MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

among

the Member Universities of the ChallengeEU Alliance

and

Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

Preamble

This Memorandum of Understanding is entered into by and among the member universities of the ChallengeEU Alliance, listed in Annex 1 to this Memorandum and hereinafter jointly referred to as the "ChallengeEU Member Universities", and Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University, Ukraine ("ZPNU"). The ChallengeEU Member Universities and ZPNU are hereinafter jointly referred to as the "Parties".

The Parties,

- recognising the value of strengthening cooperation between higher education institutions within the European higher education landscape;
- acknowledging the cooperation already established between ZPNU and certain members of the ChallengeEU Alliance;
- noting the compatibility of ZPNU's academic profile and institutional orientation with the mission, priorities, and activities of the ChallengeEU Alliance;
- wishing to further develop their cooperation in education, research, innovation, knowledge exchange, and institutional development;
- acknowledging the shared intention of the Parties to develop the cooperation established under this Memorandum with a view to the future inclusion of ZPNU as an Associated Partner within the ChallengeEU Alliance, in accordance with the applicable rules and procedures of the Erasmus+ programme and the European Universities Initiative, subject to the fulfilment of the relevant conditions and to the agreement of all Parties;

have reached the following understanding:

Article 1

Purpose

1. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding is to establish a general framework for cooperation between the Parties and to support the participation of ZPNU in the activities of the ChallengeEU Alliance as a Strategic Partner.
2. This Memorandum expresses the shared intention of the Parties to deepen academic, institutional, and strategic cooperation in areas of mutual interest and to provide a basis for the development of future joint activities.

Article 2

Strategic Partner Status

1. ZPNU shall cooperate with the ChallengeEU Alliance in the capacity of a Strategic Partner.
2. For the purposes of this Memorandum, a Strategic Partner means an associated partner institution recognised by the ChallengeEU Member Universities, within the framework of the ChallengeEU Alliance, as having particular strategic relevance for the long-term development of the Alliance's academic, institutional, and international cooperation.

3. The status of Strategic Partner reflects a closer and more structured form of cooperation within the framework of the ChallengeEU Alliance and may include regular participation in relevant alliance activities, consultations, and joint initiatives, as agreed by the Parties.
4. This designation is an internal status used within the framework of the ChallengeEU Alliance and does not alter any formal status defined by applicable Erasmus+ or European Universities Initiative rules.

Article 3

Areas of Cooperation

The Parties intend to cooperate, subject to their priorities, capacities, and applicable rules, through activities such as:

- academic and institutional networking within the ChallengeEU Alliance;
- participation in relevant alliance activities, including thematic interest groups, working groups, meetings, workshops, conferences, and other collaborative formats;
- development of joint educational activities, including joint courses, intensive programmes, blended and virtual learning formats, guest lectures, and other collaborative teaching and learning initiatives;
- preparation and implementation of joint research, innovation, and knowledge-sharing activities;
- development of joint projects and project proposals under European and other international funding programmes;

- promotion of student, academic staff, and professional staff exchange and mobility, where applicable;
- exchange of knowledge, experience, and good practice in areas of mutual interest;
- other forms of cooperation that may be jointly agreed by the Parties.

Article 4

Forms of Cooperation

1. Cooperation under this Memorandum may be implemented through jointly agreed activities, exchanges, meetings, project initiatives, and other appropriate forms of collaboration.
2. Specific activities may be further described in separate arrangements, action plans, or implementation documents agreed by the Parties.
3. The Parties shall pursue cooperation in a spirit of partnership, mutual respect, reciprocity, and institutional autonomy.
4. In addition to cooperation under this Memorandum, ZPNU and any of the ChallengeEU Member Universities may conclude separate bilateral cooperation arrangements or agreements in areas of mutual interest, in accordance with their respective internal rules and procedures.
5. Where specific activities under this Memorandum give rise to matters relating to intellectual property rights or to the exchange of confidential information, the Parties shall address such matters in separate written arrangements, setting out the applicable terms and conditions in accordance with their respective institutional rules and applicable law.

Article 5

Implementation

1. Each Party shall designate an appropriate contact person or coordination point for the implementation of this Memorandum.
2. The Parties may review the development of cooperation on a regular basis and identify priorities for future joint activities.

3. Participation in specific activities under this Memorandum shall be subject to mutual agreement and to the applicable internal rules and procedures of each Party.
4. Where the implementation of activities under this Memorandum involves the processing of personal data, the Parties shall ensure compliance with applicable data protection legislation, including Regulation (EU) 2016/679 (General Data Protection Regulation). Where necessary, the Parties shall enter into appropriate data processing or data transfer arrangements in accordance with applicable law.

Article 6

Financial Provisions

1. This Memorandum does not create any financial obligations for any Party.
2. Any specific activity involving financial commitments shall be subject to separate written arrangements and to the availability of funding.

Article 7

Legal Nature

1. This Memorandum expresses the intentions of the Parties to cooperate and does not constitute a legally binding international agreement.
2. Nothing in this Memorandum shall be interpreted as creating legal or financial obligations beyond those expressly agreed in separate written arrangements.

Article 8

Duration and Termination

1. This Memorandum shall take effect between ZPNU and each ChallengeEU Member University on the date of the later signature by the two Parties.

2. ZPNU's designation as a Strategic Partner of the ChallengeEU Alliance shall take effect on the date on which all ChallengeEU Member Universities have signed this Memorandum.
3. It shall remain in effect for an indefinite period, unless terminated by either Party through written notice in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum.
4. Any Party may terminate its participation in this Memorandum by giving six months' written notice to the other Parties.
5. Termination by one Party shall not automatically terminate this Memorandum with respect to the remaining Parties, unless otherwise jointly decided.
6. Termination of this Memorandum or of the participation of any Party shall not affect ongoing activities already agreed by the relevant Parties, unless otherwise jointly decided.

Article 9

Final Provisions

1. This Memorandum may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the Parties.
2. This Memorandum is drawn up in English and may be signed in any number of counterparts, each of which shall be deemed an original, but all of which together shall constitute one and the same Memorandum.
3. Each Party may sign a separate signature page. All such signature pages shall be deemed to form an integral part of this Memorandum.

Annex 1

ChallengeEU Member Universities

1. Hochschule Offenburg (Germany)
2. ENSILIS - EDUCAÇÃO E FORMAÇÃO UNIPESSOAL, LDA (Portugal)
3. South East European University (North Macedonia)
4. ECAM LaSalle (France)
5. Mid Sweden University (Sweden)
6. University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (Poland)
7. Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies (Latvia)
8. Universidad Europea de Valencia S.L.U (Spain)
9. Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW (Switzerland)

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Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

For Hochschule Offenburg (Germany)

Name: Prof. Dr. Stephan Trahasch

Title: Rector of Hochschule Offenburg

Date: 8.10.2026

Signature:

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For ENSILIS - EDUCAÇÃO E FORMAÇÃO UNIPESSOAL, LDA (Portugal)

Name: Joana Botelho de Oliveira

Title: Legal Representative

Date: 30 SEPTEMBER 2026

Signature: 

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Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

For South East European University (North Macedonia)

Name: Prof. Dr. Sadudin Ibraimi

Title: Rector of South East European University

Date: 9.10.2026

Signature:

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Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

For ECAM LaSalle (France)

Name: Didier Desplanche

Title: General Director of ECAM LaSalle

Date: 8 October 2026

Signature:

ECAM LaSalle
40 montée St Barthélémy
69321 Lyon Cedex 05

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For Mid Sweden University (Sweden)

Name: Docent Anders Fällström

Title: Vice-Chancellor of Mid Sweden University

Date: Oct 8, 2021

Signature:



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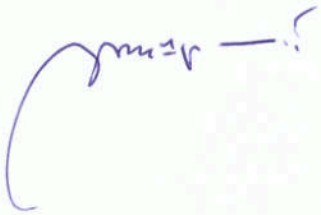
For University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn (Poland)

Name: Prof. Dr. Jerzy Przyborowski

Title: Rector of the University of Warmia and Mazury in Olsztyn

Date: 9.10.2026

Signature:



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Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

For Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies (Latvia)

Name: Prof. Dr. Irina Arhipova

Title: Rector of the Latvia University of Life Sciences and Technologies

Date: 08.10.2026

Signature:

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For Universidad Europea de Valencia S.L.U (Spain)

Name: Prof Dr. María Rosa Sanchidrián Pardo

Title: Rector of the Universidad Europea de Valencia

Date: 08 de Octubre 2026

Signature:

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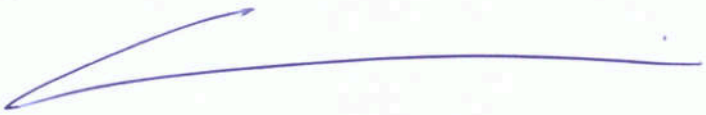
For Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW (Switzerland)

Name: Prof. Dr. Crispino Bergamaschi

Title: President of the Fachhochschule Nordwestschweiz FHNW

Date: 4.10.22

Signature:



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Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

For Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

Name: Prof. Dr. Viktor Greshta

Title: Rector of the Zaporizhzhia Polytechnic National University

Date: 08.10.2026

Signature: