

INTERNATIONAL AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION

BETWEEN

The **University of Messina**, Piazza Pugliatti 1, 98122, Messina, ITALY, P.IVA 00724160833

AND

Tsinghua Laboratory of Brain and Intelligence, 160 Chengfu Road, Haidian District, Beijing, 100084, CHINA, represented by the **Center for Complex Network Intelligence (CCNI)**.

have agreed upon following provisions:

Art.1

Purpose

The purpose of this agreement is to further strengthen cooperation in scientific research between the Parties, that will promote, develop and support research activities of scientific cooperation in research areas of most interest to both Parties.

Art.2

Activities

The Parties agree to realize and develop joint research activities between the University of Messina and the Center for Complex Network Intelligence (CCNI) at Tsinghua Laboratory of Brain and Intelligence in the field of computational neuroscience and brain-inspired computing.

Research activities will generally concern modelling of normal functions and pathological modifications in brain networks and development of brain-inspired algorithms and will be carried out both at the University of Messina and at the Center for Complex Network Intelligence (CCNI) at Tsinghua Laboratory of Brain and Intelligence.

For the University of Messina Party, responsible and coordinator of academic and research activities will be the *Dr. Alberto Cacciola* identified on the basis of his research experience and professional activities.

For the CCNI at Tsinghua Laboratory of Brain and Intelligence Party, responsible and coordinator of academic and research activities will be the *Prof. Carlo Vittorio Cannistraci* identified on the basis of his research experience and professional activities.

Art.3
Forms of cooperation

The Parties will launch calls for Joint Research Projects which may also include further cooperative activities.

The details of each form of cooperation shall be decided by the Parties in subsequent schedule agreements, they will contain: joint academic and research programs and any other initiatives that have been selected by the parties, as well as the names of the scientists and scholars participating.

Art. 4
Practice

Each Party will cover the costs of the participant researchers from its own country.

The numbers of the projects and any other cooperative activity to be supported each year will be contingent upon funding availability in each Party's budget.

Art. 5
Observance of regulations

Participating researching abide by the laws of the receiving country and regulation of the host institutions.

Art.6
Intellectual Properties

Intellectual property rights shall belong to the researchers and or researchers' employing Research and development organizations.

Due acknowledgment of support received from the parties should be made in any publication resulting from the research. The allocation of intellectual property rights shall be specified in relevant cooperative agreement, which is separately signed and should be subject to the laws and roles of each party's own country.

Art.7
Other Matters

Administrative procedures and implementation details not stipulated in this agreement will be provided separately in the cooperative Program or agreed upon via correspondence.

Art. 8
Validity – Amendment

This agreement will come into force of the date of its signing and continue thereafter for five (5) years. Notification shall be made 6 months in advance of termination of the agreement.

The agreement may be extended for the same period of validity (5 years), only following a specific written agreement, and continue in the absence of a termination notice by either Party.

Art.9
Termination

Either party may terminate this Agreement at any time by delivery to the other party in writing of their intent to terminate.

This Agreement has been executed in three identical copies in the English language and both are deemed equally effective.

FOR

University of Messina

Rector

Prof. Salvatore Cuzzocrea

Medical Doctor

Dr. Alberto Cacciola

FOR

Tsinghua Laboratory of Brain and Intelligence (THBI)

Director of the Center for Complex Network Intelligence (CCNI) at THBI

Prof. Carlo Vittorio Cannistraci



October 29, 2021

THBI Director

Prof. Xiaoqin Wang



October 29, 2021