



AGREEMENT
ON THE DOUBLE DEGREE MASTER PROGRAM
“ECONOMIC SYSTEMS”
between
SAINT-PETERSBURG STATE UNIVERSITY
and
FREIE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN
INSTITUTE FOR EAST EUROPEAN STUDIES
Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution of Higher Education «Saint-Petersburg State University» (hereinafter - SPbU), duly represented by Vice-Rector for International Affairs S. V. Adryushin, acting on the basis of proxy dated 15.12.2021 № 32-06-409, on the one part,
and
Freie Universität Berlin (hereinafter – “FUB”), duly represented by Vice-President Verena Blechinger-Talcott, on the other part,
hereinafter collectively referred to as “Parties”, and individually referred to as the “Party”,
agreeing that the recent fruitful cooperation shall be continued and developed further,
pursuing responsible internationalization based on academic freedom, open dialogues, and multiple perspectives,
understanding that following these principles require jointly and actively seeking solutions in case of disagreements,
agreed to continue their academic cooperation and have concluded this Agreement on delivering

of a double degree master DDP "Economic Systems" (hereinafter – DDP).

Table of Contents

ARTICLE 1. Subject of the Agreement

ARTICLE 2. DDP Schedule

ARTICLE 3. DDP Administration

ARTICLE 4. Number of Students

ARTICLE 5. Application Procedure and Documents

ARTICLE 6. Recognition of Foreign Diplomas

ARTICLE 7. Entrance Examination

ARTICLE 8. Admission

ARTICLE 9. Enrollment

ARTICLE 10. Academic Regulations and Requirements

ARTICLE 11. Master Thesis

ARTICLE 12. Diplomas

ARTICLE 13. Fees

ARTICLE 14. Students Responsibilities and Expenses

ARTICLE 15. Accommodation

ARTICLE 16. Quality Assurance and Accreditation

ARTICLE 17. Use of Parties Credentials

ARTICLE 18. Changes to the Agreement

ARTICLE 19. Term of the Agreement and Termination

ARTICLE 20. Dispute Settlement and Governing Law

ARTICLE 21. Additional Provisions

ARTICLE 22. Original Copies of the Agreement, Dates and Signatures

Appendix 1. Study and Examination Regulations

Appendix 2. Recalculation of Marks

Appendix 3. Number of Students

Appendix 4. Assessment Criteria

ARTICLE 1. Subject of the Agreement

1.1. The Parties will conduct the cooperative Double Degree Program (hereinafter “DDP”) in accordance with the rules and regulations set in this Agreement.

1.2. Each Party establishes a Degree Program with an equivalent final qualification.

1.3. The goal of this Agreement is to provide students after successful completion of the requirements of this DDP with the opportunity to acquire two master degrees simultaneously from the two partner universities.

1.4. Aims, subject matters and structure as well as requirements and proceedings for examination achievements of the DDP are set out in the respective Study and Examination Regulation of each Party. The overall structure is agreed upon and attached in Appendix 1,

including the Recalculation of Marks as specified in Appendix 2.
<u>ARTICLE 2. DDP Schedule</u>
2.1. The DDP is divided into 4 (four) semesters, and is to be completed over 2 (two) years.
2.2. The DDP is taught in English.
2.3. The students study for the first year at SPbU and for the second year at FUB. The master thesis is jointly supervised by one FUB and one SPbU faculty member and conducted in Berlin in accordance with applicable local acts of Partner Universities and regulations agreed by the Parties.
2.4. The Parties agree, that teaching at the other Party to support the DDP and to scientifically integrate both Parties is most welcomed.
<u>ARTICLE 3. DDP Administration</u>
3.1. Each Party is responsible for the operation of the DDP at its own institution. Each Party conducts the DDP in accordance with the applicable rules and regulations of the respective Party.
3.2. The following bodies perform administrative functions for the DDP:
3.2.1. The Steering Committee consists of at least of two members, one from each Party. The Directors can mutually agree on cooptation and discharge of additional members. The Steering Committee agrees to meet in person or via telepresence at least once per calendar year to discuss current issues of the DDP.
a) The Steering Committee is responsible for joint academic supervision and jointly performs advisory functions to the DDP.
b) The Steering Committee monitors the implementation of this Agreement and the evaluation and quality assurance of the DDP in accordance with duly approved criteria by the Parties.
c) Changes in national and/or local regulations must be announced beforehand to the Steering Committee.
3.2.2. Each Party appoints one Director of the DDP (Director). The Director is member of the Steering Committee.
a) Each Director performs academic supervision of the DDP and general administration at her/his own institution.
b) The Director represents the DDP at her/his own institution.
3.2.3. Each Party appoints one Coordinator of the DDP (Coordinator).
a) The Coordinator serves as a first contact point and provides assistance to candidates for and students of the DDP during application, admission, enrollment, and study period at her/his own institution.

b) The Coordinator is responsible for the advertisement of the DDP and preparation of advertising materials, which have to be approved by the Steering Committee and have to comply with the internal rules of each Party.
c) The Coordinator is responsible for the information exchange with the other Party on grades and all issues, related to the technical administration of the DDP.
3.2.4. The Admission Committees include the Directors of the DDP and are established by an order of SPbU and FUB according to local acts of the respective Partner. Both Parties are represented in the Admission Committees on a basis of parity.
a) Each Admission Committee is responsible for the organization of admissions at its own institution, consisting of the assessments of the submitted documents according to Article 5.2. and its local rules and restrictions.
b) The Admission Committees meet in person or via telepresence.
3.3. The Parties agree and nominate accordingly Directors and Coordinators as stated in Appendix 4. The Parties have the right to change the appointments from their side at any time and agree to inform the other Party without undue delay about changes in appointments.
<u>ARTICLE 4. Number of Students</u>
The number of students in each academic year within this DDP must be agreed upon by the Directors before April 15 of each year of admission, but it shall not exceed 10 students admitted by each Partner, meaning an overall maximum of 20 students. The number of students are agreed upon according to Appendix 3 and can be changed by mutual decision of the Directors. The number of students can be changed by mutual decision of the program managers (Directors) only within the values set in Appendix No. 3. If the indicators fixed in Appendix No. 3 change, then an additional agreement must be signed.
<u>ARTICLE 5. Application Procedure and Documents</u>
5.1. Students eligible to apply for the DDP are to be determined by local acts of the Partners.
5.2. To take part in the competition for the DDP an applicant shall submit documents according to Appendix 5, guaranteeing the selection of the most suitable applicants for the DDP based on academic excellence, in electronic form.
5.3. The Partners agree to inform each other about the submitted applications and students, who have submitted applications to both Partners, about the necessity to chose (prioritize) one of the Partners.
<u>ARTICLE 6. Recognition of Foreign Diplomas</u>
6.1. Each student from SPbU must provide required documents for recognition of his/her diploma (education credentials) at SPbU. SPbU organizes and informs the candidate on the

recognition of the diploma according to its local acts. In case of a negative decision on recognition of the diploma the student may not be admitted or enrolled to the DDP.

6.2. Each student from FUB must provide required documents for recognition of his/her diploma (education credentials) at FUB. FUB organizes and informs the candidate on the recognition of the diploma according to its local acts. In case of a negative decision on recognition of the diploma the student may not be admitted or enrolled to the DDP.

ARTICLE 7. Entrance Examination

7.1. The Parties conduct the entrance examination (if applicable) according to their local acts.

ARTICLE 8. Admission

8.1. The Parties agree to include at least one, but not more than two representatives from the other Party into their local admission committee. Both directors of the Program shall be included into the local admission committees. The final decision remains on admission the prerogative of the Party, admitting the applicant. Details are regulated by the respective local acts of the Parties.

8.2. Applicants can be admitted either by SPbU or FUB. The decision is mutually taken by the admission committee in accordance with the local acts of the respective Partner.

ARTICLE 9. Enrollment

9.1. Students admitted by one Party will be enrolled at the other Party.

ARTICLE 10. Academic Regulations and Requirements

10.1. All courses successfully completed will be recognized by each Party.

10.2. Students have to comply with the study and examination regulations of their respective Party. This includes the question on exmatriculation and other reasons, when a student would have to leave one of the Parties. If the student is exmatriculated because of the decision of one of the Parties based on its applicable laws and regulations, s/he will not be able to continue the DDP at the other Party as well.

10.3. Official marks will be provided by both Parties upon completion of the degree requirements. The achievements of every student of the DDP will be reported to both institutions at the end of each semester. SPbU will inform FUB about grades of the first and the second semester between March 14 to 18 and July 2 and 6. FUB will inform SPbU about grades for each third and fourth semester between March 14 to 18 and August 12 and 31.

10.4. Each Party agrees to provide academic information (marks, credits etc.) about the students

of the DDP by request of the other Party.
10.5. All students studying on the DDP shall be subject to the same rules and regulations with respect to social and academic behavior as local students. They will also have the rights and privileges enjoyed by other students on campus. Campus facilities will be available to all students. Students shall be entitled to take part in any introductory or orientation courses or DDPs that may customarily be arranged for international students at the respective Party.
10.6. Rules and regulations of the Parties, concerning privacy or protection of personal information of students enrolled at the Parties, will apply in relation to any matter concerning privacy or protection of personal information of students enrolled at the Parties, and in relation to any personal information provided by SPbU to FUB and by FUB to SPbU.
10.7. The Parties agree that the curriculum of the Master DDPs on the base of which the DDP is held and any eventual changes to the curriculum will be agreed upon in an amendment to this Agreement by the Parties, with the aim of ensuring the academic quality of the DDP. Changes to the curriculum will only come into effect if agreed upon by both Parties according to their internal regulations.
<u>ARTICLE 11. Master Thesis</u>
11.1. Each student must develop a master thesis with the support of scientific supervisors, one from each of the Parties. Students themselves choose their supervisors depending on their developed research interest according to the rules and regulations of each Party.
11.2. The topic of the master thesis should be chosen and confirmed by both supervisors not later than the end of the lecture period of the 3 rd semester in Berlin. The thesis has to be handed in to each of the Parties according to the procedure set by the respective Party.
11.3. Both supervisors review the master thesis within 6 weeks. The grade for the master thesis results from the arithmetic mean of the reviews of the two supervisors. The Coordinators of the DDP of each Party support with the exchange of results.
<u>ARTICLE 12. Diplomas</u>
12.1. All students who successfully finished the DDP will be granted a Master of Arts (M. A.) in Economic Systems at FUB and a Master at SPbU.
12.2. The diploma and/or certificate issued by each Party has/have to clarify, that the student has finished the DDP conducted by both Parties.
<u>ARTICLE 13. Fees</u>
13.1. While studying at FUB all students pay the general semester dues and fees

("Semestergebühren und -beiträge"). Their amount is specified by local acts.
13.2. All students first admitted at FUB do not pay tuition fees at SPbU.
<u>ARTICLE 14. Students Responsibilities and Expenses</u>
14.1. Students shall pay for their own travel costs, transportation, living expenses, books and supplies, as well as health and travel insurance coverage for the full duration of their stay at both Parties. However, the Parties agree to inform about funding opportunities as well as about costs related to studying at the Parties and required to apply for a study visa, and to support students, who are applying for third party funding.
14.2. Applicants are personally responsible for completing the required immigration procedures needed to pursue studies in both countries.
14.3. All students attending FUB and SPbU as part of the DDP will be required to purchase health insurance that will provide sufficient coverage for the full duration of their stay in Germany and Russia.
<u>ARTICLE 15. Accommodation</u>
15.1. Each institution will assist students of the DDP to find suitable accommodation; however, neither Party is responsible for finding accommodation for the students.
<u>ARTICLE 16. Quality Assurance and Accreditation</u>
16.1. Each Party shall inform the other Party of any changes in national and/or international accreditation status.
16.2. The quality of the DDP will be assessed prior to the establishment and during the realization by the existing quality control mechanisms in place at the respective Party.
16.3. The DDP Directors will consult each other when appropriate, but at least once a year, in order to inform each other about the results of quality assurance procedures. Quality assurance may include student surveys after each semester, personal interviews with the participation students, assessments of external experts and a report of key figures. The outcomes are documented and serve as a basis for the further development of the DDP and any quality measures taken must be related to the DDP as a whole.
<u>ARTICLE 17. Use of Parties Credentials</u>
17.1. Any use of the logo, name or abbreviation of both Parties not linked to activities under this Agreement is allowed only with preliminary written permission given by the Parties correspondingly, with the exception of cases under applicable legislation.

17.2. The Parties agree to post on their websites reciprocally linked information about the DDP.
<u>ARTICLE 18. Changes to the Agreement</u>
18.1. This Agreement may be changed or amended by written mutual consent, which must be signed by both Parties. Both Parties will inform the other Party of any relevant amendment of the study and examination regulations that may occur during the term of this Agreement.
18.2. Changes to the DDP must not affect students already admitted and enrolled to the DDP. The possibility to finish the DDP according to the regulations, that are in place at the time of enrollment, is guaranteed by both Parties.
<u>ARTICLE 19. Term of the Agreement and Termination</u>
19.1. This Agreement shall be effective after it has been signed by both Parties and shall remain in effect unless one party decides to terminate the Agreement. Either Party may terminate this Agreement by giving written notice to the other Party before the end of the current calendar year.
19.2. The Agreement is suspended and the DDP shall not be opened if government funded places are not available for the upcoming year.
19.3. In the event of termination of this Agreement, students who are at that time admitted and enrolled to the DDP are guaranteed to have the opportunity to complete the DDP as described upon admission.
<u>ARTICLE 20. Dispute Settlement and Governing Law</u>
20.1. For conditions of the DDP not covered by this Agreement, or for problems that arise during the course of the DDP, both Parties agree to refrain from unilateral action and to consult and negotiate mutually acceptable decisions.
20.2. If a dispute cannot be resolved amicably, then the dispute shall be subject to the jurisdiction of the courts in the country of the defendant. This Agreement is governed by the law of the country of the defendant.
<u>ARTICLE 21. Additional Provisions</u>
21.1. Any clause or term which is determined invalid shall not affect the validity of the other terms in this Agreement. The Parties must replace an invalid term with a valid term that best describes the intent of the Parties upon their signature of the Agreement.
<u>ARTICLE 22. Original Copies of the Agreement, Dates and Signatures</u>

22.1. This Agreement is executed in 2 (two) copies in English language. Each Party receives 1 (one) copy of the Agreement.

On behalf of
Federal State Budgetary Educational Institution
of Higher Education «Saint-Petersburg State
University»



Vice Rector for International Affairs
Sergey Andryushin

Date:

19.01.2022

On behalf of
Freie Universität Berlin:



V. Blechinger-Talcott

Vice President
Prof. Verena Blechinger-Talcott

Date:

1.07.2022

Appendix 1. Study and Examination Regulations

Goal and Structure of the DDP

The goal of the DDP is to familiarize the students with complex theoretical models and modern empirical methods of comparative and international economics. The graduates of the DDP will be able to independently analyze and interpret socioeconomic and economic policy developments and situations in Eastern Europe, evaluate them from the perspective of comparative economics and in an international context. From a spatial point of view, the term Eastern Europe used here encompasses Russia and the post-Soviet states as well as Central-Eastern and South-Eastern Europe.

The DDP will provide the scientific background and practical experience for subsequent work as an Eastern European economist or expert in, among others, economic analysis and business consulting in the public and private sector, international organizations, non-governmental organizations (NGOs) and scientific institutions. The graduates of the DDP will have a particular advantage in activities where the ability to conduct economic analysis from an interdisciplinary perspective is essential.

In order to achieve the qualification goals, the DDP first deepens general theoretical and empirical economic competencies (microeconomics, macroeconomics, econometrics), which are based on a previously completed economic or mathematical study DDP. Then, the specialization modules introduce comparative, international and institutional aspects of economics, with a regional focus on Eastern Europe. The interdisciplinary field conveys practical and theoretically advanced knowledge of interdisciplinary area studies, with a focus on Eastern Europe.

General Study Regulations on Double Degree DDP

The study at SPbU is governed by the Study Regulations of SPbU, provided these Regulations do not conflict with the text of this Agreement. The study at FUB is governed by the Study Regulations of the Institute for East European Studies of FUB, provided these Regulations do not conflict with the text of this Agreement.

The two-year module structure of the DDP

The proposed modules (courses) of the Study plan are set by local acts of the Partners. The Parties agree to the following structure:

Semester	Core studies 28 ECTS		Specialization area 30 ECTS		Inter-disciplinary studies 15 ECTS	Research projects 17 ECTS	Internship and practical training 15 ECTS
S-I 30 ECTS	Advanced economic theory (10 ECTS)	Advanced Quantitative Methods and Research Design (10 ECTS)	International and Comparative Economics I (5 ECTS)			Research Project in International Economics I (5 ECTS)	
S-II 30 ECTS	Advanced economic theory (8 ECTS)		International and Comparative Economics II (5 ECTS)		International and Area Studies I (5 ECTS)	Research Project in International Economics II (7 ECTS)	Practical training (5 ECTS)
S-III 30 ECTS			Economics of Emerging Markets (10 ECTS)		International and Area Studies II (10 ECTS)	Research Project in World Development (5 ECTS)	Internship (Practical training and Pregraduation) (10 ECTS)*

S-IV 30 ECTS			World Development (10 ECTS)			
Master thesis with colloquium (pregraduation internship) (15 ECTS)*						

* The 25 ECTS for the internship (practical training and pregraduation) and the master thesis with colloquium (pregraduation internship) will be technically allocated by SPbU as 9 ECTS (5 for the S-III and 4 for the S-IV) for the internship and 16 ECTS for the master thesis with colloquium (pregraduation internship) accordingly to comply with national legislation.

Studying Abroad

The DDP is already a bi-national cooperative program. The course is studied in Berlin and St. Petersburg. The first two semesters are studied in St. Petersburg, the third and fourth semester are studied in Berlin.

Appendix 2. Recalculation of Marks

Transfer from SPbU to FUB

Overall Result	ECTS Scale (SPbU)	FUB-Scale	Differentiated Grades
Positive („Passed“)	A	1.0	Very Good
	B	2.0	Good
	C	2.7	Satisfactory
	D	3.3	Satisfactory
	E	4.0	Satisfactory/Passed
Negative („Failed“)	F	5.0	Failed

Transfer from FUB to SPbU

Overall Result	FUB-Scale	ECTS Scale (SPbU)	Differentiated Grades
Positive („Passed“)	1.0	A	Excellent
	1.3	A	Excellent
	1.7	B	Very Good
	2.0	B	Very Good
	2.3	C	Good
	2.7	C	Good
	3.0	D	Satisfactory
	3.3	D	Satisfactory
	3.7	E	Satisfactory/Passed
	4.0	E	Satisfactory/Passed
Negative („Failed“)	5.0	F	Failed

Appendix 3. Number of Students

	Intake 2022	Intake 2023	Intake 2024 and following
Maximum	10	15	20

Appendix 4. Assessment Criteria

Item, valid proofs	Criterion	Max. points SPbU	Max. points FUB
Previous degree (bachelor / specialist [5 years]) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> University diploma 	SPbU: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree in economics or statistics – 30 points (with distinction) Other degree with sufficient quantitative and/or economic training (min. 60 ECTS in mathematics, economics or statistics) – 25 points (diploma without distinction, but more than 4 points) Other degree – 10 points (with distinction) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Other degree – 5 points (diploma without distinction, but more than 4 points) Diploma of the network educational program – 5 points FUB: Overall grade in one of the following programs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Degree in economics or statistics Other degree with sufficient quantitative and/or economic training (min. 60 ECTS in mathematics, economics or statistics) 	30	60
Essay	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Originality of the topic Quality of English language skills Innovativeness of research idea Methodological insights 	20	not required
Motivation letter (in English)	Why do you apply for this particular MA Program? – max. 250 words	20	not required
Work experience <ul style="list-style-type: none"> CV & Company report/ recommendation letters 	SPbU: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Related to economics/statistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 5 years – 4 points Between 3 and 4 years – 3 points Between 1 and 2 years – 2 points Less than one year – 1 point In other fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> More than 5 years – 2 points Between 3 and 4 years – 1 point FUB: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Internship/Practical Training: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Related to economics/statistics in multinational companies, international organizations, global and national think tanks, nonprofit 	4	40

	<p>or civil society organizations – 20 points.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Related to other fields in multinational companies, international organizations, global and national think tanks, nonprofit or civil society organizations – 10 points. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stays Abroad: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Related to Eastern Europe, Russia and Eurasia with the purpose of showing intercultural competence and region-specific expertise – 20 points. ○ Related to any other foreign country or region with respect to the candidate's country or region of origin with the purpose of showing intercultural competence and region-specific expertise – 10 points. <p>The aforementioned modes of professional experience must be documented with certified copies of original work certificates.</p>		
<p>English language skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language certificate 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • English language [CEF C1, TOEFL iBT 95+, CBT 240+, PBT 585+; IELTS 7.0+; Cambridge/CAE/CPE 180+, UNICert III] 	15	required
<p>Other language skills</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Language certificate 	<p>SPbU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • German language – 2 points [for non-native speakers only, Goethe-Zertifikat B2+, TestDaF TDN 3, DSD Stufe II, telc B2+] • Russian language – 2 points [for non-native speakers only, TORFL Level 2/Advanced, telc B2+] • Other language: Chinese (HSK, TOCFL), Arabic (TOAFL, ALPT, ALCT, telc) Spanish (telc, CELU, DELE), French (telc, DELF, DALF) or Portuguese (telc, CAPLE, CELPE-Bras) – 1 point [for non-native speakers only; level CEFR B1+] <p>Only one certificate is considered.</p>	2	not required
<p>Scientific publications</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Bibliographic information about publications 	<p>SPbU:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Related to economics/statistics: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Book/monography – 5 points ○ Article in a refereed journal – 4 points ○ Article in other journals – 3 points 	5	not required

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In other fields: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Book/monography – 2 points ○ Article in a refereed journal – 1 point <p>Only one highest-rank publication is considered.</p>		
Participation in conferences or summer/winter schools <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Conference / school certificate 	SPbU: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • International conferences / schools – 2 points • National conferences / schools – 1 point <p>Only one highest-rank conference / school is considered.</p>	2	not required
Personal awards, prizes or scholarships <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Award/ prize/ scholarship certificate 	SPbU: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Governmental or international awards, prizes or scholarships – 2 points • Other awards, prizes or scholarships – 1 point <p>Only one highest-rank scholarship / prize / award is considered.</p>	2	not required
Total max. points		100	100

Failure to submit one of the following documents will lead to total score being equal to 0 points, independent of presence or quality of other documents:

- University diploma
- English language certificate

For SPbU, failure to submit a motivation letter will also lead to total score being equal to 0 points, independent of presence or quality of other documents.

In case more candidates than available places submit complete applications, candidates will be admitted according to a ranking from highest to lowest reached points. Denoting the number of available places (including the waiting list) with n and assuming the n -th ranked candidate has reached N points, only candidates reaching $N-10$ points or more can be admitted to the DDP.

The Directors of the DDP can mutually agree on changing these criteria before April 15 of the year of admission.