UNIVERSITY OF OXFORD

University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD <u>research.services@admin.ox.ac.uk</u> <u>researchsupport.admin.ox.ac.uk</u>



Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia 1 Aleksidze Street, Tbilisi 0193, Georgia Tel: +(99532) 2 200220 Samushia@rustaveli.org.ge

Oxford Ref: R42827/CN009

Letter of Agreement

"Visiting Scholars - Georgian Studies Programme"

The Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia, whose registered address is at 1 Aleksidze Street, Tbilisi 0193, Georgia (the "Sponsor"), has agreed to provide funding to the University of Oxford, whose legal title is 'The Chancellor, Masters and Scholars of the University of Oxford' and whose administrative office is at University Offices, Wellington Square, Oxford, OX1 2JD (the "University") to facilitate research visits by Georgian postdoctoral and early career academics working in Georgian studies (the "Visiting Scholars"), to the University's Russian and East European Studies unit which is part of the University's School of Global and Area Studies (OSGA). The terms of reference (the "Terms of Reference") for the research visits (the "Research Visits") are set out in Schedule 1 to this Letter of Agreement.

The Sponsor will forward to the University the total sum of £10,000 per Visiting Scholar towards the administrative costs of the Research Visits. Provided that the Visiting Scholars have been selected in accordance with the timeframe set out in the Terms of Reference, the University will invoice for these amounts by the beginning of September 2022 at the latest and payment will be made by the Sponsor within 30 days of receipt of such invoice. Where there is a delay in selecting the Visiting Scholars, the University and the Sponsor will agree when the University should invoice the Sponsor.

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Details of the University's bank account, into which payment should be made by the Sponsor, are set out in Schedule 1 to this Letter of Agreement. For the avoidance of doubt, the Parties acknowledge and agree that the Sponsor will make any stipend payments to the Visiting Scholars directly.

The Visiting Scholars will be expected to comply with local requirements regarding such matters as health and safety, access and security, and confidentiality and may be required to sign a standard University Visitors Agreement.

This Letter of Agreement has been translated into Georgian, as set out in Annex 3 (the "Georgian Translation"). In the event of a conflict between the English version and the Georgian Translation, the English version will prevail.

This Letter of Agreement and Annex 1 (Terms of Reference), Annex 2 (Payment Schedule) and Annex 3 (Georgian Translation) constitute the entire agreement between the parties in relation to the Research Visits. Any variation shall be in writing and signed by authorized signatories for both parties.

If any dispute arises in connection with this Letter of Agreement the Parties will first attempt to resolve the matter informally through their designated senior representatives.

The terms of this Letter of Agreement shall be governed by English law and, except where the parties agree to mediation or arbitration, the English courts will have exclusive jurisdiction to hear any matters arising out of it.

[SIGNATURES OVERLEAF]

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For and on behalf of The Chancellor, Masters & Scholars of the University of Oxford

Dr. Dan Blakey

Assistant Director, Research Funding & Contracts

Date:

07.4.2022

For and on behalf of the LEPLShota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia

Prof. Jaba Samushia

Director General

Date:

15.04.2022

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ANNEX 1



TERMS OF REFERENCE

Three Georgian scholars funded by the Sponsor will be received as Academic Visitors within the University of Oxford for the first year. The total funding envelope is £90,000. Each scholar will receive a stipend of £20,000 directly from the Sponsor. In addition, the Sponsor agrees to pay OSGA a fee of £10,000 per scholar.

OSGA agrees to seek visas for successful applicants. It will provide programme support and access to office space in the OSGA building. It will ensure that the Visiting Scholars secure a university card, computer access, and access to the university libraries and collections as appropriate. The scholars will have full access to the seminars and other events of the Russian and East European Studies programme unit of OSGA and the Russian and Eurasian Studies Centre of St Antony's College as well as access to the Bodleian Libraries Oliver and Marjory Wardrop Collections. The scholars are each entitled to a minimum of 12 St Antony's college guest/high table dinners per year, following relevant seminars and events at St Antony's College. Appropriate mentors for the Visiting Scholars will be provided.

Visiting Scholars will be selected by a panel organized by the Sponsor with the participation of Oxford scholars. One scholar will be selected from the social sciences field and one from humanities, preference will be given to persons, who obtained a Doctoral degree during the last 7 years before the fellowship start date. Such restriction does not apply to the third scholar, who will propose work on the Oliver and Marjory Wardrop collections. The Sponsor will cover the international and local travel and costs of stay in Georgia for panel members from University of Oxford. It is anticipated that Visiting Scholars awards will be made in June 2022, with a view to a twelve-month visit commencing in September 2022. These terms of reference cover the 2022-2023 year; if mutually agreed, it may be renewed annually.

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Annex 1 Cont'd.

- 1. The Visiting Scholars will be expected to deliver at least one of the following obligations after completion of their Visiting Scholarship:
 - a) Within two years of the start date of the Visiting Scholarship, the Scholars will be responsible for publishing one scientific article based on their research findings in one of the international scientific publishing journals. In case the publication date of their research surpasses the two-year limit, it will be acceptable to admit a letter from the editorial board of the scientific journal confirming that the written research is accepted for publication and is in press. The scholar's work must be submitted to and accepted by a scientific journal that is a part of any of the following databases: Scimago Journal Ranking, Elsevier (Scopus and Science Direct) Web of Science and ERIH plus.
 - b) Within two years of the start date of the Visiting Scholarship, the Scholars will be responsible for publishing one scientific article co-authored with their respective mentor in a highly ranked peer-review journal, from the databases listed in (a).
 - c) Within two years of the start date of the Visiting Scholarship, the Scholars will be responsible for publishing their research findings as a monograph, which will be approved and recommended by the scientific council of their respective academic institution. In case the publication date of their monograph surpasses the two-year limit, it will be acceptable to admit a letter from the editorial board of the Publishing house confirming that the monograph is accepted for publication and in press.
 - d) For the Visiting Scholar working on the Bodleian Collections it is recognized that important outputs of the Visiting Scholarship are likely to include less traditional outputs including exhibitions, performances, digital or visual media and web content. In addition to a portfolio of work representing original research, within two years of the start date of the Visiting Scholarship the Scholar will be responsible for publishing one peer-reviewed scientific (English language) work as a book chapter.
- 2. Oxford University will provide an annual report on the Visiting Scholars to SRNSFG including detail of any approved (by Oxford) periods of fieldwork or scholarly networking taking place outside of Oxford. Each mentor will contribute a reference to the report.
- 3. The Visiting Scholars are required to present in a public seminar during their stay in Oxford.

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ANNEX 2

PAYMENT DETAILS

Payment shall be made by the Sponsor to the University into the bank account as set out below.

Name of Bank: Barclays Bank Plc

Sortcode: 20-65-46

Address: 54 Cornmarket St, OX1 3HS Account Name: University of Oxford

Account No: 50051675

SWIFT: BARCGB22

IBAN: GB27 BARC 2065 4650051675

The Sponsor's representative for the receipt of invoices is:

Director General: Jaba Samushia

LEPL Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia

ID number: 204578064

Address: 2 Alleksidze Street, turn2, Tbilisi 0193, Georgia

Tel: +(99532) 2 200 220