MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE UNIVERSITY OF ISFAHAN

Azadi Square, Isfahan Islamic Republic of Iran

and

THE UNIVERSITY OF COLOGNE (UNIVERSITÄT ZU KÖLN)

Albertus-Magnus-Platz D-50923 Köln Federal Republic of Germany

In order to deepen the effective and mutually beneficial cooperation in fields of mutual interest, desiring to establish collaborative relations between the two universities and to develop academic and cultural exchange through cooperation in the areas of student exchange, teaching and scientific research the University of Isfahan and the University of Cologne have agreed as follows:

Article I: Scope of Cooperation

The scope of cooperation includes any program offered at either university as felt desirable and feasible on either side, which has the potential to contribute to the strengthening and development of the cooperative relationships.

The cooperation will be carried out and determined by mutual respect for culture, tradition and mode of life of the respective cooperation partner. Both partners support strongly the exchange of students and scientists and by this contribute to the prevention of prejudices and conflict potentials.

Article II: Areas of Cooperation

Cooperation shall be undertaken to the availability of resources and the approval of the University of Isfahan and the University of Cologne through activities or programs as:

- 1. Exchange of faculty members
- 2. Exchange of students
- 3. Joint research activities
- 4. Participation in seminars and academic conferences
- 5. Exchange of academic materials, culture, artistic and other information
- 6. Short-term academic lecture programs
- 7. Joint programs in the areas of mutual interest

Background:

The University of Isfahan and the University of Cologne endeavour to promote, to the best of their abilities, cooperation in the fields of research and theory as well as in the areas of scholarly training and further education. To this effect, both parties will support an exchange program for undergraduates and graduates.

The program is also intended to enhance respective language skills for students of the partner university.

For the exchange program the following agreement shall apply:

I. University of Cologne makes a commitment to admit three students of the University of Isfahan per academic year. The actual study period is from October until July, which for the exchange can be divided into winter semester (October until February) and summer semester (April until July).

In addition, students have the option of registering for pre-semester German Courses in September or March of each year.

Tuition fees will be waived for the study programs and for the language courses (German as a Foreign Language). Students coming to Cologne will be required to pay the student welfare contribution (approximately 260 € per semester in 2016, including ticket for public transportation in the whole area of North Rhine-Westfalia).

Cologne is further willing to integrate students (free of charge) into the exiting DaF (German as a foreign language) courses. This applies to semester as well as to pre-semester courses.

Cologne will support the students of the University of Isfahan in the application for the student visa for Germany.

II. The University of Isfahan agrees to waive tuition fees for three Cologne students each year for the study programs and for the language courses (Persian as a Foreign Language).

The University of Isfahan will take care of the visa application for the students of the University of Cologne.

The exchange depends, in principle, on reciprocity. The universities propose candidates of their choice, keeping in mind, however, that candidates will have to possess sufficient language skills.

The University of Isfahan will announce by June 30, at the latest, for the winter semester, and by December 31, at the latest, for the summer

semester of each year, the names of candidates planning to begin their studies in Cologne in the following semester.

The necessary application forms will have to be in possession of the International Office of the University of Cologne by July 15 (for the winter semester) or January 15 (for the summer semester), respectively. The names of the candidates from Cologne studying at the University of Isfahan in the following academic year will be forwarded by July 15th.

III. The University of Isfahan will assist students in finding housing in student residence. The University of Cologne will assist students in finding housing in student hostels. Housing costs will be the responsibility of students.

Both universities expect exchange student to be responsible for registering with the appropriate authorities.

Persons responsible for the implementation of the program are:

Dr. Stefan Bildhauer Director International Office University of Cologne Albertus-Magnus-Platz D-50923 Köln Federal Republic of Germany

Prof. Seyed Komail Tayebi
Director International Scientific Cooperation Office
University of Isfahan
Hezarjarib Street
Isfahan 8174673441
Islamic Republic of Iran

IV. The agreement becomes effective when both partners have signed it and remains valid for a period of five years. Changes and additions to the contract need always the permission of both contract partners. Should the agreement be changed or terminated, a six-month period of notice will be adhered to.

For **The University of Isfahan**

Prof. Dr. Hooshang Talebi

Chancellor of the University of Isfahan

Date

The University of Cologne

For

Prof. Dr. Axel Freimuth Rektor der Universität zu Köln

Date

AMENDMENT to the MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

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and

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I.
Each semester, the University of Cologne will provide two scholarships for exchange students from the University of Isfahan (5 months each with a monthly rate of currently 650,00 Euro). The University of Isfahan may appoint two students each semester or two students for a study stay of an entire academic year.

Scholarship holders are invited to participate at the presemester language course (in March and September, respectively). Participation is free of tuition fees for exchange students.

At least one of these scholarships per semester shall be assigned to an advanced student of German as a foreign language, while the other scholarship may be assigned to a student without German proficiency. Students without German proficiency are required to dispose of good English proficiency and are eligible for the *Cologne Global Study Program*.

IV. Scholarships are assigned jointly by the University of Isfahan, the respective DAAD-lecturer for German as a foreign language and the University of Cologne:

Applications can be submitted both to the International Office and to the DAAD-lecturer of the University of Isfahan, who jointly select two scholarship awardees, which the University of Cologne shall then confirm.

For the University of Cologne

H. Talel

For the University of Isfahan

Date - Prof. Dr. Hooshang Talebi Chancellor of the University of Isfahan Date - Prof. Dr. Axel Freimuth Rector of the University of Cologne