Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE,
TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT AND INNOVATION

MUR
Ministero dell'Università e della Ricerca

JOINT DECLARATION
REGARDING THE JOINT RESEARCH AND INNOVATION PROJECTS
SELECTED WITHIN THE CONTEXT OF THE FIRST EXECUTIVE PROGRAMME
FOR COOPERATION IN RESEARCH AND INNOVATION FOR 2025–2027
between
the Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation
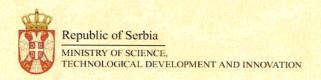**of the Republic of Serbia**
and
the Ministry of University and Research of the Italian Republic

The Republic of Serbia and the Republic of Italy share a longstanding tradition of collaboration in research and innovation, built on mutual respect, shared values, and common interests. This partnership has consistently strengthened the ties between their respective research ecosystems, fostering scientific excellence and innovation to address global challenges. Recognizing the success of past collaborations and the potential for further joint achievements, both parties reaffirm their commitment to advancing bilateral cooperation in research and innovation.

On the occasion of the first Serbia-Italy Science Forum, held in Belgrade on March 22, 2023, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) on cooperation in higher education, research, and innovation was signed between the Minister of Science, Technological Development, and Innovation, along with the Minister of Education of the Republic of Serbia, and the Minister of University and Research of the Republic of Italy. According to article 4 of this MoU, a Call for Proposals was issued for the First Executive Programme for Cooperation in Research and Innovation for 2024–2026.

At the second Serbia-Italy Science Forum, held in Trieste on November 28, 2024, both parties reaffirmed their commitment to strengthening bilateral cooperation through new agreements and joint research projects. They recognized that pooling the skills and expertise of their national research systems is essential for addressing the major scientific and technological challenges posed by governments and society. Moreover, the parties acknowledged the overwhelming success of the aforementioned Call for Proposals, which attracted 83 submissions, and committed to concluding the expert evaluations, ensuring that selected projects commence promptly.

The parties hereby acknowledge the list of the projects selected by the Serbia-Italy Joint Call Management Committee. The Joint Call Management met virtually on January 27, 2025, after the conclusion of the expert evaluations, highlighted the excellent level of the submitted proposals and examined state-of-the-art and further development of scientific and technological cooperation

within the framework of the MoU. In addition, the parties emphasize their satisfaction with the work done and congratulate the 5 projects, reported in Annex 1, which received the highest scores and will have access to the funding made available.

The Parties state that the administrative procedures for project funding will start on April 1st and consider the success of this call as a starting point for strengthening collaboration and enhancing joint financing mechanisms.

Belgrade, 20 March 2025

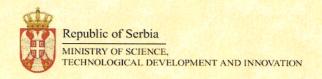**Ministry of Science, Technological Development and Innovation of the Republic of Serbia**

Jelena Begović

Ministry of University and Research of the Italian Republic

Anna Maria Bernini

Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF SCIENCE,
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ANNEX 1

Priority Area	Acronym	Title	Serbian Research Institution	Italian Research Institution
Agri and Food Technologies	PHENO-DROP	New PHENO-ideotypes for DROught resilience in hexaPloid wheat	Institute of Field and Vegetable Crops in Novi Sad	Council for Agricultural research and Economics - Research Centre for Genomics and Bioinformatics (CREA-GB)
Bio and RNA Technologies	EPIC	Engineering iPSC-Derived Dendritic Cells for Immunotherapy of Cancer	Institute for the Application of Nuclear Energy INEP, University of Belgrade	International Centre for Genetic Engineering and Biotechnology, Trieste
High Performance Computing (HPC) and Big Data	DCMAI	Degenerative cervical myelopathy: Treatment implementation through perioperative neurophysiology, simulation and modelling with AI integration	University of Kragujevac	University of Verona
Research in Artificial Intelligence (AI) and its Applications	AI-AGRI-HAN	AI-powered visio-tactile soft robotic hand for Agrifood farming	Faculty of Engineering, University of Kragujevac	University of Genoa (UNIGE)
Sustainable Economy and Sustainable Mobility	E-COSMOS	Electric Charging Optimization for Sustainable MObility Systems	School of Electrical Engineering, University of Belgrade (ETF)	University of Genoa (UNIGE)