with GreenMetric give CIU routes to compare itself with others.

The practice is not shown. No report compares CIU's approach with a partner's, and no CIU policy is said to come from one. The SDG clause is the same standard text in four MoUs.

Next step. Page 8 drafts a yearly benchmarking review and best-practice register that would turn the agreements into evidence.

Evidence scope

No.	Evidence item	Where
1	CIU's statement and what it supports	Page 3
2	Register of international agreements in the MoU archive	Page 4
3	Clauses that bear on comparison and best practice	Page 5
4	Benchmarking, networks and partners shown on ciu.edu.tr	Page 6
5	Dated record	Page 7
6	Drafted benchmarking and best-practice protocol (proposal)	Page 8
7	Points to strengthen before submission, and sources	Page 9
8	Evidence: supplied list and MoU pages	Pages 10–13

WHAT CIU STATES

The statement and what it supports

The supplied document is headed 17.2.5 and is about health institutions; it is used here as the list of agreements CIU names.

CIU states	Wording	Reading
Approach	"Our approach is not insular; it is fundamentally collaborative, leveraging partnerships with local, national, and global health institutions to create a synergistic impact that extends far beyond our campus borders."	A claim. It is about health, one of the SDGs, not about comparing approaches across the SDGs.
Purpose of the agreements	Agreements with "local, national, and international health institutions to facilitate data gathering, education, and research related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)".	Matches the SDG clause found in four MoUs; the other agreements do not mention SDGs.
Global collaborations listed	Başkent University Faculty of Medicine (three protocols), Bukhara Medical Institute, Shahid Beheshti University of Medical Sciences, Cultural Exchange Bridge (UK), Medi Foundation, Hawler Medical University.	Clinical, exchange and curriculum agreements. Only Hawler is also in the MoU archive.
Closing statement	CIU's "health strategy is a dynamic and implemented framework of collaboration" that creates "tangible and lasting impact on health outcomes".	No outcome measure or comparison is given.

Reading the statement

The statement shows collaboration for health. The question asks for a review of comparative approaches and best practice across the SDGs, reached through international collaboration and research. The document does not name a review, a comparison or a best practice, so this file adds the wider MoU archive and the website, and says what each shows.

REGISTER OF INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENTS

Eleven agreements with universities abroad

Partner (country)	Signed	Term	Scope of cooperation
Hawler Medical University (Iraq)	7 Nov 2024	5 years	Staff and student exchange, joint research, joint degrees, library and data exchange.
University of Sulaimani (Iraq)	Jan 2025	5 years	Same text as Hawler.
Czech Technical University in Prague, Civil Engineering (Czechia)	17 Mar 2025	5 years	With the Faculty of Fine Arts, Design and Architecture: research on applied psychology of architecture, INSPIRELI Awards, exchange of teaching material and research results.
Wolverhampton (UK)	15 Apr 2026	5 years	Articulation, progression and study semester abroad.
UCSI University (Malaysia)	May 2026	5 years	Education and joint research; initiatives need a separate agreement.
Craiova Medicine and Pharmacy (Romania)	2026	5 years	Joint research, mobility, conferences, curriculum, joint applications for funding.
University of Limerick (Ireland)	Jun 2026	3 years	Staff and student exchange, joint programmes, research, seminars, summer and winter schools. Study agreement of 17 Aug 2026.
Hochschule Bielefeld, HSBI (Germany)	2026	3 years	Staff and student exchange, virtual mobility; two places at the European Summer School.
University of Faisalabad (Pakistan)	Apr–May 2026	5 years	Joint research projects, conferences, placements.
Green International University (Pakistan)	3 Sep 2026	5 years	Collaborative research, short courses, journal exchange, thesis research.
University of Cross River State (Nigeria)	2026	5 years, renewing	Exchanges, joint research, lectures, conferences, joint theses.

CLAUSES THAT BEAR ON THE QUESTION

What the agreements allow CIU to do

Clause	Wording	Where	Reading
SDG data and research	"Collaborating in data collection, research and ongoing projects intended to meet UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both on and off campus."	Cross River, Hawler, Sulaimani, Tarsus	Direct SDG link; same text in each. No project is named.
Rankings surveys	The parties "are willing to cooperate with independent international and national organizations to participate in surveys... including for the preparation of academic rankings (QS, THE, etc.)".	Tarsus	Supports joint benchmarking in principle.
Exchange of best practices	"Exchange of academic materials and best practices."	Craiova	The only agreement that uses the term.
Exchange of information and results	"Exchange of information and documentation including sharing of teaching material, publications, results of implementation of new technologies and research."	Czech Technical University	A route to compare practice in architecture and construction.
Joint research and publications	Collaborative or joint research projects and publications.	Czech, Craiova, UCSI, Faisalabad, Green Int., Hawler, Sulaimani, Tarsus, Limerick	Nine agreements allow it; none shows a project.
Joint events and schools	Seminars, workshops, summer and winter schools; the European Summer School at Bielefeld.	Limerick, HSBI, Craiova, Green Int., Faisalabad	Places for shared learning; no SDG theme is stated.
Joint degrees	Joint degree programmes between departments.	Hawler, Sulaimani, Craiova (explore)	Not SDG-specific.

WEBSITE SURVEY

Benchmarking, networks and partners on ciu.edu.tr

What the website shows about comparing CIU with others and working with international partners.

Item	Report
UI GreenMetric World University Rankings	2023: 69th in the world, 29th in Europe. 2024: 64th of 1,477 universities, 1st in Cyprus, 3rd in Türkiye, 27th in Europe. 2026: 55th in the world, 3rd in Türkiye, 22nd in Europe.
THE Impact Rankings 2026	Overall 201–300; SDG 7 22nd, SDG 17 67th; SDG 3, 11 and 12 in 101–200; SDG 17 in 201–300.
Workshop "Sustainable Campuses", 14 Oct 2023	Faculty and students heard CIU's sustainability roadmap and a speaker from UI GreenMetric on its framework and application process.
Conference in Portugal, June 2023	CIU "shared its projects" and "received very positive feedback" (GreenMetric 2023 news).
International Partnerships page	Pace University (USA), Limerick (Ireland), Wolverhampton (UK), Green International and Faisalabad (Pakistan), Paris School of Business, EU Business School, Tor Vergata (Italy).
Limerick MoU, 15 Jun 2026	Exchange, joint programmes, collaborative research and seminars in economics and administration, engineering and basic sciences.
GAÜ protocol, 11 Sep 2026; Atatürk protocols, 3 Oct 2025	GAÜ (Girne American University): joint research, data collection and projects "aligned with the UN SDGs". Atatürk: distance education and clinical training.
Sustainability report (SDG 17.3), 2021	Foreign scholarships, EU-funded projects, students from 107 countries; claims of "largest" or "first" in North Cyprus.
Rankings page	Also lists THE World, U.S. News, Shanghai GRAS and SCImago; U.S. News shows an "international collaboration" indicator.

DATED RECORD

What the record shows, with dates

From the MoU archive, the supplied document and ciu.edu.tr. “Reading” is a plain note, not a CIU claim.

Ref.	Date	Item	Reading	Source
R1	Jun 2023	CIU shares its projects at a conference in Portugal.	Sharing practice	**CIU news**
R2	14 Oct 2023	Sustainable Campuses workshop with a UI GreenMetric speaker.	Link with ranking body	**CIU news**
R3	Dec 2023	GreenMetric 2023: 69th in the world.	Benchmark	**CIU news**
R4	7 Nov 2024	MoU with Hawler Medical University with SDG clause.	First SDG clause in archive	**Appendix B**
R5	Dec 2024	GreenMetric 2024: 64th of 1,477.	Benchmark	**CIU news**
R6	Jan 2025	MoU with Sulaimani, same text.	SDG clause	**Appendix C**
R7	17 Mar 2025	MoU with Czech Technical University: exchange of research results.	Information exchange	**Appendix D**
R8	3 Oct 2025	MoU with Tarsus University: SDG clause and rankings-survey clause.	SDG clause	**Appendix C**
R9	Apr–Sep 2026	MoUs with Wolverhampton, UCSI, Craiova, Limerick, HSBI, Faisalabad, Green International and Cross River.	Eight new agreements in one year	**Archive**
R10	Jun 2026	THE Impact Rankings 2026 results.	Benchmark	**CIU rankings page**

What the dates show

Almost every international agreement was signed in 2026, so most have run for months, not years. That explains why no joint output is yet on record, and is also the point a reviewer will raise: the evidence is of intent and not yet of results.

APPENDIX A • CIU COLLABORATION DOCUMENT

Supplied list of collaborations

Page 1 of the supplied document: local, national and global collaborations. The document is headed 17.2.5.

Evidence for THE Impact Rankings Questionnaire

University : Cyprus International University
Country : North Cyprus- Türkiye
Web Address : www.ciu.edu.tr

[17]

[17.2.5]

Current Collaborations with Various Institutions

Cyprus International University (CIU) recognizes that health is a fundamental human right and a crucial cornerstone of a thriving, productive society. Our approach is not insular; it is fundamentally collaborative, leveraging partnerships with local, national, and global health institutions to create a synergistic impact that extends far beyond our campus borders.

Cyprus International University has established agreements with local, national, and international health institutions to facilitate data gathering, education, and research related to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Local and National Collaborations

Affiliation protocol with the Ministry of Health of the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus (TRNC) (See **Appendix 1a**)
Consultancy and training protocol with the Pharmacists Association of TRNC (see **Appendix 1b**)
Health Service Agreement with Kolan British Hospital (see **Appendix 1c**)
Collaboration agreement with TRNC Disabled Sports Federation (see **Appendix 1d**)
Collaboration agreement with Inner Wheel 222nd District (see **Appendix 1e**)
Collaboration agreement with Dokuz Eylül University (see **Appendix 1f**)
Student Scholarship Agreement with Dr. Cemal Adademir Education Foundation (see **Appendix 1g**)
Collaboration Protocol with Universal Patient Rights Association (see **Appendix 1h**)
Collaboration Protocol with Turkish Cypriot Science and Technology Association (BİLTED) (see **Appendix 1i**)
Collaboration Protocol with Turkish Cypriot Biologists Association (BİODER)(see **Appendix 1j**)
Collaboration Protocol with Rare Disease Network (see **Appendix 1k**)
Collaboration Protocol with Levent Schools (see **Appendix 1l**)

Global Collaborations

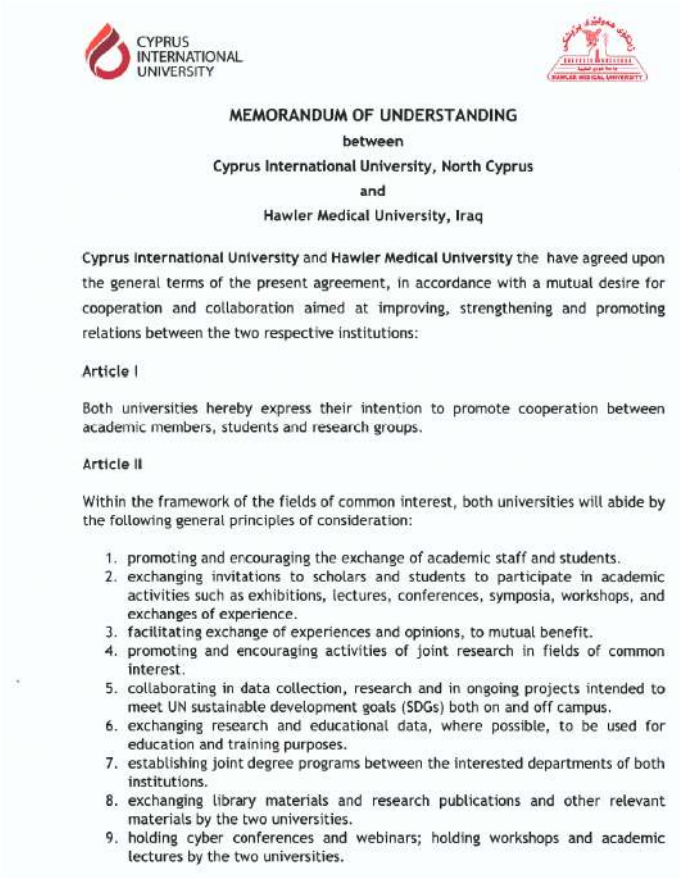
Clinical Practices and Collaboration Protocol with Başkent University Faculty of Medicine (see **Appendix 2a**)
Clinical Practices and Collaboration Protocol with Başkent University Faculty of Medicine Revised (see **Appendix 2b**)
Protocol for Joint Medicine Program with Baskent University (see **Appendix 2c**)
Memorandum of Understanding with Bukhara Medical Institute (see **Appendix 2d**)
Memorandum of Understanding with Shadid Behesti Univ of Medical Sciences (see **Appendix 2e**)
International Curricular Internship Collaboration Agreement with Cultural Exchange Bridge, UK (see **Appendix 2f**)
Memorandum of Understanding with Medi Foundation, Famagusta (see **Appendix 2g**)
Memorandum of Understanding with Hawler Medical University, Iraq (see **Appendix 2h**)

Supplied document, page 1.

APPENDIX B • SDG CLAUSES, HAWLER AND CROSS RIVER

MoUs with an SDG clause (1 of 2)

Hawler Medical University, signed 7 November 2024, and the University of Cross River State.



CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
Cyprus International University, North Cyprus
and
Hawler Medical University, Iraq

Cyprus International University and **Hawler Medical University** the have agreed upon the general terms of the present agreement, in accordance with a mutual desire for cooperation and collaboration aimed at improving, strengthening and promoting relations between the two respective institutions:

Article I

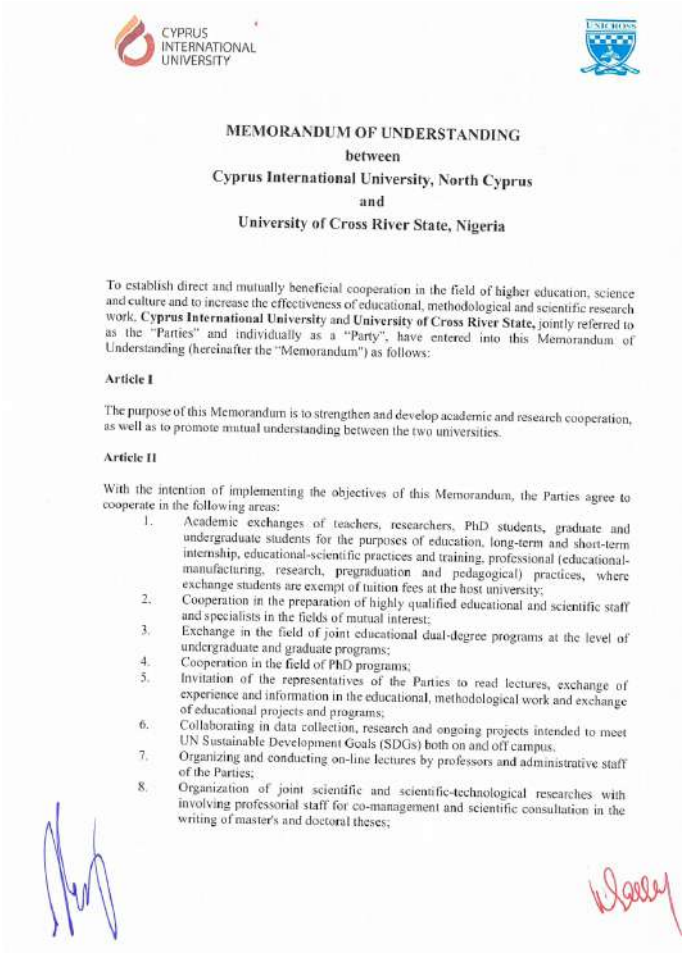
Both universities hereby express their intention to promote cooperation between academic members, students and research groups.

Article II

Within the framework of the fields of common interest, both universities will abide by the following general principles of consideration:

1. promoting and encouraging the exchange of academic staff and students.
2. exchanging invitations to scholars and students to participate in academic activities such as exhibitions, lectures, conferences, symposia, workshops, and exchanges of experience.
3. facilitating exchange of experiences and opinions, to mutual benefit.
4. promoting and encouraging activities of joint research in fields of common interest.
5. collaborating in data collection, research and in ongoing projects intended to meet UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) both on and off campus.
6. exchanging research and educational data, where possible, to be used for education and training purposes.
7. establishing joint degree programs between the interested departments of both institutions.
8. exchanging library materials and research publications and other relevant materials by the two universities.
9. holding cyber conferences and webinars; holding workshops and academic lectures by the two universities.

Hawler Medical University MoU, page 1



CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
Cyprus International University, North Cyprus
and
University of Cross River State, Nigeria

To establish direct and mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of higher education, science and culture and to increase the effectiveness of educational, methodological and scientific research work, **Cyprus International University** and **University of Cross River State,** jointly referred to as the "Parties" and individually as a "Party", have entered into this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter the "Memorandum") as follows:

Article I

The purpose of this Memorandum is to strengthen and develop academic and research cooperation, as well as to promote mutual understanding between the two universities.

Article II

With the intention of implementing the objectives of this Memorandum, the Parties agree to cooperate in the following areas:

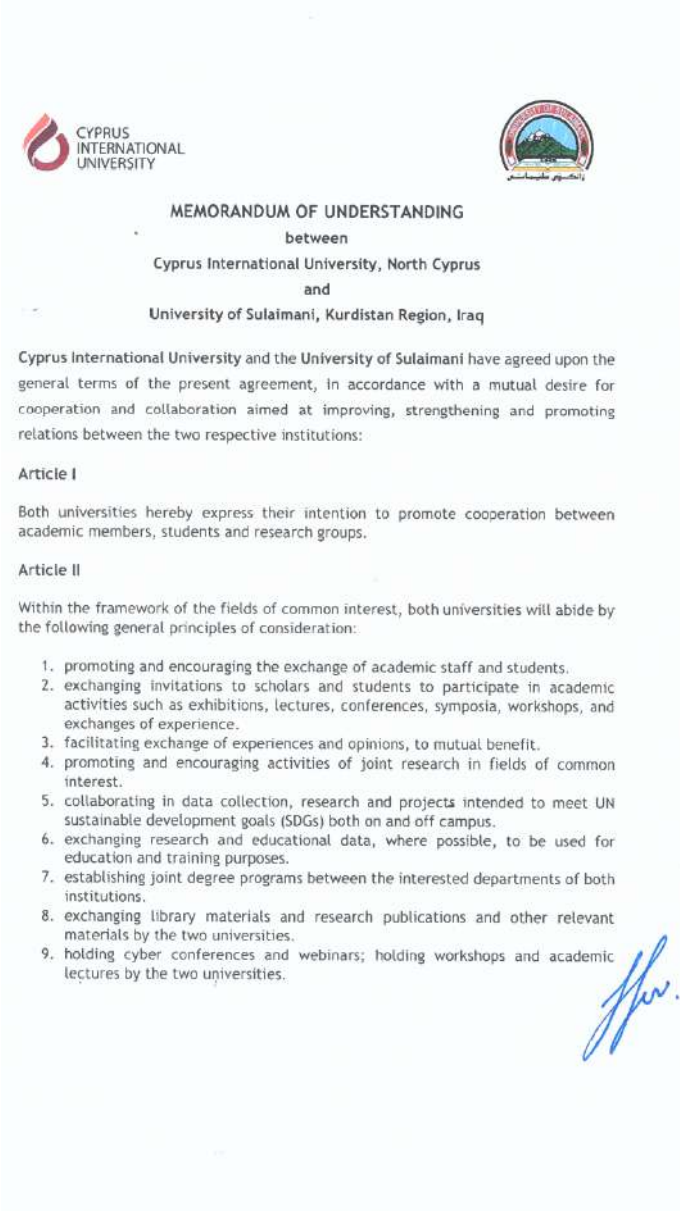
1. Academic exchanges of teachers, researchers, PhD students, graduate and undergraduate students for the purposes of education, long-term and short-term internship, educational-scientific practices and training, professional (educational-manufacturing, research, pregraduation and pedagogical) practices, where exchange students are exempt of tuition fees at the host university;
2. Cooperation in the preparation of highly qualified educational and scientific staff and specialists in the fields of mutual interest;
3. Exchange in the field of joint educational dual-degree programs at the level of undergraduate and graduate programs;
4. Cooperation in the field of PhD programs;
5. Invitation of the representatives of the Parties to read lectures, exchange of experience and information in the educational, methodological work and exchange of educational projects and programs;
6. Collaborating in data collection, research and ongoing projects intended to meet UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both on and off campus.
7. Organizing and conducting on-line lectures by professors and administrative staff of the Parties;
8. Organization of joint scientific and scientific-technological researches with involving professorial staff for co-management and scientific consultation in the writing of master's and doctoral theses;

University of Cross River State MoU, page 1

APPENDIX C • SDG CLAUSES, SULAIMANI AND TARSUS

MoUs with an SDG clause (2 of 2)

University of Sulaimani (January 2025) and Tarsus University (3 October 2025, Article 2).



CYPRUS INTERNATIONAL UNIVERSITY

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
between
Cyprus International University, North Cyprus
and
University of Sulaimani, Kurdistan Region, Iraq

Cyprus International University and the **University of Sulaimani** have agreed upon the general terms of the present agreement, in accordance with a mutual desire for cooperation and collaboration aimed at improving, strengthening and promoting relations between the two respective institutions:

Article I

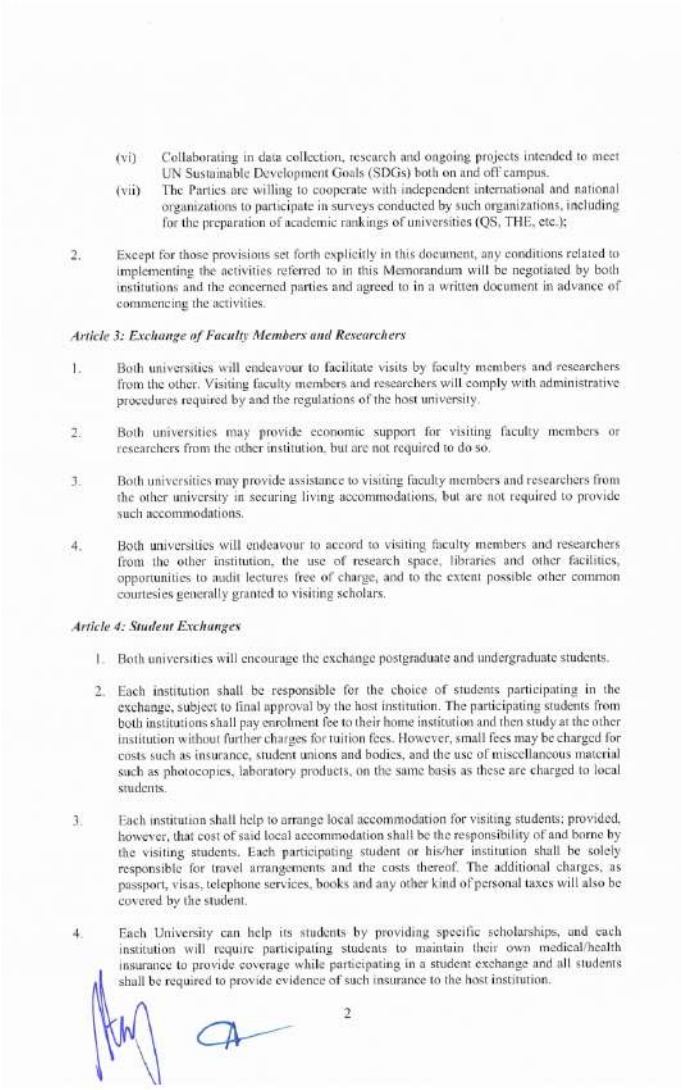
Both universities hereby express their intention to promote cooperation between academic members, students and research groups.

Article II

Within the framework of the fields of common interest, both universities will abide by the following general principles of consideration:

1. promoting and encouraging the exchange of academic staff and students.
2. exchanging invitations to scholars and students to participate in academic activities such as exhibitions, lectures, conferences, symposia, workshops, and exchanges of experience.
3. facilitating exchange of experiences and opinions, to mutual benefit.
4. promoting and encouraging activities of joint research in fields of common interest.
5. collaborating in data collection, research and projects intended to meet UN sustainable development goals (SDGs) both on and off campus.
6. exchanging research and educational data, where possible, to be used for education and training purposes.
7. establishing joint degree programs between the interested departments of both institutions.
8. exchanging library materials and research publications and other relevant materials by the two universities.
9. holding cyber conferences and webinars; holding workshops and academic lectures by the two universities.

University of Sulaimani MoU, page 1



(vi) Collaborating in data collection, research and ongoing projects intended to meet UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) both on and off campus.
(vii) The Parties are willing to cooperate with independent international and national organizations to participate in surveys conducted by such organizations, including for the preparation of academic rankings of universities (QS, THE, etc.);

2. Except for those provisions set forth explicitly in this document, any conditions related to implementing the activities referred to in this Memorandum will be negotiated by both institutions and the concerned parties and agreed to in a written document in advance of commencing the activities.

Article 3: Exchange of Faculty Members and Researchers

1. Both universities will endeavour to facilitate visits by faculty members and researchers from the other. Visiting faculty members and researchers will comply with administrative procedures required by and the regulations of the host university.
2. Both universities may provide economic support for visiting faculty members or researchers from the other institution, but are not required to do so.
3. Both universities may provide assistance to visiting faculty members and researchers from the other university in securing living accommodations, but are not required to provide such accommodations.
4. Both universities will endeavour to accord to visiting faculty members and researchers from the other institution, the use of research space, libraries and other facilities, opportunities to audit lectures free of charge, and to the extent possible other common courtesies generally granted to visiting scholars.

Article 4: Student Exchanges

1. Both universities will encourage the exchange postgraduate and undergraduate students.
2. Each institution shall be responsible for the choice of students participating in the exchange, subject to final approval by the host institution. The participating students from both institutions shall pay enrolment fee to their home institution and then study at the other institution without further charges for tuition fees. However, small fees may be charged for costs such as insurance, student unions and bodies, and the use of miscellaneous material such as photocopies, laboratory products, on the same basis as these are charged to local students.
3. Each institution shall help to arrange local accommodation for visiting students; provided, however, that cost of said local accommodation shall be the responsibility of and borne by the visiting students. Each participating student or his/her institution shall be solely responsible for travel arrangements and the costs thereof. The additional charges, as passport, visas, telephone services, books and any other kind of personal taxes will also be covered by the student.
4. Each University can help its students by providing specific scholarships, and each institution will require participating students to maintain their own medical/health insurance to provide coverage while participating in a student exchange and all students shall be required to provide evidence of such insurance to the host institution.

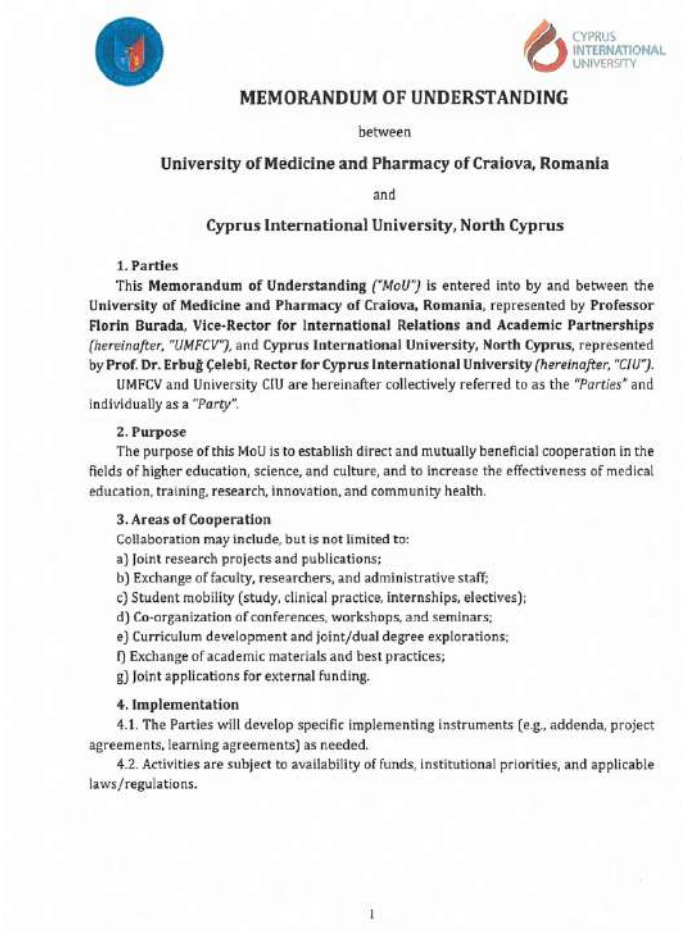
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Tarsus University MoU, page 2

APPENDIX D • BEST PRACTICE AND INFORMATION EXCHANGE

Craiova and Czech Technical University

Craiova MoU, area of cooperation (f) “Exchange of academic materials and best practices”, and the Czech Technical University MoU of 17 March 2025.



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Craiova, Romania

and

Cyprus International University, North Cyprus

1. Parties

This **Memorandum of Understanding** *("MoU")* is entered into by and between the **University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Craiova, Romania**, represented by **Professor Florin Burada, Vice-Rector for International Relations and Academic Partnerships** *(hereinafter, "UMFCV")*, and **Cyprus International University, North Cyprus**, represented by **Prof. Dr. Erbuğ Çelebi, Rector for Cyprus International University** *(hereinafter, "CIU")*.

UMFCV and University CIU are hereinafter collectively referred to as the *"Parties"* and individually as a *"Party"*.

2. Purpose

The purpose of this MoU is to establish direct and mutually beneficial cooperation in the fields of higher education, science, and culture, and to increase the effectiveness of medical education, training, research, innovation, and community health.

3. Areas of Cooperation

Collaboration may include, but is not limited to:

a) Joint research projects and publications;
b) Exchange of faculty, researchers, and administrative staff;
c) Student mobility (study, clinical practice, internships, electives);
d) Co-organization of conferences, workshops, and seminars;
e) Curriculum development and joint/dual degree explorations;
f) Exchange of academic materials and best practices;
g) Joint applications for external funding.

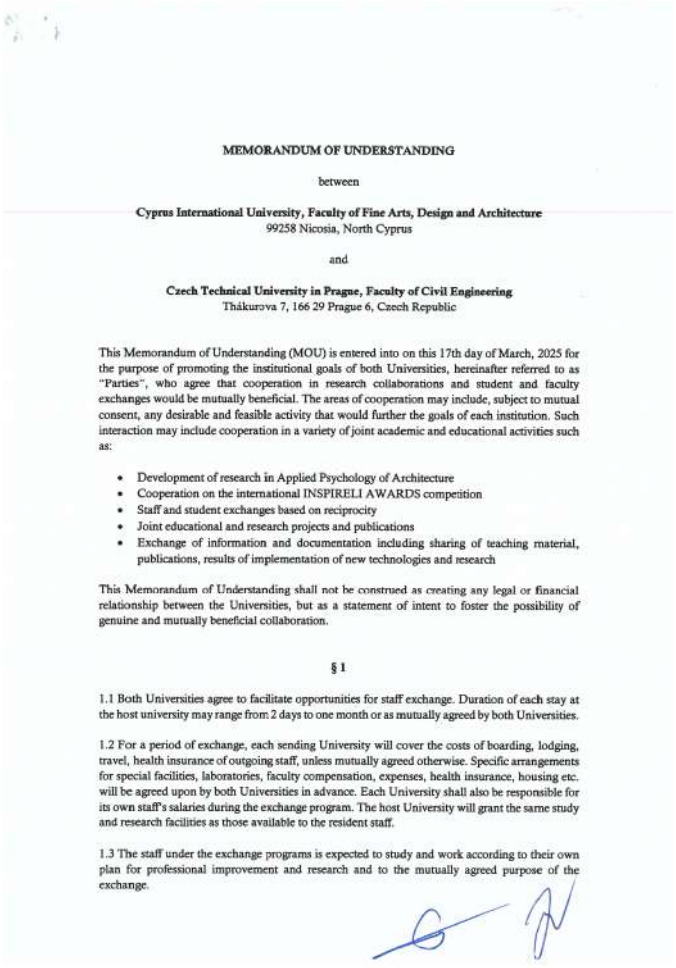
4. Implementation

4.1. The Parties will develop specific implementing instruments (e.g., addenda, project agreements, learning agreements) as needed.

4.2. Activities are subject to availability of funds, institutional priorities, and applicable laws/regulations.

1

University of Medicine and Pharmacy of Craiova MoU, page 1



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

Cyprus International University, Faculty of Fine Arts, Design and Architecture
99258 Nicosia, North Cyprus

and

Czech Technical University in Prague, Faculty of Civil Engineering
Thákurova 7, 166 29 Prague 6, Czech Republic

This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into on this 17th day of March, 2025 for the purpose of promoting the institutional goals of both Universities, hereinafter referred to as "Parties", who agree that cooperation in research collaborations and student and faculty exchanges would be mutually beneficial. The areas of cooperation may include, subject to mutual consent, any desirable and feasible activity that would further the goals of each institution. Such interaction may include cooperation in a variety of joint academic and educational activities such as:

- Development of research in Applied Psychology of Architecture
- Cooperation on the international INSPIRELI AWARDS competition
- Staff and student exchanges based on reciprocity
- Joint educational and research projects and publications
- Exchange of information and documentation including sharing of teaching material, publications, results of implementation of new technologies and research

This Memorandum of Understanding shall not be construed as creating any legal or financial relationship between the Universities, but as a statement of intent to foster the possibility of genuine and mutually beneficial collaboration.

§ 1

1.1 Both Universities agree to facilitate opportunities for staff exchange. Duration of each stay at the host university may range from 2 days to one month or as mutually agreed by both Universities.

1.2 For a period of exchange, each sending University will cover the costs of boarding, lodging, travel, health insurance of outgoing staff, unless mutually agreed otherwise. Specific arrangements for special facilities, laboratories, faculty compensation, expenses, health insurance, housing etc. will be agreed upon by both Universities in advance. Each University shall also be responsible for its own staff's salaries during the exchange program. The host University will grant the same study and research facilities as those available to the resident staff.

1.3 The staff under the exchange programs is expected to study and work according to their own plan for professional improvement and research and to the mutually agreed purpose of the exchange.

Czech Technical University in Prague MoU, page 1