INTERNATIONAL DOUBLE MASTER'S AGREEMENT BETWEEN UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO AND UNIVERSITY OF MÁLAGA

On one part, University of Palermo, hereinafter also referred to as the “UNIPA”, with registered office at Piazza Marina n. 61, 90133 Palermo, Italy, VAT number 00605880822, and on its behalf and represented by prof. Fabrizio Micari, Rector of the University of Palermo;

on the other part, the University of Málaga, hereinafter also referred to as the “UMA”, with registered office at Pabellón de Gobierno. Campus Universitario de El Ejido. 29071 Málaga, Spain, VAT number Q2918001-E, and on its behalf and represented by prof. D. José Ángel Narváez Bueno, Rector of the University of Málaga

STATE

1. That both institutions share cultural, technical, educational, and scientific fields of common interest.

2. That collaboration and the exchange of experience and knowledge, as well as the provision of services between both institutions, are in their greatest interest for social and cultural progress.

3. That they are interested in promoting their international collaboration in the field of higher education and research.

They hereby sign an agreement that regulates the conditions under which students may access and opt for a double master’s degree conferred by both universities, subject to compliance with the clauses established in this agreement, and in accordance with the current regulations at each institution, as follow:

**First – Purpose of the agreement**

This double master’s agreement aims to establish the academic and administrative conditions under which students enrolled at the master degree in “Tourism systems and hospitality management” at UNIPA, and students enrolled at the master degree course in “Dirección y planificación del turismo” at UMA, may access and opt for a double master’s degree conferred by both universities, subject to compliance with the clauses established in this agreement, and in accordance with the current regulations at each institution.

Both Institutions consider that the two degree courses are similar and equivalent.

All procedural rules will be determined through specific agreements between international programmes managers (within an administrative agreement).

This Agreement is accompanied by a list of the courses and other curricular activities (Annex 1) that students enrolled in the double degree programs may opt during their stay at the host
university in order to obtain the double degree. In the annexes there are the similarities and correspondences of the two courses for a minimum of 30 ECTS (credits).

In addition to the courses from Annex 1 relevant for obtaining the double degree, students may, in consultation with international programmes managers at home institution, opt for any other module delivered at the host university during their stay.

The curriculum of the tables (Annex 1) must be approved in advance by the academic bodies of both Universities, and can be modified in each academic year, after approval of the academic bodies of both Universities.

Annex 2 describes the grading equivalence that each institution will apply for students participating in the double master’s program.

Finally, Annex 3 provides academic and administrative officials responsible for the double master’s agreement.

Second – Student application and admission

The maximum number of students which could be enrolled in each double degree program is 5 (five), for each academic year, by each University.

Each university will announce yearly the application call for participating to double degree program.

Evaluation of the applications and applicant’s selection will be mainly based on their motivation, academic career and the level of knowledge of the official language at hosting university (English for UMA students outgoing to UNIPA and Spanish for UNIPA students outgoing to UMA).

Students from UMA must hold the Grado en Turismo by the Universidad de Málaga or a similar degree.

Incoming students must meet the general admission requirements for international students admission, in force at hosting university.

Before beginning to take the courses at the host university, students admitted to the double degree program must possess the minimum level of knowledge of the official language at hosting university (B2 English for UMA students outgoing to UNIPA and B2 Spanish for UNIPA students outgoing to UMA). In the case of students who possess a level of knowledge almost correspondent to the minimum required and under previous approval of the coordinators of the double degree program, this minimum level could be attained by taking and passing language courses at the host university’s Linguistic Centre. Also in this case, the minimum level must be reached before starting the courses at the host university.

The student’s final admission requires approval by the partner institution and admission into its corresponding degree program.

Third - Stay

Each student admitted to the double degree program must submit his/her plan of studies to the approval of both universities.

The students participating in the double master’s program must attend one semester at the partner institution.

The partner university, through the administrative official responsible for this agreement, pledges to provide assistance in the search for suitable accommodations. Likewise, the partner institution pledges to provide the student with the information relating to the host country, visas, required medical insurance, etc., before their arrival. The partner institution must provide students in the double degree program with the same services that it generally provides its own students.

Each institution’s academic calendar will be considered when organizing the stays. The academic official responsible for this agreement must inform the incoming students about the organisation of the courses they must take during their stay at the partner institution.
All students admitted to double degree program must register and present the transcript of records of the courses already taken at their home university, as well as the learning agreement with the courses they will take during their stay at the host institution.

After completing the stay, the students must submit to their institution the official student transcript of records issued by the partner institution in order to receive credit for the courses taken. The certificate must be presented in English.

Fourth – Enrolment and tuition fees

The student participating in the double degree program will pay the enrolment fees and taxes at their home institution and they will be exempted from paying registration or degree fees for courses taken at the host institution during the period of the stay.

If incoming students at the UNIPA or UMA have to prolong their stay in order to comply with the, respectively, UNIPA or UMA curriculum, or they do not pass the courses the first time they register for them, they must pay the corresponding subsequent registration fees for the courses failed in the first registration or those taken outside the stay period stipulated in this agreement.

Once the student has been accepted into the double master’s program, he/she must be enrolled in the corresponding master’s program at the partner institution. The enrolment will be carried out by the administrative official responsible for this agreement, who will inform the student about the necessary documents.

In order to obtain the degree, the student must pay the fees for the degrees to be issued at both institutions.

Fifth – Student obligations and rights

During the exchange period, the students will be subject to the rules and regulations of the partner institution and to all the legal and social obligations within the host country. Likewise, they will enjoy the same rights as students enrolled at the partner institution.

If a student does not comply with the terms of this agreement, including the length of the stay at the partner institution and its curriculum, that student will forfeit any right to receive the degree from the partner institution and will be excluded from the double master’s program, although they may still be eligible to opt for the master’s degree at their home institution.

Sixth – Expenses

Transport costs, medical insurance, accommodations, upkeep, and any other expenses arising during the exchange period established in the double master’s program will be charged to the student. The student must acquire health insurance that guarantees access to health care in the host country. This insurance must cover medical and health care, death and disability caused by an accident, repatriation assistance for death by any cause, and reimbursement for medical expenses caused by an accident.

The partner institution, through the administrative responsible officer for this agreement, pledges to provide assistance in the search for suitable accommodations, although all stay expenses will be charged to the student. Likewise, the partner institution pledges to provide the student with information relating to the host country, visas, required medical insurance, etc., before their arrival. The partner institution must provide students in the double master’s program with the same services that they generally provide their own students.

UNIPA and UMA will undertake all efforts for finding national and international resources to assure financial support to this program.

Seventh – Evaluation of the results

The academic officers of both institution charged with the coordination of this double degree program will meet also by video conference, at least once in a year, to evaluate the effectiveness of
the learning program and the results achieved by students, as well as the resources supplied by both universities. They could suggest the necessary modifications to improve the quality of the program and propose them to the competent Boards of both institutions.

**Eighth - Duration of the agreement**
This agreement will take effect from the time of its signing by the representatives of both institutions, and will be valid for a period of five years. Following this period, the agreement may be renewed by written consent. Either one of the signatory institutions may terminate this agreement in writing, which must be sent to the partner institution 6 months in advance. If one institution wishes to terminate this agreement, both pledge to meet their commitments to the students admitted into the double master's program before either one withdraws from it.

Moreover, the signature of this agreement does not mean any financial fulfilment to the parties.

**Ninth – Academic and research exchanges**
With the aim of supporting the double degree program, UNIPA and UMA will promote and coordinate by mutual consent the exchange of visiting professors and researchers as well as the organisation of workshops, seminars, conferences and publications on topics of common interest. The exchange and the development of the activities above mentioned will conform to the norms and procedures in force in the two institutions.

**Tenth - Use of Logo**
The Partners mutually commit not to use the name and/or logo or any other identifying marks for purposes other than those covered by the agreement, except for specific agreements between the parties that provide, prior explicit approval, forms of communication and divulging of the initiatives covered by the agreement.

**Eleventh - Personal data treatment**
Universities will arrange for the treatment, the dissemination and communication of personal data in pursuit of their institutional goals and as provided by law.

**Twelfth- Text of the agreement**
The agreement will be drawn up in English. Any amendments or changes to the text of the agreement must be requested in writing by the institution proposing them.

If any disagreement regarding the interpretation and application of the agreement arises in Spain, Spanish laws and regulations will be applied. If the disagreement arises in Italy, the laws and regulations of Italy will apply.

As proof of agreement with the foregoing, the present agreement is signed in duplicate.

ON BEHALF OF UNIVERSITY OF PALERMO

Prof. Fabrizio Mignari
Rector of the University of Palermo

ON BEHALF OF THE UNIVERSITY OF MÁLAGA

Prof. D. José Ángel Narváez Bueno
Rector of the University of Málaga

Juan Antonio García Galindo
El Vicerrector de Política Institucional
Resolución del 07/03/2016
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