

**Memorandum of Understanding for
Future Academic Cooperation and Exchange**

between

**Tehran University of Medical Sciences
and
Technische Universität Berlin**

in the area of health systems' and policies' research

In light of the mutual desire of the two universities and recognition of their commitment to the advancement of learning through research, training, consultation and technical exchange, Tehran University of Medical Sciences, hereinafter referred to as "TUMS", and Technische Universität Berlin, hereinafter referred to as "TU Berlin", join the following Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on the promotion of academic links between the two universities.

1. Both universities will make every reasonable effort to encourage direct contact and research cooperation between their faculty members and departments under the provisions of this MoU, and endeavor to cooperate in the field of health systems' and policies' research.
2. To this end, as a first specific joint initiative, both universities agree to establish the following specific form of cooperation within spheres of mutual interests and availability funding, including through third parties:
 - Conducting consultations and advice to strengthen TUMS' capacity to study, plan and establish the **Iranian Observatory on Health System and Policies (IOHSP)**. This will require knowhow and technology transfer from German partner to build a robust mechanism for establishment of evidence-informed policy making in the Iranian health system, benchmarking global best practices; as well as providing a trustworthy platform for decision makers to conduct applied and needed research for building more efficient, equitable and need-based health system in the country, and advocate for allocation of resources to apply the acquired evidence to improve health system quality, through, but not limited to reforms in organizational structure, service packages, payment system, fair financial protection and greater citizens' satisfaction, ultimately.
3. National Institute for Health Research (NIHR), a TUMS affiliate research center and TUMS School of Public Health (SPH) are the two entities collaborating to work with German partner for the above mentioned specific form of cooperation, and will divide the labour between themselves accordingly. For this specific form of cooperation, an action plan will be prepared within six months after the MoU's signatory. This action plan should be discussed, agreed and signed by both institutions and will be an inseparable part of this MoU after being signed.
4. On the side of TU Berlin, the Department of Health Care Management is the responsible unit for the implementation of this MoU in general as well as the afore mentioned initiative in particular.
5. Further themes of joint research activities, the conditions for utilizing the results achieved, and arrangements for specific visits, exchanges, and other forms of cooperation shall be

negotiated for each specific case. The following general forms of cooperation will be explored:

- Visits to the other institution by faculty members and researchers for conferences, seminars, lectures and scientific discussions;
 - Exchange of academic materials and academic publications;
 - Joint research activities;
 - Creating opportunities for graduate and undergraduate students to take courses and to engage in internships, service learning and research at the other institution;
 - Developing proposals for possible undergraduate or postgraduate student exchanges or Cotutelle PhD programs;
 - Joint applications to secure national and international funding to run research projects of mutual interest;
 - Publications of joint academic research.
6. Both parties understand that all financial arrangements shall be negotiated and will depend upon the availability of funds.

This MoU shall become effective when the signatories representing both institutions have affixed their signatures, and shall be effective until a more specific MoU has been agreed.

TEHRAN UNIVERSITY OF MEDICAL SCIENCES

NAME: DR. RAMIN KORDI

POSITION: VICE-CHANCELLOR FOR GLOBAL STRATEGIES AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS

DATE: 15. OCT 2018

SIGNATURE:



TECHNISCHE UNIVERSITÄT BERLIN

NAME: PROF. REINHARD BUSSE

POSITION: HEAD, DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH CARE MANAGEMENT

DATE: 15 October 2018

SIGNATURE:

