

**Agreement on Scientific Cooperation**  
**between**  
**the National Research Council of the Italian Republic**  
**and**  
**LEPL - Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia**

In line with the development of a friendly international cooperation and for the purpose of establishing a long-term mutually beneficial collaboration, the National Research Council of the Italian Republic (CNR) and LEPL - Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG) (hereinafter referred to as the Parties) have entered into the following Agreement:

**Article I – Purpose**

The purpose of this Agreement is to further strengthen cooperation in research and innovation between the two countries. The Parties will, on a basis of equality and mutual benefit, promote and support collaboration between scientists and research institutions, in areas of common interest.

**Article II – Forms of Cooperation**

The cooperation between the Parties will be conducted by the following means:

- a) Joint research projects
- b) Joint mobility projects for researchers
- c) Further activities of cooperation may be included upon approval by the Parties

The projects undertaken under the present Agreement may be targeted for the purposes of further participation in the EU Framework Programme for Research and Innovation – Horizon 2020 and other International research and innovation programmes.

The Parties will work together to develop specific cooperative programmes. These cooperative programmes will provide logistical and management details, terms and duration of the programme. These cooperative programmes will comply with the spirit and purpose of this Agreement.

The Parties will revise each Cooperative Programme at least every two years.

### **Article III – Financial Aspects**

The activities foreseen under this Agreement will be implemented by the Parties according to their budget availability without any additional cost for the State budgets of the Italian Republic and Georgia.

Each Party will cover the costs of the participating researchers from its own country. The number of projects, workshops and any other cooperative activity will be established each year in the renewed Cooperative Programme and will be contingent upon each Party's budget availability.

### **Article IV - Observance of Regulations**

Participating researchers will abide by the laws of the receiving country and the regulations of the host institutions.

### **Article V - Intellectual Properties**

Intellectual property rights shall belong to the researcher/s and/or the researcher's employing Research and Development organization/s. Due acknowledgement of the support received from the Parties should be made in any publication resulting from the research.

### **Article VI - Other Matters**

Administrative procedures and implementation details not dealt with in this Agreement will be provided separately in the Cooperative Programmes or established via correspondence between the Parties.

This Agreement will be implemented in accordance with the Italian and Georgian legislations, as well as applicable international law and, as for the Italian Party, the obligations arising from Italy's membership of the European Union.

### **Article VII – Effectiveness, Amendments, Termination**

This Agreement takes effect on the date of signature and remains valid for a period of four years. Either Party may notify the other of its intention to terminate it at least six months before the expiration date, in which case any existing program will be brought to an orderly conclusion. This Agreement will be automatically renewed for further periods of four years in the absence of a termination notice by either Party.

The provisions of this Agreement may be amended in writing by mutual consent between the Parties.

Any dispute arising out of the implementation of this Agreement will be settled amicably by means of direct consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Done in Tbilisi, Georgia on July 16, 2018 in two originals, each in the Italian, Georgian and English languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence of interpretation, the text in English will prevail.

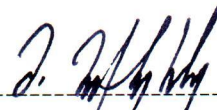
For the National Research  
Council of the Italian Republic



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Prof. Massimo Inguscio  
President

For the Shota Rustaveli National  
Science Foundation of Georgia



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Ms. Manana Mikaberidze  
Director General