

## MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

between

**Aragon Agency for Quality Assurance and Strategic Foresight in Higher Education**

and

**Higher Education Accreditation Agency of Republic of Srpska**

This Memorandum of Cooperation is made between the **Aragon Agency for Quality Assurance and Strategic Foresight in Higher Education** (Agencia de Calidad y Prospectiva Universitaria de Aragón), Avenida Ranillas 5-D, 50018 Zaragoza, Spain, hereinafter referred to as **ACPUA**.

and

**Higher Education Accreditation Agency of Republic of Srpska** (Agencija za akreditaciju visokoškolskih ustanova Republike Srpske), Kralja Petra I Karadjordjevica 78, 78 000 Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina, hereinafter referred to as **RS HEAA**.

### Whereas

**ACPUA**, is the official agency for the evaluation of higher education in the **Autonomous Community of Aragon (Spain)**. It was created in 2005 by **Law 5/2005, of June 14, on the Regulation of the University System of Aragon**. It has the aim of "promoting the quality of the University System of Aragon favouring its relationship with the business and labour world, and with the whole of the society." Through its activity, it promotes and disseminates a **quality culture** in the field of higher education in Aragon, fostering "the exchange of experiences with other university systems".

**RS HEAA** was established in April 2011 by the Republic of Srpska Government with jurisdiction in quality assurance in higher education. Mission of Higher Education Accreditation Agency is continuous build-up and improvement of quality assurance in Republic Srpska higher education system through the implementation of European

standards and best practices in the area of quality assurance, as well as establishing quality culture with all relevant stakeholders.

### **ACPUA and RS HEAA**

Having comparable missions and institutional objectives in the assurance of quality in higher education, and both being committed to the spirit of cooperation in higher education area, both parties wish to continue and deepen further their cooperation upon the terms contained herein.

### **Aims**

ACPUA and RS HEAA agree through this Memorandum of Cooperation to cooperate for the mutual benefit and to work towards enhancing regulation and quality assurance in both jurisdictions and improving the quality of higher education in both parties. This Memorandum of Cooperation is not intended to create legally binding relations between the parties, and neither party has authority to act on behalf of or otherwise bind the other party. However, ACPUA and RS HEAA agree to work together to implement this Memorandum of Cooperation in good faith.

### **Areas of cooperation and collaboration**

#### **(a) Mutual understanding**

Work to enhance their understanding of each other's approach to quality assurance in higher education, the respective system in place for quality assurance and enhancement in higher education, and the critical matters related to quality and standards in higher education in both countries.

#### **(b) Information exchange**

Where appropriate and possible, exchange information and offer professional advice on each other's activities and processes, higher education providers operating in each jurisdiction, and developments in each country's higher education systems.

#### **(c) Staff development**



Where appropriate and possible, support the development of staff from two agencies through activities such as staff exchange, observing each other's review processes, and provision of training.

**(d) Use of each other's reviewers**

Where appropriate and possible, draw on reviewers or other specialists from each other's systems to strengthen the international dimensions of each other's review processes.

**(e) Collaboration**

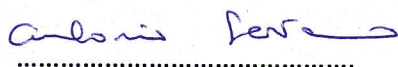
Where appropriate and possible, collaborate in relation to mutually agreed projects and activities, for the benefit of both parties, including development of procedures, regulations, trainings, seminars, workshops, supporting student and education staff mobility, and undertaking research on quality related issues.

**Final provision**

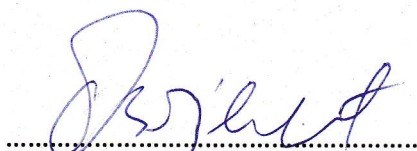
This Memorandum comes into force upon being signed by both parties and shall be valid until terminated with the mutual consent of both parties or at the request of one of the parties with the prior notice of other party not less than 30 days.

This Memorandum is signed by the parties in a spirit of amicable cooperation. The terms of Memorandum may be altered with consent of both parties.

**Signatures of the parties**



Dr. Antonio Serrano Gonzalez  
Director  
ACPUA



Dr. Biljana Vojvodic  
Director  
RS HEAA