

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION BETWEEN  
ESTONIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, LATVIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES,  
LITHUANIAN ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, ESTONIAN NATIONAL COMMISSION  
FOR UNESCO, LATVIAN NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO AND  
LITHUANIAN NATIONAL COMMISSION FOR UNESCO**

**Estonian Academy of Sciences**, reg. No 74000168, represented by its President Tarmo Soomere, with the official e-mail address for electronic signature [tarmo.soomere@akadeemia.ee](mailto:tarmo.soomere@akadeemia.ee),

**Latvian Academy of Sciences**, reg. No 90000022543, represented by President Ivars Kalviņš, with the official e-mail address for electronic signature [ivars.kalvins@lza.lv](mailto:ivars.kalvins@lza.lv),

**Lithuanian Academy of Sciences**, reg. No 111958852, represented by its President Jūras Banys, with the official e-mail address for electronic signature [j.banys@lma.lt](mailto:j.banys@lma.lt),

Estonian Academy of Sciences, Latvian Academy of Sciences and Lithuanian Academy of Sciences separately referred to as the “National Academy of Sciences” and collectively as the “National Academies of Sciences”,

and

**Estonian National Commission for UNESCO**, reg. No 70000941, represented by its Secretary-General Kerli Gutman-Normak, with the official e-mail address for electronic signature [kerli.gutman-normak@kul.ee](mailto:kerli.gutman-normak@kul.ee),

**Latvian National Commission for UNESCO**, reg. No 90000089305, represented by its Secretary-General Baiba Molņika, with the official e-mail address for electronic signature [b.molnika@unesco.lv](mailto:b.molnika@unesco.lv),

**Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO**, reg. No 188734151, represented by its Secretary-General Miglė Mašanauskienė, with the official e-mail address for electronic signature [migle.masanauskiene@unesco.lt](mailto:migle.masanauskiene@unesco.lt),

Estonian, Latvian and Lithuanian National Commissions for UNESCO separately referred to as the “National Commission for UNESCO”, collectively as “National Commissions for UNESCO” and together with the National Academies of Sciences as the “Parties”,

mindful of UNESCO Call to Action “Closing the Gender Gap in Science”,

hereby agree on the following:

## **1. Purpose of the Agreement**

- 1.1. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (hereinafter the “Agreement”) is to regulate the cooperation between the Parties regarding establishing the “Women in Science Baltic Fellowship” by the National Academies of Sciences in cooperation with National Commissions for UNESCO to support young women in their pursuit of a career in the field of scientific research in the Baltic States and organising the contest for the “Women in Science Baltic Fellowship” in 2024 (hereinafter the “Contest”).

1.2. Rules and regulations of the Contest are attached to the Memorandum of Understanding as Annex 1.

## **2. Obligations of the Parties**

2.1. Each National Academy of Sciences in cooperation with the National Commission for UNESCO of the relevant country shall:

2.1.1. ensure the funding necessary for the Fellowships (hereinafter the “Fellowships”), including relevant taxes if applicable, and cover the costs of organising the Contest;

2.1.2. organise the submission and evaluation process by the jury of the Contest’s applications;

2.1.3. organise the communication for the Contest;

2.1.4. be responsible for following data protection requirements at all levels (institutional, national, international).

2.2. The Parties shall agree on:

2.2.1. the timetable of the Contest;

2.2.2. the general principles of the Contest and the number and amount of fellowships to be awarded;

2.2.3. the general principles and timetable for the communication activities of the Contest.

## **3. Term of the Agreement**

3.1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature and shall be in effect till 31 December 2024.

### **Signatures:**

Estonian Academy of Sciences:  
(signed electronically)

Tarmo Soomere  
President

Estonian National Commission for UNESCO:  
(signed electronically)

Kerli Gutman-Normak  
Secretary-General

Latvian Academy of Sciences:  
(signed electronically)

Ivars Kalviņš  
President

Latvian National Commission for UNESCO:  
(signed electronically)

Baiba Moļņika  
Secretary-General

Lithuanian Academy of Sciences:

(signed electronically)

Jūras Banys

President

Lithuanian National Commission for UNESCO:

(signed electronically)

Miglė Mašanauskienė

Secretary-General

## Annex 1

### RULES AND REGULATIONS 2024

1. In the fields of Natural Sciences, Engineering and Technology, Medical and Health Sciences<sup>1</sup> the “Women in Science Baltic Fellowship“ will grant 6 fellowships (hereinafter the “Fellowship(s)”) in Baltic States. Two Fellowships are given out in Estonia, two in Latvia and two in Lithuania as follows:
  - 1 fellowship of 7000 euros will be granted in Estonia to a Doctor of Sciences;
  - 1 fellowship of 7000 euros will be granted in Latvia to a Doctor of Sciences;
  - 1 fellowship of 7000 euros will be granted in Lithuania to a Doctor of Sciences;
  - 1 fellowship of 7000 euros will be granted to one Estonian Doctoral Candidate;
  - 1 fellowship of 7000 euros will be granted to one Latvian Doctoral Candidate;
  - 1 fellowship of 7000 euros will be granted to one Lithuanian Doctoral Candidate.
  
2. In the field of Social Sciences, the “Women in Science Baltic Fellowship” will grant one Fellowship of 7000 euros in Estonia to a Doctor of Sciences.
  
3. In the field of Social Sciences and Humanities, the “Women in Science Baltic Fellowship” will grant one Fellowship of 7000 euros in Lithuania to a Doctor of Sciences.
  
4. Granting the Fellowship to the Doctor of Sciences is subject to the condition that no more than 7 (seven) years has passed since the Doctor of Sciences has obtained her doctorate. If the applicant has been on maternity leave after obtaining her doctorate the time limit shall be extended by 18 months per each maternity leave.
  
5. The amount of the Fellowship must be used for the pursuit of scientific research in the relevant Baltic country. Fellowship awardees shall submit a free-form report on the progress of their research at the end of the agreed funding period.
  
6. The recipients of the Fellowships will be publicly announced in autumn 2024 and awarded at a ceremony taking place in Vilnius.

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<sup>1</sup> OECD (2015), Frascati Manual 2015: Guidelines for Collecting and Reporting Data on Research and Experimental Development, The Measurement of Scientific, Technological and Innovation Activities, OECD Publishing, Paris, pg 59, <https://doi.org/10.1787/9789264239012-en>