

TISS-MASARYK MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

COLLABORATIVE ACADEMIC AGREEMENT

between

TATA INSTITUTE OF SOCIAL SCIENCES, MUMBAI, INDIA

and

MASARYKOVA UNIVERZITA, BRNO, THE CZECH REPUBLIC

Masarykova univerzita (hereinafter “Masaryk University”) and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences wish to continue a collaborative academic partnership programme in areas of mutual academic interest. The details of activities in each area of study or activity will be defined in an additional appendix or appendices to this agreement. Appendices need to be agreed and signed by both sides to take effect.

### **1. Participating Bodies**

The participating bodies will be the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India and Masaryk University, the Czech Republic. Masaryk University will be represented by its faculties and coordinators as specified in **the appendix or appendices**.

### **2. Types of Activities**

The areas of cooperation include the following activities:

- exchange of staff members
- exchange of students
- joint projects related to research, teaching, faculty development
- exchange of publications, research materials, newsletters
- other relevant and mutually agreed upon activities, which may be specified in an appendix

### **3. Faculty Member and Student Exchanges**

Each institution agrees to welcome visiting faculty members, research fellows and students from the other institution. Such visits are subject to the consent of the relevant faculty/department at the host institution and to conditions of work cited in writing prior to the visit. The host university will provide workspace, library, internet and other facilities and assist in locating living accommodation. Neither institution is obliged, however, to provide financial support for visiting scholars and students. Staff and student exchanges are further specified in an appendix.

### **4. Effective Date and Length of Agreement**

The agreement will remain in force for a period of **five** years. Any amendment, appendix and/or modification of the agreement will require written approval by each partner. After the initial five year period, this agreement will be renewed automatically unless written notice of termination is given.

Either party reserves the right to terminate this agreement upon six months' written notice to the other.

This agreement shall take effect when signed by each side. It includes two pages in duplicate copies in English with each of the copies being equally authentic, signed by their duly authorized representatives. One copy of the agreement will be kept at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, another one will be kept at Masaryk University.

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Prof Martin Bareš, Rector  
Masaryk University,  
Brno, Czech Republic

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XXXXXXXXXX, Registrar  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences,  
Mumbai, India

Stamp:

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Date: 14.08.2021

Date: 01/4/2/

**APPENDIX 1 to the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING –  
COLLABORATIVE ACADEMIC AGREEMENT**

**between  
Masaryk University, Brno, Czech Republic  
and  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India**

For the purpose of fulfilling this agreement, Masaryk University will be represented by the Faculty of Arts and by the Faculty of Science. Facilitation of the activities under the agreement will be undertaken by coordinators. Initially, the coordinator will be XXXXXXXXXX (Professor, Centre for the Study of Social Exclusion and Inclusive Policies, & Dean, International Relations Office), on behalf of the Tata Institute of Social Sciences. For Masaryk University, the coordinators will be XXXXXXXXXX (Department for the Study of Religions) on behalf of the Faculty of Arts and XXXXXXXXXX (Department of Geography) on behalf of the Faculty of Science.

*1. Staff exchange*

1.1 Applicants for participation in the exchange programme will be selected by their home university and be subject to approval by the host university.

1.2 The number of persons included in the staff exchange will normally be three persons per institution in an academic year.

1.3 The period of exchange is subject to mutual agreement but will normally not exceed two months.

1.4 The host university will provide workspace, library and other facilities and assist in locating living accommodation.

*2. Student exchange*

2.1 The institutions agree to accept no more than four students per academic year from the other institution. Only PhD, MPhil or Masters' students are eligible for the exchange on both sides. The number of students may vary each year, but it is expected a balance will be achieved over the course of the agreement.

2.1.1 On the Indian side, priority will be given to students linked to the Social Sciences and Social Work, across different Schools at Tata Institute of Social Sciences.

2.1.2 On the Czech side, priority will be given to students from the Department of Geography of the Faculty of Science and of the Department for the Study of Religions of the Faculty of Arts. If not enough students are chosen from these two departments, the exchange will be extended to students of other departments and faculties.

2.2 The student exchanges will take place in the format of a calendar year.

2.2.1 The names of the Czech exchange students will be given to the Indian side by mid- March. The names of Indian exchange students will be given to the Czech

side by the end of April (in case students are coming for the autumn semester), or by the end of October (in case students are coming for the spring semester).

2.2.2 Czech students will normally study in India in the period between mid-June and mid-October (i.e. in the Ist and IIIrd semesters), for a total of four months. In pre-agreed cases, their length and period of study may be different.

2.2.3 Indian students will normally study in the Czech Republic in the period between September and December (i.e. in the autumn semester), or in the period between February and May (i.e. in the spring semester) for a total of three months.

2.3 Applicants for participation in the exchange will be selected by their home institution. Conditions for eligibility of the applicants will be set by their home institutions, taking into account requirements of the host institution and the terms of the present agreement.

2.4 Students participating in this exchange must meet the admission requirements of the host institution. The host institution will inform the sending institution about the requirements in advance.

2.5 Applications of students selected will be sent to the host institution, which will make the final judgment on the admissibility of each student nominated.

2.6 The institutions waive the tuition fees to the exchange students and provide them with the same services as their own students.

2.6.1 TISS will provide each incoming Czech student with accommodation in student dormitories for which students will pay.

2.6.2 Masaryk University will provide each incoming Indian student with a scholarship amounting to 50,000 Czech Crowns (CZK) upon their arrival in the Czech Republic. Masaryk University will waive tuition fees for Indian students. Masaryk University will also provide accommodation in student dormitories (Indian students will pay for this accommodation from their scholarship).

2.7 Students must formally request transcripts to be sent to their home institution in order to provide it with adequate evidence of their study at the host institution.

2.8 The institutions will provide each other with adequate information on the performance of exchange students, and accept the coursework completed at the host university within the limits of existing regulations at each university.

### *3. Research cooperation*

3.1 Both institutions will search for possibilities of research cooperation in the areas of their mutual interest. These areas primarily include issues of development studies, sustainable development, geoinformatics, human and physical geography, religious studies and social and cultural anthropology.

3.2 They agree to discuss possibilities to submit projects applicable to various funding schemes of the European Union (esp. Erasmus+), while allowing for other options as well.

The present Appendix 1 to the Memorandum of Understanding – Collaborative Academic Agreement between the Masaryk University, Brno, the Czech Republic and the Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India includes three pages in duplicate copies in English with each of the copies being equally authentic, signed by their duly authorized representatives. One copy of the agreement will be kept at the Tata Institute of Social Sciences; another one will be kept at the Masaryk University.

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Martin Bareš, Rector  
Masaryk University,  
Brno, Czech Republic

XXXXXXXXXX, Registrar  
Tata Institute of Social Sciences,  
Mumbai, India

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