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# Agreement on Scientific Cooperation Between the Franco-Georgian University (FGU) and LEPL - Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG)

In the framework of the intergovernmental agreement between Georgia and France signed in Tbilisi in 2018, Franco-Georgian University (UFG) and Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG) have established the following agreement on scientific cooperation:

### Article 1. Purpose of the Scientific Cooperation Agreement

The main purpose of this agreement is to support cooperation in scientific research between France and Georgia through supporting mobility of Georgian students at the doctoral level. The Parties will, on a basis of equality and mutual benefit, support the fellowship of respective Georgian Visitng Scholars Fellowship in all scientific areas in France.

#### Article 2. Franco-Georgian Visiting Scholars Fellowship Programme

2.1 The Parties will select and support three doctoral Georgian fellows' research visits to French research institutions or universities. The duration of research visits will be 2 months. The selection of candidates will be based on open competition that will be administered by SRNSFG, in cooperation with FGU.

2.2 The call for proposals for the **Franco-Georgian Visiting Scholars Fellowship Programme (FGVSFP)** is to be announced yeach year, in the period of March - May. For this programme, one year cycle implies: programme call announcement, registration of the applicants, selection of the successful projects, awarding fellowships, visit of fellowship holders in France, reporting procedures.

2.3 All scientific fields are eligible.

2.4 Visiting scholar will be selected by the selection panel of experts organized by the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia (SRNSFG) and the Franco-Georgian University. French researchers and experts from French universities and research centers shall be included in the selection panel.

2.5 On the bases of mutual agreement, each side defines the number of experts depending on the nessecities.

2.6 In case of need, the selection panel meeting can be organized and held online.

2.7 Host research institution/university will provide program support and access to facilities at the host institution - access to the university libraries and collections as appropriate. In addition, the visiting scholar will have full access to the seminars and other academic events of the host institution. The host institution will provide appropriate mentor, academic personnel or researcher of relevant field for the visiting scholar.

2.6 Along with the application and other required documentation, an applicant should provide an supporting letter signed from the host institution's mentor - an academic person, researcher from the host institution.

### Article 3. Financial Support

3.1 The total funding envelope is up to 6,300 EUR; each party (SRNSFG and FGU) contributes equal amount - 3,150 EUR.

## Article 4: Commitment of the Shota Rustaveli National Science Foundation of Georgia and of the Franco-Georgian University

4.1 The fellowship for one visiting scholar is 2,100 EUR covering accommodation, air tickets (two directions) and other research related expenses. Both parties (SRNSFG and FGU) will equally (50%/50%) finanace the fellowship of the winner.

#### Article 5. Effectiveness, Amendments, Duration and Termination

5.1 This Agreement on Scientific Cooperation takes effect on the date of signature and remains valid until December 31, 2026.

5.2 Regardless of the termination of this agreement, the obligation of this visiting scholars will be fulfilled until the end of the scholarship.

5.2 Each Party may terminate the Agreement with an official written notice. In this case, the Agreement shall terminate within 6 (six) months after the date of receipt of the notification.

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

5.4 This Agreement on Scientific Cooperation will be implemented in accordance with the French and Georgian legislations.

Done in Tbilisi, Georgia, on 12th of December of 2024, in two originals in English and Georgian.

Shota Rustaveli National Science foundation of Georgia Director General, Teimuraz Dochviri

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Franco-Georgian University Coordiantor, Eva Bertrand

