

**EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME
FOR SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
FOR THE YEARS 2019-2021**

In accordance with the article n.8 of the Agreement on the Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Republic of Serbia, signed in Rome on December 21st 2009 and entered into force on February 5th 2013, the III Session of the Italian-Serbian Joint Commission was held in Belgrade on December 5th 2018 to examine the present state and further development of scientific and technological cooperation between the two Countries and to define the Executive Programme for the years 2019-2021.

The Italian delegation was headed by H.E. Ambassador of Italy in Serbia Carlo Lo Cascio, and the Serbian delegation was headed by Mladen Šarčević, Minister of Education, Science and Technological Development of the Republic of Serbia.

The members of the two delegations are listed in **Annex I**.

The Institutions in charge of the co-ordination of the present Executive Programme, hereinafter referred as to the “Parties”, are:

For the Italian Party, Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Directorate General for the Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science),

For the Serbian Party, Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development.

The following agenda items of the Joint Commission were adopted by the Parties:

1. Review of Scientific and Technological Cooperation between the two Countries
2. New Executive Programme
 - 2.1 Projects for the Exchange of Researchers and Financial Provisions
 - 2.2 Joint Research Projects of Particular Relevance
3. Final provisions.



1. REVIEW OF THE SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE TWO COUNTRIES

The Parties have agreed to recognize the growing importance of science and technology with the respect to the economic, social and cultural relations between the two Countries. The Parties, considering the good relationships between the two Countries, place particular emphasis on the role of international cooperation and stressed the need to further develop and promote bilateral cooperation in the field of science and technology. They also agreed to favour and extend the cooperation in international and European multilateral R&D programmes, with particular regard to the Horizon 2020 Programme of the European Union.

2. NEW EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME

In the period between May 25th to 12th July, 2018, a joint call for proposals was launched to collect project proposals in the following priority areas:

1. Basic Sciences
2. Health and Well-being
3. Agriculture and Food Technology
4. Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy – Environmental Development and Protection
5. Information and Communication Technologies, including technologies applied to Cultural Heritage
6. Advanced Manufacturing and Processing, Nanotechnology and Biotechnology.

The criteria adopted in selecting the joint research projects were:

- Scientific relevance of the project
- Methodology and documentation
- Qualification of the applicants
- Added value of the bilateral cooperation
- Social and developmental added value
- Use and dissemination of results
- Budget adequacy (only for the projects of “Particular Relevance”).

Preference was given to:

- Proposals involving more than one national public/private research organization;
- Proposals involving preferentially young scientists
- Initiatives having a potential industrial impacts and/or involving industrial partners (i.e. including a letter of expression of interest)
- Proposals taking part in multilateral and/or European research programmes such as Horizon 2020 and related actions.



2.1 PROJECTS FOR THE EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

Based upon the above mentioned criteria, 12 projects for the exchange of researchers have been selected. The list of the selected projects is given in Annex II.

The general administrative and financial provisions for the implementation of the Programme are given in Annex III.

2.2 JOINT RESEARCH PROJECTS OF "PARTICULAR RELEVANCE" ("PROGETTI DI GRANDE RILEVANZA" AI SENSI DELLA L. 401/90)

In addition to the bilateral projects listed in Annex II, the Italian Party may consider granting a financial contribution to 7 significant bilateral research projects. The financial contributions are intended to partly cover the research activities of the projects. Financial support will be granted to the Italian partners upon evaluation of the applications to be submitted according to indications that will be given by the Italian Party. The list of the selected projects is given in Annex IV. The Serbian Party may also consider granting a financial contribution to the same Projects during the Executive Programme (E.P.).

1. FINAL PROVISIONS

The Parties agreed to hold the next session of the Joint Commission in Rome in the year 2021. Details of the next session of the Joint Commission, such as date, agenda, etc. will be agreed upon through diplomatic channels.

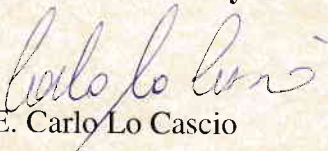
This Executive Programme for the period 2019-2021 will remain valid until the coming into force of the next Executive Programme, but no longer than one year after its expiration. Any amendment to the text of this Executive Programme has to be authorized by the competent Ministries in both Countries and has to be carried out through diplomatic channels.

All initiatives foreseen in this Executive Programme will be carried out within the limits of the budgets and according to the rules prevailing in each Country.

Annexes I, II, III and IV are attached hereto and are integral parts of the present document.

Signed in Belgrade on December 5th 2018, in two originals in the English language, each text being equally authoritative.

For the Italian Party

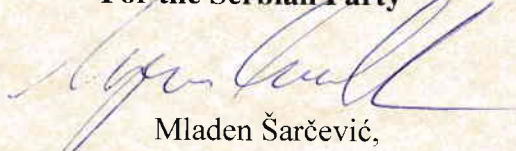


H.E. Carlo Lo Cascio

Ambassador of Italy

in Belgrade

For the Serbian Party



Mladen Šarčević,

Minister of Education, Science

and Technological Development

of the Republic of Serbia

Annex I

MEMBERS OF THE TWO DELEGATIONS

ITALIAN DELEGATION

H.E. Carlo Lo Cascio
*Ambassador of Italy
in Belgrade*

Fabrizio Cosimi
Commercial Attaché

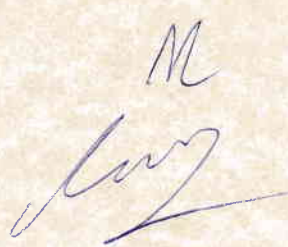
Paolo Battinelli
Science Attaché

SERBIAN DELEGATION

Mladen Šarčević,
*Minister of Education, Science
and Technological Development
of the Republic of Serbia*

Prof. dr Vladimir Popović
State secretary

Prof. dr Marija Kuzmanović
Assistant Minister

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'M. Šarčević', is located in the bottom right corner of the page.

Annex II

PROJECTS FOR EXCHANGE OF RESEARCHERS SELECTED WITHIN THE FRAME OF THE EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION BETWEEN THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC AND THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA FOR THE YEARS 2019-2021

| RESEARCH AREA | PROJECT TITLE | ITALIAN PARTNER | SERBIAN PARTNER |
|---|--|---|---|
| Advanced Manufacturing and Processing, Nanotechnology and Biotechnology | Lead-free piezoelectric and multiferroic flexible films for nanoelectronics, energy harvesting and energy storage | RUSANESCU FLORIANA CNR | VIJATOVIC PETROVIC MIRJANA Institute for Multidisciplinary Research, University of Belgrade |
| Agriculture and Food Technology | Atmospheric low temperature plasmas (LTPs) activation of water for agricultural applications and food processing | GHERARDI MATTEO University of Bologna | PUAC NEVENA Institute of Physics |
| Agriculture and Food Technology | Metabolomics approach for the detection of herbs and spices fraud | MANDRONE MANUELA University of Bologna | GODEVAC DEJAN Institute of Chemistry, Technology, and Metallurgy, Belgrade |
| Agriculture and Food Technology | Valorisation of oil seed cakes through production of valuable compounds by combined hydrothermal processing and biotechnology | SPIGNO GIORGIA Università Cattolica del Sacro Cuore | SVARC-GAJIC JAROSLAVA Faculty of Technology, University of Novi Sad, Department for Applied and Engineering Chemistry |
| Basic Sciences | Second order methods for optimization methods in machine learning | BELLAVIA STEFANIA University of Florence | KRKLEC JERINKIC NATASA Faculty of Sciences University of Novi Sad, Department of Mathematics and Informatics |
| Basic Sciences | Search for New Physics in electroweak interactions involving vector-boson scattering | COVARELLI ROBERTO University of Turin | MILENOVIC PREDRAG Faculty of Physics Belgrade, Department of Physics, Chair for High Energy Physics |
| Basic Sciences | Investigation of bacteriophages and phage-derived enzyme activity against biofilm-embedded cells of multidrug-resistant <i>Acinetobacter baumannii</i> | DI LUCA MARIAGRAZIA University of Pisa | VUKOTIC GORAN University of Belgrade, Institute of Molecular Genetics and Genetic Engineering, Lab. for Molecular Microbiology |
| Health and Well-being | Early life events and the risk for neuroinflammatory diseases in adulthood: a population-specific epidemiological approach on multiple sclerosis | PUGLIATTI MAURA University of Ferrara | DRULOVIC JELENA University of Belgrade, Dept. for Immune-mediated Disorders of the Central Nervous System |
| Health and Well-being | Biocompatibility and antimicrobial effect of biomaterials with GO for bone regeneration | ZARA SUSI "Gabriele d'Annunzio" university of Chieti-Pescara | MARKOVIC ALEKSA School of Dental Medicine, University of Belgrade |
| Information and Communication Technologies, including technologies applied to Cultural and Natural Heritage | Advanced Robust Fractional Order Control of Dynamical Systems: New Methods for Design and Realization --- Acronym: ADFOCMEDER | MAIONE GUIDO Politecnico Bari | LAZAREVIC MIHAILO University of Belgrade, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Information and Communication Technologies, including technologies applied to Cultural and Natural Heritage | Combinatorial optimization for cancer progression inference and comparison | RIZZI RAFFAELLA University of Milano Bicocca | KARTELJ ALEKSANDAR University of Belgrade – Faculty of Mathematics |
| Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy - Environmental Development and Protection | Hot mix Asphalt with high Reclaimed Asphalt Content (HARAC) | LOSA MASSIMO University of Pisa | MLADENOVIC GORAN University of Belgrade |

Annex III

GENERAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND FINANCIAL PROVISIONS

The bilateral projects to be financed for the exchange of researchers within the present Programme are exclusively those mentioned in Annex II.

For each project listed in Annex II, 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) in Italy and 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days) in Serbia may be financed yearly within the limits of the available annual resources of each Party.

The researchers will be entitled to the exchange only if they hold the Italian nationality (or any EU nationality and resident in Italy) for those who travel to Serbia and the Serbian nationality for those who travel to Italy.

The costs of accommodation and living shall be covered by the receiving Party, while the costs of international travel up to the host institution shall be covered by the sending Party.

The receiving Party shall provide medical insurance coverage, on the basis of the rules in force in each Country, against work accidents and illnesses, excluding already existing and chronic diseases. At the end of each year, the Italian researchers and the Serbian researchers have to submit a report on the activities carried out during their visits to both the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation and the Serbian Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development. The reports must be signed by both Italian and Serbian project coordinators involved in the joint research project. Funding for the next year will not be granted if the coordinators fail to submit their progress reports.

VISIT OF ITALIAN RESEARCHERS TRAVELLING TO SERBIA

Italian researchers travelling to Serbia for a research stay are required to submit the online application to the Unit for Scientific and Technological Cooperation – Directorate General for Country Promotion (Economy, Culture and Science) of the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at:

<http://web.esteri.it/ricercatori/ricercatoriItaliani/Start.asp>.

Applications must be submitted to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation **no later than 45 days prior to the foreseen date of departure**. Details of the above mentioned rules and the online application are available on the web site of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation at:

http://www.esteri.it/mae/it/politica_estera/cooperscientificatecnologica/programmiesecutivi/mobilitaricercatori/mobilitaricercatoriitaliani.html.

The Italian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers holding Italian nationality (or any EU nationality and resident in Italy). The supplied tickets will be the most economical ones available for the trip. Any additional cost shall be borne by the researcher.

STAY OF ITALIAN RESEARCHERS IN SERBIA

The Serbian Party will finance, yearly, for each project listed in Annex 2, 1 short-term stay (up to 10 days). The Serbian Party shall a contribution of 90,00 Euro (converted into RSD) per day for short-term stays (up to 10 days). The above-mentioned amounts will be paid to the host institution for Italian researchers entirely in one instalment at their arrival in Serbia. Italian researchers will receive their grants from the host institution in Serbia.

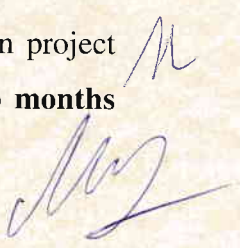
VISIT OF SERBIAN RESEARCHERS TRAVELLING TO ITALY

The Serbian Party will pay the international travel expenses to researchers holding Serbian nationality. The supplied tickets will be the most economical ones available for the trip, economy class (2nd class) flight/train/ride. Any additional cost shall be borne by the researchers.

STAY OF SERBIAN RESEARCHERS IN ITALY

The date of the visit should be agreed between the visiting researchers and the host Italian coordinator. Serbian researchers may obtain the authorization for the visit from the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation only by submitting application form online at the following link: <http://web.esteri.it/ricercatori/default.asp>.

An invitation letter from the host Italian Institution, signed by the Italian coordinator, must be uploaded to the online application. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, after checking the application for accuracy, if necessary funds are available, will authorize the visit and pay for the visit allowance. The Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation will timely inform the Italian Embassy in Belgrade, the Italian project coordinator and the Serbian researcher. The application must be submitted **at least two months before the scheduled visit**.



Any cancellation of the visit by the researcher, unless due to serious and valid reasons, might prevent the hosting Party from accepting further applications for subsequent missions.

The Italian Party shall a contribution of 93,00 Euro per day for short-term stays (up to 10 days). The above-mentioned amounts shall be paid to the Serbian researchers entirely in one instalment at their arrival in Italy. Serbian researchers will receive their grants at the nearest Provincial Treasury (local branch of the Banca d'Italia).

REPORTS ON THE PROJECT

At the end of each year the Italian and the Serbian coordinators will jointly report on the progress of their project. Funding for the next year will not be granted if the coordinators fail to submit their progress reports.

The Italian coordinators have to submit the reports in .pdf to the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International cooperation (*DGSP – Office IX: ricercatori.italiani@esteri.it*)

The Serbian coordinators have to submit the reports to the Ministry of Education, Science and Technological Development.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of a stylized 'M' followed by a large, sweeping flourish.

Annex IV

**RESEARCH PROJECTS OF PARTICULAR RELEVANCE SELECTED WITHIN THE FRAME OF THE
EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNOLOGICAL COOPERATION
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| RESEARCH AREA | PROJECT TITLE | ITALIAN PARTNER | SERBIAN PARTNER |
|---|--|---|---|
| Advanced Manufacturing and Processing, Nanotechnology and Biotechnology | Real-time control and optimization for smart factories and advanced manufacturing | FAGIANO LORENZO MARIO Politecnico Milan | TANASKOVIC MARKO Singidunum University |
| Agriculture and Food Technology | Sustainable animal nutrition (SUN) | PINOTTI LUCIANO University of Milan | COLOVIC RADMILO Institute of Food Technology in Novi Sad |
| Basic Sciences | Tuning reactivity of graphene-covered metal surfaces: chemistry above and under cover | PERESSI MARIA University of Trieste | SLJIVANCANIN ZELJKO Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences |
| Health and Well-being | Study of radiobiological enhancement of a clinical proton beam from the $++11B \rightarrow 3$ alphas nuclear reaction | CIRRONE GIUSEPPE ANTONIO PABLO National Institute of Nuclear Physics (INFN) | PETROVIC IVAN Vinca Institute of Nuclear Sciences |
| Health and Well-being | Analysis of Nanoconstructs-Immune Cells Interaction Into Blood Vessels under Physiological and Inflamed Condition by Using Computational Models and Microfluidic Systems | DECUZZI PAOLO Foundation Italian Institute of Technology | FILIPOVIC NENAD University of Kragujevac |
| Information and Communication Technologies, including technologies applied to Cultural and Natural Heritage | Micro LIBS Scan Elemental Mapping: a powerful tool for Cultural Heritage studies | LEGNAIOLI STEFANO CNR | MOMCILOVIC MILO Vinca Institute of Nuclear Science |
| Secure, Clean and Efficient Energy - Environmental Development and Protection | Two Seats for a Solar Car | MINAK GIANGIACOMO University of Bologna | LUKOVIC MARKO University of Arts in Belgrade |

