

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF HIGHER EDUCATION, SCIENCE AND INNOVATION OF
THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY AND TECHNOLOGY OF
THE REPUBLIC OF TÜRKİYE
ON JOINT FUNDING OF RESEARCH AND TECHNOLOGY PROJECTS

The Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Innovation of the Republic of Slovenia and the Ministry of Industry and Technology of the Republic of Türkiye (hereinafter jointly referred to as the “Participants” and singularly as “Participant”);

AND WHEREAS, the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Türkiye (TÜBİTAK) is assigned as the implementing agency on behalf of the Turkish side;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT the long-standing and positive collaboration in the field of science and technology;

RECOGNIZING the fundamental role of science and technology in the bilateral relations between Slovenia and Türkiye;

ACKNOWLEDGING the potential of cooperation in science and technology based on the principles of mutual partnership and benefit, and with the aim of strengthening knowledge and sharing its application;

CONSIDERING the shared interest of the two countries in the field of research and technology;

CONSIDERING the agreement on cooperation in the fields of education, science and culture of 6 June 1995, and the agreement on co-operation in science and technology of 19 April 2001 (as amended by the protocol of 10 August 2022), were concluded between the two countries;

IDENTIFYING the need for a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) in order to further strengthen the collaboration, the exchange of knowledge and joint applications in research and innovation on shared scientific, technological and societal challenges;

HAVE REACHED the following understanding:

Section 1

General Provisions

In order to further enhance the scientific and technological cooperation on the basis of equal partnership and mutual benefit in the fields of common interest, the Participants intend to finance joint research and cooperation between universities, research organizations and other organizations in the field of research in both countries.

Section 2

Areas of Cooperation

1. The Participants acknowledge that bilateral scientific and technological cooperation reflects their shared interests and aligns with the priorities of both countries.
2. Priority areas of cooperation in the field of scientific research and technology may be proposed for each individual call issued under the present MoU by the Joint Steering Committee established pursuant to Section 4 and endorsed by Participants by mutual written consent.

Section 3

Forms of Cooperation

The Participants encourage and support universities, research organizations, and other organizations in the field of research in both countries to carry out projects within the scope of basic research, applied research and encouraging further development of technologies in accordance with technological readiness levels. Cooperation may take multiple forms including:

- a) Promoting cooperation between respective national research programmes, institutions, infrastructures;
- b) Joint funding of research and technology projects;
- c) Promoting research mobility between Slovenian and Turkish universities and research institutions;
- d) Organizing scientific events (forums, symposia, and fairs, etc.);
- e) Other forms of cooperation decided by the Participants.

Section 4

Joint Steering Committee

1. In order to facilitate the implementation of this MoU, the Participants will establish a Joint Steering Committee, which will be composed of equal number of representatives from both Participants.
2. The functions of the Joint Steering Committee will be:
 - a) The establishment of a working plan for the implementation of this MoU;
 - b) Formulation of joint policy guidance regarding the objectives of this MoU;
 - c) Formulation of the scientific and technological objectives and monitoring the implementation of this MoU.
3. The Joint Steering Committee will be composed of a maximum of six members, three from each Participant. Its composition may be modified by mutual consent of both Participants.
4. Bi-annual in situ or virtual meetings of the Steering Committee will take place or be organised alternately in Slovenia and in Türkiye to review the work performed and to report on the progress achieved by the Participants.
5. The costs related to the Joint Steering Committee will be covered by the existing resources within the budget of each Participant.

Section 5

Financial Provisions

1. The activities set forth in this MoU will be implemented by the Participants according to the budget availability of both Participants.
2. Unless otherwise decided by the Joint Steering Committee, each Participant will fund project partners of its own country.
3. In accordance with respective national laws, regulations, measures and procedures regarding the project management of each Participant, the Participants decide to provide equal financial support for the joint research and technology projects undertaken by the Slovenian and Turkish research organizations, universities, and other eligible organizations.

4. The number of joint research projects to be funded, duration and funding per project will be jointly decided by the Joint Steering Committee within the scope of available budget prior to each call. Each Participant will organize evaluation of projects in its own country. Based on the evaluation results of each Participant, the Participants will jointly determine the list of projects to be co-funded. The Participants will endeavor to support other forms of cooperation listed under Section 3.

Section 6

Protection of Intellectual Property

Intellectual property of cooperation under this MoU will be protected according to the national laws of both Participants.

Section 7

Applicable law

1. This MoU is concluded with a view to enhancing and developing cooperation between the Participants and does not constitute an international agreement binding upon the States of the Participants under international law. No provision of this MoU will be interpreted and implemented as creating legal rights or commitments for the States of the Participants.
2. This MoU will be implemented in compliance with the laws and regulations of the states of Participants, as well as applicable international law.
3. Without prejudice to paragraph 1 of this Section, the Participants will collaborate in good faith in order to achieve the objectives set forth in this MoU.

Section 8

Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute about the interpretation or implementation of this MoU will be resolved by consultations and negotiations between the Participants.

Section 9
Final Provisions

1. This MoU will come into effect upon signature and remain valid for a period of five (5) years and will be automatically extended for successive periods of five (5) years.
2. Either Participant may terminate this MoU at any time by giving to the other Participant a six (6) month written notice to that effect.
3. This MoU may be amended by the mutual written consent of the Participants at any time. The amendments will come into effect according to the same procedure prescribed under paragraph 1 of this Section.
4. The termination of this MoU will not affect the implementation of any ongoing activities or projects unless both Participants decide otherwise in writing.

Signed in Istanbul on 17 September 2025 in two originals in the English language.

On behalf of the
Ministry of Higher Education, Science
and Innovation of
the Republic of Slovenia



Igor Papič
Minister

On behalf of the
Ministry of Industry and Technology of
the Republic of Türkiye



Mehmet Fatih Kacır
Minister