



Scientific Co-operation Agreement
Between
Damascus University in the Syrian Arab Republic
and
The Institute for the History of Material Culture of the Russian
Academy of Sciences
(Russian Federation, Sankt-Petersburg- IHMC RAS)

Damascus University in the Syrian Arab Republic and the Institute for the History of Material Culture of the Russian Academy of Sciences in Russian Federation, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties", TAKING into consideration mutual desire of the cooperation for fruitful contacts between archaeologists, researchers, restorers and museum workers of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Russian Federation,

HAVING IDENTIFIED common objectives of working in close partnership toward broadening and strengthening scientific and cultural ties; identifying new areas of cultural cooperation in a field of safeguarding of cultural heritage; and stimulating scientific and cultural activities by offering practical information and support to students' exchanging in both countries; and

GUIDED by interests of its members – institutions, organizations, and museums

HAVE AGREED AS FOLLOWS:

**Article /1/
Objective of the Agreement**

The Parties shall establish and encourage contacts between organizations, museums and institutions of the Syrian Arab Republic and the Russian Federation in order to

promote cooperation in safeguarding of cultural heritage, particularly - archaeological one - in both countries , and in accordance with the related laws, regulations and national policies enforced in each country and within their respective available resources.

**Article /2/
Areas of Cooperation**

The Parties will employ their best efforts to promote partnership relations, including:

- a. Support activities of the institutions from the Syrian Arab Republic and the Russian Federation in the area of archaeology and side sectors (for example, but not limited with, digitalizing of heritage, rescue management and conservation);
- b. Collaborate in organization of exhibitions, seminars, symposia, conferences, master classes and other similar events in the area of archaeology and side sectors;
- c. Joint search of support from the official authorities of both countries, as well as from other potential sponsors, both from governmental offices and non-governmental organizations;
- d. Development of scientific and cultural projects in the interests of both Parties;
- e. Cooperation in the area of various educational programs and internships for students and academic persons of both countries;
- f. Provision of an informational support and assistance of the official delegations of each other, travelling to the Syrian Arab Republic and to the Russian Federation.

**Article /3/
Exchange of information of mutual interest**

In order to achieve the objectives of this Agreement, the Parties shall work on the following:

- a. Exchange of information regarding various events – like exhibitions, seminars, symposia, conferences, monitoring of cultural heritage objects and rescue management of cultural heritage, master classes - in the area of the mutual interest among its members in the field of safeguarding of cultural heritage;
- b. Exchange of legislative information, also regarding important changes in cultural heritage law, regulations and practices in the Syrian Arab Republic and in the Russian Federation;
- c. Exchange print and electronic media of mutual interest and other information required for scientific researches of both countries;
- d. Provide information on prospective projects and archaeological activity;
- e. Enhance information exchange that it is available to the Parties, with a view to identifying areas of potential collaboration;
- f. Provide available and relevant information concerning new initiatives that are expected to result in stronger partnership between the Parties;
- g. Exchanging links and banners at the web sites of the Parties.

**Article /4/
Financial Commitments**

This Agreement does not create any binding obligations on joint projects and neither of the Parties is to undertake any obligations of a financial nature. Should the need arise all questions concerning the expenses connected with cooperation in terms of particular projects are to be settled by the Parties and are regulated by supplementary agreements.

**Article /5/
Protection of Intellectual Property Rights**

- a. The Parties shall undertake to protect intellectual property rights in conformity with the respective national laws, rules and regulations of their countries, and as per the enforced Agreements between them.
- b. The use of the name and official emblem of any of the Parties on any documents, publication, and/or prints is prohibited without a prior written approval of that Party.

**Article /6/
Dispute Settlement**

Any dispute that may arise between the Parties regarding to the interpretation or application of this Agreement shall be settled amicably by direct consultations and negotiations between the Parties, or through diplomatic channels without referring to any third Party.

**Article /7/
Confidentiality**

- a. Each Party shall undertake to observe the confidentiality of all documents, information and other data, which are disclosed, in writing or orally, by the disclosing Party to the receiving Party.
- b. Each Party shall undertake not to use any documents, information and data in any way except for the purposes of this agreement or its annexes, each party has no right to let a third party look at the agreement without preliminary permission, and has to deal with it and respond confidentially
- c. Both Parties shall abide by the continuation of the provisions of this Article after the termination of this Agreement.

**Article /8/
Final Provisions**

- a. This Agreement shall enter into force from the date of receiving, the last written notifications in which one Party notifies the other through diplomatic channels, about the completion of the internal procedures necessary for its entry into force,

- and shall remain valid **for three years**, and may be renewed for similar period by a mutual written consent between the two Parties through diplomatic channels.
- b. Each Party may terminate this Agreement at any time by presenting through the diplomatic channels to the other Party a written notification, expressing its wish to terminate it, six months prior to the date of termination. The ongoing activities and programs will still be valid until their accomplishment.
 - c. Either Party may amend, change and add any item or article to this Agreement by mutual written approval signed by authorized representatives through diplomatic channels. These amendments changes and additions are considered an integral part of this Agreement, and they enter into force in accordance with the procedures of the first section under this article. and will be considered an integral part of this Agreement.
 - d. Sign Executive Programs which identify, according to the mutual desire and available resources of both Parties, the mechanisms and details of the implementation of this agreement.
 - e. The implementation of this Agreement is subject to the laws and regulations in force at both Parties.

This Agreement done and signed in Damascus on 14 / 6 /2022, in two original versions, in Arabic, Russian and English languages, each of them being equally authentic. In case of any divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

**For
Damascus University
in the Syrian Arab Republic**

President

Prof. Dr. Mhd. Osama Jabban



**For
Institute for the History of
Material Culture of the Russian
Academy of Sciences in Russian
Federation**

Rector

Prof. Dr. Natalia Soloveva