

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

### BETWEEN THE HELLENIC OPEN UNIVERSITY AND THE OPEN UNIVERSITY OF JAPAN

In accordance with a desire to promote cooperation in areas of mutual interest for the benefit of both institutions,

The **Hellenic Open University**, an independent and wholly self-governed higher education institute, located in Par. Aristotle 18, 263 35, Patras, Western Greece, Greece, hereinafter referred to as “**HOU**”, represented by its President Prof. Ioannis Kalavrouziotis, who is endowed with the legal capacity to sign agreements

And

The **Open University of Japan**, an accredited university under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology, and the Ministry of Internal Affairs and Communications, located in 2-11 Wakaba, Mihama-ku, Chiba, Japan, hereinafter referred to as “**OIJ**”, represented by its President Prof. Masaya Iwanaga, who is endowed with the legal capacity to sign agreements

Hereby will collaborate together to identify any future opportunities for partnership.

**Article 1. Purpose:** HOU and OIJ shall engage in cooperation in fields of common interest and benefit.

**Article 2. Scope:** Joint activities will be established by mutual agreement of both parties. These projects are undertaken to enhance the exchange of scientific knowledge and cultural traditions at the global level, in order to comply with the commitment of both parties to realize international scientific and cultural exchanges.

**Article 3. Areas of Cooperation:** Subject to future specific implementing agreements signed by authorized officers of each institution, both parties may seek to engage in the following types of cooperation within agreed fields:

- a) Exchange of faculty for research and teaching;
- b) Joint research activities (the details of activities should be specified through separate negotiations and agreements);
- c) Exchange of scholars for seminars, conferences and other academic meetings;
- d) Exchange of scholarly publications and other information. Such exchanges will be subject to prior authorization.

**Article 4. Compliance with Laws and Regulations:** Both HOU and OUJ acknowledge and agree that any future activities undertaken jointly must conform, where and as applicable, with the laws and regulations of the Japan and Greece governments.

**Article 5. Principles of Equal Opportunity and Non-Discrimination:** It is understood that both HOU and OUJ subscribe to the principle of equal opportunity and do not discriminate on the basis of race, age, sex, sexual orientation, physical or mental disability, religion, ancestry or national origin, marital status, genetic information, political affiliation, and gender identity or expression. Both HOU and OUJ shall abide by these principles in the administration and implementation of any of their future joint activities.

**Article 6. Term of Validity:** This memorandum shall be effective from the date it is signed by the representatives of the two institutions, and will be effective for a period of five (5) years. The period of validity may be extended by mutual consent of both parties.

**Article 7. Termination:** The parties may terminate this memorandum at any time by mutual agreement. Either party may terminate this memorandum with written notification, signed by a designated official of the party initiating termination. Such notification must be given to the other party at least six months in advance of the effective date of termination. Undertakings still in progress at the time of termination shall continue until completion unless the parties agree otherwise in writing.

**Article 8. Liability:** Each party assumes full responsibility for the acts or omissions of its respective employees, agents, and representatives. In no event will either party or their officers, agents or employees be liable for any incidental, special, indirect, exemplary or consequential damages of any kind, including business expense, loss of profits, damage or injury to property for any claims, demands or damages arising out of the existence and/or

use of this memorandum even if the party has been advised of the possibility of such damages.

**Article 9. Settlement of Disputes:** Any disputes between the Parties regarding the interpretation or implementation of this memorandum shall be settled amicably.

**Article 10. General:** The relationship between the Hellenic Open University and the Open University of Japan is that of independent contractors. Neither institution is, nor shall be deemed to be a partner or agent of the other, and neither institution shall represent itself as such. This memorandum may be executed in multiple counterparts exchanged by facsimile or other electronic means of duly-signed duplicates hereof, each of which shall be deemed an original but together shall constitute one and the same agreement.

**The Hellenic Open University**  
**Prof. Ioannis Kalavrouziotis**

**The Open University of Japan**  
**Prof. Masaya Iwanaga**

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