

**Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) Of Cultural and Scientific Cooperation**  
**between**  
**The Dr. B. R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, India**  
**and**  
**The University of Florence, Italy**

The Dr. B. R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, India (NITJ) and The University of Florence, Italy (UNIFI) recognize their strengths in research and education in one or more disciplines of engineering, science, management and social sciences, and their mutual interest in engaging themselves in academic cooperation.

Therefore, NITJ and UNIFI agree to establish a programme for academic and research cooperation in areas of mutual interest, and in accordance with terms and conditions set forth in this memorandum of understanding (MoU).

*General Provisions*

- Given that cultural and scientific exchange is indispensable to academic institutions to develop their educational and research activities;
- given that, for the above-stated purpose, it is necessary to promote and encourage direct cultural agreements between institutions of higher learning in different countries;
- having verified the mutual interest that the University of Florence (Italy) and Dr. B.R. Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar (India) share in establishing an appropriate form of exchange program in the fields of Biotechnology and Processes Engineering for Biofuel Production;
- in agreement with the laws of the two Countries;
- in agreement with the Statute of the University of Florence,
- in agreement with the resolutions of the Academic Senate and of the Board of Governors of the Dr. B.R.Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, India passed from time to time,

THE FOLLOWING TERMS OF AGREEMENT ARE STIPULATED

BETWEEN

The University of Florence, represented by the Rector Prof. Luigi Dei residing in Florence, Piazza San Marco, 4, Italy

AND

The Dr. B.R.Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar (India), represented by the Director Prof. Lalit Kumar Awasthi, residing in NIT Campus, Jalandhar, India

*Art. 1 : Units and Fields of Study and Research*

Both the two Institutions intend to establish an exchange program initially in the fields of: Biotechnology and Processes Engineering for Biofuel Production.

The above-stated cooperation includes the following units of the University of Florence, Italy:

- *Department of Agrifood Production and Environmental Sciences (DISPAA)*

and the following units of the Dr. B.R.Ambedkar National Institute of Technology, Jalandhar, India

- *Department of Biotechnology (BT)*

Both the two Institutions have the right to pursue, when they both deem it appropriate, other areas of cooperation. In this case, the parties will approve specific addenda to be attached to this memorandum.

#### *Art. 2 - Purpose of the MoU and types of collaboration*

The goal of this cooperation is to promote and nurture collaboration, provide opportunity for global experience, and to facilitate advancement of knowledge on the basis of reciprocity, best effort, mutual benefit, and frequent interactions. The form of cooperation specified in art. 1, based on strictly-observed criteria of equality and mutual interests, includes the following activities:

- 1) Exchange visits of members of teaching and research staff of the units mentioned in art.1. Visits are intended to promote seminars, courses, conferences, lectures, workshops, to carry out joint research projects, to discuss experiences in fields of common interest, and so forth;
- 2) Circulation of publications and information on the specific fields of study and research included in this memorandum and on any other subject of relevant interest;
- 3) Exchange visits of undergraduate, post-graduate and doctoral students for specified or limited periods of time for purpose of education and research;
- 4) Student exchange for the purpose of attending courses, participating in professional training and specialization programs or other educational activities;
- 5) Exchange visits of members of technical or administrative staff when considered a profitable experience.

Promoting units can specify in specific protocols the different forms to implement these exchanges (i.e. visitor's length of stay and obligations, application selection procedure, detailed explanation of the fields for which the memorandum is stipulated, etc.).

Both the two Institutions subscribing this memorandum intend to encourage student mobility according to a principle of reciprocity. According to the exchange programs, the host institution will make available to host students their didactical facilities and tutorial services.

Upon the approval by the appropriate administrative bodies, exchange students will be given academic credits for the work done at the foreign institution.

Universities participating in this exchange agree that no registration or any other fee will be imposed, except those fees required by the law of the country.

Both the two Institutions subscribing this memorandum will exchange all relevant information - by supplying catalogues and other materials - to promote greater and mutual knowledge on their institutional structure and organization.

In conformity with laws and regulations of their respective countries, subscribers of this memorandum will provide to visitors from the partner institution all possible assistance and access to facilities to enable them to carry out the activities agreed upon.

Promoting units of NITJ and UNIFI can specify in specific protocols the different forms of implementation of such exchanges (i.e. visitor's length of stay and obligations, application selection procedure, detailed explanation of the fields for which the agreement is stipulated, detailed terms and conditions that guide each activity identified above, such as, technical description of proposed activity, financial arrangements, and person(s) responsible for their implementation, etc.).

*Art. 3 Intellectual Property*

NITJ and UNIFI agree to respect each other's rights to intellectual property. Further, the intellectual property rights that arise as a result of any collaborative research or activity under this MoU will be worked out on a case-to-case basis, and will be consistent with officially laid down IPR policies of the two institutions.

*Art. 4 - Insurance Procedure*

The participants to the exchanges, while exercising the activities provided for in the memorandum, must have both accident insurance and third party liability insurance for unintentional damage, hereby releasing the host university from any liability in this respect.

Such insurances coverage may be either provided by the home institutions, according to their own regulations, or contained in a policy covering the above-mentioned risks obtained from an insurance company by the interested person.

As regards health insurance (coverage for medical expenses and/or hospitalization) the participants must provide their own insurance according to the rules of the host country.

For specific needs related to insurance coverage, special amendments will be agreed between the parties.

*Art. 5 – Funding*

Each of the subscribing parties commits itself, through its participating units, to search funds to carry out the activities foreseen by this memorandum.

As a general rule, the institution sending its members to the foreign partner is responsible for covering their travel, room and board expenses. The departments of the University of Florence participating in the exchange will be in charge of covering travel, room and board expenses to their members. If institutional funds are not available for these purposes, student and staff mobility will be possible; in this case exchange visitors will be directly responsible to fully cover their own expenses for travel, room and board, without any charge for the two Institutions.

*Art. 6 – Coordinators*

The implementation of the activities foreseen by the memorandum will be promoted, initially, by the following Coordinators, appointed by each Institution:

University of Florence  
*Prof. (Dr.) Roberto De Philippis*  
Dept. of Agrifood Production and  
Environmental Sciences

Dr. B.R.Ambedkar N.I.T., Jalandhar  
*Associate Prof.(Dr.) Nitai Basak*  
Department of Biotechnology

*Art. 7 - Duration and Termination of the MoU*


This memorandum is to be drawn up and signed in English. It is not intended to impose any legal obligation except for the provisions herein set forth. Should there be a dispute relating to any aspect of academic cooperation, the Director of, NIT Jalandhar (NITJ) and the Rector of the University of Florence, Italy (UNIFI) will try to jointly resolve the dispute in a spirit of independence, mutual respect, and shared responsibility. Should this attempt not be successful, the problem will be entrusted to a board of arbiters made of one member selected by each partner and one chosen by common consent.

The present memorandum will become effective from the date the contract is signed and will be valid for five years, unless notice of termination of the memorandum is given by one of the two parties at least six months before expiration.

This MoU is signed subject to approval of the respective academic and administrative bodies.


**Prof. Luigi Dei**

The Rector of the  
University of Florence,  
Italy

  
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Date..... MAY 11, 2018

**Prof.(Dr.) Lalit Kumar Awasthi**

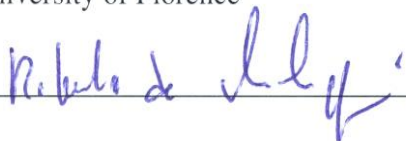
The Director of  
Dr. B.R.Ambedkar National Institute of Technology,  
Jalandhar, India

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date..... 11<sup>th</sup> May 2018.

Signature of Coordinators as Witness:

**Prof. (Dr.) Roberto De Philippis**

Dept. of Agrifood Production and  
Environmental Sciences,  
University of Florence

  
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**Associate Prof. (Dr.) Nitai Basak**

Department of Biotechnology  
Dr. B.R.Ambedkar National Institute of Technology,  
Jalandhar

  
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11/05/2018