

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

between

THE

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION AND SCIENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

AND THE

**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, RESEARCH AND YOUTH
ROMANIA**

AND THE

**FEDERAL MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND RESEARCH
OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA**

CONCERNING

**COOPERATION IN THE AREAS OF
SCIENCE AND RESEARCH**

The Ministry of Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Education, Research and Youth of Romania and the Federal Ministry of Science and Research of the Republic of Austria

RECOGNIZING the important contribution of joint actions in science and research for the further strengthening of the ties between the partnering countries

DESIRING to further promote the close and friendly relations existing between their countries

CONSIDERING their common interest to promote and encourage their scientific research and technological cooperation

CONVINCED that these measures will enhance the economic and social development of their countries

ACKNOWLEDGING the achievements already obtained in these areas

PURSUANT to the prevailing laws and regulations as well as scientific cooperation policies and procedures in their respective countries

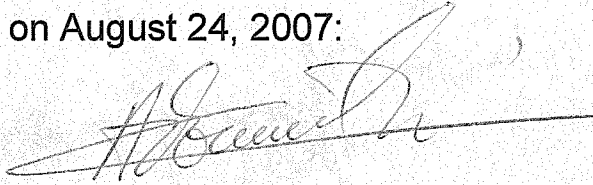
EMPHASISE the importance of the cooperation in science and research between their countries and welcome initiatives to strengthen cooperation such as

- increased networking of high level officials responsible for science and research in the respective countries by regular meetings and mutual invitations to relevant events and activities,
- enhanced cooperation of national, regional or institutional Contact Points in view of the Seventh Framework Programme (2007-2013) of the European Community for research, technological development and demonstration activities (FP 7),
- enhanced networking between universities and higher education institutions, also in regional cooperation programmes such as CEEPUS (Central European Exchange Program for University Studies),
- increased efforts in fully integrating South Eastern Europe and the West Balkan Countries in the European Research and Higher Education Areas, e.g. in the framework of the SEE-ERA.Net activities and in the core objective "Fostering and Building Human Capital" in the framework of the Stability Pact for South Eastern Europe.
- Enhanced cooperation between funding organizations for mutual exchange of evaluators for national research projects and programmes

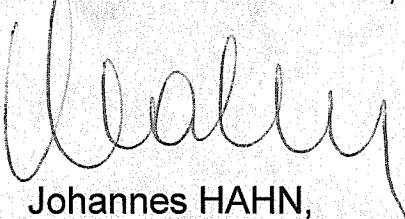
The present Memorandum of Understanding does not result in the creation of any obligation regarding international law nor shall it have any effect on existing legislation.

Done in three original documents in English, all three texts being equally authentic

in Alpbach on August 24, 2007:

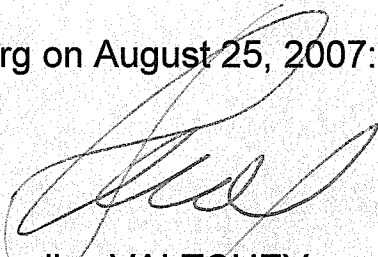


Cristian Mihai ADOMNIȚEI,
Minister for Education, Research and Youth of Romania



Johannes HAHN,
Austrian Federal Minister for Science and Research

in Salzburg on August 25, 2007:



Daniel Vassilev VALTCHEV,
Minister for Education and Science of the Republic of Bulgaria