PROTOCOL ON
INTERNATIONAL EDUCATIONAL COOPERATION

between

FATIH UNIVERSITY
(Istanbul, Republic of Turkey)

and

"HËNA E PLOTË" (BEDER) UNIVERSITY
(Tirana - Republic of Albania)

In order to promote further the existing cultural and educational cooperation between Turkey and Albania; Fatih University (hereafter referred to as ‘FATIH’) and “Hëna e Plotë” (Beder) University (hereafter referred to as ‘BEDER’) join in the following protocol on educational and scientific cooperation.

The two universities will endeavor to cooperate in education and research in areas of mutual interest. To the extent feasible, both universities will encourage direct contact and cooperation between faculty members, departments, research institutions and students.

I. AREAS OF COOPERATION
Specific areas of cooperation between the two universities may include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Exchange of faculty;
2. Exchange of students;
3. Joint research activities, lectures and lectures via-e-learning;
4. Participation in seminars and academic meetings;
5. Exchange of published academic materials and other information;

Initials: FATIH...... BEDER ......
II. EXCHANGE OF FACULTY

1. Although travel expenses and living costs of exchange faculty and research scholars are not compensated by the host institution, in case additional financial support is needed it will be evaluated on an individual basis.

2. The host institution shall provide office space and give access to libraries and other facilities to exchange faculty and research scholars.

3. Unless otherwise agreed upon, all exchanges are on the basis of reciprocity within the same academic year.

4. Faculty/scholar exchanges will normally be for duration of one or two semesters, shorter stays are possible, subject to mutual agreement.

5. Faculty/Scholar exchanges remain subject to the approval of the host institution.

6. Each professor remains on salary with the home institution during the exchange, and remuneration for special projects is subject to special negotiation.

7. Visiting professor/scholars must carry medical health insurance in accordance with the rules and regulations of the host institutions and/or the host government.

8. Teaching course loads and working hours and conditions shall normally be in accordance with established rules and practices of the host institution, subject to prior negotiation and agreement.

9. The Protocol between Bедер and Fatih may be in any appropriate academic field at either institution, subject to the prior approval of the administration of the host institution.

III. EXCHANGE OF STUDENTS

1. Such applications are honored Bедер and Fatih on the principle of reciprocity during the same academic year.

2. Exchange students shall be admitted as non-degree students for a period of one or two semesters (fall or spring), or for both semesters, and for a maximum of one academic year.

3. Exchange students may take courses for credit, and the host institution shall issue a transcript and grades for exchange students under the same rules and regulations as for its degree-seeking students.

4. So long as the principle of reciprocity is maintained, tuition and fees shall be waived for exchange students by the host institution.

5. Exchange students shall be recommended by the sending institution and follow established rules and procedures set forth by the host institution.

6. Travel and living expenses for exchange students are borne by the students themselves, by a sponsor, or by the sending institution.

7. Students coming to Fatih are required to get the proper visas prior to coming to Turkey so that it will be possible to acquire the Long Term Residence Permit.

8. Students coming to Beder are required to get the proper visas prior to coming to
Albania so that it will be possible to acquire the Long Term Residence Permit.
9. An affidavit of Financial Support (AFS) for living expenses must be submitted in advance to the host institution by the exchange student(s).

IV. RENEWAL, TERMINATION, AND AMENDMENT
1. These regulations are to be authorized by the official representative of both universities in two copies, and each party will retain one.
2. Except where specified and agreed upon, this Protocol will impose no financial obligation on the host institution.
3. The two institutions will evaluate each application in accordance with items pertaining to the implementation of the exchange programs based on this protocol.
4. This Protocol will, after the approval of the Council of Higher Education, become effective at the time it is signed by the authorized representatives of both institutions.
5. The period of validity of this Protocol is for five (5) years. Thereafter, it will be automatically renewed on an annual basis after each term unless it is replaced with a new one or either party provides a six-month early notice of intent to terminate it.
6. Items not covered by the Protocol may be determined and negotiated separately by both institutions without abrogating this Protocol; the Protocol may be amended with the consent of both parties and after the approval of the Council of Higher Education.

This Protocol is signed in 4 originals, two in Turkish, two in English, all of which have the same legal validity. Each party holds two original signed Protocols, one in Turkish and one in English.

Prof. Dr. Şerif Ali TEKALAN
Rector
Fatih University
Istanbul, Turkey
Date: 24 Jun 2013

Dr. Ferdinand GJANA
Rector
"Hëna e Plotë" (Beder) University
Tirana, Albania
Date: 24.06.2013

Initials: FATIH ...... BEDER ......