



Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) between
Western Caspian University
and
The Energy Charter Secretariat

Prof. Andris Leitas, rector of Western Caspian University, hereinafter referred as WCU, and Amb. Urban Rusnák Secretary General of the Energy Charter Secretariat, hereinafter referred as ECS, represent the Institutions mentioned and reciprocally recognise their ability to formalise this MoU.

Hereinafter referred to collectively as “the Institutions”,

Considering the fundamental importance of education and research,

Aware of the benefits that may derive from closer cooperation between the Institutions in fostering knowledge relation to the energy issues,

The institutions have come to the following understanding:

First:

Western Caspian University is the oldest private higher education institution in Azerbaijan. The aim of the university is to create the perfect educational atmosphere for internationally minded and recognized training, as well as to prepare students for achieving systematic success in their future career at international levels. To the present date, Western Caspian University is working in a variety of fields, including clean energy and the environment which strengthened its position of education and created a favourable atmosphere for its future development.

The Energy Charter Secretariat is the administrative body of the Energy Charter Conference

(ECC). ECC is the governing body of the Energy Charter Treaty and the Energy Charter Protocol on Energy Efficiency and Related Environmental Aspects. The Treaty regulates the promotion and protection of investments, trade, transit, and dispute resolution in the energy sector.

Second:

The abovementioned Institutions seek to promote relations and to enhance their synergies, within their respective mandates, by participating in common activities, projects and initiatives related to investment and dispute resolution to:

1. strengthen cooperation and knowledge-sharing between Institutions.
2. promote knowledge and capacity-building of government officials and industry.
3. support the knowledge-sharing on Energy Charter-related matters.

Third:

As a result, the Institutions consider it appropriate to approve this MOU and define the following initial activities for collaboration:

- a) 1 traineeship per year, available for students of WCU at its Brussels headquarters, for a period of 3 months under the general regulation of internships as established by the organization. Where appropriate, the internship may be used as a credit in the academic programmes of WCU, according to evaluations performed by both institutions.
- b) ECS agrees to be open to receive academics and post-graduate students of WCU to carry out research and studies on ECS areas of work at its Brussels headquarters, for a period of one (1) week to two (2) months.
- c) In case of an open call for fellowships by the ECS, WCU will conduct a pre-selection of the potential candidates of that Institution. The list will be duly considered by the ECS.
- d) Consider participation of staff of each Institution as speakers, faculty or lecturers at public events, academic courses and trainings
- e) the Institutions will exchange information on their respective research and training programmes in the field of energy and international relations.
- f) exchange of non-restricted information, documents, research materials and reports in matters of common interest

Fourth:

Each Institution is expected to appoint a representative who will be responsible for coordination towards implementing this MOU and its related activities. The representatives will develop the means of cooperation, through communication and consultation and provide suitable suggestions and recommendations.

Fifth:

The present MOU does not imply contributions to the specific budget of either Institution. The development of joint (or individual) projects, organized under this framework of

cooperation, will be subject to the assessment of budgetary availability of each institution and its respective review and approval.

Sixth:

This MOU may be amended with the consent of the Institutions. The proposed amendment should be in writing and be effective of the date decided by the Institutions.

Seventh:

This MOU will have duration of five (5) years from the date of signature and will be renewed for the same duration automatically. It should be noted that unilateral cancellation is possible at any time upon request of either of the Institutions, after a thirty (30) days prior notice in writing to the other Institution or by mutual agreement in writing, provided that the termination will not affect activities conducted under the MoU that may have started before the expiration of the 30-day notice period, even if such activities should occur after the expiration date.

Eighth:

All communications and documents between the Institutions will be done in English.

Ninth:

Any dispute that may arise over the interpretation or implementation of this MoU should be settled by direct negotiations between the Institutions.

Tenth:

This MOU does not give rise to legally binding rights or obligations between WCU and ECS.

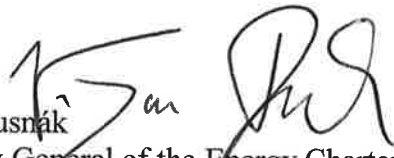
Signed in English in two copies, in xxx, on *Badm 24/10/2019*/.....

For Western Caspian University



Prof. Andris Leitas
Rector of Western Caspian University

For the Energy Charter Secretariat (ECS)



Urban Rusnák
Secretary General of the Energy Charter Secretariat