

Memorandum of Understanding

between

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V.

Kennedyallee 40, 53175 Bonn, Germany

and

Institute of Atomic Physics

Atomiștilor 407, 077125, Măgurele, Ilfov, Romania

Preamble

The Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V. (DFG, German Research Foundation, hereinafter referred to as "DFG"), located at Kennedyallee 40, 53175 Bonn, Germany, represented by its President Prof. Dr. Katja Becker and Secretary General Dr. Heide Ahrens and the Institute of Atomic Physics (hereinafter referred to as "IFA"), located at Atomiștilor 407, 077125, Măgurele, Ilfov, Romania, represented by its Director-General Dr. Florin-Dorian Buzatu (hereinafter referred to as "Parties") have decided to establish this Memorandum of Understanding by mutual consent and in order to be mutually beneficial.

The DFG is the central self-governing research funding organisation in Germany. It serves all branches of science and the humanities and especially promotes interdisciplinary cooperation among researchers.

The DFG awards the best research projects with funding and, at the same time, gives the awarded researchers the means and freedom necessary for successful research.

One of the DFG's key objectives is the advancement of early career researchers. It therefore offers them programmes which provide appropriate support at every phase of their qualification. The DFG is especially committed to the early independence of researchers.

The DFG funds excellent science without regard to extra-scientific factors. Equal treatment of men and women and broad representation of the scientific disciplines in the self-governance of the DFG ensure the diversity and originality required for outstanding research.

The IFA is a Romanian public institution subordinated to the State Authority for Research (at present, the Ministry of Research, Innovation and Digitalization), with the primary role of funding research activities in the atomic and sub-atomic domain and related areas, particularly the participation of Romania in research programmes of European and international scientific organisations in the field.

The DFG and IFA wish to foster German-Romanian cooperation in all areas of basic research in science and the humanities, particularly in physics and related research areas.

Recognizing the mutual benefit of bilateral cooperation and the desire to further strengthen scientific cooperation between Germany and Romania,

The Parties have agreed the following:

Article 1 - Purpose of the Memorandum of Understanding

This Memorandum of Understanding has the purpose of promoting scientific cooperation between scientists located in Germany and scientists and scientific institutions located in Romania in all fields of basic research (science and humanities), particularly in physics and related research areas.

Article 2 - Means of Cooperation

The Parties shall support the following joint research and training activities to be conducted by scientific partners in Germany and Romania:

Such activities may be:

- joint research projects
- exchange of researchers, including postdocs and PhD students, within the joint research projects

- joint workshops
- the preparation and coordination of joint activities
- International Research Training Groups
- any other format agreed upon by the Parties

Details of any joint activity shall be laid down in an Implementation Plan. The Implementation Plan shall be agreed upon between the Parties in writing.

Article 3 - Regulations

- (1) All funding activities according to Article 1 and 2 shall comply with all internal rules, regulations and procedures applicable at the respective Party.
- (2) No Party shall be obliged to implement any action or measure contradicting any applicable local, national or international laws or regulations.
- (3) If personal data is exchanged between the Parties, the Parties agree to enter into any necessary data protection agreements. In particular, the Parties will conclude a joint controller agreement if data is processed in joint control according to Article 26 of the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR).

Article 4 - Finance

- (1) If common funding activities under this Memorandum of Understanding are agreed upon between the Parties, each Party shall cover the expenses of participating scientists from its own country (e.g. travel costs, daily allowances, consumables) for the activities within the scope of this Memorandum of Understanding, unless the Parties have agreed otherwise in writing.
- (2) Financial resources shall be contributed by the Parties on the basis of availability of funds.

Article 5 - Intellectual Property Rights

The Parties shall encourage scientists and scientific institutions receiving funds from the Parties to enter into agreements to ensure the effective protection and adequate distribution of intellectual property and the rights of use resulting from projects funded by the Parties under this Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 6 - Disputes

The Parties shall settle all questions, disagreements and disputes arising under this Memorandum of Understanding amicably by consultation and agreement. Ultimately, if necessary, the heads of the Parties or its designees might become involved to resolve a dispute.

Article 7 - Amendments

This Memorandum of Understanding shall only be amended by the Parties' mutual consent in a document signed by both Parties, specifying the dates on which the amendments shall come into effect.

Article 8 - Term, Termination

- (1) This Memorandum of Understanding shall come into effect as from the date on which it was signed. It will end ten (10) years after the date on which it was signed. The Parties will decide on an extension of this Memorandum of Understanding well in advance of the end of the term of this Memorandum of Understanding and after an evaluation of the cooperation.
- (2) Either Party may terminate this Memorandum of Understanding by giving six months' written notice to the other Party.
- (3) The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding according to (1) or (2) shall not affect activities already approved by the Parties or in progress under the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 9 - Miscellaneous

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in two originals, both in English language.

Bonn, 10 August 2022

Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft e.V.

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(President)

.....
(Secretary General)

(Place), (date)..... *Mägurele, 22.09.2022*
Institute of Atomic Physics

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(Director-General)