



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Between YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY and the UNIVERSITY OF WEST ATTICA

BACKGROUND

This Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is drafted on ~~17~~ July 2024, between Yıldız Technical University, represented by its Rector Prof. Dr. Tamer YILMAZ and the University of West Attica, represented by its Rector Prof. Dr. Panagiotis KALDIS, for the purpose of achieving the establishment of partnership for the development of a Research Centre/Hub in Istanbul, to host common educational and research activities for the conservation and restoration of cultural property.

This MoU builds on the fruitful collaboration between the Department of Conservation and Restoration of Cultural Property, Yıldız Technical University, and the Department of Conservation of Antiquities and Works of Art, University of West Attica, established through their Erasmus+ Bilateral Inter-Institutional Agreement. Common areas of interest have been identified through the exchange of professors and students, leading to enhanced academic cooperation and mutual benefit.

YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY, hereinafter referred to as **YTU**, traces its origins back to the Conductors School of Higher Education, which was founded in 1911. It stands as one of the largest state universities in Türkiye, boasting 10 faculties and 3 institutes. YTU consists of 2 main campuses in Istanbul with historical backgrounds. In 2021, the Council of Higher Education declared Yıldız Technical University as the 5th best research university in Türkiye. YTU is the highest-ranking university in Türkiye, in terms of student participation in the Erasmus+ program. Renowned for its innovative research projects across various fields of science and technology, the university holds a prominent position both nationally and internationally.

UNIVERSITY of WEST ATTICA, hereinafter referred to as **UNIWA**, was founded in 2018 through the merging process of the former Technological Educational Institute of Athens and Piraeus University of Applied Sciences, two renowned institutions with a long history. In 2019, the National School of Public Health joined the newly established university. Today, it stands as the third largest university in Greece, comprised of 6 faculties and 27 departments. UNIWA operates with high educational and research standards, aiming to meet the ever-increasing demands of modern society.

1. PURPOSE

To jointly apply best practices, and to develop innovative research projects and studies for the conservation and restoration of cultural property, both movable and immovable, in Türkiye under the roof of a conservation-restoration Research Centre/Hub with the potential to evolve into a thematic institute.

In particular, the parties will collaborate to:

1. Develop and coordinate training programs, workshops, summer courses, certificate programs and provide inputs both for theoretical and practical works,
2. Develop proposals and co-supervise Master Dissertations or Doctoral Theses through student and staff exchange,
3. Organize conferences, symposiums, seminars or other academic and scientific meetings,
4. Co-author publications, e-bulletins, guidelines or other academic and scientific publications to promote research and best practices in the field,
5. Exchange of undergraduate and graduate students,
6. Exchange of research and teaching staff,
7. Provide consultancy for projects and activities related to conservation and restoration.

2. RESPONSIBILITIES

The parties agree to the following institutional responsibilities:

YILDIZ TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY shall provide, to the best of its ability, and contingent upon the approval of the current administration at the time, support necessary to implement the activities hereby agreed upon, in particular YTU will:

- Ensure compliance with national legislation during the establishment and operation of the Research Center/Hub,
- Seek space to host the Research Centre/Hub in the University campus,
- Grant access to its research infrastructure for postgraduate, doctoral, and collaborative research programs,
- Compile and submit annual reports detailing the activities of the Research Center/Hub,
- Co-design and host the Webpage of the Research Center/Hub.

UNIVERSITY of WEST ATTICA shall provide, to the best of its ability, and contingent upon the approval of the current administration at the time, support necessary to implement the activities hereby agreed upon, in particular UNIWA will:

- Ensure compliance with national legislation during the establishment and operation of the Research Center/Hub,
- Grant access to its research infrastructure for postgraduate, doctoral, and collaborative research programs,
- Provide portable research instruments and expertise to facilitate common research activities,
- Compile and submit annual reports detailing the activities of the Research Center/Hub,
- Co-design and host the Webpage of the Research Center/Hub.

3. FUNDING

Each party is responsible for its own staff-time costs, travel and accommodation.

4. DURATION

Upon approval by each party, this MOU shall remain in effect for a period of 4 years. At the end of 4 years, this MOU will automatically be extended for another 4-year period, unless otherwise determined.

5. ADDITIONAL TERMS

a. Promotion

This joint initiative will be communicated to the networks of two parties through all usual channels, including websites, social media, and annual reports mentioning the two main parties of this MoU. The parties will inform each other and agree upon any promotion or communication plans they are developing in relation to this collaboration.

- i. **Public Relations and Promotion:** Both parties will be considered equally responsible for promotional literature, temporary signage, and plaques produced with respect to the collaboration. All materials related to the promotion of the collaboration shall be jointly approved by both parties before publication and must bear the logos of both parties. Promotion of the collaboration is considered a joint action.
- ii. **Use of Data:** Joint approval of both parties is required to share visual material, images, drawings, publication, exhibition, and other materials required for academic and scientific purposes, as well as public communication in a consistent manner.
- iii. **Use of Logos:** The logos of the parties to this MoU shall appear on the front cover of all publications and reports produced jointly by the parties, in the form found on the first page of this MoU. In case an activity is realized through the involvement of a third party, then its logo may also appear on the front cover of

documents produced as part of that activity. Appropriate and equal use of logos on project signage, electronic media and other activities related to informing the public of project activities is also anticipated and permitted with advance approval from each party.

b. Official Language

The official language of this MoU is English, which will govern all matters pertaining to the meaning or interpretation of this MoU.

c. Termination

Either party may terminate this MoU for any reason prior to its expiration by providing thirty (30) days written notice of its intent to terminate. This MoU may also be terminated at any time by mutually written MoU of the parties.

d. Disputes

The signatories to this MoU undertake to settle amicably any differences that may arise between them over its implementation.

e. Intellectual Property

Each party shall retain all rights, including copyright, in the intellectual property produced or contributed by its employees, agents, and contractors pursuant to this MoU. The parties will cooperate in identifying intellectual property that is solely the work of one party and that is a product of a collaborative effort. If the collaboration results in copyrightable subject matter, the parties agree to jointly own the copyright, with the understanding that both parties may freely use, copy or distribute, publish, and authorize others to use such materials, in all media now known or hereafter created, for educational purposes, subject to providing credit to the other party. The parties shall not be required to share any revenues that may result from the use of these jointly owned materials.

f. Other Issues

Items not covered by the MoU may be determined and negotiated separately by both parties without abrogating this MoU; the MoU may be amended with the consent of both parties.

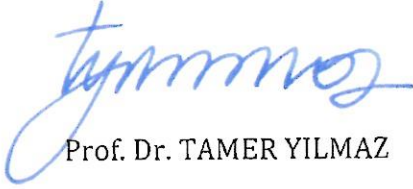
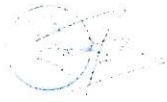
6. REPRESENTATIVES

The two parties will assign the representatives who will oversee the development of the Research Center/Hub and all its activities upon the view of the Rectors.

Signatories

This MoU will be signed by the Rector and legal representative of Yıldız Technical University Prof. Dr. Tamer YILMAZ, and the Rector and legal representative of the

University of West Attica Prof. Dr. Panagiotis KALDIS. The MoU may be modified by mutual consent of the legal representatives of the two parties. It shall become effective upon signature and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the parties by mutual consent.

On behalf of Yıldız Technical University	On behalf of the University of West Attica
 Prof. Dr. TAMER YILMAZ RECTOR	 Digitally signed by Panagiotis Kaldis Date: 2024.07.04 19:36:04 +03'00' Prof. Dr. PANAGIOTIS KALDIS RECTOR

Date: 17.07.2024