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CO-OPERATION AGREEMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF
A DOUBLE MASTER'S DEGREE PROGRAMME

BETWEEN

UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI DI PADOVA, ITALY

AND

UNIVERSIDAD POLITÉCNICA DE MADRID,
Escuela Técnica Superior de Ingenieros de Telecomunicación, SPAIN

In the field of Telecommunications

Preamble

Università degli Studi di Padova, Italy, hereinafter referred to as UNIPD, with legal address in via VIII Febbraio 1848, 2, 35122 Padova, Italy, represented by its Rector Prof. Daniela Mapelli,

AND

Universidad Politécnica de Madrid, Spain, hereinafter referred to as UPM, having its registered office at Calle Ramiro de Maeztu, 7, 28040 Madrid, Spain, represented in this agreement by its Rector Prof. Guillermo Cisneros Pérez,

taking into consideration:

- ✓ the existing links between Spain and Italy in the field of research as well as in training and education;
- ✓ the equivalence of their research and educational mission;
- ✓ the equivalent dimensions and means for achieving these goals;
- ✓ their mutual willingness in further intensifying these ties and especially encouraging the exchanges between European universities,

AGREE

to enter into this Double Degree Agreement that is aimed at encouraging students to follow a defined study path that leads to two recognized Master's degrees, one from the students' Home



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Institution and one from the Host Institution.

The main objective of the Programme is to train students in the field of Telecommunications. The proposed Double Degree Programme will be based on a mobility scheme outlined in the following art. 3, according to a study plan jointly defined by the Home and the Host Institutions.

Article 1- Aim of the Agreement

This Agreement specifies the rights and responsibilities of both parties and the terms under which students from UPM and from UNIPD may be granted, upon successful fulfillment of the Programme and any other requirement for graduation at each institution, to obtain the academic degrees and diplomas of equal academic levels from both Universities.

Both parties agree to the following general rules of cooperation and general requirements for all students participating under this Agreement.

This document is a General Double Degree Agreement that will be implemented with dedicated separate documents attached as Annexes.

Article 2 - Legal framework and national qualifications

UPM and UNIPD undertake to run a double degree study Programme in the field of Telecommunications based on a second-cycle degree course.

Upon successful completion of the agreed second cycle Programme, the students shall be awarded the following Degrees:

- In Italy: Laurea Magistrale (Master's Degree) in "ICT for Internet and multimedia", Classe LM-27, D.M. 16/03/2007. According to the Bologna Process rules and recommendations and the Italian legislation, this degree corresponds to a second cycle degree D.M. 270/2004, Master level (120 ECTS credits), giving access to "Dottorato di ricerca", a third cycle degree equivalent to a PhD level in Europe.
- In Spain: Master of Science in Telecommunication Engineering ("Master Universitario en Ingeniería de Telecomunicación", R.D. 1393/2007, Orden CIN/352/2009). This degree corresponds to a second cycle degree, Master level (120 ECTS credits), giving access to a third cycle degree equivalent to a PhD level in Europe.

Article 3 - Structure of the Programme and student exchange plan

Studies leading to the Double Degree shall last five semesters totaling 150 ECTS credits: the students will spend the first year of studies at Home Institution and the second year of studies, plus an additional semester for thesis purposes, at the Host Institution.

The language of instruction at both partner Universities will be English.

The study plan for students of both institutions is defined in the Annex I.



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If substantial changes will occur in the study Programme of the partner universities, the Annex I may be amended before the beginning of each academic year.

Students must obtain 90 ECTS credits at the host institution, according to the study plan defined in the Annex I.

Students must prepare, present and defend a final dissertation, according to what specified in the following article 10.

The Host Institution will provide mentoring for each student for the duration of the study period.

Article 4 - Number of Exchange Students

The number of students each institution may send and/or accept under this Programme is stated in the Annex II of this agreement and it can be yearly modified by mutual consultation.

Article 5 - Student Selection & Admission

The admission of students to the Programme will be conducted in accordance with the following principles:

(i) The parties shall agree on the application procedure, including application deadlines, selection criteria and student quota as defined in the Annexes.

(ii) Students must meet the admission criteria of both institutions.

(iii) Students shall have a Home Institution and a Host Institution defined.

The Home Institution shall mean the Party that sends students abroad to the Host Institution, i.e. the university where students initially apply for the respective Master's program. The Host Institution shall mean the Party which receives students from the Home Institution, i.e. the university where students will do their mobility period if selected.

(iv) Students apply to the Programme at their Home Institution, which is responsible for screening the applications and providing the host institution with a list of selected and eligible candidates. Each institution will examine the provided documents and will assess their suitability to the educational and training course students are applying for. The final decision on students' admission or refusal, will then be sent to the partner university within the deadline stated in Annex II.

(v) Students are selected and admitted to the Programme according to their academic results, and prerequisite requirements and motivations.

(vi) Prerequisite for the mobility include that students have successfully completed a necessary number of credits at the home institution. Details are specified in Annex I.

(vii) UNIPD's admission language knowledge requirements

Students wishing to apply to the Programme are required to meet English language knowledge level B2. Should they wish to attend additional courses held in Italian, Italian language knowledge level A2 is required.

In order to prove their English and Italian knowledge, either certifications from accredited institutions or a statement from their Home University are acceptable.



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(viii) UPM's admission language knowledge requirements

Students wishing to apply to the Programme are required to meet English language knowledge level B2. Should they wish to attend additional courses held in Spanish, it is recommended to have competence of Spanish at least at level B1 of CEFR.

In order to prove their English and Spanish knowledge, either certifications from accredited institutions or a statement from their Home University are acceptable.

UNIPD undertakes to offer UPM students the opportunity to attend an Italian language course as the host institution. UPM undertakes to offer UNIPD students the opportunity to attend a Spanish language course as host institution.

Article 6 - Rights and Status of the Students

Students participating under this Agreement shall be enrolled as degree seeking students, they will have the rights and obligations as regular students in the respective institutions and will be entitled to participate in any introductory programme that may customarily be arranged for international students at the host institution.

Article 7 - Rights and obligations of the parties

Students are responsible for all their travel, accommodation and living expenses. The host institution undertakes to facilitate the arrival of the students and to put at their disposal all the existing services and study grants, if available.

The Host Institution has the right to dismiss any student participating in the Programme at any time, for unsatisfactory academic results and/or for academic or personal misconduct in violation of established regulations. The student will then be excluded from the program, and he/she will interrupt his/her mobility to return to his/her Home Institution, where the credits earned abroad will be transferred in order to allow him/ her to solely achieve the local degree. The dismissal of a participant shall not abrogate the agreement for the arrangements regarding other participants.

In case of partially or completely unsuccessful results at the end of the last semester in the host institution, the student will be allowed to extend their stay for a further year (two semesters). The student will need to provide a written explanation for not completing the study plan as expected. During the first two semesters of extension, the financial conditions will be the same as those provided in the Article 12. After the first two semesters, and for all following periods of extension, students will pay tuition fees at the host university.

Article 8 - Study Plan and Course of Study



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Each student will propose an individual study plan prepared according to the agreed curriculum for the total duration of the Programme. This study plan will be reviewed and, if needed, modified, prior to final admission. A written study contract (Learning Agreement) must be established and signed by both institutions prior to the student arrival at the Host Institution. This contract may be revised at any time in written form with seal of approval from the academic representatives of the two institutions.

Detailed conditions regarding the study programme, mobility programme as well as individual student agreements, shall be specified in Annexes I and II.

Article 9 - Control of results

Partner institutions agree to operate along the principle of "mutual recognition" of exam results and each other's rules and regulations. Examinations are performed at the same University where the Course Units have been attended, and follow local regulations and methods of assessment. Examination grades at Host institution will be converted by the Home institution into valid grades according to the conversion procedures reported in Annex I.

At the end of the mobility period the Host Institution shall send to the Home Institution a copy of each student's Transcript of Records issued in English. Both parties will commit to provide the Transcript of Records and all documents about the evaluation of the final degree project in due time, respecting the deadlines set by both institutions. Each institution grants the students credits transfer to the other institution according to the applicable rules, laws and regulations.

Article 10 - Final Degree Project

With the purpose of strengthening the scientific cooperation between both institutions, the final thesis will address, whenever possible, problems in areas of common interest to the two institutions and it will be organized as follows:

- ✓ The development of the Final Thesis will be carried out during the period of time spent by the student in the Host Institution and supervised by one of its official lecturers. Taking into account the mobility scheme of the programme, the Thesis defense shall take place at the Host Institution, at the end of the mobility program, with a single examination, in front of a Thesis Committee including at least one member from each institution; committee members may participate through videoconference;
- ✓ The defence will follow the local rules of evaluation. The results and validity will be fully recognised by the Home institution, which will recognize the outcome of the defense and insert each graduating student in its records with proper adaptation, noting the thesis has been defended in the Host institution.
- ✓ The thesis Committee will include members from the Host institution and, whenever possible, members from the Home institution, who may participate through videoconference.
- ✓ The Final thesis will be written and defended in English.



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Article 11 - Delivery of the academic degrees

Both parties fully and automatically recognize courses, which are developed for the master course, as well as examinations passed at the partner institution, according to Art. 9 of the present agreement.

Upon successful completion of the double degree study programme as defined in the present agreement and validated by the Academic Boards, students will be awarded a Double Degree, according to what specified in art. 2, and a Diploma Supplement.

Each institution will issue its national Diploma and a Diploma Supplement mentioning the double degree programme followed.

Article 12 - Tuition Fees and other costs

The Home Institution will provide students with information related to valid insurances in due time, in order for students to obtain the necessary documentation before their departure.

The Host Institution will not require tuition fees to students selected to participate in this Programme, as they will keep on paying tuition fees at their Home Institution only, in compliance with local rules. Only supplementary fees (e.g. revenue stamp, regional fees for student services, additional compulsory insurance) shall be paid to the host institution.

Living and travel expenses, other costs related to academic facilities delivered by external bodies State, Region, etc. and possible further costs related to the management of the individual academic files will be charged directly to the students.

The host institution undertakes to facilitate the arrival of the students and to put at their disposal all the existing services, accommodation counseling and study grants, if available.

Article 13 - Immigration and Healthcare

The Parties will provide students with relevant documentation to assist them in obtaining a student visa where necessary. Students will, however, be individually responsible for applying for and maintaining the correct immigration status and meeting the appropriate visa requirements at all stages of the Programme.

Each Institution will meet any national regulations with regard to the registration, monitoring and supervision of international students and supply the other Institution with any information these regulations require.

Neither of the Parties shall be obliged to host a student at any stage of the Programme if the student is, for any reason, unable to obtain the necessary immigration permissions. The host institutions shall



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have no liability whatsoever in the event that a student is unable to attend classes for whatever reason due to immigration procedures.

Students must have a valid health insurance policy (or a valid European Health Insurance card, in case of students who are EU citizens) before entering the host country, whose terms of validity have to correspond to their entire stay, to cover all illnesses and injuries which may be sustained whilst attending the Programme.

Article 14 - Academic and administrative representatives

Both parties undertake to facilitate a constant exchange of information and transparent administrative procedures. The parties undertake to send the required documentation of students taking part in the Programme leading to the awarding of the Double Master's Degree.

Each institution will appoint an academic and an administrative representative for the Programme. These representatives will be responsible for following the Programme and for ensuring that rules stated in this agreement are observed. The representatives will provide advices and other academic and administrative services to students participating under this Agreement. Annex II to this agreement shall state names and contact details of these representatives.

The academic representatives will also undertake to jointly and periodically assess the pertinence of Teaching Programmes in both institutions, to report on the cooperation and academic results of students participating to the programme, and to propose new initiatives to foster mutual collaboration.

Article 15 - Quality assurance

The Partner Universities are part of the national university system of their respective countries, as a consequence their activity is evaluated on a regular basis by external certified bodies.

As far as the Double Degree Programme is concerned, an Internal Quality Assurance Protocol will be operating, managed jointly by both Partners.

Evaluations by students will be organised.

On the basis of the information gathered the Academic Board will ensure permanent revising, updating, and improvement of the Programme.

Article 16 - Promotion of the Programme

The promotion of the Programme is responsibility of both parties.

Each member institution agrees to the use of its name and logo for the purposes of promotional material, Programme literature and other documentation of the Programme.

Each party may use the logos, names and other marks of the other party only in connection with the Programme.

Each party anticipates the other party's participation in press announcements, marketing and other reasonable promotional activities involving the double-degree Programme through the appropriate use of the logos, names and marks of the Parties.



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Article 17 -Financial obligations

No financial obligations shall arise out of this agreement for either party.

Article 18 -Intellectual property

Each of the Parties acknowledges and agrees that any and all of the Intellectual Property Rights or other proprietary rights in respect of any literature, materials, research or teaching methods, procedures, processes and/or the learning experience in relation to or in connection with the Programme and any parts thereof, are and shall remain the sole property of its owner and, save as expressly set out herein, nothing in this Agreement is intended to transfer ownership or create any licensed rights under any such Intellectual Property Rights or other proprietary rights.

The learning materials and any other literature, materials, research methods, procedures, processes or Programmes in which a party has Intellectual Property Rights relating to or in connection with the Programme and which are disclosed to the other party pursuant to this Agreement may be used by the other party solely for the purposes of performing its obligations under, and during the period of, this Agreement and for no other purpose.

Article 19: Data Protection

All Partner Institutions commit themselves to comply with the provisions and requirements on the protection of natural persons with regard to the processing of personal data and on the free movement of such data according to the General Data Protection Regulation (EU) 2016/679 ("GDPR").

Each Partner, as "Controllers" of personal data must put in place appropriate technical and organisational measures to implement the data protection principles. In case of joint control of data processing, the Parties involved shall in a transparent manner determine their respective responsibilities for compliance with the obligations under the GDPR regulation.

Article 20: Force Majeure

Neither Institution will be held responsible or liable, or be deemed to be in default or breach of this Agreement, for any delay, failure or inability to meet its obligations under this Agreement (other than any obligation to pay money) caused by or arising from any cause that is unavoidable or beyond the reasonable control of the Institution, including war, war-like operations, riot, insurrection, orders of government, strikes, lockouts, public health emergencies, pandemics, quarantines, disturbances or any other cause which frustrates the performance of this Agreement.

Article 21 - Amendments or changes



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Amendments or changes to this Agreement shall be made in writing and signed by the duly authorised representatives of both institutions.

Article 22 -Dispute resolution

Should any doubt or dispute arise from the interpretation or implementation of the present agreement, the Parties will strive to achieve a solution by mutual consent. Should this solution not be possible, the Parties will choose a third person to act as a mediator or judge.

Article 23 - Terms of Agreement

This Agreement shall come into effect after the signature of all signatories, and it is valid for 4 (four years).

Both institutions may terminate this Agreement before its expiry, provided that written notice of the intent is given at least six months prior to termination.

Commitments already in progress shall be fulfilled and students enlisted in the Programme will at that time be allowed to complete it.

Article 20 - Copies of the Agreement

Two originals of the present agreement will be signed, one for each of the signatories of the contract. Each original shall have equal validity.

Date 19-12-2024

For the Università degli Studi di Padova,

The Rector,
Prof. Daniela Mapelli



For the Universidad Politécnica de Madrid

The Rector
Prof. Guillermo Cisneros Pérez





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ANNEX I

to the

*Double Degree Agreement between UNIPD and UPM
in the field of Telecommunication Engineering*

Admission Criteria & Study Plan

ADMISSION CRITERIA

According to article 5 of the Co-operation Agreement, the following eligibility criteria must be fulfilled by students applying to the Programme:

a) For students having UNIPD as their Home Institution:

- I. To have successfully completed the first cycle of studies (equivalent to a First Level Degree/Bachelor Degree);
- II. To be regularly enrolled in the Master's Degree Course in "ICT for Internet and multimedia" at UNIPD, having obtained 60 ECTS credits from a valid plan of study in their curriculum of choice, before the beginning of their mobility of which:
 - at least 30 ECTS credits must be from "characterizing subjects" (attività caratterizzanti) of the Master Degree of class LM-27
 - for students enrolled at the "Cybersystems," "Photonics," or "ICT for Life and Health" curricula, at least 18 ECTS credits must be from curriculum-specific subjects
 - 3 ECTS credits must be for an English B2 level
- III. Proficiency in English as stated in art.5.vii of the Cooperation Agreement

b) For students having UPM as their Home Institution:

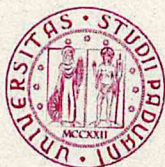
- I. To have successfully completed the first cycle of studies (equivalent to a First Level Degree/Bachelor Degree).
- II. To be regularly enrolled in the "Master Universitario en Ingeniería de Telecomunicación" (MUIT) at UPM, having successfully passed all the exams of the first year of master studies, for a total of 60 ECTS credits;
- III. Proficiency in English as stated in art.5.vii of the Cooperation Agreement.

CONDITIONS TO OBTAIN THE DOUBLE DEGREE

The double degree agreement is based on a mutual recognition of the activities that students undertake at their Home Institution (UNIPD or UPM) prior to the mobility abroad.

Students will follow a studying programme consisting of 2 semesters at the home institution and 3 semesters abroad at the host institution, according to the following study plans (Tables 1, 2.1, 2.2)

Table 1.- Structure of the Study Plan in order to obtain a double degree



Home Institution	1 st year	2 nd year	Additional semester for Master Thesis	Total credits to obtain the DD
UPM	60	60	30	150
UNIPD	60	60	30	150

Students with UPM as their Home Institution will enroll at UNIPD into the International Mobility curriculum. They will obtain at UNIPD 90 ECTS as detailed in Table 2.1. Students with UNIPD as their Home Institution will follow instead Table 2.2.

Table 2.1 - Schematic Study Plan for students from UPM to UNIPD

	ECTS
Technical subjects chosen among those listed in the official course catalogue ¹⁾	42*
Free choice Units /Subjects (any course taught at UNIPD to be approved by the academic board; non-Italian native speakers can take an Italian language certification of level B2 or higher, recognized for up to 3 ECTS credits)	18
Final Thesis	30
TOTAL ECTS	90

* at least 30 ECTS credits must be chosen among “characterizing subjects” (*attività caratterizzanti*) of the Master Degree of class LM-27; for students choosing the “Cybersystems,” “Photonics,” and “ICT for Life and Health” curricula, at least 18 ECTS credits must be from curriculum-specific activities.

¹⁾ In case some of the UNIPD mandatory subjects have a program overlapped to courses already approved at UPM, up to a maximum of 30 ECTS, they will be substituted with other subjects the Master’s Degree Course in “ICT for Internet and multimedia”.

Table 2.2 - Schematic Study Plan for students from UNIPD to UPM

	ECTS
All compulsory units offered within the first year of the “Master Universitario en Ingeniería de Telecomunicación” at UPM ²⁾	60
Final Thesis	30
TOTAL ECTS	90

²⁾ In case some of the UPM mandatory subjects, up to a maximum of 30 ECTS, have a program overlapped to courses already approved at UNIPD, they can be adapted by UPM. The same amount of adapted ECTS (at least) should be passed with subjects from the second year of the Master Universitario en Ingeniería de Telecomunicación at UPM.

Should it be necessary, changes to the above list of subjects may be admitted, based on formal approval of the whole study plan approved by the academic boards. A total amount of 150 ECTS will be in any case requested to obtain the double degree.

DEGREE CONVERSION

Academic results generally follow the Italian grading system (30-point scale) for exams at UNIPD and the Spanish grading system (10-point scale) for exams at UPM. Some activities may just give a binary outcome (Pass/No Pass). Grades of exams undertaken by the students at either institution will be converted into grades for the other institution as follows:

- Exams with binary outcome (Pass/No Pass): the same outcome will be valid for the other institution.
- Exams with a number-scale:

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For the conversion from Italian grades to the Spanish system, a conversion based on percentiles equivalence is used if possible. Otherwise, the conversion is done using Table 2.3

Table 2.3: Conversion from Italian grades to the Spanish system:

Italian 30-point grading system	30 e lode	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18
Spanish 10-point grading system	10	9	8.7	8.4	8.0	7.7	7.4	7.0	6.7	6.4	6.0	5.7	5.4	5.0

- For the conversion from Spanish grades to the Italian system Table 2.4 is used.

Table 2.4: Conversion from Spanish grades to the Italian system:

Spanish 10-point grading system	≥	9.4	9.0	8.7	8.3	7.9	7.6	7.3	7.0	6.7	6.3	5.9	5.6	5.3	5
	≤	10	9.3	8.9	8.6	8.2	7.8	7.5	7.2	6.9	6.6	6.2	5.8	5.5	5.2
Italian 30-point grading system	→	30 e lode	30	29	28	27	26	25	24	23	22	21	20	19	18

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ANNEX II

to the

*Double Degree Agreement between UNIPD and UPM
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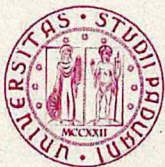
Duration: Academic Years 2024/2025 to 2027/2028

Università degli Studi di Padova- UNIPD	
Degree programme at UNIPD	ICT for Internet and multimedia
Degree awarded	Laurea Magistrale in "ICT for Internet and multimedia", Classe LM-27, D.M. 16/03/2007
Language of instruction	English
UNIPD students admission criteria	Bachelor's Degree, plus accomplishment of some Master's Degree activities and related ECTS credits, as specified in Annex I
Incoming Students Application Deadline	30 th June
Acceptance confirmation	30 th July
Other requirements	English language knowledge level B2

Universidad Politecnica de Madrid- UPM	
Degree programme at UPM	Master Universitario en Ingeniería de Telecomunicación
Degree awarded	Master en Ingeniería de Telecomunicación
Language of instruction	English
UPM students admission criteria	Bachelor Degree, plus 1st academic year of master degree according to Annex I
Incoming Students Application Deadline	May, 1 st (1 st semester and academic year)
Acceptance confirmation	June, 1 st
Other requirements	English language knowledge level B2

Number of students	2 students per year, each side. The number of students can be early modified by mutual consultation
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CONTACTS	
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