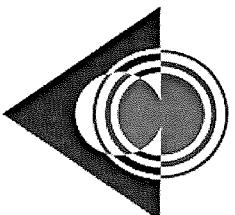


**Research Council
of Norway**



TÜBİTAK

**Memorandum of Understanding
on
Money Follows Cooperation
Between
the Research Council of Norway (RCN)
and**

the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK)

1. The Research Council of Norway is a national strategic and funding agency for basic and applied research. It administers a wide range of schemes, including funding activities for research projects and network-building.
2. The Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye, is the leading agency for management, funding and conduct of research in Türkiye. It was established in 1963 with a mission to advance science and technology, conduct research and support Turkish researchers.
3. This Memorandum of Understanding ("this MoU") is aimed at ensuring that researchers based in either Norway or Türkiye can easily include researchers based in the other country (and their costs) on research proposals submitted to their National Funder (collectively "the Funders" and individually a "Funder").
4. To develop international opportunities, the RCN and TÜBİTAK (hereafter referred to as the Funders) recognize that support for international collaborative research is critical for achieving their respective aims. Facilitating this collaboration, their respective research communities require simple mechanisms to fund collaborative research projects that avoid double jeopardy (where applicants must coordinate two application processes and evaluations to establish a collaboration) and that do not involve a significantly greater administrative burden than obtaining funding from national schemes. The principle of Money follows Cooperation (MFC) calls for opening, under certain conditions, the national funding programmes for applicants from other countries, and thus strengthening cross-

border cooperation.

5. Therefore, the Funders commit to reciprocally opening their agreed national research project funding schemes to collaborative proposals involving researchers from the other country. For the Money Follows Cooperation principle to be applied, the contribution and added value of the international participants to the research must be clearly explained and justified in the proposal. The leadership and the majority of the budget remains in the country of the funder to whom the proposal is submitted.
6. The Funders reserve the right to exclude specific schemes from this agreement if they deem necessary, but the spirit of this agreement is that such exclusions should be rare and only used where there is a compelling strategic case.
7. This agreement serves to simplify the process of applying for funding for collaborative research, by allowing collaborative projects to be funded through normal national procedures. Funding decisions on the proposals will be made according to the normal procedures of the party from which funding is sought (the implementing Funder). Grants awarded (including the component for any international partners) will be subject to the terms and conditions of the implementing Funder.
8. Disbursement of funds to the other country will be subject to normal national procedures. In the case of RCN, the Norwegian lead institution is responsible for the whole project budget, including the money spent abroad. In the case of TÜBİTAK, the Turkish lead institution is responsible for the whole project budget, including the money spent abroad.
9. Proposals will be evaluated according to the normal procedures of the Funder. The results of the evaluation and methodologies used to evaluate proposals will be shared between the Funders if requested, with the exception of confidential information. Where appropriate, the Funders will seek to involve international academics in the peer review process.
10. The Funders will follow their normal practices for distributing funds to national and international funding recipients.
11. The ambition of this arrangement is to achieve a proportionate flow of research funds between the two countries, so that neither of the research communities served by the Funders are financially disadvantaged by the scheme. If a significant imbalance of participation is observed, the Funders will meet to discuss how to redress this imbalance in future. This agreement will be subject to review in 2 years' time.
12. The Funders will collect, share and manage personal data through the application process in accordance with the applicable national legislation of each Funder.
13. All rights, title and interests in and to any IP (including trademarks and service marks,

copyrights, patents, designs, know-how, and confidential information and the subject of such IP, inventions and innovations) disclosed or introduced by a Funder to the other for the purpose of this MoU will remain the property of the Funder disclosing or introducing such rights, title and interest. The Funders will not use or disclose such rights, title and interests in and to any IP to any other person otherwise than for the purpose of this MoU.

14. The scientific and technological results and any other information derived from the cooperation activities under this MoU will be shared, announced, published or commercially exploited according to the national rules and regulations of the Funder responsible for financing the project.

15. An agreement about ownership of intellectual property rights has to be signed between project partners before execution of a joint research and development project. The agreement on intellectual property rights must include the competent court and applicable law for solution of any disputes. The said agreement will be concluded in compliance with regulations of the Funders.

16. The Funders will endeavour to promote equitable, inclusive and positive research cultures and environments which seek to ensure the equality of opportunity and the elimination of unlawful discrimination, harassment and victimisation and will have policies in place to deal with any such issues which arise.

17. General

17.1. This MoU is concluded with a view to enhancing and developing cooperation between the Participants and does not constitute an agreement binding upon the States of the Participants under international law. No provision of this MoU will be interpreted and implemented as creating legal rights or commitments for the States of the Funders.

17.2. The cooperation under this MoU will commence on the date of its last signature by the Funders and will continue for a period of two years. The Funders may extend this MoU upon their mutual written consent.

17.3. This MoU may be amended at any time through mutual written consent of the Funders.

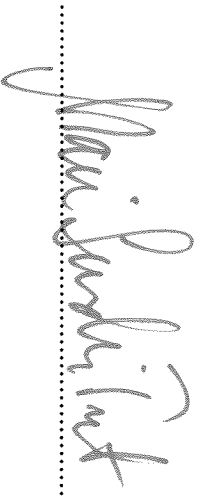
17.4. Either Funder may terminate this MoU by giving 6 months written notice to the other Funder.

17.5. The termination of this MoU will not affect the projects or programmes undertaken under this MoU and not fully executed at the time of the termination of this MoU. The Funders will make a good faith attempt to resolve any problem or matter arising out of or related to this MoU through the mutual consent of the Funders.

18. Signed in *2024* on *06.12* in two copies in English, both being equally authentic.

For The Research Council of Norway
(RCN)

For the Scientific and Technological
Research Council of Türkiye
(TÜBİTAK)



Mari Sundli TVEIT
Chief Executive



Prof. Orhan AYDIN
President