



**BILATERAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT  
FOR THE CREATION OF AN INTERNATIONAL DOCTORAL TRACK IN  
"LINGUISTICS"**

the UNIVERSITY OF VERONA (hereinafter "UNIVR"), located in Verona (Italy), via dell'Artigliere 8, tax ID number 93009870234, represented by its Rector, Prof. Pier Francesco Nocini, in collaboration with the Free University of Bolzano/Bozen,

**AND**

PHILIPPS-UNIVERSITÄT MARBURG (hereinafter "UM"), located in Biegenstr. 10, 35037 Marburg, Germany, represented by Prof. Dr. Katharina Krause, President of UM,

**CONSIDERING THAT**

- UNIVR and UM, in accordance with their respective local regulations on third-level university education, have activated their own doctoral programmes in Linguistics (UNIVR, in cooperation with the Free University of Bolzano/Bozen) and German Studies and the Arts, (UM).
- UNIVR and UM have a mutual interest in jointly activating an International Doctoral Track in Linguistics (hereinafter also "IDT") pursuant to Art. 10 of Italian Ministerial Decree no. 45/2013;
- UNIVR and UM agree that the main objective of the IDT is to foster high level skills suitable for high quality research in public and private entities, as well as in self-employment, contributing to the aims of the European Higher Education Area (EHEA) and the European Research Area (ERA);
- UNIVR and UM agree on the following definitions:
  - The term "Institutions in Partnership" refers to the signatory institutions of this Agreement;
  - The term "Home Institution" refers to the institution where doctoral students will undertake their main education and research activities and where they were first accepted and enrolled;
  - The term "Host Institution" refers to the institution where doctoral students will participate in additional education and research activities.
  - The term "PhD students" is synonymously used to the term "doctoral candidates."

**For the Italian institution, acknowledging:**

- Art. 4 of Law no. 210 of 3rd July 1998;
- Ministry of Education, University and Research Decree no. 45 of 8<sup>th</sup> February 2013 "Regulations establishing the procedures for the accreditation of offices and doctoral courses and criteria for the establishment of doctoral programmes by accredited bodies"; and
- University of Verona's Regulations for PhD Studies and University of Verona's Regulations for PhD Schools and PhD Programmes issued respectively by Rector's Decrees no. 2627 and no. 2629 of 26th March 2021;

**And for the German institution, acknowledging:**

- The *Hessisches Hochschulgesetz* (HHG) of December 2017;
- *Promotionsordnung des Fachbereichs Germanistik und Kunstwissenschaften der Philipps-Universität Marburg* of 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008; updated 3<sup>rd</sup> March 2016 at UM;
- *Allgemeine Bestimmungen für Promotionsordnungen der Philipps-Universität Marburg* of 1<sup>st</sup> April 2020, UM.



The Institutions in Partnership agree to accept the following terms and conditions, including those reported in the Annexes which constitute an integral part of this document.

## IT IS AGREED AS FOLLOWS

### Article 1 – Objectives of the Agreement

1.1 UNIVR and UM intend to establish an International Doctoral Track (IDT), entitled “Linguistics”, within the PhD Programme in Linguistics in accordance with Art. 10 of Italian Ministerial Decree no. 45 of 8<sup>th</sup> February 2013.

On the Italian side, establishing and activating the IDT is conditional upon approval of the PhD programme by the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research (MIUR) and the National Agency for the Evaluation of the University System and Research (ANVUR), in accordance with the constraints imposed by Ministerial Decree no. 45/2013 for the accreditation of doctoral programmes and offices.

1.2 The educational and research objectives of the IDT are described in Annex A, which forms an integral and essential part of this Agreement.

The Institutions signing this Agreement will implement it in the spirit of cooperation towards the common objectives of supporting high quality research and developing cultural and scientific cooperation between the two countries in question.

The Agreement encourages the exchange of PhD students and professors, allowing doctoral students to develop further competence in carrying out professional and research activities that require advanced qualifications.

### Article 2 – Objectives and general characteristics of the IDT

2.1 “Linguistics” is an **international doctoral track** jointly sponsored and chaired by the signatory Institutions, UNIVR and UM.

The IDT focuses on the core fields of Linguistics and specializations in sub-disciplines of Linguistics where UNIVR and UM have common research interests (see Annex A)

At UNIVR, the IDT shall be implemented by internationalising the PhD programme in Linguistics. The IDT completes the PhD programme in terms of international content and co-tutoring for the students.

At UM, the IDT shall be implemented within the framework of the rules and guidelines set forth by the respective regulation in place at UM in general and the faculty of German Studies and Arts in particular. The IDT shall internationalise the individual doctorate as typically pursued by doctoral candidates at UM.

2.2 The IDT is intended for highly qualified candidates from all European and non-European nations, and aims to train young researchers at a high academic level.

The research expertise developed by the Institutions in Partnership and the international aspect of the IDT are assured through the mobility of their PhD students and academic staff, either between the two Institutions or within the research network related to the Institutions.

The Institutions in Partnership agree that PhD students participating in the IDT must join training and research at the Host Institution for at **least 6 months**, consecutive or not, in order to receive/fulfil the requirements of the Agreement.

2.3 According to the Italian Ministerial Decree no. 45 of 8<sup>th</sup> February 2013, the Parties agree to run the IDT for three consecutive cycles:

37<sup>th</sup> cycle - academic years 2021-2022, 2022-2023 and 2023-2024



38<sup>th</sup> cycle - academic years 2022-2023, 2023-2024 and 2024-2025  
39<sup>th</sup> cycle - academic years 2023-2024, 2024-2025 and 2025-2026

Each cycle of the IDT has a duration of three (3) academic years, plus an additional period of max 12 months for the thesis defense. Extensions are possible by mutual agreement according to the relevant regulations. The academic year runs from 1<sup>st</sup> October to 30<sup>th</sup> September of the following year.

UNIVR students will be required to defend their doctoral thesis by the end of the academic year following the local programme conclusion. For UNIVR students, this additional period will not be financially supported by a scholarship.

2.4 The IDT communication language will be English and the relevant programme will be taught in English and German.

### Article 3 – Admission to the IDT

3.1 Participation in the IDT is restricted to students admitted to one of the PhD programmes reported in Art. 2.1.

3.2 Subject to the availability of interested, suitable candidates (i.e. whose research project is evaluated by the Joint Coordination Committee as suitable for the aims of the IDT), each Institution will send **one** doctoral student to the partner Institution for each cycle activated during the period of the agreement. In particular the Parties agree the following:

Cycle	Nr. of students enrolled in the IDT	
	UNIVR	UM
37 <sup>th</sup>	0	0
38 <sup>th</sup>	1	1
39 <sup>th</sup>	1	1

Each student participating in the IDT shall be enrolled at the Host Institution **as Incoming student in co-tutelle** or be offered a similar status.

Specifically, PhD students joining the IDT in Linguistics will be required to enrol as doctoral candidates (*Promotionsstudent*) at UniVR and will be registered as “Degree Students” of the PhD programme in Linguistics.

At UM they must be accepted as doctoral candidates by the dissertation committee of the department of German Studies an Arts of UM. Enrolment is highly recommended but not obligatory.

The Institutions in Partnership agree **not** to require tuition fees from these students in addition to those already required to enrol in their respective national doctoral programmes. Incoming PhD Students in co-tutelle will be only required to pay minimum fixed fees to the Host Institution, in compliance with its regulations on doctoral studies.

PhD Students with UM as their Home Institution will pay each year to the University of Verona an enrolment registration fee amounting to € 16 for the whole duration of the PhD Program in Linguistics, plus an additional fee of about € 173 only for the year during which they will be at UNIVR.

PhD Students with UNIVR as their Home Institution are eligible to enrol as PhD Students at UM after their admission by the dissertation committee. If UNIVR students choose to enrol at UM, they shall pay the semester enrolment fee amounting to about € 340.



For each IDT student a specific “Individual Agreement for co-tutoring” will be stipulated. An example of such agreement is reported in Annex C.

3.3 If applicable, besides the procedure reported above, each Party may decide to reserve a certain number of places with or without a scholarship specifically for the IDT out of the total number of places assigned annually to their national programmes and announced annually through their respective Call for Applications. If so, this information will be specified in the Call.

In that case, at UNIVR, the selection procedure will consist of an evaluation of applicants' qualifications plus an individual oral examination. In the oral examination, candidates who have applied for the PhD Programme in Linguistics, International Doctoral Track in Linguistics must show they have sufficient knowledge of the English language.

The Joint Entrance Examination Panel will include members of UM to guarantee that the students selected are suitable also for being admitted and attending the German branch of the programme. Subsequently, the Joint Examination Panel will rank the successful IDT candidates according to their examination results. If a candidate has applied for both the IDT and the national programme and is accepted to both, the student shall choose whether to enrol for the IDT or the national programme.

Specifically, at UM, all candidates must apply and be accepted as doctoral candidates to the respective *Promotionsausschuss* independent of their application to and acceptance into the IDT programme. In addition, students with UM as their “Home Institution” must be funded within the framework of the project “Regionalsprache” of the *Akademie der Wissenschaften und Literatur*.

When a candidate has successfully passed the admission procedure at one of the Institutions in partnership, that Institution shall contact the other, via its PhD office or other appropriate office, providing copies of all the documents necessary for the student to also be enrolled in co-tutelle incoming at the Partner University if applicable.

3.4 Applicants must satisfy the general entrance requirements for admission to doctoral programmes at the respective institutions; specifically, they must hold a second-level university degree (e.g. Master of Science, Master of Arts or equivalent) that gives access to PhD programmes in the country of the Institution that awarded it. At UM, the minimum requirements are stated in § 5 of the *Promotionsordnung des Fachbereichs Germanistik und Kunstwissenschaften der Philipps-Universität Marburg* of 10<sup>th</sup> December 2008.

3.5 For information on any aspect of the procedure, the signatory Institutions can be contacted here:

University of Verona:

Ufficio Dottorati di Ricerca  
Università degli Studi di Verona  
Via San Francesco 22, 37129 Verona  
E-mail: [dottorati.ricerca@ateneo.univr.it](mailto:dottorati.ricerca@ateneo.univr.it)

Philipps-Universität Marburg:

Fachbereich Germanistik und Kunstwissenschaft  
Dekanat  
Deutschhausstr. 3  
35032 Marburg  
E-mail: [dekanin09@uni-marburg.de](mailto:dekanin09@uni-marburg.de)  
Tel. +49 6421 28-24368



#### Article 4 – Scholarship funding, research and mobility of students admitted to the IDT

Student mobility within the IDT will start from the academic year 2022/2023, and will be reserved to students enrolled in the 38<sup>th</sup> and in the 39<sup>th</sup> cycle (see art. 3.2). For those cycles, running during the accreditation period the IDT, a total number of six (6) places will be funded with three-year contributions made available by the Parties as follows:

- UNIVR will provide the IDT with 2 scholarships for each doctoral cycle, for a total of 4 scholarships in four years. The amount of each scholarship, set by the Italian Ministerial Decree of 25 January 2018, corresponds to € **15,343.28** per year, to which UNIVR adds social security contributions as stipulated by the Italian law. Therefore, starting from the 2022/2023 academic year the gross amount of a three-year scholarship would be € **56.533,86 (A)**. The scholarship amount could be subject to a rise as a consequence of an increase of the social security contributions that UNIVR has to pay according to the Italian law.

For each of the above mentioned scholarships, UNIVR shall also provide the additional sum of € **14.133,45** in order to ensure the financial coverage of the PhD student mobility abroad, up to a maximum of 18 months' mobility over three years **(B)**.

In accordance with Articles 4 and 9 of the Italian Ministerial Decree of 8 February 2013 no. 45, for each of the above mentioned scholarship, UNIVR shall guarantee the availability of adequate and stable funding for the support of the PhD students' research activity during their 2nd and 3rd year of attendance, The annual amount payable to the student upon request and on the basis of adequate supporting documents is € **3,068.64 (C)**.

- UM will provide the IDT with PhD student support for the second and the third doctoral cycle activated during the period of accreditation, for a total of 2 PhD students in four years. The PhD students selected by UM will receive a support either from an external funder or from UM that corresponds to the minimum set by the Italian Ministerial Decree of 25 January 2018 that, for the academic year 2021/2022, is equal to at least € **73.735,95 (A+B+C)**. Each grant will last three years and its duration will correspond to the legal duration of the IDT..

Considering all reported above, in terms of financial contributions, the total amount guaranteed by UM through available third-party funds for the financing of the IDT will be min. €**147.471,90** (€ 73.735,95 per grant) for the two cycles (38th and 39th) activated in the framework of this Agreement. The foreseen financial support will be directly paid by UM to the PhD students who will have UM as their "Home Institution."

#### Article 5 – Educational activities jointly planned for the IDT and progress monitoring

5.1 UNIVR and UM plan to offer a set of joint teaching activities, in the form of seminars, winter/summer schools and workshops on advanced topics in Linguistics, either at UNIVR or UM, depending on the availability funding. The topics of teaching will include both the core fields of Linguistics as well as the specializations indicated in Annex A.-Participation of jointly taught courses are highly recommended but not mandatory for a successful completion of the IDT.

5.2 Progress monitoring: Considering that at UM no formal deadlines for progress evaluations are set, while at UNIVR PhD students are evaluated on a yearly basis by the competent academic bodies, the Parties agree on the following:



- UNIVR annual evaluation are part of the IDT. The Parties will inform each other regularly on the results of the respective evaluations as well as they will provide the list of credits gained by the students at the Host Institution to the student's Home Institution through their respective PhD office. Both partners agree on recognizing the credits obtained by PhD candidates during the period spent at the Host institution if applicable.

5.3 Each PhD student participating in the IDT will be supervised by two professors, one belonging to UNIVR and one belonging to UM. Names, positions and other details of IDT student's supervisors will be reported in the "Individual Agreement for a co-tutoring thesis".

#### **Article 6 – Preparation of the thesis and the final examination**

6.1 The academic qualification of PhD (or national equivalent) will be awarded by all Partner Institutions at the conclusion of the IDT after a successful evaluation of the student's research thesis that should contribute to the advancement of knowledge or methodologies in their chosen field of study. IDT students must defend their doctoral thesis at their **Home University**.

#### 6.2 Thesis defence

At UNIVR, candidates must discuss their thesis within a maximum of 12 months after the end of the three-year programme.

At UM, the thesis defence is regulated by the applicable *Promotionsordnung*, the *Allgemeine Bestimmungen für Promotionsordnungen* and the *Hessisches Hochschulgesetz*.

The PhD thesis should be written in English, although it may be written in another language with the approval of the Teaching Committee of UNIVR and the examination board (*Promotionsausschuss*) at UM, after consulting the Joint Coordination Committee. In the latter case, the thesis must contain an extended abstract written in English. A summary of the activities developed by the student during the programme, including any related publications, must be attached to the thesis.

For PhD Students with UNIVR as their Home Institution, the thesis is subject to prior evaluation by at least two highly qualified referees who are external to the Parties involved in this Agreement.

The referees, who will be recommended by the Joint Coordination Committee (whose composition and main tasks are described in art. 7) and appointed by the Teaching Committee of UNIVR as well as the *Promotionsausschuss* at UM, will express their analysis and opinion of the thesis in writing and will either recommend that the candidate be admitted to the examination to defend the thesis, or that the candidate postpone the examination for up to six (6) months if it is deemed that significant additions or corrections are necessary. Once such period has passed, the thesis will in any case be admitted to the final examination, accompanied by a new written opinion by the same referees in the light of the corrections or additions made by the student.

After the thesis defence at UNIVR, a copy of the report written by the Thesis Examination Panel will be sent to the relevant office of the Partner University. Based on this report the Partner University will issue its PhD diploma.

After the thesis defence at UM, a copy of the report written by the Thesis Examination Panel will be sent to the relevant office of the Partner University. Based this report the Partner University will issue its PhD diploma.

6.3 The composition of the board of examiners adheres to the regulations in force in the country where the disputation will take place. In any case, the examination board must include the two appointed supervisors.



6.4 The Parties commit themselves to notify each other of the results of each step related to the thesis defence at their premises. In particular, UNIVR shall notify UM if UNIVR PhD candidates, at the end of their third year of attendance, are authorized by the Teaching Committee to submit their PhD thesis to the external reviewers according to the procedure described in art. 5.2 as well as of the results of the final examination.

UM will notify UNIVR of the same steps for the thesis defences, which take place at its premises.

6.5 The publication, development and copyright protection of the thesis content and research results in the form of intellectual property will be guaranteed by the Parties in accordance with each Institution's regulations. Later, specific agreements between the participating institutions will establish the protection conditions as well as the rights and interest that each institution has in the intellectual property and any use of the research results.

6.6 Pursuant to the local regulations on doctoral programmes at UNIVR, and in order to obtain the PhD qualification, all PhD students admitted to the IDT, regardless of whether their Home Institution is UNIVR or UM, must upload their thesis on the UNIVR University Catalogue (IRIS) at least 2 weeks prior to the thesis defence date. The thesis will be made public within 30 days after the defence, except in cases of embargo for theses containing information protected as trade secrets and/or by publication rights. At the same way, to obtain a PhD from UM, relevant publication requirements must be met.

#### **Article 7 – Granting of the PhD degree**

7.1 The Parties agree to grant a PhD degree to all UNIVR and UM students who successfully complete the IDT according to the before mentioned IDT and university-specific regulations. Specifically, the following degrees will be awarded for the same thesis:

- UNIVR: PhD degree in Linguistics, (in cooperation with the Free University of Bolzano/Bozen)
- UM: Doctor philosophiae (Dr. phil.)

Each university will issue a diploma with title as specified above and signatures of the respective rector or dean for each student who successfully completes the IDT. The diploma issued by UniVr will also mention the cooperation with the Free University of Bozen.

Each university will also issue a certificate confirming that the PhD thesis and the doctoral defence have been carried out under joint supervision in the framework of the International Doctoral Track "Cotutelle de these".

#### **Article 8 – Governance**

8.1 The Parties have established the following governing structure of the IDT:

##### **Joint Coordination Committee**

The Joint Coordination Committee is comprised of one member from each Partner University.

The Joint Coordination Committee, together with the relevant local committees (Teaching Committee for UNIVR and respective appointees for UM) shall ensure the IDT is managed correctly. In particular, it shall be responsible for organising and coordinating the day-to-day running of the programme and its specific academic activities (joint seminars, workshops, checking of credits obtained by candidates at the host institution, recommendation of the thesis examination panel etc.).



The Joint Coordination Committee will meet periodically; this may be conducted through videoconferencing.

For UNIVR, this member will be appointed by the Teaching Committee of the PhD programme in Linguistics and will be chosen from among its members.

For UM, the member will be appointed by the Dean of the faculty of German Studies and Arts.

At the beginning, for the academic year 2021/2022, the Joint Coordination Committee of the IDT shall be constituted as specified in Annex B.

The member of the Joint Coordination Committee belonging to the Partner Institution will be included in the composition of the Teaching Committee of UNIVR.

### **Article 9 – Mobility of IDT students**

9.1 In the spirit of exchange, the Institutions in Partnership will facilitate as much as possible the admission procedures, academic progress, physical relocation and cultural orientation of the students admitted under this Agreement, providing:

- Access to university facilities (such as libraries, language courses and canteens);
- Information on health insurance requirements and the extent of medical cover;
- Assistance in finding housing;
- Documents necessary for obtaining a visa.

The Host Institution does not guarantee accommodation on campus for incoming doctoral students. However, every effort will be made to assist students in finding accommodation within a reasonable distance from campus.

Doctoral students from the Home University will be responsible for:

- Paying their Home University tuition fees prior to participating in the IDT (no fee raised by UM);
- Paying for their own room and board in the host country, including utility bills;
- Organising and paying for transport to, from and within the Host University;
- Arranging and paying for the appropriate medical insurance;
- Any expenses in excess of their medical insurance cover;
- Purchasing any required textbooks, clothing and personal items;
- Obtaining and paying for the appropriate visa;
- Settling all other debts incurred by them or on their behalf during their student exchange or regarding their participation in the International Doctoral Programme, as applicable.

9.2 The Parties agree that for each of the academic cycles activated for the duration of this Agreement, the mobility costs of each student admitted to the programme will be supported by the PhD student's Home University, subject to the availability of specific funds reserved for this purpose.

Subject to the availability of specific funds reserved for this purpose, each Institution will be responsible for providing funds to cover the travel expenses, board and lodging costs of its own staff who participate in joint activities organised within the framework of this International Doctoral Track.

Following the principles of reciprocity and fair treatment, the Institutions in Partnership agree to contribute towards the travel expenses of professors who take part in the examination procedures and the Joint Coordination Committee meetings described in this Agreement.





9.3 IDT students must be obligatorily covered by adequate medical and accident insurance coverage valid for the countries concerned.

#### **Health Insurance in Italy:**

Before starting their Italian mobility period, UM students are required to collect all the necessary information in order to obtain the public medical assistance in Italy. UNIVR PhD Office will provide information and support on this matter. Anyway, the following general information must be taken in consideration:

**EEA/EU citizens** should be in possession of the European Health Insurance Card - E.H.I.C. (or T.E.A.M. Tessera Europea di Assicurazione Malattia) issued by the Health Institution in their home country and they must apply for obtaining a specific extension of their health coverage valid for Italy. With the E.H.I.C. Card they can have access to the same services as the Italian citizens, offered by the Italian National Health Service (SSN).

The assistance of a family doctor is guaranteed if they have an ID card (identity card) and the original European Health Card (TEAM) or a substitutive statement (E110 Form). In this case it is possible to go directly to a family doctor affiliated with the National Health Service, both for health problems and/or to ask for medical prescriptions. The ASL (Local Health Authority) will request the reimbursement to the competent foreign institution, according to the rules of the National Health Service of the country of provenance of the student.

**EU citizens**, who are not in possession of European Health Insurance Card, can subscribe to the **Italian National Health Service** at the same conditions as the Extra-EU citizens. The cost of the subscription will be borne by the student.

**Extra-EU citizens** can take out a private health insurance valid for Italy or subscribe to the **Italian National Health Service**. The cost of the subscription will be borne by the student and the health insurance is valid for a calendar year, that is, until the 31<sup>st</sup> of December of the year when the payment has been made. The public coverage provided by the National Health Service (Servizio Sanitario Nazionale) provides full health assistance - including the possibility to choose a family doctor. In the Italian health system, the family doctor gives general or 1<sup>st</sup> level health assistance, i.e., health care outside the hospital, hence including medical treatment in case of ordinary diseases or non-emergency health problems, and prescribes medicines and tests.

#### **Insurance against injuries and public-liability at workplace**

At UNIVR, IDT students will be insured against injuries and public-liability at workplace during their authorized periods of study and research spent both in Italy and abroad.

In the event that the above mentioned regular coverage is deemed insufficient by the PhD student or by the Partner University, it is the student's responsibility to subscribe to an appropriate additional personal insurance policy.

#### **Health Insurance in Germany:**

Before starting their German mobility period, UNIVR students are required to collect all the necessary information in order to obtain the public medical assistance in Germany. The International Office at UM will be available to provide information and support on this matter. The following general information must be taken in consideration:

**EEA/EU citizens** should be in possession of the European Health Insurance Card issued by the Health Institution in their home country and they are advised to apply for a specific extension of their health coverage valid for Germany. The International Office of UM shall provide information about supplementary insurance plans. With the E.H.I.C. Card, the UNIVR students are entitled to



necessary medical treatment on the same condition as German citizens. EEA/EU citizens who are not entitled to a European Health Insurance Card from their home country must have other insurance to cover any medical expenses they might incur in Germany.

**Extra-EU citizens** apply for adequate health insurance while in Germany. It is to be noted that the health insurance coverage is regularly checked by German authorities prior to the issuance of a residence permit. The UM International Office shall provide information on health insurance coverage that meets respective requirements.

#### **Insurance against injuries and public-liability at workplace**

UM does not offer student insurance policy, but is a self-insurer institution, and will therefore review and approve any claims against injuries and public-liability at workplace during IDT students' authorized periods of study and research. It is recommended that the student subscribe to an appropriate additional personal insurance policy.

#### **Article 10 – Regulations for reference and resolution of disputes**

10.1 For any matters not specified in this Agreement, please refer to the laws in force in the respective countries, and in particular the internal regulations in the field of doctoral studies issued by the Institutions in Partnership.

10.2 The signatory Institutions commit to amicably solve any disputes that may arise regarding this Agreement.

Should it not be possible to reach an agreement in this manner, and for any disputes that may arise between the Parties concerning the interpretation, execution and/or validity of this Agreement, will be submitted to a board of arbitration of three (3) members. Each party will appoint a member, these members will appoint an independent third member, who will act as chairman. The arbitral proceedings shall be ritual and based upon current regulations. Decisions will be binding to all parties.

#### **Article 11 – Language, entry into force and duration**

11.1 This agreement is written and signed in two (2) original copies in English, both having the same legal validity. Each party will receive one original document signed by both the Partner Institutions.

11.2 This Agreement shall enter into force upon being signed by the Institutions involved, and will remain in force for five years. The Agreement may be renewed and modified by mutual agreement between the parties. All changes and modifications must be made in writing and authorised by the representatives of each Institution in Partnership.

In the event that a party wishes to withdraw from the Agreement before the established end date, it must give written notice at least six (6) months in advance, unless the withdrawal is due to reasons of *force majeure*.

#### **Article 12 – Annexes**

The following annexes are an integral part of this Agreement:

Annex A: Definition of research topics and educational objectives of the IDT

Annex B: Composition of the Joint Coordination Committee

Annex C: Example of individual agreement for a thesis co-tutoring

SIGNED: 23.04.2021



## **Annex A: Definition of research topics and educational objectives of the IDT**

The IDT will offer a postgraduate education in the core fields of Linguistics (phonetics/phonology, morphology, syntax, semantics, pragmatics, lexicology) and the possibility to specialize in the areas of sociolinguistics, dialogue, discourse and conversation analysis, typical and atypical language development, computational linguistics, Germanic and Romance Philology, language contact, German and Romance dialects, minority languages and multilingualism. PhD students can acquire competence in traditional methodologies (such as dialectological field work) as well as in laboratory based research (e.g. acoustic analysis of audio data) and experimental methodologies (e.g. ERP-related approaches, eye-tracking).

The goal of the IDT in Linguistics is to form young researchers with a solid base in the core disciplines of Linguistics and a specialization in one particular field, allowing them to interact with the scientific community at an international level. For this reason, we plan to

- increase the number of international students in the program: by posting the call for application at an international level through the relevant mailing lists; guaranteeing international students access to the selection procedures (selection colloquia in English, skype interviews); by teaching courses of the program in English and having PhD theses written in English.
- introduce PhD students to scientific communication at an international level. Tutoring will be aimed at encouraging students' participation at international conferences and publication of research results with internationally recognized editorial locations.

The PhD program also aims at training PhD students to effectively interact with the local territory. A direct impact is to be expected with respect to research on the topics of multilingualism, minority languages and language disorders. In these domains, the PhD program will cooperate with local stakeholders such as cultural institutes for linguistic minorities in South Tyrol, Trentino, Veneto, educational institutions, and local health authorities/centers.

## **Annex B: Composition of the Joint Coordination Committee**

Prof. Dr. Stefan Rabanus (UniVR)

Prof. Dr. Alfred Lameli (UM)



**Annex C: Example of individual agreement for a thesis co-tutoring**

**Individual Agreement for Thesis Co-Tutoring  
International Doctoral Track in Linguistics  
PhD Student Mr/Ms .....**

*Annex C to the Bilateral Cooperation Agreement for the creation of an International Doctoral Track in "Linguistics" between the University of Verona, in cooperation with the Free University of Bolzano/ Bozen, and the Philipps-Universität Marburg.*

The University of Verona (hereinafter UniVR), located in Verona (Italy), via dell'Artigliere 8, tax ID number 93009870234, represented by Prof. Pier Francesco Nocini, Rector of the University, in cooperation with the Free University of Bolzano/Bozen,

**AND**

the Philipps-Universität Marburg (hereinafter "UM"), located in Marburg, Biegenstr. 10, 35037 Marburg (Germany) represented by Prof. Dr. Katharina Krause, President of the University,

**AGREE AS FOLLOWS**

**Article 1 - Subject of the agreement**

This agreement, in accordance with the Bilateral Cooperation Agreement for the Creation of an International Doctoral Track in Linguistics between UniVR and UM, is intended to set the procedure for a co-tutored thesis between the two above mentioned Universities, in order to define the conditions and the guidelines for the preparation of the following doctoral thesis (working title):

.....

PhD Student: .....

- Enrolled at UniVR in the .... year of the PhD Program in Foreign Languages, Literatures and Linguistics, 38<sup>th</sup> cycle, A.Y. 2022/23, International Doctoral Track in Linguistics;
- Enrolled at UM in the PhD Program in German Studies and Arts .....

**Article 2 – Mobility Plan**

The research periods spent by the PhD student in one or in the other University will vary on practical needs and will be fixed jointly by agreement between the two thesis supervisors.

The research periods are distributed as follows:



**Periods planned at UNIVR**

Years	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
<b>1<sup>st</sup> year 2022/23</b>												
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> year 2023/24</b>												
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> year 2024/25</b>												

**Periods planned at UM**

Years	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	April	May	June	July	Aug	Sept
<b>1<sup>st</sup> year 2022/23</b>												
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> year 2023/24</b>												
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> year 2024/25</b>												

for a total of ... months at UNIVR and a total of ... months at UM. The co-tutored program will last three years, plus a period of maximum 12 months during which the PhD thesis will be submitted to a revision procedure. At the end of the revision procedure, the PhD thesis will be defended at ..... UNIVR / UM.

**Article 3 - Thesis supervisors**

The doctoral student will research and write the doctoral thesis under the supervision and responsibility of:

For UNIVR:

- Prof. ...., Department of .....  
e-mail address

For UM:

- Prof. ...., Department of .....  
e-mail address

who undertake to fully perform their duties as tutors of the doctoral student. Their performance is defined by the law in force at the home Institution.

The two supervisors shall make an agreement on their roles in the supervision. They shall notify each other of all the information and documentation useful for the purposes of organizing the thesis that is the subject matter of this present agreement.

**Article 4 - Duration**

This Annex will be effective from October 1<sup>st</sup> 2022 and will be valid until the end of the academic year during which the thesis will be defended at UNIVR.

This Annex is drawn up in two (2) originals, both in English, with binding legal force.



For UniVR	For UM
Rector Prof. Pier Francesco Nocini  Verona, date:	President Prof. Dr. Katharina Krause  Marburg, date:
Coordinator of the PhD Program and of the IDT in Linguistics Prof. Dr. Stefan Rabanus  date:	IDT coordinator at Philipps-Universität Prof. Dr. Alfred Lameli
Co-supervisor Prof.	Co-supervisor Prof.
The PhD Student .....  Signature: ..... Date:.....	