

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
ON ACADEMIC COOPERATION
BETWEEN
THE PATRIARCHAL UNIVERSITY ECCLESIASTICAL ACADEMY OF
CRETE, GREECE
AND
THE ORTHODOX THEOLOGICAL ACADEMY OF VOLYN UKRAJINA**

Here in after referred to as Partner Institutions.

1. Scope

This document is a statement of understanding that covers the intention of parties for increased academic collaboration. This document does not create any legally binding commitments. If the Parties later agree to undertake specific joint projects with legally binding obligations, they will develop separate written agreements on a case-by-case basis.

More specifically, the purpose of cooperation between the Partner Institutions is:

- to explore the possibilities to develop joint research and to participate together in international research networks and projects.
- to promote potential undergraduate and postgraduate program development (e.g. to explore the possibilities to develop double or joint degrees as well as thesis co-supervision at Master or PhD levels).
- to promote faculty member, student and staff mobility between the two parties.
- to encourage collaboration on joint e-learning programmes, lectures, symposia, summer schools, lifelong learning educational programs.
- to work toward co-operation in other areas of common academic interest.

Areas of common interest include among others the topics of:

- theological and pastoral studies (Old and New Testament Interpretation, Hymnology, Hagiology, Patristic Theology, Ecumenical Theology and Inter-Christian Theological Dialogues, Ecclesiastical Literature, Canon and Church Law, Church History, Church Services, Sociology of Christianity, Religion, Dogmatic and Symbolic Theology, Bioethics, etc.).

- Church musical studies (Byzantine Music-Theory and Notation, Byzantine Chant, European Music, Traditional-Folk Music, History and Morphology of Byzantine Church Music, Eastern Music (Makam system), etc.).

2. Implementation Procedures

Each Partner Institution appoints an academic coordinator in order to act as contact point and supervise facilitating the implementation of this Memorandum and the dissemination of its results, in close collaboration with other academic and administrative staff.

Contact information of the academic coordinators:	
Patriarchal University Ecclesiastical Academy of Crete	Orthodox Theological Academy of Volyn
Name and surname: Michael Stroumpakis, Assoc. Professor, President of the Academic Council	Name and surname: Reverend Father Volodymyr Vakin, Rector of the Orthodox Theological Academy of Volyn,
e-mail: president@aeahk.gr	e-mail: secretary@vpba.org

3. Financial Implications

Each institution shall be responsible for expenses incurred by its employees under this agreement and no other specific financial commitment by either party results in connection with all matters relating to collaborations under this Memorandum of Understanding, unless otherwise specified in a subsequent agreement. The scope of the activities under this agreement shall be determined by and subject to the funds available in both institutions, both from internal and external funds. Partner institutions may also seek for funding for collaborative projects by the European Union or other external sources.

4. Duration /Withdrawal

This Memorandum of Understanding comes in force upon signing by both Partner Institutions. It shall be effective for a period of five (5) years from the date of final signature, unless terminated earlier by either institution upon six (6) months advance written notice. The early termination will not be subject to penalty and Partner Institutions shall not be liable for any monetary or other losses which may occur. This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified or extended by mutual written agreement signed by the authorized representative of both Parties.

5. Signatures

Upon reading, being informed and agreeing on these terms, both Parties sign the present document in two (2) copies, both of which share the same content and validity.

**Patriarchal University Ecclesiastical Orthodox Theological Academy of
Academy of Crete** **Volyn**

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Legal representative: President of the
Academic Council

Legal representative: Rector of the
Orthodox Theological Academy of
Volyn

Name and surname:

Name and surname:

Assoc. Prof. Michael Stroumpakis

Reverend Father Volodymyr Vakin,

Date: 02.06.2025

Date: 02.06.2025

Signature

Signature

