



CULTURAL AND SCIENTIFIC INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT BETWEEN

Rennes School of Business (RSB)
and
Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences (INN)

The **Inland Norway University of Applied Science** of Norway, represented by its Rector Prof. Peer Jacob SVENKERUD, and the **Rennes School of Business** of France, represented by its Director General & Dean Thomas FROEHLICHER, (hereinafter “the Institutions”), considering that promoting international cooperation in studies and scientific research is one of their common goals, agree as follows:

Art. 1 – PURPOSE

The Framework Agreement is a legal instrument expressing a “general interest” in promoting and developing cooperation between the Institutions. It will be carried out in all fields and subjects of common interest by means of specific agreements (supplementary agreements) containing the aim of the scientific and/or cultural cooperation, the manner of execution, the responsibilities and the expected results. Each Institution will designate a Project Coordinator to be responsible for the reports at the Academic Bodies.

The Institutions intend to establish relations between each other, primarily targeted to promote and disseminate research and innovative processes, technologies, and models for Sustainable Development capable of improving sustainable growth.

Art. 2 – COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

Cooperation between the Institutions includes joint and coordinated teaching and research programs. The activities can be developed through:

- exchange of teachers, researchers, administrative staff and students;
- realization of common research projects of shared interest;
- exchange of information, documents and scholarly publications of shared interest;
- organization of events such as conferences, seminars, meetings, etc.;
- reciprocal use of the existing facilities of both the Institutions;
- realization of joint educational programs.

Subject to mutual consent, the areas of cooperation include any program offered at either institute. The Institutions believe cooperation is feasible and desirable and would foster and develop a mutually beneficial relationship. The two parties agree to prioritize models, processes, technologies, and solutions promoting sustainable development. The improvement and innovation potentials offered by the synergies and cooperation between the Institutions is of great interest. Among the topics of common interest, but not restricted to, are the following:

- a) Sustainable innovation and business models
- b) Sustainable development and value creation

- c) Sustainable ecosystems and networks
- d) Digital transformations in business and society
- e) Rethinking organizations
- f) Circular economy
- g) How to reach national and international climate goals
- h) Smarter, greener energy systems

Subject to the approval of the Rector of each Institution and the availability of funds, research cooperation shall be carried out through any one or more of the following activities of programs as mutually agreed upon by the parties;

- Joint research activities
- Training, research, and dissemination
- Transfer of technology (physical and digital infrastructure)

Prior to initiating any particular program or activities described above, restricted by the budget, shall be mutually discussed and agreed upon in writing and signed by the Institutions. Each program or activity shall be negotiated annually. Each Institution shall designate a Coordinating Officer to develop and realize specific activities and programs.

Art. 3 – RESPONSIBILITIES AND FINANCING

RSB will operate within this Framework Agreement activating the research center “RETHINKING TOMORROW’S ORGANIZATION” (RTO) and RSB faculty affiliated with the center. RSB identifies Responsible for this Memorandum prof. Dermot Breslin, Director of RTO research center.

INN will operate within this Framework Agreement activating its Center for Research on Digitalization and Sustainability (CREDS) within the faculty of Business School and Social Sciences. INN identifies Responsible for this Memorandum prof. Bård Tronvoll, director of CREDS.

Supplementary agreements will follow to define sectors of interest of the Structures involved in the Program, to appoint the academic responsible, one for each sector, to specify the ways of exchanging scholars and of carrying out research and educational programs, as well as any related expenses. Both Institutions will make every effort to seek sources for financing the activities, according to the rules of the respective countries. The Structures involved shall support possible costs, within the limits of their own available funds which shall be determined by common consent.

Art. 4 – INSURANCE

Students, teachers, researchers, administrative staff participating in the exchange will personally provide medical, accident and liability insurance policies covering them from health problems and any accidents for the whole period of their stay, according to rules and regulations of the host country. The insurance policies can be issued by the Home Institution according to its own rules or directly purchased by the participant in the exchange.

Art. 5 – AGREEMENT TERM

This agreement will remain in force for a period of three years (subject to the availability of funds). Any amendment and/or modification of this agreement require written approval of the Rector of each Institution and shall be appended hereto. After the initial three-year period, this

agreement shall be renewed automatically for the same duration in the absence of six (6) months' written notice of the annulment to the other party.

This Framework Agreement between Rennes School of Business (France) and Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences (Norway) shall become effective after it has been signed by the approved parties from the two Institutions.

Art.6 – DISPUTES

Any dispute which may arise regarding interpretation and performance of this Agreement shall be solved by a special Committee composed of one member designated by each of the two Parts, plus one member jointly designated.

This Agreement, drawn up in English, is signed in two original copies, one for each Institution.

Place, date

Place, date

Lillehammer, 7/3/2013

For Rennes School of Business

Prof. Thomas Froehlicher
Director General & Dean of RSB

For Inland Norway University of Applied Sciences



Prof. Peer Jacob Svenkerud
Rector of INN