

**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNIVERSITY OF FLORENCE AND
THE GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT GOETTINGEN TO DEFINE
SHARED EDUCATIONAL PATHS FOR THE AWARD OF A
DOUBLE DEGREE.**

BETWEEN

GEORG-AUGUST-UNIVERSITÄT GÖTTINGEN/Georg-August-
Universität Göttingen Stiftung Öffentlichen Rechts (hereafter referred to as
“University of Göttingen”), represented by its President Prof. Dr. Ulrike
Beisiegel, Wilhelmsplatz 1 – 37073 Göttingen

AND

Prof. Luigi Dei, Rector of the University of Florence, residing in Rettorato,
Piazza S. Marco, 4, Firenze, Italy.

Both parties represent their own Institutions.

– Preamble

- Having regard to national higher education laws and university bylaws,
in specific for Göttingen § 8 (2) 2 NHG; Prüfungs- und Studienordnung
für den Master-Studiengang “Development Economics”;
- Having regard to the Decree of the Ministry of University and Scientific
and Technological Research n. 270 of 2004, which substituted the
Ministry Decree n. 509 of 1999, foresees that Italian Universities, to

reach the aim of Didactic Autonomy stated in article 11 of the Law 19.11.1990 n. 341, regulate the didactic orders of their own Degree Courses;

- Having also regard to the “Lisbon Convention on the recognition of qualifications concerning Higher Education in the European Region” signed 1997 and its corresponding national laws;

In the spirit of prolific international relations and academic cooperation, the University of Florence and the University of Göttingen wish to further strengthen their ties in accordance with their mutual interests in delivering programs of academic excellence and cultural diversity. Hence, the University of Florence and the University of Göttingen have decided to enter into this cooperation agreement for the joint establishment and operation of a double degree program in the area of Development Economics (hereinafter referred to as the “agreement”).

The agreement shall facilitate auspicious opportunities for the highly qualified students from both institutions and further enhance their competence, language, cultural and social skills. The double degree program shall serve as a cornerstone in the study program portfolios of the partner institutions, positioned as a unique opportunity for students to study in the area of Development Economics from a truly European perspective.

In this agreement “home institution” refers to the institution at which a student is initially enrolled. “Host institution” denotes the institution, which has agreed to receive a double degree candidate from the home institution.

NOW, THEREFORE, the parties hereto hereby agree as follows

1. The Degree Course Council of Economics and Development (LM56) of the School of Economics and Management, University of Florence and the Faculty of Economic Sciences, University of Göttingen, define a planned Educational Path for two ordinary years of course foreseeing that the second year of the course will be attended in the partner University.
2. A maximum of 5 admissions per year for each University partner are foreseen. The selection is carried out on the basis of admission requirements jointly defined and agreed upon by the University of Florence and the University of Göttingen and specified in a separated addendum signed by the Director of the Master in Economics and Development of the University of Florence and the Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Economic Sciences of the University of Göttingen. .
3. The overall duration of the double degree programme is four semesters. The overall work load comprises of 120 ECTS. Double degree students will spend their first year at the home institution, the second year at the host institution. In particular, Double degree students enrolled at the University of Florence will spend a study period of two semesters on their own expenses at the University of Göttingen and, vice versa, Double degree students enrolled at the University of Göttingen will spend a study period of two semesters on their own expenses at the University of Florence, to follow the previously agreed courses and the

relevant exams of the partner University respectively in the Degree Courses of MA Development Economics (University of Göttingen) and of Master in Economics and Development (University of Florence). Both institutions are committed to seek adequate funding sources to implement this agreement to the extent of their possibilities.

4. Students shall be enrolled at the home institution and at the host institution. The additional enrolment at the host institution is free from tuition fee (cf. art. 5) and shall be done at the latest when starting the double degree programme at the host institution, and must be upheld until graduation or termination. Double degree students shall have access to courses and enjoy the same rights and privileges and be subject to the same rules and regulations as the regular graduate students in the corresponding Master study track of the host institution.
5. The tuition fees must be paid at the University where students are registered in the first year. The students' obligation to pay other public dues or duties while present at the host university remains unaffected. At the University of Florence, students are required to pay the regional tax and at the University of Göttingen, students are required to pay the fees applicable to international exchange students.
6. A study plan specifying the mandatory and elective courses for Double Degree participants at the partner institution approved by the relevant Degree Course of their home institution will be listed in a separated Addendum signed by the Director of the Master in Economics and Development of the University of Florence and the Dean of Studies of the Faculty of Economic Sciences of the University of Göttingen.

Master theses will be written according to the regulations of the host institution where the students spend the first and second semester of the second year and are recognized by the partner university. Mobility students will acquire at the partner University at least 60 credits (ECTS) previously approved by the relevant Degree Course of their home Institution.

7.

Students enrolled in the programme are held responsible for:

- their own cost of living,
- accommodation,
- fees eventually applicable at both host- and home university,
- costs for mobility between host and home university,
- health and other insurances according to national legal obligations.

The parties to this Agreement do not assume any liability for students towards each other or any third party.

8. The two parties commit to use all possible means to acquire the necessary resources to sustain teaching staff mobility in the frame of this agreement (*in the frame of funds allocated from Erasmus+ programme or additional resources from the internationalization process*).
9. Students will be responsible for arranging and paying the costs for health and travel insurance, and other expenses arising out of the participation in the programme. The host institution will not have any requirement to provide health or personal damages insurance for the hosted students.

Participants to this exchange programme must be insured, whilst engaging in the activities provided by the present agreement for: accident, third party, public liability, with the host institution being relieved of any such liability. Insurance cover for this risk will be obtained independently by the participants themselves. For health insurance cover, participants will have to pay on their own account according to the laws of the host country. For sundry other eventualities relating to insurance cover, appropriate separate agreements can be stipulated.

10. Students who have successfully completed the bilateral education path foreseen in this agreement will be awarded a double degree.

Upon successful completion of the double degree programme Florence awards the degree “Master in Economics and Development” according to its own deliberation rules.

Upon successful completion of the double degree programme Göttingen awards the degree “‘Master of Arts’ (M.A.)” in Development Economics following its own deliberation rules.

The degree certificate must mention that the degree was awarded after completion of a double degree programme and the double degree shall be valid only in conjunction with the degree of the other institution.

A decision by one partner institution not to award the degree because of student’s unsuccessful completion of the double degree programme does not preclude the other from awarding the degree.

11. Services offered to students from the two Universities will be based upon mutuality criteria.
12. A Coordinator named by each University will follow the application of this agreement in each Degree Course.

Final Rules

The present agreement is undersigned in English and Italian language. The present agreement will become effective from the date of signature and will be valid for four years; it will then be renewed for additional five years on request of one of the two parties at least 12 months before expiration, in any case guaranteeing the completion of the activated courses.

Changes or additions to this agreement must be agreed upon in writing.

Should any disputes arise, the problem will be entrusted to a board of arbiters made of one member selected by each partner and one chosen by common consent.

Both Universities agree in activating the relevant procedures to start the agreement, so that it will become effective starting from the academic year 2017/2018.

For the University of Göttingen

For the University of Florence

The Vice President of International Affairs Rector

Professor Hiltraud Casper-Hehne.....*Prof. Luigi Dei*.....

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Date.....

Date