



PROTOCOL ON ACADEMIC AND SCIENTIFIC EXCHANGE

between

**SAINT-PETERSBURG UNIVERSITY,
RUSSIAN FEDERATION**

and

**SOFIA UNIVERSITY ST. KLIMENT OHRIDSKI,
BULGARIA**

for the period from 2020 till 2025

Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education «Saint-Petersburg State University» (hereinafter referred to as “St. Petersburg University/SPbU”), duly represented by its Vice-Rector for International Affairs Sergey Andryushin acting under the proxy n. 28-21-506 dated 31.12.2019, on the one part,

and

Sofia University St. Kliment Ohridski (hereinafter referred to as “Sofia University”), duly represented by Rector, prof. Anastas Gerdjikov, on the other part,

hereinafter together referred to as the “Parties” and solely to as the “Party”,

in accordance with the Framework Agreement for Cooperation concluded by the Parties on _____ (hereinafter referred to as the “Agreement”), agreed to continue their academic and scientific cooperation and have prepared to that effect the following Protocol on Academic and Scientific Exchange (hereinafter referred to as the “Protocol”).

§ 1

- 1.1. The Parties will continue to develop scientific, academic and other forms of cooperation in the areas of their mutual interests, also involving other interested institutions, organizations and associations.
- 1.2. The Parties will promote conducting joint scientific and academic activities, publication of papers, journals, textbooks and tutorials, organization of seminars, conferences, and other joint projects.
- 1.3. With the objects indicated in cl. 1.1. and 1.2. of the Protocol the Parties will promote the exchange of academic and research staff during the validity of the present Protocol and in accordance with the terms and conditions set by the present Protocol.



§ 2

- 2.1. The Parties agree that the total annual duration of exchange in the frameworks of the present Protocol should not exceed 50 days at each university. The exchange participants shall be provided by the host university (if the necessary funds are available):
 - 2.1.1. in SPbU – free of charge accommodation of SPbU;
 - 2.1.2. in Sofia University – free of charge accommodation at the campus of Sofia University.
- 2.2. All visa related expenses (besides those indicated in cl. 3.3.3 of the present Protocol), medical insurance expenses, travel expenses and any additional expenses related to the participation in the exchange shall be covered by the exchange participant, or by the home university, or by a third party, in accordance with the national law.
- 2.3. Daily allowance as well as free accommodation (in the hotels) provided to international specialists according to the present Protocol is aimed at realizing SPbU Development Strategy on developing academic mobility with partner universities through implementing joint research and scientific activities.
- 2.4. The Parties undertake not to impose any charges (admissions and taxes) to the exchange participants in connection to their participation in the exchange, with the exception of those relating to optional activities offered as well as charges indicated in cl. 2.2.
- 2.5. All the exchange participants should have a medical insurance valid on the territory of the host country during the whole exchange period.
- 2.6. Possibility and terms of acceptance of academic and research staff over the total annual duration of exchange stated in cl. 2.1 will be agreed separately in each case.

§ 3

- 3.1. In order to administrate the joint activities within the frameworks of the present Protocol each Party (within 1 month after the date of signing of the present Protocol) shall appoint a coordinator responsible for the concurrence of exchange conditions and documental support of the exchange participants.
- 3.2. The Parties shall promptly notify (within 10 working days) each other about the appointment or change of the coordinator, as well as about change his/her contact information.
- 3.3. The Parties agree to set the following procedure for assessment of the applications for exchange under the conditions of the present Protocol:
 - 3.3.1. Each application shall be issued according to the rules of the host university and forwarded by the coordinator of the home university to the coordinator of the host university at least 2 months prior to the visit.
 - 3.3.2. The final decision on the admission possibility and terms of each exchange participant (including the duration, financial and organizational support as well as the final program of visit) shall be made by the host university. The host university shall notify the coordinator of the home university about its decision at least 1 month prior to the visit.
 - 3.3.3. In case of consent to the conditions of the exchange, the host university, on its own account, will send a formal invitation for the exchange participant



(containing a full description of the admission terms) to the coordinator of the home university.

- 3.4. The procedure referred in cl. 3.3 can be changed only by mutual written consent of the Parties.
- 3.5. At Saint-Petersburg University the management of the exchange will be the responsibility of the International Research & Technology Department and at Sofia University, it will be the responsibility of International Relations Office.


§ 4

- 4.1. Cooperation of the Parties within the framework of the present Protocol shall be carried out in accordance with the Agreement, as well as procedures, policies and practices of each Party and in accordance with the law of the Russian Federation and the law of Bulgaria.
- 4.2. Shall any dispute or disagreement arise between the Parties connected with or concerning the Protocol, the Parties shall first try to resolve the dispute by negotiations. If the dispute is not resolved by such negotiations, the Parties shall be free to submit the dispute to a court of the respondent's place of business. The applicable law is the law of the country where the questionable commitment arose.
- 4.3. Each Party shall not use names and logos of the other Party without its prior consent, if not related directly to the performance of obligations under the present Protocol, except as provided by law.

§ 5

- 5.1. The present Protocol will come into effect from the date of signing and will remain in force for 5 (five) years until 31.12.2025.
- 5.2. This Protocol may be renewed by mutual written consent/unless either party terminates it by giving the other six months prior written notice. The Protocol ceases to be in force after the termination, whereas the Parties agree to complete the initialized activities.
- 5.3. Any changes or amendments to the Protocol shall be done in writing and signed by the authorized representatives of the Parties.
- 5.4. The Protocol is signed in two copies in English - one copy for each Party.

For the Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education «Saint-Petersburg State University»


Sergey Andryushin

Vice-Rector for International Affairs

Date: 

For Sofia University 'St. Kliment Ohridski'


15, Tzar Osvoboditel Blvd


Anastas Gerdjikov

Rector

Date: 12. 03. 2021