



DRAFT (GENERIC)

MEMORANDUM OF COLLABORATION

BETWEEN

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY

AND

HELLENIC OPEN UNIVERSITY

This "**Memorandum of Collaboration**" (Here – in – after called the "**MOC**") is executed on this the _____ day of _____, and shall be effective for a period of three (03) years commencing from _____ (Here – in – after referred to as the "**Effective Date**") at New Delhi,

BY & BETWEEN

INDIRA GANDHI NATIONAL OPEN UNIVERSITY (IGNOU), a National University established by an Act of Parliament i. e., Indira Gandhi National Open University Act, 1985 (Act No. 50 of 1985) having its Headquarters at Maidan Garhi (New Delhi – 110068) {Here – in – after for the sake of brevity referred to as "**IGNOU**", which expression unless excluded by or repugnant to the context or meaning hereof, shall include its Successor (s), Administrator (s) or Permitted Assignee (s)}, being represented through its Authorized Signatory, _____, Registrar (Administration) of the **FIRST PART**.

AND

HELLENIC OPEN UNIVERSITY, a Public University established by Act 2083/1992 (article 27, par. 1, pas. a) having its Headquarters at Par. Aristotle 18, 263 35, Patras, Western Greece, Greece {Here – in – after for the sake of brevity referred to as the "**HOU**" which expression unless excluded by or repugnant to the context or meaning hereof, shall include its Successor (s), Administrator (s) or Permitted Assignee (s)}, being represented through its Authorized Signatory, the President of HOU, Prof. Ioannis Kalavrouziotis of the **SECOND PART**.

HERE-IN-AFTER, individually referred to as the “**Party**” and collectively referred to as the “**Parties**”

WHEREAS, IGNOU is an autonomous University established by an act of Parliament with a view to democratize education and disseminate knowledge through novel techniques and methodologies for the benefit of large section of society within the country, especially the weaker and disadvantaged groups through Open and Distance Learning (ODL). IGNOU serves the educational aspirations of millions of students through Twenty – One (21) School of Studies and a vast network of Regional Centers, Study Centers, Programme Centers, Partner Institutions and Overseas Centers. Apart from teaching and research the University also runs extension programmes of capacity building. The Commonwealth of Learning has recognized it as a Centre of Excellence. In order to fulfill the vision of democratizing higher education and providing access to all segments, the University has the mandate to impart education and knowledge through various flexible means suited to the open and distance education mode i. e.,

- (i). To provide access to higher education to all segments of the Society ;
- (ii). To offer high-quality, innovative and need-based programmes at different levels, to all those who require them ;
- (iii). To reach out to the disadvantaged by offering programmes in all parts of the country at affordable costs ; and
- (iv). To promote and co-ordinate the standards of Education offered through open digital learning in the country ;

WHEREAS, HOU is an independent and wholly self–governed public higher education institution established by Law 2083/1992 (article 27, par. 1, pas. a) under the auspices of the Ministry of Education, Religious Affairs and Sports while its operation is determined by Law 2552/1997. HOU is the only University that offers education exclusively via distance learning.

The mission of the HOU is to provide high-quality university education via distance learning at undergraduate, postgraduate and doctoral level, through the development and use of appropriate educational material and teaching methods. The objectives of the HOU include the promotion of scientific research, as well as the development of technology and methodology in the field of the transmission of knowledge in distance. In order to fulfil its mission HOU offers programmes of studies with the methodology of distance education independently or in collaboration with other Greek or foreign Universities or the Academy of Athens. Furthermore, it organizes and implements lifelong learning programmes aiming at training, continuing professional training, re-skilling, upgrading of skills, general education for adults, counseling, professional orientation and lifelong learning in general, based on the national and European institutional framework for lifelong learning.

HOU, is included in 4 international Ranking Systems of Higher Education Institutions: WEBOMETRICS, Scimago, Times Higher Education, U-Multirank. For example, in the international rankings of Times Higher Education (THE) World University Rankings 2023, HOU is ranked 1501+ among 1799 Universities from 104 countries.

AND WHEREAS, in order to develop cultural, educational and scientific ties of cooperation between the parties, to encourage academic exchange and collaboration, to advance education and training in the respective institutions, the parties, in the spirit of deepening ties, therefore, agree to enter into this Memorandum of Cooperation.

I COMMON OBJECTIVES AND CONCERNS :

- i. Recognizing the common goals of Higher Education and Training to empower people to participate effectively in the processes of national development.
- ii. Considering common priorities of IGNOU and HOU and offer degree and diploma programmes at the Undergraduate & Postgraduate level with emphasis on Research & Development, use of ICT enabled education and interactive Multimedia in Distance Education deliveries.
- iii. Considering the capabilities of IGNOU in providing higher education to large target groups of learners in areas of education identified above with focus on sharing resources.
- iv. Mutual acknowledgement of the experience, expertise and capabilities of IGNOU and HOU and give due importance to collaboration, resource-sharing and partnerships.
- v. IGNOU, New Delhi and HOU, Patras, Greece have agreed to sign this Memorandum of Cooperation, which will lay the foundation for cooperation and joint action to support the development of action and training in open and distance learning, multimedia and such other areas as may be identified and agreed from time to time and act as precursor towards the goal of convergence between conventional and open universities.

II STRATEGIES :

- i. To establish a network for partnership in the field of higher education through Distance Education.
- ii. To provide for sharing of academic experiences through strategic collaboration between IGNOU and HOU through faculty exchange from time to time.

- iii. Develop strategies for design, development and implementation of Undergraduate and Postgraduate programmes with entry level and exit points.
- iv. Promote Joint R & D Projects (Collaboration and Practical Indicators).
- v. Create avenues for ICT enable education;
- vi. Establish Interactive learner support.
- vii. Terms & conditions for each of the aforesaid activities under this MOC shall be agreed upon between both the parties by signing separate individual agreements, through the authorized signatories.

III Monitoring & Implementation Committee:

Both parties will jointly develop and devise implementation strategies and time-bound action plans for effective impact to meet the desired objectives and goals. The process of implementation will be assessed and evaluated by a Monitoring and Implementation Committee with the Vice-Chancellor (Or in his absence his designated Representative), IGNOU as Chairman and Vice-chancellor / Head, HOU (Or in his absence his designated Officer) as Co-Chairmen, Registrar (Admn.), being the authorized signatory of IGNOU and two nominees each of IGNOU and HOU.

IV DURATION:

This MOC shall be effective for a period of three (03) years commencing from _____ (Here – in – after referred to as the “**Effective Date**”) and will remain in force for three (3) years until either party wishes to withdraw by giving a notice of three (3) months in writing or renewed on the mutual written consent through authorized signatories of both parties.

This document is a statement of understanding and is not intended to create binding or legal obligations on either party.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned approve the terms and conditions of this Memorandum of Cooperation.

SIGNED, SEALED AND DELIVERED BY :

<p>For and on behalf of IGNOU :</p> <p>_____, Registrar (Administration), IGNOU, New Delhi.</p>	<p>For and on behalf of HOU :</p> <p>_____, HOU. Dated :</p>
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Dated :

Place :

In the presence of : (Representatives
from IGNOU, New Delhi).

(1). Name _____

Address : _____

(2). Name _____

Address : _____

Place :

In the presence of : (Representatives
from HOU)

(1). Name _____

Address : _____

(2). Name _____

Address : _____
