Memorandum of Understanding

between

Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main,
Federal Republic of Germany,

Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore, Milan, Republic of Italy,

University of Lodz, Republic of Poland,

Université Lumière Lyon 2, French Republic,

And

University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki, Hellenic Republic

regarding collaboration of the TruMotion Alliance partners in joint PhD supervision (Co-Tutelle)

Preamble

In consideration of mutual benefits and interests, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität (seated at: Theodor-W.-Adorno-Platz 1, 60323 Frankfurt am Main, Germany, represented by President Prof. Dr. Birgitta Wolff), Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore (seated at: Largo A. Gemelli, 1 - 20123 Milano, Italy, represented by Rector Franco Anelli), Uniwersytet Łódzki (University of Lodz, seated at: ul. Narutowicza 68, 90-136 Łódź, Poland, represented by Rector Prof. dr hab. Antoni Różalski), Université Lumière Lyon 2 (seated at 18 quai Claude Bernard, 69365 LYON Cedex 07, France, represented by President Nathalie Dompnier), and University of Macedonia, Thessaloniki (seated at: 156 Egnatia Street, GR-546 36 Thessaloniki, Greece, represented by Rector Stelios Katranidis) establish the TruMotion Alliance and wish to enter into a co-operative agreement relating to co-tutelle in the context of the TruMotion alliance starting December 2020.

Article I

The partners strive to define a long term joint strategy in education, research and teaching, support early career researchers in the TruMotion alliance, and strengthen networks, exchange, and benefit from the expertise of all partners – aiming to establish higher standards in cooperation regarding PhD supervision.
The partners therefore endeavour to recruit 1-2 PhD students each year at each partner institution to complete joint PhDs at two of the TruMotion partner universities. Each institution will nominate one representative to plan and co-ordinate joint staff, and administration regarding Co-tutelle. These representatives will also be designated to communicate with the other institution in relation to this agreement and matters relating to it. Any contracts designed in this context will be written in English.

Article II

The five institutions will endeavour to develop a format for an exchange of researchers with joint supervision at two universities that results in a joint PhD with streamlined administrative procedures. The joint PhD will be based on the following principles:

The five institutions will aim at establishing procedures to ensure that candidates will be enrolled and supervised at two universities, with enrolment and tuition fees will be due only at one of the two universities at a time. The preparation of the dissertation will be carried out alternately at both universities in the two countries. The board of examiners for the joint examination will be nominated in consensus with both universities. Scientists from both countries will be present in an appropriate relation. Relevant examination and doctoral policies of both universities will be considered. Both universities will jointly award the doctoral degree and aim at developing procedures to issue one joint certification.

Article III

To support Co-tutelle, the universities endeavour to provide logistical support, including required facilities and assistance that will allow exchange personnel to pursue their study, research or project interests

Article IV

The five universities will develop TruMotion inter-institutional agreements on joint PhD thesis supervision.

Article V

This agreement shall remain in force for 5 years following the signature by all parties. This agreement or any article thereof can be amended by agreement of all parties.

Each party shall retain one original copy.

Article VI

This agreement will be in effect for 5 years and may be renewed. The Memorandum of Understanding will take effect immediately after being signed according to the following articles.
Frankfurt, 5 February, 2020

Prof. Birgitta Wolff
President
Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität

Prof. Franco Anelli
Rector
Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore

Prof. Antoni Różalski
Rector
University of Lodz

Prof. Nathalie Dompnier
President
Université Lumière Lyon 2

Prof. Stelios D. Katranidis
Rector
University of Macedonia