

**AGREEMENT  
ON COOPERATION  
BETWEEN  
THE UNIVERSITY OF JOENSUU  
AND  
ST. PETERSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY**

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**Preamble**

In order to strengthen the intellectual growth and international orientation of the faculty and students of the two universities, to help the universities carry out their academic objectives, to foster cross-border cooperation between Finland and Russia, and to promote the Northern Dimension in European integration, the University of Joensuu and St. Petersburg State University agree to cooperate in the following activities as and when appropriate:

- a) cooperation in research and development;
- b) cooperation in education and training;
- c) exchange of faculty;
- d) exchange of students;
- e) organization of symposia, workshops, and other academic activities;
- f) other mutually agreed undertakings.

This agreement replaces the agreement concluded between the two universities dating back to 2001 and extends the scope of cooperation.

**Cooperation in research and development**

To facilitate the identification of mutual research interests, the two universities agree to regularly exchange information on ongoing and completed research and on scholars interested in participating in the exchange programme. Whenever possible, the two universities shall establish joint research and development projects and seek funding for them from outside sources, e.g. the European Union, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the United Nations, the World Bank, or from other appropriate funds. Special efforts will be made to jointly develop and transfer innovative technology.

**Cooperation in education and training**

Whenever possible, the two universities shall cooperate in the development of their curricula. Funding for joint curriculum projects, including joint degree programmes, e.g. within the framework of the upcoming Finnish-Russian Cross-Border University project, CBU, shall be sought from external sources, e.g. from the governments of Finland and Russia, the European Union, the Nordic Council, or from other sources. The two universities shall also cooperate in the development of open and distance learning programmes

**Exchange of faculty**

Faculty exchanges may be arranged from time to time as agreed by the appropriate parties in each institution. The host university shall help in providing office space and locating accommodation for the visiting faculty members, e.g. in university guest rooms. Whenever possible, funding for such visits shall be sought from the European Union, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Finnish Centre for International Mobility (CIMO), or from other sources. If visiting faculty members are invited to do some teaching, they

shall be paid at the regular rate for part-time instructors.

The host institutions accept no responsibility for the health care of the visiting faculty. Each visitor is required to have insurance covering medical care in case of sudden illness or accident.

### **Exchange of students**

Each academic year, both universities may nominate a small number of exchange students to study for a period not exceeding a total of nine months at the other university. No tuition fees shall be required of exchange students at the host university; they shall, however, have to bear the costs of materials, the costs of (optional) study tours included in their academic programmes, as well as travel expenses between the home and the host university. Each university shall offer the incoming student a monthly scholarship and free accommodation. The International Relations Offices of the two universities will know the exact amount of the scholarships. The host university shall also pay the Student Union fees of incoming students. In addition to the fully sponsored students, both universities may nominate one or two self-paying exchange students who will not be required to pay any tuition fees. All students participating in the exchange programme shall be responsible for their own health care. They shall be required to show proof of adequate health insurance coverage before being allowed to register at the host university.

Whenever possible, student exchanges shall be conducted within the FIRST exchange programme sponsored by the Finnish Centre for International Mobility, CIMO. Students of St. Petersburg State University may also compete for places in the International Master's Degree Programme in Information Technology, IMPIT, offered by the Department of Computer Science and Statistics of the University of Joensuu. The host institution may reject any student not considered appropriate. Each student shall be assigned to the care of a faculty member who shall act as his/her supervisor. Doctoral students shall have the opportunity to participate in ongoing research at both universities. Studies successfully completed at the host university shall be recognised as part of the student's degree programme at his/her home university.

Whenever possible, external funding shall be sought to cover the cost of student exchanges, for example, from the European Union, the Nordic Council of Ministers, the Finnish Centre for International Mobility (CIMO), or from other sources. Exchange students shall be provided with the full range of services normally available for international students enrolled at the host institution. All students coming from St. Petersburg State University to the University of Joensuu shall be required to participate in the orientation programme arranged for international students at the beginning of their first semester in Joensuu. Exchange students coming from the University of Joensuu to St. Petersburg State University must have appropriate Russian language skills enabling them to attend lectures.

### **Organizing of workshops, symposia, and other academic activities**

The two universities agree to organize workshops, symposia, conferences or other meetings on topics of mutual interest. Special attention shall be paid to issues related to the border area between Russia and the European Union, and to the promotion of cooperation between Russia and the EU countries.

The two universities also agree to help each other in organizing study tours for groups of students and/or staff coming from the partner university. The host university shall help in locating accommodation for the visiting faculty members and students.

### **Other mutually agreed undertakings**

The two universities shall cooperate in the development of their international activities and their International Relations Offices and International Student Services. Funding for such activities shall be sought from the European Union, the Nordic Council, or from other sources. Whenever possible, the two

