COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN

THE UNIVERSITY OF MESSINA (ITALY)

AND

TRAKIA UNIVERSITY, STARA ZAGORA (BULGARIA)

The University of Messina (Italy), legally represented by the Rector, Prof. Francesco Tomasello,

and

The Trakia University, Stara Zagora (Bulgaria), legally represented by the Rector, Prof. Ivan Stankov

hereby "the Parties";

Considering the interest of the contracting Parties to start the cultural cooperation, scientific and didactics in the fields of mutual scientific interest;

Agree under the following conditions:

1st Article

The Contracting Parties through this cooperation agreement to undertake initiatives to promote the realization of joint research programs in scientific areas of common interest and promote cultural exchanges in the areas of training, education and scientific research.

2nd Article

The present Agreement defines the beginning of co-operation between the two Institutions in all fields and disciplines of common interest. It will consist of specific additional protocols, in order to establish didactic-scientific cooperation's aims, in the development rules and the liability and the expected results.

3rd Article

The cooperation between the two Institutions consists of joint and coordinated research and teaching programs. It will be performed as follows:

- by exchanging academics, researchers, technical-administrative staff and students;
- by performing joint research projects of common interest;
- by exchanging information, scientific works and other scientific and didactic materials of the Institutions' mutual interest:
- by joint initiatives, such as seminars, lectures etc.;
- by giving the possibility to use the research equipment and by giving free access to the facilities of both institutions.

4th Article

Within the limits of regulations in force in each country, the parties agree to find the necessary financial means to reach the above mentioned objectives.

5th Article

This agreement shall be in force for a period of 5 years from the date of the last signature by the Legal Representative of the Parties.

Any amendment shall be made in written by the parties.

At the end of period of 5 years, the Agreement will be automatically renewed, unless 6 months before the expiry date one of the Parties notifies to the other Party the decision not to renew it.

6th Article

The present agreement includes equivalent texts, in Italian and English, consisting of four original copies (two in Italian and two in English).

Date	Date
PROF. FRANCESCO TOMASELLO	PROF. DSc. IVAN STANKOV
Rector of the University of Messina, Italy	Rector of Trakia University, Stara Zagora, Bulgaria