MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN RABINDRA BHARATI UNIVERSITY (Calcutta) UNIVERSITA' DI NAPOLI "L'ORIENTALE" (Napoli)

Rabindra Bharati University (Calcutta) and Università degli Studi di Napoli "L'Orientale" (Napoli)

Wishing

To further develop academic cooperation, strengthen cultural ties between the two countries and thereby improve mutual understanding and relationships;

To this aim desiring

To promote exchange of information, joint research and teaching projects, exchange of students and visiting professors, lectures, workshops and seminars:

To exchange texts, publications and audiovisual material to spread the knowledge of their respective cultures and educational systems;

To activate cooperation on a regular basis in fields of common interest;

Have agreed as follows

Art.1

The partner institutions will diffuse and promote this Memorandum, utilise available opportunities and encourage cooperation between the universities of both countries. They further commit themselves to make public opinion aware of the collaboration initiatives being undertaken to develop cultural ties between the peoples of the respective countries.

Art.2

Partner institutions agree to widen and deepen bilateral cooperation, especially in the following areas:

a) Political and social sciences, economics, comparative studies on multiparty systems of both countries.

- b) Role of both countries in regional organisations, in particular Italy in EU and India in SAARC.
- c) Major philosophers of both countries and present influences of their
- d) Migration flows, democratic institutions and public services in the present phase of globalisation, on the basis of the experience of both
- e) Heritage studies, restoration and preservation training courses, documentation programmes and conservation management plans. Exchange of know how in this field will be focussed on early British India, Indo-Islamic heritage, Medieval and early modern buildings, Hindu heritage, as well as on temple architecture and terracotta works of art and built heritage.
- f) Comparative studies of the Italian and Bengali 'Renaissance'.
- g) Sanskrit Studies and Classical Indology
- h) Classical Philology
- i) Bengali Language and Literature
- j) Dance, choreography, instrumental music, orchestration techniques.
- k) Comparative studies on popular and classic music of both countries.
- 1) Vocal music and comparative studies on Italian and Tagore's operas.
- m) Drama and comparative studies on Italian and Tagore's drama and how far 'Renaissance tragedies' influenced Tagore's dramas.
- n) Musicology and comparative studies on Italian and Indian musical
- o) Comparative studies on modern Italian and Indian painting, sculpture and
- p) Comparative studies on contemporary literature of both countries.
- q) Linguistic studies of both ancient and modern languages.
- r) Comparative studies on Latin/Indian culture. Project aimed at strengthening the ties between Latin and Indian worlds by a wider knowledge of the philosophical and literary roots of Latin culture in West Bengal and of Bengali culture in the Mediterranean Europe. Universities of third EU Mediterranean countries will also be involved in these activities. Specific projects will be introduced to the European
- s) Multimedia, mass communication, cinema studies and cinema of both t) Tourism.
- u) Comparative studies on recent experiences in education and in training programmes in both countries.

(Exchange of Information)

- 1. The Indian partner institutions shall exchange information on teaching, research and training initiatives in the fields of:
 - a) From the Indian side, classic and modern Indian languages, with special stress on Sanskrit, Hindi, Urdu and Bengali languages.
 - b) From the Italian side, Italian language.
 - c) Literature, history, political studies, economics, agro-food, environment, archaeology and muscology, conservation and promotion of heritage, architecture and planning, literature and fine arts, dance, music, photography, film studies.
 - d) From the Indian side, present and future role of India in South eastern Asian organisations.
 - c) From the Italian side, history and future perspectives of the European Union, as well as present and future role of Italy in the European Institutions.
 - f) Other relevant matters to be agreed.

Both partner institutions, according to the funds either available, will provide the others with books, publications and audiovisual material related to the above-mentioned fields.

Art. 4 (Language Teaching)

The partner institutions agreed to promote the teaching of:

- 1. Italian culture and language in the Rabindra Bharati University. To this aim, the partner institutions will explore all possibilities to jointly organise university courses of Italian language. The Italian partner institutions will also try to obtain from the competent Italian Authorities, the assignment of lecturers to the University of Naples "L'Orientale".
- 2. Hindi and Bengali languages and literature, as well as Tamil and Urdu in the University of Naples "L'Orientale".
- 3. The partner institutions:
 - A) Will cooperate in the preparation of books and audio-visual material to teach Hindi, Bengali, other Indian languages and Italian.

B) Will promote studies in the cultures, languages and traditions of both countries.

Art. 5 (Exchange of Teachers, Researchers, and Post-graduate Students)

- 1. The partner institutions will promote:
- A) Exchange of visiting professors and students and the organisation of workshops, seminars and joint research projects on issues of mutual interest.
- B) Exchange of cultural programmes in the following areas in particular: music, dance, art exhibitions, theatre and cinema.
- C) Exchange of information on major cultural events in the respective countries.
- D) Research scholarships and PhD courses in the fields of Indology and Political Science in both Italy and India. In this regard, the Rabindra Bharati University, the University 'L'Orientale' of Naples have expressed their interest in carrying out studies of modern India from both a political and an economical point of view.
- 2. The partner institutions shall try to obtain from their authorities scholarships to support the activities foreseen by the present MoU.
- 3. Joint activities, as well as survey missions of experts, will be encouraged in the field of conservation and promotion of archaeological heritage.

Art.7 (Translation of books and publications)

- 1. Depending on the financial resources available, the partner institutions will cooperate in the field of diffusion and translation in both languages of:
 - A. Texts on literature, science and social sciences, as well as works on heritage and culture.
 - B. Texts on philosophy, philosophy of language and political thought.

- 2. In this respect, the Rabindra Bharati University and the University 'L'Orientale' of Naples are considering the possibility to translate, in joint cooperation, the main texts regarding the thought of Machiavelli and Dante, as well as important Indian Authors.
- 3. Students of both sides will be involved in the implementation of the project mentioned at point 2. Depending on the funds available, academic institutions will publish the translated works.

Art.8

The partner institutions will explore the possibilities of:

- I. Establishing, in both countries, Centres of Study of their cultures and heritage.
- II. Obtaining financial resources by multilateral organisations like the EU, as well as by public institutions and private sponsors of both countries. In particular, these possibilities will be explored to implement projects related to environmental issues.

Art.9

- 1. In the framework of this MoU, Executive Protocols on specific projects shall be implemented between Universities. The participation of non-academic institutions to the above-mentioned, operational projects shall be foreseen whenever esteemed appropriate and/or useful.
- 2. This MOU does not exclude the possibility of the partner institutions to agree also to other forms of academic and cultural cooperation.

Art.10

This Memorandum of Understanding can be modified by mutual written consent of all partner institutions.

Art. 11

1. The present MoU will produce its effects from the date of its signature and will be in force for a period of three years. It shall be tacitly renewed for further three-year periods, unless one or more of the partner institutions notify the others in written of its/their intention to withdraw, at least six months before the expiry date of the last validity period.

2. In this case, this MoU shall remain in force amongst the partner institutions that have not withdrawn.

Art.12

This Memorandum of Understanding has been drawn up in two originals in English language.

For the Italian partner institutions	For the Indian partner institutions
UNIVERSITA' DI NAPOLI "L'ORIENTALE"(Napoli)	RABINDRA BHARATI UNIVERSITY (Calcutta)

Sodellæske.

29 GIU. 2015

Sabyasachi Basu Ray Chaudhury

Vice-Chancellor Rabindra Bharati University Kolkata