

**AGREEMENT ON SCIENTIFIC COOPERATION BETWEEN  
THE HUNGARIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND  
THE RESEARCH FOUNDATION – FLANDERS**

The Hungarian Academy of Sciences (HAS) and the Research Foundation – Flanders (FWO), hereinafter referred to as Parties, recognising the importance of research cooperation between Hungary and Flanders, have agreed upon a collaboration agreement, henceforth called "the Agreement".

This Agreement replaces the previous agreement between the Hungarian Academy of Sciences and the Nationaal Fonds voor Wetenschappelijk Onderzoek (NFWO-FNRS)<sup>1</sup>, signed in Brussels on January 25 1993, which encouraged the scientific exchange of Hungarian and Belgian researchers.

In the framework of the Agreement the Parties have agreed as follows:

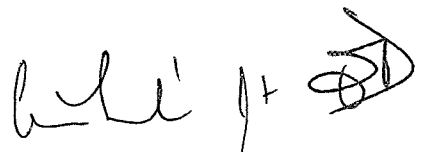
**ARTICLE I**

**Objective**

The objective of the Agreement is to promote academic cooperation in the fields of common interest between Flemish and Hungarian researchers affiliated with the institutions of the respective research networks of the Parties by announcing joint calls for exchange projects that bring scientists from both regions to work together on implementing joint research activities.

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<sup>1</sup> On 20 January 2006, the FWO received the status of Public Utility Foundation by Royal Decree. The old NFWO no longer existed: in addition to the FWO, the Fonds de la Recherche Scientifique (Research Foundation FNRS) on the French side, and the Federal Fund for Scientific Research (FFWO), at Belgian level, were the legal successors.

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**ARTICLE II**  
**Form of Cooperation**

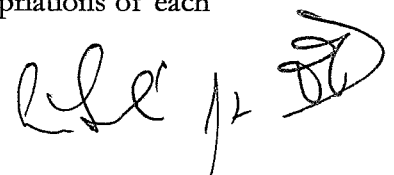
Under the terms of this Agreement, research cooperation will be supported by funding the mobility costs of two-year joint exchange projects promoting joint research activities between researchers from Hungary and Flanders.

**ARTICLE III**  
**Practice**

The Parties will implement the activities stated in Article II as follows:

**Joint exchange projects**

1. Both Parties will mutually agree upon the timing and the details of each call. This timing and details will be specified in the official announcement of the Parties.
2. Applications for joint exchange projects with a duration of two years should be submitted simultaneously to both Parties, following the instructions and application forms of the respective Party.
3. The Parties will inform each other in writing of the project proposals they received, within 15 days after the closing of the call. Applications that were not submitted simultaneously to HAS and FWO will be declared ineligible.
4. The Parties will separately evaluate the received eligible applications and rank them based on the criteria of excellence and according to their own evaluation mechanisms, as determined in the Protocol. The Parties will communicate their evaluation results to each other as soon as possible.
5. The Parties will select joint exchange projects for funding, based on their own evaluation results. Funding decision is made upon availability of funds for bilateral cooperation.
6. The Parties declare their intention to promote joint exchange projects by their financial and administrative support.
7. The number of joint exchange projects and the total budget available will be determined and mutually agreed upon by the Parties and will be subject to budget appropriations.
8. The Parties will apply the principle of equal cost-sharing for implementing cooperative activities in compliance with the financial guidelines laid down in the Protocol. The budget for joint exchange projects will be subject to yearly budget appropriations of each Party.



9. HAS will inform the Hungarian researcher of the final funding decision. FWO will inform the Flemish researcher of the final funding decision. This communication should be done simultaneously.

#### ARTICLE IV

##### Observance of the Regulations

The Parties will require participating researchers to abide by the laws and regulations of the receiving country and the rules and regulations of host institutions.

#### ARTICLE V

##### Intellectual Properties

The Parties will encourage researchers and their institutions to ensure the protection and proper distribution of intellectual property resulting from projects funded under this Agreement.<sup>2</sup>

#### ARTICLE VI

##### Other Details

Administrative procedures and implementation details not prescribed in this Agreement will be determined biennially by mutual agreement between the Parties in the form of a Protocol.

#### ARTICLE VII

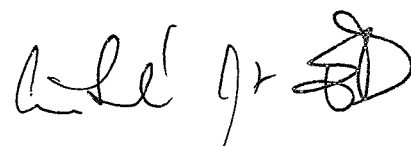
##### Validity, Amendment, Termination

This Agreement will come into force for a period of 6 years from date of its signing.

This Agreement may be extended each time for one year, in absence of a termination notice by either Party.

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<sup>2</sup> For Flanders, see FWO General Regulations art. 2 §1: *Property rights to inventions arising from FWO-funded research belong to the university/host institution by virtue of Art. 169ter of the Decree of 12 June 1991 on the Universities in the Flemish Community (Belgian Official Gazette of 4 July 1991).*



Either Party may notify the other of its intention to terminate this Agreement during the period of its validity. Notification shall be made in writing at least 6 months in advance of the termination of the Agreement. The arrangements made within the framework of this program will continue to apply to all projects that have not been completed by the date of the program's termination.

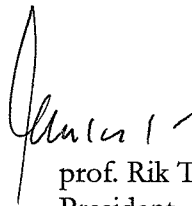
This Agreement is made and signed in duplicate in English, both being equally authentic.

Date:  
For the  
Hungarian Academy of Sciences



László Lovász  
President

Date:  
For the  
Research Foundation - Flanders



prof. Rik Torfs  
President



dr.ir. Elisabeth Monard  
Secretary General