

**Memorandum of Understanding on Scientific Cooperation**  
**between**  
**the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft**  
**and**  
**the Hungarian Scientific Research Fund**

With the common aim of strengthening the cooperation of researchers in both countries, the Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft (German Research Foundation, hereinafter referred to as DFG) and the Országos Tudományos Kutatási Alapprogramok (Hungarian Scientific Research Fund, hereinafter referred to as OTKA) herewith conclude an agreement on scientific cooperation.

### **1. Purpose of this Memorandum**

The purpose of this Memorandum is to intensify scientific cooperation between the DFG and the OTKA (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”) and to enhance funding of the following collaborative activities in all fields of research through the following tools:

- a) Joint research projects
- b) Cooperation of Research Training Groups and “Scientific Schools”
- c) Joint seminars
- d) Research stays
- e) Other cooperative activities that are mutually agreed upon

The rules *-modus vivendi-* for the respective activities are going to be elaborated jointly by the Parties and will be based on the principles given below.

### **2. Forms of Cooperation and Funding**

#### *a) Joint Research Projects*

As a rule, the sending Party shall cover the international travel costs of the researchers from the sending country, while the receiving Party shall cover the maintenance costs. Costs for personnel, equipment, and consumables shall be covered by the Parties separately. Funding may be complemented by other national or European sources.

#### *b) Cooperation of Research Training Groups and Doctoral Teams*

Both partners encourage the cooperation of Research Training Groups and “Scientific Schools”. Therefore, the DFG and the OTKA are prepared to make funds available for joint activities between Research Training Groups and “Scientific Schools” in Germany and Hungary. The funding will focus on:

- joint workshops
- student exchange
- joint summer schools
- exchange visits of scientists
- and others.

The details of the relevant procedures are fixed in an enclosure to this Memorandum.

#### *c) Joint Seminars*

Joint seminars are designed to prepare or advance collaborative activities. They may be held in either Germany or Hungary. As a rule, the sending Party shall cover the international travel costs of the participants from the sending country, while the hosting Party shall cover the maintenance costs and domestic travel costs. Other conference expenses shall be funded by the Parties according to their corresponding regulations.

#### *d) Research stays*

Research stays in the partner country are designed to enable researchers to build up or intensify collaborative activities. As a rule, stays should not exceed three months. The sending Party shall support the international travel costs, while the receiving Party shall cover the maintenance costs. Appropriate health insurance must be acquired by the participating researchers themselves, no financial or administrative commitments shall be imposed on the Parties.

### **3. Application and Review Procedure**

All proposals should be written in English and submitted to the DFG and the OTKA simultaneously. They should include a joint research plan, explaining the linkage between the partners and the specific scientific synergy that may be expected to emerge from their cooperation.

The Parties shall review the applications independently, under their normal procedures, but treating them as a joint application. After having reached their individual funding decisions, the Parties shall jointly determine which applications are to be funded.

Administrative procedures and implementation details not stipulated in this Memorandum of Understanding will be agreed on separately via correspondence.

### **4. Exchange of Programme Directors and Programme Officers**

In order to promote bilateral cooperation the parties may exchange programme officers for short visits. In such cases, the sending Party proposes a candidate to the receiving Party for approval.

### **5. Miscellaneous**

This Memorandum shall be valid for a period of five years and shall subsequently extend thereafter annually or as specifically will be agreed upon, unless any of the Parties terminates it by giving a written notice six months in advance. Amendments to the Memorandum may be made by mutual agreement of the two Parties. Termination of the agreement will not affect

activities that have already been approved or are in progress under the terms of this Memorandum.

The Memorandum is subject to the availability of funds in the budget of the Parties and the applicable laws and regulations of their respective countries. It shall come into force when signed by the representatives of the two Parties and after official approval by their respective governing bodies. It is documented in two signed originals in English, both texts being equally valid.

Bonn, 12 June 2006

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Professor Ernst-Ludwig Winnacker  
President  
Deutsche Forschungsgemeinschaft

Professor Gábor Makara  
President  
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