



MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

**between The High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCÉRES)
and the Independent Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (IQAA)**

1. General provisions

This Memorandum of Cooperation (hereinafter referred to as the “Memorandum”) establishes cooperation and collaboration between The High Council for Evaluation of Research and Higher Education (HCÉRES) and the Independent Agency for Quality Assurance in Education (IQAA), hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”.

The Parties sign this Memorandum to initiate productive and mutually beneficial cooperation in the field of quality assurance in higher education, training of experts, implementation of joint projects and exchange of experience.

2. Areas of Cooperation

To fulfil this Memorandum, the Parties agree on cooperation in the following areas:

- sharing experience in the field of evaluation and accreditation of higher education institutions;
- exchanging and training of experts;
- cooperating in organising conferences, workshops and trainings;
- implementing joint projects;
- consulting on the improvement of standards and criteria of institutional and programme accreditation;
- mutually representing accreditation-related interests at national and international levels;
- conducting any other cooperation activities agreed by the Parties.

3. Interaction of the Parties

Within the framework of the Memorandum, the Parties will cooperate on the principles of integrity, transparency and equality.

The Parties will establish communication with each other through authorised representatives delegated by the Parties.

Any amendment or addition to this Memorandum will be agreed by the Parties in writing.

4. Confidentiality

During the term of this Memorandum, Either Party (as the "Disclosing Party") may disclose or make available to the other Party (as the "Receiving Party") information about its business affairs, products/services, confidential intellectual property, trade secrets, third-party confidential information and other sensitive or proprietary information, whether orally or in written, electronic or other form or media, and whether or not marked, designated or otherwise identified as "confidential" (collectively, "Confidential Information").

Confidential Information shall not include information that, at the time of disclosure and as established by documentary evidence: (i) is or becomes generally available to and known by the public other than as a result of, directly or indirectly, any breach of this Section 4 by the Receiving Party or any of its representatives; (ii) is or becomes available to the Receiving Party on a non-confidential basis from a third-party source, provided that such third party is not and was not prohibited from disclosing such Confidential Information; (iii) was known by, or in the possession of, the Receiving Party or its representatives before being disclosed by or on behalf of the Disclosing Party; (iv) was or is independently developed by the Receiving Party without reference to or use, in whole or in part, of any of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information; or (v) is required to be disclosed under applicable federal, state or local law, regulation or a valid order issued by a court or governmental agency of competent jurisdiction.

The Receiving Party shall: (x) protect and safeguard the confidentiality of the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information with at least the same degree of care as the Receiving Party would protect its own Confidential Information, but in no event with less than a commercially reasonable degree of care; (y) not use the Disclosing Party's Confidential Information, or permit it to be accessed or used, for any purpose other than to exercise its rights or perform its obligations under this Memorandum; and (z) not disclose any such Confidential Information to any person or entity, except to the Receiving Party's representatives who need to know the Confidential Information to assist the Receiving Party, or act on its behalf, to exercise its rights or perform its obligations under this Memorandum. The Receiving Party shall be responsible for any breach of this Section 4 caused by any of its representatives.

5. Final provisions

Aside from section 4's provisions, the Parties will consider this Memorandum as a declaration of intent without involvement of any legal or financial obligations within joint projects.

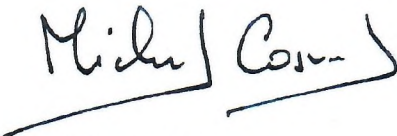
In addition, the Parties recognise that any actions taken within the scope of this Memorandum will not violate any rights or obligations of either Party.

Any changes and amendments to this Memorandum will be prepared in written form, and signed by authorised representatives of the Parties and will constitute an integral part of this Memorandum.

This Memorandum is put into effect upon being signed by both Parties and will be valid unless terminated by the mutual agreement of both Parties or at the request of one of the Parties with prior notice of the other Party not less than 30 days in advance.

The text of Memorandum is prepared in two (2) original copies in English, with one (1) copy for each Party.

Signed on the "21" December 2018.



Signatures of the Parties:

Michel Cosnard
President
The High Council for Evaluation of Research
and Higher Education (HCÉRES)
Address: 2 rue Albert Einstein – 75013,
Paris, France
Tel: +33 1 55 55 61 10
Website: <https://www.hceres.fr/>

Sholpan Kalanova
President
Independent Agency for Quality Assurance in
Education (IQAA)
Address: Republic of Kazakhstan, Astana,
20 Dostyk Street, Office 801
Tel: +7 (7172) 27 38 20
Website: <https://iqaa.kz/>

