

**Framework Cooperation Agreement**  
**pursuant to**  
**sec. 53 of the Hessian Higher Education Act (HessHG)**  
**and sec. 10 of the Higher Education Act (HochSchG)**

**Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt am Main**

represented by the President

Theodor-W.-Adorno Platz 1, 60323 Frankfurt am Main,

and

**Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz**

represented by the President

Saarstraße 21, 55122 Mainz,

and

**Technical University of Darmstadt**

represented by the President

Karolinenplatz 5, 64289 Darmstadt

- hereinafter jointly referred to as "**Partner Universities**" -

enter into the following agreement:

## Preamble

Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz and Darmstadt Technical University have been cooperating since 2015 as the RHEIN-MAIN UNIVERSITIES (RMU).

The Partner Universities were each founded in turbulent times, and in each case, this was a response to a moment of profound historical change and a starting point for continuous renewal. At the beginning of a new millennium full of challenges, the three histories of the Partner Universities were brought together through the cooperation as RMU, in order to respond to questions that require more than just one answer.

The RMU forms a pioneering cooperation in the Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region, which is itself characterized by a high level of innovative power and dynamic development. Located very close to each other, the Partner Universities offer a diverse range of subjects, from medicine and the natural sciences to the humanities, social sciences, and engineering. Together, the Partner Universities stand for excellence in all university performance areas.

The RMU combines the strengths of the Partner Universities to sustainably increase their scientific performance. They use their complementary strengths to form strong, interdisciplinary research alliances and promote innovative research projects. By improving and expanding the range of courses on offer, the RMU contributes to the attractiveness of the Rhine-Main region as a center of higher education and strengthen knowledge transfer and networking with business and society. The RMU plays a key role in creating an integrated science region that is globally visible and internationally attractive.

The RMU is thus not only a driving force for scientific excellence, but also for social transformation and economic development in the Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region. Through their commitment, the Partner Universities are helping to shape the Rhine-Main Metropolitan Region into a future-oriented and outstanding area of science in Germany and globally. To this end, the RMU provides decisive impetus and creates spaces for opportunities, innovation and interaction for their members and partners, thereby laying the foundations for meeting the challenges of today and tomorrow.

Building on their collaboration within the RMU since 2015, the three Partner Universities see a need to update the goals of their cooperation in line with the developments and requirements, to consolidate a governance structure for further successful collaboration, and to establish a university consortium in accordance with sec. 53 of the Hessian Higher Education Act of December 14, 2021 (GVBl. I p. 931 – HessHG) in the version dated June 29, 2023 (GVBl. p. 456, 472) and in accordance with sec. 10 of the Rhineland-Palatinate Higher Education Act of September 23, 2020 (GVBl. 461 – HochSchG) in the version dated November 26, 2024 (GVBl. p. 373, 377). The aim is to further consolidate cooperation, make targeted use of synergies and pursue and achieve the joint strategic goals of the Partner Universities in a sustainable manner.

## I. General

### § 1. Subject matter of the agreement

- (1) The subject matter of the agreement is the further structuring and deepening of the RMU agreed upon by the Partner Universities in 2015. Within the framework of the RMU, the Partner Universities pursue a joint strategy to strengthen all university performance areas at the Partner Universities.
- (2) The Partner Universities will develop the RMU in a sustainable manner through the following structural elements:
  - a. Updating the objectives from the framework agreement of December 11, 2015
  - b. Consolidating a governance structure for the management and administration of the RMU
  - c. Expanding the framework conditions for cooperation
- (3) In the future, the Partner Universities also aim to strengthen their collaboration with regard to international cooperation and networking.

## **II. Research**

### **§ 2. Intensification of research cooperation**

- (1) The Partner Universities aim to further intensify their cooperation in research. They enable the participating scientists to use resources for research purposes within the framework of the relevant cooperation.
- (2) Joint research projects between scientists from the Partner Universities can be regulated by supplementary agreements. If no supplementary agreement is concluded, the provisions in the appendix apply. In the cases referred to in paragraph (3), supplementary agreements must be concluded as a rule. If supplementary agreements are concluded, they must, among other things, include provisions on the purpose and duration of the project, on the provision or mutual use of the respective resources, and on the exploitation of intellectual property rights, taking into account the relevant funding conditions and the current version of the framework for State aid of the European Commission.
- (3) If public and non-public funding bodies provide funds to support the financing of indirect project costs incurred by the research project (e.g., lump-sum administrative costs, overheads, lump-sum project fees), the Partner Universities undertake to pass these on to the respective partner on a pro rata basis, provided that this is permitted under the funding bodies' requirements. Details are subject to the respective agreement.

### **§ 3. Acquisition and use of large-scale equipment/research infrastructures**

The Partner Universities aim to cooperate regarding the use of large-scale equipment in joint cooperation projects. They also aim to jointly purchase and operate joint research infrastructures. The details of this will be agreed upon by mutual consent between the Partner Universities in accordance with the relevant provisions of the contractual partners and subject to available capacities.

#### **§ 4. Support for early career researchers**

- (1) The Partner Universities consider the promotion and empowerment of early career researchers (scientists in the early stages of their careers, hereinafter referred to as "ECR") as one of their key tasks. Within the scope of their capacities and to the extent legally possible, they will mutually open up their specific offerings for this target group, and they aim to consolidate and professionalize the corresponding support structures.
- (2) The Partner Universities intend to jointly acquire third-party-funded graduate programs, such as DFG Research Training Groups and graduate schools. They strongly support corresponding initiatives on the part of their scientists.

### **III. Study and teaching**

#### **§ 5. Supplementing and coordinating course offerings**

- (1) The Partner Universities already cooperate in the field of study and teaching in the form of several joint degree programs or certificate programs, for which there are supplementary agreements, the so-called RMU Study Program, and in cooperative teaching and learning formats. To supplement the study opportunities, the courses offered by the participating Partner Universities provide students from the Partner Universities with further opportunities to regularly participate in courses offered by the other Partner Universities. This also applies to international exchange students from the Partner Universities, who also benefit from the courses offered at the Partner Universities.
- (2) If the Partner Universities cooperate in the joint development of courses, degree programs, certificate programs, and curricula with the aim of enabling joint degrees, these must be anchored in supplementary agreements. The Partner Universities also coordinate the content and timing of the courses offered in suitable degree programs. The courses offered by the Partner Universities will be announced, with reference to the cooperation, at the participating locations in the manner customary there.
- (3) The mutual recognition of study and examination credits is based on the examination regulations applicable at the Partner Universities. Students can participate in designated courses that are part of the free RMU Study

Program, be admitted to examinations, and earn study certificates or credit points.

## **§ 6. Enrollment**

- (1) Students who wish to attend courses at the other participating Partner Universities and earn study and examination credits must enroll there for the free RMU Study Program in accordance with the regulations applicable at the respective Partner University. For participation in courses in the free RMU Study Program in degree programs with restricted admission and participation in courses with a limited number of participants, the regulations of the offering Partner University apply additionally.
- (2) Students who wish to study in a joint degree program must apply for enrollment at the Partner University responsible for offering the joint degree program in accordance with the regulations applicable there. In addition, they must enroll at the other Partner University offering the joint degree program.
- (3) The Partner Universities will compile an evaluation of the number of students enrolled within the framework of the cooperation for each semester and make the data available to the other Partner Universities involved in compliance with data protection regulations, cf. § 21.

## **§ 7. Teaching services and examination authorizations in degree programs**

- (1) Teachers who, within the framework of supplementary agreements, primarily teach courses for students at Partner Universities, travel there. Teaching services at the other Partner University are provided as part of teaching duties; they must not exceed 50% of the compulsory teaching load. The Partner Universities ensure that there is a balance between them with regard to teaching work.
- (2) Persons from the other participating Partner Universities authorized to conduct examinations may be appointed as examiners or involved in examinations in accordance with the respective examination regulations.

- (3) It is the Partner Universities' general intention that, not only within the framework of supplementary agreements, members of the other Partner Universities can also be authorized to act as examiners, supervisors or reviewer in degree programs.

#### **§ 8. Examinations in the PhD process and the habilitation process**

- (1) It is the Partner Universities' intention that members of the other Partner Universities can also be authorized to conduct examinations in the PhD process as examiners, supervisors, and/or reviewers, provided that at least one supervisor is a member of the Partner University at which the PhD process is being conducted. The Partner Universities will – to the extent legally possible and necessary – create the conditions in their respective internal university regulations to remove existing obstacles.
- (2) In the habilitation process, it is intended that members of the Partner Universities are also eligible to be appointed as reviewers. Notwithstanding this, the respective internal university regulations may stipulate that own members of the respective Partner Universities must also be involved.

### **IV. Administrative cooperation, use of facilities, further scientific training**

#### **§ 9. Cooperation between central university administrations**

- (1) The Partner Universities aim to promote cooperation between their central administrations through regular mutual information sharing and exchange of experience.
- (2) They also plan the joint use and further development of offers for personnel and organizational development. Furthermore, the Partner Universities intend to continue their cooperation with regard to dual career services. The Partner Universities will agree on the details in separate written agreements.
- (3) In addition, the Partner Universities aim to cooperate in administrative services such as procurement, IT operations, and aligned personnel recruitment on a shared platform. The Partner Universities will agree on the details in separate written agreements.

## **§ 10. Further scientific training**

In addition, courses, particularly further scientific training (including certificate programs), can also be established jointly; these must be anchored in supplementary agreements.

## **V. Structural development**

### **§ 11. Structural planning and focus areas**

- (1) Where appropriate, the Partner Universities will coordinate the focus of professorships to be filled in the future. Where legally possible, a member of the group of professors from the participating Partner Universities will be represented as an advisory member on the appointment committee. This does not exclude necessary and appropriate double appointments.
- (2) The Partner universities regularly inform each other about the development and definition of thematic priorities with a view to possible closer cooperation, particularly in the areas of research and teaching (e.g. degree programs). The mutual exchange of information takes place, for example, among other things, in the context of regular exchanges between the universities' executive boards.

### **§ 12. RMU appointments and co-opting of scientists**

- (1) The RMU Partner Universities can also jointly appoint professors and university lecturers (RMU appointment). This is based on coordinated strategic appointment planning and a jointly conducted appointment procedure, which is carried out in agreement with the respective Partner Universities in accordance with the university and civil service regulations of the appointing Partner University. The details of RMU appointments, in particular regarding financing, employment at the participating Partner Universities, and the composition of the appointment committee, are subject to a separate agreement between the participating Partner Universities.
- (2) The Partner Universities also aim to connect scientists from the other Partner Universities through co-optation. They will – to the extent legally possible and necessary – create the conditions in their respective internal university regulations to remove existing obstacles.

### **§ 13. Use of facilities**

Members of the Partner Universities are granted access to central facilities, such as the university library, at the other Partner Universities within the scope of available resources, respective (access and usage) rules, and legal possibilities. Access to central facilities for students of the Partner Universities may be subject to special conditions, e.g., enrollment in the free RMU Study Program or in another joint study program as a guest student. However, the Partner Universities aim to ensure that the same conditions that apply to their own students also apply to students of the other Partner Universities.

## **VI. Governance**

### **§ 14. Bodies**

The RMU has the following bodies:

- a) RMU Board of Directors
- b) RMU Assembly
- c) commissions and committees

In addition, the RMU International Advisory Board advises the RMU Board of Directors.

The governance structures are lean, efficient, and flexible in order to enable quick decision-making and fast adaptation to changing conditions.

### **§ 15. RMU Board of Directors**

- (1) The RMU Board of Directors manages the RMU. The RMU Board of Directors is supported by an RMU office, see § 17, in the strategic and organizational management and development of the RMU.

The RMU Board of Directors

- is responsible for and decides on all matters unless they are expressly assigned to another body.
- decides on the RMU strategy after consultation with the RMU Assembly and, if necessary, with additional internal or external

advisors. The RMU strategy formulates strategic goals, fields of action, and measures for the development of the RMU in all university performance areas.

- decides on the use of the financial resources allocated by the Partner Universities to the RMU alliance.
  - decides on the establishment, composition, and dissolution of standing commissions and temporary committees in accordance with § 18, as well as on their purpose, tasks, and decision-making powers.
  - may establish advisory forums and supplementary structures.
- (2) The RMU Board of Directors consists of the elected members of the Partner Universities' executive boards.
- (3) Only the presidents of the Partner Universities are voting members of the Board of Directors.
- (4) The RMU Board of Directors is represented by a spokesperson. The spokesperson is a president of one of the Partner Universities. The spokesperson represents the RMU and chairs the meetings of the RMU Board of Directors and the RMU Assembly, unless specified otherwise. The spokesperson is supported in organizational matters by the RMU office. The function of spokesperson is held for one year, starting on April 1 of each year. The position is filled on a rotating basis, with the Partner Universities alternating in the following order: Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt am Main, Technical University of Darmstadt, and Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz. The next-succeeding spokesperson may represent the current spokesperson.
- (5) The voting members of the Board of Directors decide by resolution on all matters relating to the cooperation.

Unless stipulated otherwise in this Cooperation Agreement or supplementary agreements, all resolutions must be unanimous. Abstentions are not counted when determining the votes.

- (6) The RMU Board of Directors meets in closed session. Meetings may also take the form of video or telephone conferences. The RMU Board of Directors has a quorum when all presidents of the Partner Universities are present. The presidents may be represented at meetings by a member of the executive board of their own Partner University by means of a written proxy.

- (7) The RMU Board of Directors may adopt supplementary provisions in its own rules of procedure. The RMU Board of Directors may issue rules of procedure for the other bodies and advisory bodies of the RMU as well as for the RMU office. It may also authorize the bodies of the RMU and the RMU office to issue their own rules of procedure.

## **§ 16. RMU Assembly**

- (1) The RMU Assembly (RA) has an advisory function and comments on matters relating to research, study/teaching, and transfer. In addition, it advises and makes recommendations to the RMU Board of Directors, in particular
- (i) on the RMU strategy;
  - (ii) on measures to promote and empower early career researchers or measures for staff development;
  - (iii) on the establishment of organizational units and institutions of the RMU;
  - (iv) on internationalization;
  - (v) on sustainability measures.

In addition, the RA receives the Board of Director' annual report. Its members report on the Assembly meetings in the senates or university assemblies of the Partner Universities.

- (2) The RA consists of representatives from the Partner Universities. For each Partner University, it must consist of
- (i) four representatives of the professors or university teachers, at least one of whom must be a representative of the qualification phase (i.e., qualification professors with or without tenure track, W2 professors with tenure track, or junior professors)
  - (ii) one representative of the scientific/academic staff,
  - (iii) one representative of the administrative/technical staff or staff in technology and administration,
  - (iv) one representative of the students, and
  - (v) one representative of the doctoral candidates

Furthermore, the chairpersons of the university councils of the Partner Universities may be consulted in an advisory capacity.

- (3) The members of the RA must be members or affiliates of the respective

Partner University. They, together with their direct representatives, are appointed by the senates. The appointment is for two years. Reappointment is possible. In deviation from the above, student representatives are appointed for one year only. The meetings of the RA are open to the RMU university community. Guests may be invited to attend in an advisory capacity.

### **§ 17. RMU International Advisory Board**

- (1) The RMU International Advisory Board (RIAB) acts in an advisory capacity, making recommendations to the RMU Board of Directors on the scientific strategy and science management, in particular on
  - (i) the research strategy;
  - (ii) the promotion of early career researchers;
  - (iii) international cooperations.

The RIAB may, on its own initiative, propose projects in all university performance areas to the RMU Board of Directors.

- (2) The at least five members of the RIAB will be appointed by the RMU Board of Directors. The members of the RIAB will be scientists from Germany and abroad, including ECRs. Members will be appointed for a term of five years. Reappointment is permitted.
- (3) The RIAB may invite guests to its meetings in an advisory capacity. Unless otherwise specified in the rules of procedure, the working language is English.

### **§ 18. Commissions and committees**

- (1) Commissions are established on a permanent basis as standing bodies. Committees are set up on a temporary basis.
- (2) Commissions and committees prepare decisions of the RMU Board of Directors and may make recommendations; they may be granted decision-making powers.
- (3) The RMU Board of Directors establishes a standing commission for finances to prepare the decisions of the RMU Board of Directors. The members of the standing commission on finances will, *ex officio*, be the chancellors of the

Partner Universities. The other members of the commission are appointed by the RMU Board of Directors. Further details are regulated in rules of procedure. Unless stipulated otherwise in the rules of procedure, decisions are made unanimously.

- (4) If additional commissions and committees are established, the RMU Board of Directors decide on their composition as well as their purpose, tasks, and decision-making powers.

## **§ 19. RMU OFFICE**

The RMU office supports the RMU Board of Directors and other bodies and advisory bodies, and coordinates and assists in the implementation of the decisions of the RMU Board of Directors.

## **VII. Framework conditions for cooperation**

### **§ 20. Public image, publications**

The Partner Universities undertake to present the activities and research results of the RMU both internally and externally. The RMU office coordinates this in consultation with the RMU Board of Directors and establishes the conditions for this presentation to be carried out in accordance with uniform guidelines. The guidelines are developed by the RMU office in consultation with the press and public relations departments of the Partner Universities and approved by the RMU Board of Directors.

Unless otherwise agreed, research results are published in accordance with the provisions in the appendix.

### **§ 21. Contributions, financing**

- (1) The Partner Universities endeavor to provide equal shares of funding for projects in the RMU context and for the promotion of cooperation within the RMU.
- (2) In principle, each Partner University is responsible for providing the necessary personnel and material resources and bears the costs incurred as a result. To the extent possible, the Partner Universities also aim to distribute costs evenly for projects within the RMU context.

- (3) The Partner Universities may enter into separate financing agreements for joint projects.
- (4) The Partner Universities aim for and support the joint acquisition of third-party funding and other special funds.

## **§ 22. Confidentiality**

The Partner Universities undertake to maintain confidentiality regarding all trade secrets (sec. 2 of the German Act on Protection of Trade Secrets (GeschGehG)) and/or information marked as confidential disclosed or made available within the framework of this cooperation. This obligation includes, in particular,

- not disclosing such information to third parties,
- using such information exclusively for the purposes of the cooperation,
- protecting such information from unauthorized access or use,
- taking all reasonable measures to maintain confidentiality,
- and not publishing or making such information accessible without the prior written consent of the disclosing Partner University.

These obligations continue to apply for a period of three (3) years after the end of the cooperation, unless longer retention periods are required by law, insofar as the information is not generally known, has become publicly available through legitimate sources, or has been demonstrably developed independently.

## **§ 23. Data protection**

- (1) The Partner Universities undertake to comply, and support each other in complying, with the provisions of the applicable data protection laws within the scope of application of this Cooperation Agreement (in particular the EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR), the Federal Data Protection Act (BDSG) and the relevant state data protection laws).
- (2) In order to comply with the joint purposes of processing specified in this Agreement, in particular for the joint degree programs, the exchange and use of personal data, the Partner Universities set out the resulting obligations in a separate art. 26 GDPR agreement.

- (3) If a Partner University processes personal data on behalf of another Partner University, the Partner Universities conclude a separate agreement on data processing in advance in accordance with Art. 28 GDPR.

## **§ 24. Liability**

- (1) The Partner Universities perform the tasks assumed by them under this Agreement with the care customary for them, appropriately and to the best of their knowledge, based on the state of science and technology known to them.
- (2) Within the framework of the cooperation under this Cooperation Agreement, the Partner Universities transmit information with the care customary in their own affairs. Except in cases of intent, the Partner Universities will not be liable, either during the term of the cooperation or after the end of the agreement, for the accuracy and completeness of the information provided by them within the framework of this Cooperation Agreement, nor for damage of any kind arising from the use of this information or the results of the work.
- (3) Furthermore, the Partner Universities do not assume any guarantee nor make any representation that a research and/or other goal will actually be achieved or that the work results achieved are suitable for specific purposes. The Partner Universities are therefore not liable for ensuring that the results obtained are free from third-party rights or that the rights of use granted can be exercised free from third-party rights; however, they will inform each other as soon as they become aware of any third-party rights. There is no obligation to actively conduct any investigations.
- (4) The Partner Universities are liable for the breach of essential contractual obligations – i.e. obligations that enable the proper execution of the agreement in the first place and in respect of which the other Partner University concerned may regularly expect that they are complied with, – for intent and any negligence, but in the case of simple negligence limited to the foreseeable damage typical for the agreement at the time of conclusion of the agreement.
- (5) Otherwise, the Partner Universities are only liable to each other for damage caused by intent and gross negligence. However, liability for grossly negligent breaches of duty is limited to the foreseeable damage typical for

the agreement at the time of conclusion of the agreement.

- (6) In the event of any type of negligence, liability for consequential and/or indirect or consequential damage and lost profits is excluded.
- (7) Notwithstanding the above provisions under § 25 (1), each Partner University is liable internally for third-party claims in accordance with its share of fault. In the event of a claim against a Partner University on the basis of joint and several liability, the Partner University concerned may demand to be released from liability in accordance with the share of fault of the other Partner Universities.
- (8) The limitations of liability also apply in favor of the respective legal representatives and vicarious agents.
- (9) The above limitations or exclusions of liability do not apply in the event of injury to life, limb, or health (personal injury) or to other legally mandatory strict liability.

## **§ 25. Supplementary agreements**

The Partner Universities may conclude supplementary (cooperation) agreements to this Framework Cooperation Agreement for individual projects. Supplementary agreements must be made in writing and signed. If university law or other regulations require a contractual basis for a joint project between the Partner Universities, the conclusion of a supplementary (cooperation) agreement is mandatory. These supplementary agreements must contain individual provisions on the term and termination. In the event of termination of this Framework Cooperation Agreement, the provisions agreed herein will continue to apply until the termination of the corresponding individual agreements.

Insofar as provisions of a supplementary agreement contradict or deviate from the provisions of this Agreement, the provisions of the supplementary agreement take precedence. In all other respects, the provisions of this Agreement apply supplementarily, unless the supplementary agreement contains deviating provisions.

## **§ 26. Written form**

- (1) The conclusion of, amendments and supplements to, and termination of this Agreement must be made in writing and signed, or in electronic form. The requirement of electronic form is also satisfied by the use of a simple electronic signature in accordance with the eIDAS Regulation (e.g., DocuSign, Adobe Sign), but not by the exchange of PDF scans. This formal requirement can only be waived in writing or in electronic form.
- (2) Other declarations that do not affect the existence or content of this Agreement may also be made in text form in accordance with sec. 126b of the German Civil Code (BGB).

## **§ 27. Term of the Cooperation Agreement**

- (1) This Agreement will enter into force upon signature by all Partner Universities and will apply for an indefinite term. Upon entry into force of this Agreement, the previous RMU cooperation agreement dated December 11, 2015, will be replaced in its entirety.
- (2) The Partner Universities are entitled to terminate the Cooperation Agreement with nine (9) months' notice to the end of the calendar year. The first opportunity to terminate the Agreement is at the end of the 2035 calendar year. Notice of termination must be given in writing and signed to all other Partner Universities. The remaining Partner Universities will then immediately consult with each other to find a solution that does not disadvantage the RMU. The right to terminate for good cause remains unaffected.
- (3) Supplementary agreements and/or agreements pursuant to § 21 made within the framework of this Agreement may be terminated separately without affecting this Cooperation Agreement. The validity of supplementary agreements will also remain unaffected by termination of this Framework Cooperation Agreement.
- (4) If the regulatory content of individual provisions of this Agreement extends beyond the term of the agreement, these provisions will remain in effect even after the end of the term of the agreement.

## **§ 28. Final provisions**

- (1) The Partner Universities agree that they do not pursue any purpose beyond the realization of the cooperation. This Agreement does not establish a corporate relationship or mutual agency. The Partner Universities do not participate jointly in legal transactions and do not establish any legal relationships or other legal relationships in their external relations. Instead, the Partner Universities cooperate within the framework of this Agreement while maintaining their legal and economic independence. In this respect, no Partner University is entitled to act in legal transactions, assume obligations, or represent the other Partner Universities in any other way without their separate written authorization.
- (2) Should any provision of this Agreement be or become invalid or unenforceable, this will not affect the validity of the remaining provisions of the Agreement. Instead, the provision will be replaced retroactively by a provision that is legally permissible and comes closest in content to the objective pursued by the Partner Universities with the original provision. The same applies to any gaps in the provisions.
- (3) In the event of disagreements concerning this Framework Cooperation Agreement, the Partner Universities aim to reach an amicable agreement. Should a legal dispute nevertheless arise, the parties undertake to strictly comply with all confidentiality measures ordered by the court in accordance with sec. 273a ff. of the German Code of Civil Procedure (ZPO) and not to use or disclose any information classified as confidential, unless they have lawfully obtained knowledge of such information outside of the court proceedings.
- (4) The law of the Federal Republic of Germany applies to all disputes arising in connection with this Agreement.

### **Appendix:**

Provisions of the Partner Universities on research projects in accordance with § (2)



**- Signature page follows -**

## Signature page for the RMU Framework Cooperation Agreement

Frankfurt am Main,  
Johann Wolfgang Goethe University Frankfurt am Main,

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Prof. Dr. Enrico Schleiff  
President

Mainz,  
Johannes Gutenberg University Mainz,

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Prof. Dr. Georg Krausch  
President

Darmstadt,  
Technical University of Darmstadt,

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Prof. Dr. Tanja Brühl  
President