

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

between

Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs

and

Agency for Higher Education of Republic of Srpska

This Memorandum of Cooperation is made between the **Association for Evaluation and Accreditation of Teacher Education Programs (Öğretmenlik Eğitim Programları Değerlendirme ve Akreditasyon Derneği)**, Merdivenköy Mah. Karaman Sok. No: 2 K: 2/5 Kadıköy / İstanbul 34732, Turkey hereinafter referred to as **EPDAD**,

and

Agency for Higher Education of Republic of Srpska (Agencija za visoko obrazovanje Republike Srpske), Kralja Petra I Karadjordjevica 78, 78 000 Banja Luka, Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina, hereinafter referred to as **AHERS**.

Whereas

EPDAD is an accreditation body with association status established in accordance with the EPDAD Statute, which was approved by the Provincial Directorate of Associations of the Republic of Turkey's Governorship of Istanbul on June 14, 2012. Thus, EPDAD is subject to legislation in two separate categories.

As an association, EPDAD is subject to the Republic of Turkey's legislation on associations. It is obliged to fulfill the functions and obligations arising from this legislation. Its activities are regularly monitored by the Provincial Directorate for Relations through the Civil Society of the Republic of Turkey's Governorship of Istanbul.

As an accreditation body, EPDAD is subject to the Higher Education Quality Assurance Regulation of the Republic of Turkey. It is authorized by the Turkish Higher Education Quality Council (THEQC), which was established in accordance with this regulation. Its program evaluation and accreditation operations, along with its quality assurance awareness and institutionalization activities, are regularly monitored by EPDAD. Authorization renewal is completed upon evaluation of performance in this regard.



AHERS was established in April 2011 by the Republic of Srpska Government with jurisdiction in quality assurance in higher education. AHERS was established as Higher Education Accreditation Agency of Republic of Srpska which was transformed into AHERS by Law on Quality Assurance in Higher Education of Republic of Srpska in July 2020. Mission of AHERS 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.

EPDAD and AHERS

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

EPDAD and AHERS 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, EPDAD and AHERS 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.

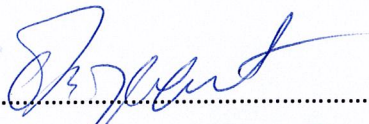
Signatures of the parties


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Prof. dr Cemil Öztürk

President

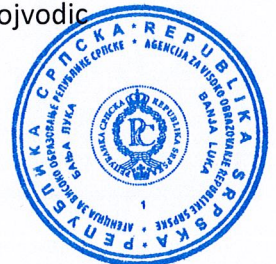
EPDAD


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Prof. dr Biljana Vojvodic

Director

AHERS



Number: 01/11.122/21

Date: 26.3.2021.