

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING**

**between**

**the Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia**

**and**

**the Flanders Department of Foreign Affairs**

**on**

**cooperation in the fields of Education, Science and Innovation**

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Armenia and the Flanders Department of Foreign Affairs (hereinafter referred to as “the Participants”)

encouraging the strengthening of relations between the Republic of Armenia and Flanders as well as developing the cooperation in the fields of education, science and innovation,

**have come to the following understanding:**

### **Section 1**

The Participants will cooperate in the fields of education, science and innovation in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding, the legislation of their States and the basic principles and norms of International law.

### **Section 2**

1. The Participants will encourage direct cooperation between the general, vocational, higher education and research institutions in order to promote the exchange of necessary information about the structure, content and organization of their educational systems with the purpose of making cooperation more effective.
2. To this purpose the Participants may organize seminars as well as study visits to bring possible partners together.

### **Section 3**

The Participants will encourage mutual exchange of students, teachers, lectures, experts and scientists for the purpose of mutual acquaintance with educational and scientific experience and achievements of their institutions in accordance with their internal legislation.

### **Section 4**

The Participants will encourage the participation of students in mobility and cooperation programmes and scholarship schemes within the framework of the European Union and national programs for international student mobility.

### **Section 5**

The Participants will jointly work together to further encourage the study of each other's language and culture and take note of the support and courses offered by the Dutch Language Union for the promotion of the Dutch language abroad.

### **Section 6**

The Participants will promote cooperation between the higher education institutions of the Republic of Armenia and Flanders.

### **Section 7**

The Participants may promote joint activities in the fields of scientific research and innovation between the universities and research centers of the Republic of Armenia and Flanders, with respect for the autonomy of the universities, research centers and funding agencies involved. Such activities may include but will not be limited to the development of joint projects, the mobility and the exchange of scientists and young researchers, reciprocal visits to research centers and laboratories, the exchange of information and ideas, the organization of conferences, seminars and symposia.

### **Section 8**

1. The Participants may encourage joint scientific and innovational research projects by their institutions within the European Union Research and Innovation Programme Horizon 2020, respecting the autonomy of their institutions.
2. In order to develop and extend the scientific cooperation, the Participants may elaborate and carry out research programs and projects as well as exchange the achieved results, scientific and educational information in accordance with the legislation of their States.

### **Section 9**

The Participants may promote research and innovation cooperation between Information Technology and Information Technology Communication sectors of the Republic of Armenia and Flanders, within their competences, including incubators for high-tech companies and other spin-offs, and innovation for business development.

### **Section 10**

The Participants may provide mutual assistance in education and science related initiatives in the international organizations and other international constituencies where they are involved in within their competences.

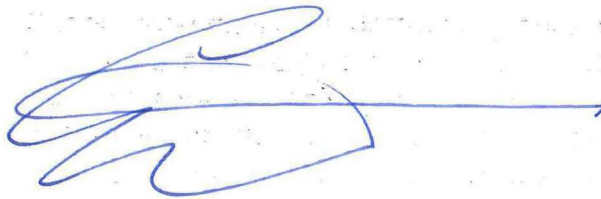
## Section 11

1. This Memorandum of Understanding will enter into force from the date of its signature and will remain valid for a period of five year.
2. Any of the Participants may notify the other Participant in writing of its intention to terminate it not less than 90 (ninety) days before the proposed date of termination. In this case, the termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect 2 months following the receipt of such notification.
3. Any disputes and controversies arising between the Participants in the implementation of the provisions of this Memorandum of Understanding will be regulated by consultations and negotiations.
4. At the initiative of each of the Participants and by mutual consent amendments may be made in this Memorandum of Understanding. Such amendments will enter into force according to paragraph 1 of this Section.
5. This Memorandum of Understanding does not bind either Participant to any financial arrangements other than those separately accepted in writing.
6. The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding will not affect the realization of the programs which have started but have not been accomplished at the time of the termination.

Signed in Louvain, *4th March* 2019, in two original copies, each in the Armenian, Dutch and English languages, each text having equal validity. In case of any divergence in the interpretation, the English text will prevail.

For the Flanders Department of Foreign  
Affairs

For the Ministry of Education and  
Science of the Republic of Armenia



Freddy EVENS  
Acting Secretary-General



Tatoul MARKARIAN  
Ambassador

*04.03.2019*