

Българска Академия Науките



AKADEMIA E SHKENCAVE E
SHQIPËRISE

Agreement on scientific cooperation between the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences and the Academy of Sciences of Albania

The Bulgarian Academy of Sciences (BAS) and the Academy of Sciences of Albania (ASA), hereinafter referred to as *the Sides*,

- ▶ Desiring to enhance friendly relations between the two academies;
- ▶ And recognizing the importance of the mutual benefit to be derived from bilateral cooperation in scientific and technical research;
- ▶ have agreed on the following:

Article 1

The Sides shall encourage and facilitate the scientific and technical cooperation between Albanian and Bulgarian institutes and research centers engaged in scientific research and training activities. Within the framework of their responsibilities and in accordance with the existing legislation of their countries and their respective funding criteria, they shall support on the basis of mutual interest, the following forms of cooperation:

- ▶ Joint research projects;
- ▶ Joint seminars, symposia, round tables, meetings, international conferences and other scientific bi- and multilateral events;
- ▶ Exchange of individual scientists for the purpose of conducting research work, exchange of information about ongoing research activities, adoption of

- ▶ Exchange of scientific publications and information.

Article 2

Each Side will designate the scientists it will send to the other country, taking into account *the other Side's wishes*, with respect to visits by certain individuals or the special needs of particular research disciplines. The nominee's names, scientific titles and research positions, accompanied by relevant information (e.g. C.V., recent publications, level of foreign languages, concise presentation of the proposed programme of the visit, desired date of arrival, etc.) will be presented to *the other Side* for approval at least two months before the commencement date of each visit.

Keeping in view the scientific and technological competence and capabilities, infrastructure and facilities, *both Sides* will encourage joint research projects on subjects of mutual interest between institutions in their respective countries. The performance of joint research projects will be monitored and supervised by their executive boards of both Academies. While selecting nominees under exchange programme, *the Sides* will give preference to scientists involved in joint projects.

Article 3

A list of joint research projects will be agreed upon by *the Sides* every two years, starting from 2024 and will be included in an *Addendum* to be considered as part of the present *Agreement*.

Joint research projects will be approved by the two sides in accordance with their own procedures and will include the following elements:

- ▶ Title of the project;
- ▶ Names of the project leaders, their institutes and the institute's directors; addresses, phone numbers, e-mail;
- ▶ Scientific staff involved in the project;
- ▶ Description of the research activities to be performed by each partner in each year of the duration of the project;
- ▶ Estimate of the annual financial resources in terms of travel and stays required.

AT the end of each year, project leaders should present progress reports and a schedule of envisaged visits in both directions for the next year. After the completion of a joint project, the project leaders should present to the boards of respective academy a final report on the results achieved within the joint project.

Article 4

The Sides shall give priority to the common EU framework programmes. *The Sides* shall coordinate and join efforts to identify opportunities for research funding and for projects within such framework programmes and will cooperate in view of joint projects or other forms of cooperation and exchange.

Article 5

The Sides shall as well cooperate and prioritize the regional framework programmes to enhance project opportunities in common fields of interest, as provided for in the regional programmes, plans or initiatives.

Article 6

The scope of scientific exchanges, as well as all financial and administrative regulations are set out in *the Annex to this Agreement*. Medical assistance may be arranged under the national health service of the host country in cases of emergency. Insurance arrangements should be made prior to arrival in the host country. *Both Sides* agree to advise visitors about the availability of health insurance services should they be required. No responsibility rests on *either Sides* for costs that may become payable for insurance and for medical treatment.

The Sides shall share the effort and the costs of all activities described in Article 1. *The Sides* agree to facilitate and promote scientific cooperation and exchange over and above the means made available according to the provisions of *the Agreement*.

Article 7

The Sides shall mediate, initiate and contribute to larger scale partnerships or joint programmes (e.g. between the two respective governments) in fields of common interest, as well as take over project leadership or direction in such context.

Article 8

Any difficulties encountered in the implementation of this agreement will be resolved by discussion or correspondence in spirit of equality, cooperation and goodwill. Whenever necessary, *the Sides* will meet in order to analyze and evaluate the implementation of *the Agreement* and to discuss practical arrangements. Such meetings are not supposed to take place more often than once a year.

Article 9

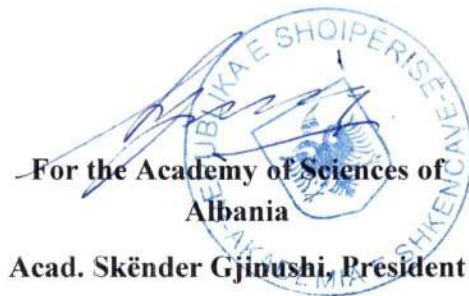
This Agreement shall come into force on being signed by both Sides and will remain valid unless revoked in writing by either side with at least six month's notice. The provisions of this Agreement and of its Annex may be amended by mutual consent of the Sides.

This Agreement has been drawn up in two identical copies in English, both copies being equally authoritative.

Done and signed on Sofia, 30.10.2023



**For the Bulgarian Academy of Sciences
Acad. Julian Revalski, President**



**For the Academy of Sciences of
Albania
Acad. Skënder Gjinushi, President**