



**Cooperation Agreement regarding the
Joint Master Degree Program**

between

Tashkent State University of Law
(Republic of Uzbekistan)

and

National Forensic Science University
(Republic of India)

This Cooperation Agreement for Joint Master Degree Program is signed on 18th April 2024 between Tashkent State University of Law (TSUL) and National Forensic Science University (NFSU).

This Cooperation Agreement is entered into under the Agreement on cooperation in the development of Joint Master Degree Program signed on 18th April 2024 between Tashkent State University of Law (TSUL) and National Forensic Science University (NFSU). This Cooperation Agreement outlines the collaborative intentions of the Partner Universities, and commitment to establish and operate Joint Master Degree Program (hereinafter referred to as the Joint Master Program) in accordance with the terms specified herein.

A 'Joint Master Degree Program' is defined as an integrated curriculum coordinated and offered jointly by Tashkent State University of Law (TSUL) and National Forensic Science University (NFSU), leading to the award of joint LLM degree. Upon successful completion of the program, each student will receive a Master of Cyber Crime Law and Digital Forensics diploma awarded jointly by TSUL and NFSU, thereby recognizing the student's achievement and the dual nature of their studies. This arrangement ensures that graduates are acknowledged for their comprehensive and diverse educational experience, reflecting the collaborative effort and academic standards of both institutions.

ARTICLE-1 : OBJECTIVE OF THE COOPERATION, PARTNERS, NAME OF DEGREE PROGRAM, DEGREE

1. Tashkent State University of Law (hereinafter TSUL) and National Forensic Science University (hereinafter NFSU) aim to establish lasting and mutually beneficial cooperation. The Universities (hereinafter referred to as "Partners" or "Partner Universities" or "Partner Institutions") agree to establish Joint Master Degree Program under the title "Cybercrime Law and Digital forensics".
2. This cooperation agreement defines the objectives and content of the Joint Master Diploma/ Degree Program, as well as the rights and obligations of the Partners.
3. Graduates who successfully complete the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program will be awarded a Master degree.
4. For the compliance with uzbek regulations - the leading university is the TSUL. As the leading university, the TSUL holds the responsibility for overseeing the administrative and academic framework of the Joint Master Degree Program. This leadership role includes coordinating curriculum development, facilitating joint academic activities, and ensuring seamless communication between TSUL and NFSU.
5. Diplomas/Degree upon graduation will be issued independently by each Partner.
6. The qualification awarded by TSUL is 70420121 Cyber Law. The qualification awarded by NFSU is Master of Cyber Law.

ARTICLE- 2: LEGAL FRAMEWORK

1. This agreement is signed on the following basis:

TSUL:

- § 7 of Attachment of Decision of the Cabinet of Ministers of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On approval of the regulations on the organization of educational activities based on joint educational programs of higher educational institutions of the Republic of Uzbekistan and foreign partners" of 6 July 2021

NFSU:

- As per the provisions of New Education Policy promulgated by the government of India and Section 7(h) of NFSU Act, 2002 –" (h) to introduce semester system, continuous evaluation and choice-based credit system and enter into agreements with other Universities and academic institutions for credit transfer and joint degree

- programmes” and in consonance with the New Eductaion Policy, with the due approval from the competent authorities of the University.
2. The implementation of the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program will adhere to the relevant national laws of the partner countris.
 3. It is agreed that the study programme on which the Joint Master Diloma/Degree Program is based, have to be certified or accredited at each Partner by the relevant authorities.
 4. Students of joint LLM program shall abide by the rules, and ordinance of both the universities as well as local state laws.

ARTICLE- 3 :JOINT MASTER PROGRAM STRUCTURE, DURATION

1. Students commence the Joint Master Program at TSUL (first semester). Students will proceed with their studies during the second semester at NFSU, culminating in defending their master thesis.
2. The standard Joint Master Program study period is 2 semesters (1 year) full time 60 (ECTS) credits in total.

ARTICLE-4: MANAGEMENT OF THE DEGREE PROGRAM, COST

1. Each University appoints a Local Academic Coordinator. The following persons are appointed as Local Academic Coordinators:
 - TSUL: The Dean of the Faculty of Magistracy and Part-time Education Atabek Babadjanov; Head of the Department of Cyber law, Prof. Said Gulyamov.
 - NFSU: The Dean, School of Law Forensic Justice and Policy Studies; Prof Purvi Pokhariyal.
2. The Local Academic Coordinator from TSUL, in particular:
 - is responsible for the implementation of the Cooperation Agreement at TSUL;
 - attend to the didactic and administrative coordination with the Partners and the creation of an academic calendar for each semester;
 - follow the participants from their own University, advising them on their plan of studies and remaining in contact with them for the entire duration of the Joint Master Program;
 - welcome the students and advise them on their studies during their stay;

- is responsible for the quality control of the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program;
- is the principal contact persons for prospective and enrolled Joint Master Degree/Degree Program students, e.g. in case of student complaints;
- guarantee correct administrative management of the Joint Master Program; this includes the process of selection and admission of students.

3. The Local Academic Coordinator from NFSU, in particular:

- is responsible for the implementation of the Cooperation Agreement at NFSU;
- welcome the students and advise them on their studies during their stay at NFSU.
- advise the students on their plan of studies,
- is the principal contact persons for the students and remains in contact with them for the entire duration of the Joint Master Program at NFSU,
- is the contact person for the Partner University in matters concerning the administration of the Programme
- is coordinating the creation of an academic calendar for each year at NFSU,

4. Each University will take care of the costs incurred by its' part of curriculum.

5. No financial settlements shall be made between the partner universities.

6. The Partner Universities may establish joint committees other than the Joint Quality Assurance Committee mentioned in Article. 7, e.g. for program management or for diploma examinations, at the joint request of local academic coordinators and by the joint decision of the relevant authorities of both Partners.

ARTICLE- 5: STUDENT SELECTION, STUDENT ADMINISTRATION, STUDENT STATUS

1. Joint Master Degree/Diploma Program candidates are required to meet the following admission criteria:

- Applicants must demonstrate English language proficiency at a B2 level;
 - Applicants are required to hold a bachelor's or master's degree in a relevant field from an accredited institution, as further detailed by TSUL.
2. The Joint Degree / Diploma Master Program shall have an intake of 30 students. Enrollment exceeding 30 students will require joint approval from TSUL and NFSU to ensure the maintenance of program quality and manageability.
 3. TSUL conducts the process of application and selection in compliance with the principles established by Uzbekistan's legal regulations, which specify the examination process in detail. To complement this, the NFSU will participate in the application process, by conducting online interviews as the first stage of the application process. The first stage will consist of an online interview, the purpose of which is to test the candidates' oral English language skills and knowledge of the basic issues related to the subject of the course "Cyberlaw". Candidates are assessed on the NFSU grading scale as described in Appendix 2. The interview score represents a minimum of 30% of the total score.

As part of the second stage, by order of TSUL, the Agency for the Assessment of Knowledge and Qualifications under the Ministry of Higher Education, Science, and Innovation of the Republic of Uzbekistan is conducting test entrance examinations in English.

4. The transfer of selected students' details between TSUL and NFSU will adhere to GDPR and respective national data protection laws, ensuring the confidentiality and security of personal information.
5. Throughout their enrollment, students will hold regular student status at both universities.
6. Both universities are responsible for collaborative management ensuring the proper allocation and management of funds for student education.

ARTICLE - 6 :Academic Ordinances and Curriculum Designing

1. The committee appointed under Sub Clause 5 of Article 4 shall prepare the curriculum and detailed academic ordinances with the prior approval of both the universities and that will be binding to the students.

ARTICLE-7 QUALITY ASSURANCE

1. TSUL and NFSU commit to the continuous evaluation and improvement of the joint master's Diploma/ Degree program. This will include regular assessments of teaching quality, curriculum relevance, student satisfaction, and graduate outcomes. Both partners will jointly develop and implement an evaluation framework, incorporating feedback from students, faculty, and external stakeholders. Findings from these evaluations will inform ongoing curriculum development, teaching practices, and program management to ensure the program's alignment with academic and professional standards.
2. TSUL and NFSU agree to form a Joint Quality Assurance Committee, comprising members from each partner's faculty-based quality assurance bodies, tasked with monitoring and maintaining the program's educational standards and quality.
3. Joint Quality Assurance Committee agree upon an annual exchange meeting, regarding the former and current state as well as the prospective development of the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program. Results of the national quality assurance procedures can be discussed. Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program students and alumni are invited to contribute on a voluntary basis.
4. Joint Quality Assurance Committee collects structured student feedback and takes the results into account for the further development of the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program.
5. With the aim of supporting the Joint Master Diploma/ Degree Program, the Partners will promote and coordinate by mutual consent the exchange of visiting professors and researchers as well as the organisation of workshop, seminars, conferences and publications on topics of common interest. The above mentioned exchange and the development of the activities will conform to the norms and procedures in force at the Partner.
6. To improve the quality of the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program, the Local Academic Coordinators could prepare modifications and propose them to the competent boards of both Universities.

ARTICLE- 8 : STUDENT SUPPORT

1. To ensure students' quick orientation and integration in the Program as well as to provide detailed information about structural and examination-related requirements, the Partners shall publish corresponding information on the faculty websites outlining the structure of the Joint Master Diploma/ Degree Program in general terms and providing details

about the Partner Institutions, in particular: an overview of procedures (including the examination procedures), the time table of the academic year, overall costs of the Joint Master Program and important deadlines, as well as other information which can be of assistance to the students.

2. The Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program students will benefit from all the services offered by the Partner Institutions to other regular students, e.g. cafeterias, advising, language courses, libraries.
3. The Partner Institutions will provide dormitory accommodation for students. The dormitory fees at NFSU are not included in the tuition fee.
4. It is an important concern of the Partner Institutions to ensure equal opportunities. They strive to prevent any form of discrimination and to provide adequate support to persons affected by discrimination.

ARTICLE-9: STUDENT FINANCES, INSURANCE

1. Students will pay the tuition fees at the TSUL for the first semester, and at NFSU for the second semester of the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program.
2. Students cover all expenses (e.g. travel, accommodation, cost of living, insurance costs, textbooks) connected with participation in the programme.
3. Students participating in the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program will be responsible for providing sufficient proof of insurance in order to get enrolled.
4. Students must provide adequate proof of health insurance and accident insurance for each semester of enrollment.

ARTICLE-10: DATA TRANSFER, DATA PROTECTION

1. The Partners will handle personal data in compliance with the General Data Protection Regulation (EU 2016/679), also known as GDPR. Unless stipulated otherwise, each university will act as an independent data controller as outlined in Article 4 of the GDPR. Personal data of students and staff will be shared between the Partner Universities only as necessary for the execution of the Joint Degree Program. Furthermore, the Partners agree to enter into a supplementary agreement for the cooperative management of personal data associated with the Joint Master Program.
2. The NFSU informs that its personal data information notice, pursuant to Articles 13(1) and (2) of the GDPR, is accessible at

<https://bip.ug.edu.pl/>. TSUL acknowledges having reviewed the notice and commits to meeting the notification requirements outlined in Articles 13 and 14 of the GDPR, for individuals from whom personal data is collected, whether directly or indirectly, for the purpose of entering into and fulfilling this agreement.

ARTICLE- 11 : PROMOTION OF THE DEGREE PROGRAM

1. Each Partner may use the logos, names and other marks of the other Partner only in connection with the Joint Master Diploma/ Degree Program. Each Partner shall refer to the other Partners' participation in press announcements, marketing and other reasonable promotional activities involving the Joint Master Diploma/Degree Program through the appropriate use of logos, names and marks of the Partner. The right to use the name and/or logo or any other identifying marks of the other University as described in sentence 1 is limited to the duration of the Cooperation Agreement.
2. Each Partner will make every effort to advertise the Joint Master Program through websites, brochures, flyers and by advertisement.

ARTICLE -12 : DURATION AND VALIDITY OF THE AGREEMENT

1. This Cooperation Agreement becomes binding with the last Partner's signature. It comes into effect on 1st of June 2024 and remains in effect for 4 years. The Cooperation Agreement is automatically extended for another 4 years, if neither Partner gives notice before the end of the original period.
2. This Cooperation Agreement may be terminated at the notice of one of the Partners, provided such a notice is made in writing at least 12 months before termination to become effective. Any students who are already enrolled in the Joint Master Program shall be able to finish their studies according to study's time schedule .
3. An evaluation of this Cooperation Agreement will be initiated by the Local Academic Coordinators at least 12 months prior to its expiration. The agreement is based on long-term strategic cooperation interests from the Partners. The Partners will support and work towards the renewal

and extension of this Cooperation Agreement to ascertain the continuation of the Joint Master Program.

4. This Cooperation Agreement is in English language and has been signed in duplicate by the legal representatives of the Partners. Each Partner shall receive one original copy of the fully signed agreement.

ARTICLE – 13: CHANGES, SEVERABILITY CLAUSE, MISCELLANEOUS

1. Each Partner may at any time ask in writing for the revision of the Cooperation Agreement. All amendments and additions to this Cooperation Agreement, including the Annexes which shall form an integral part of this Cooperation Agreement, must be made in writing and signed by the legal representatives of the Partners to be effective. The same applies to changes made to this clause. Spoken agreements are invalid and none have been made. Every amendment must be attached to the original copy of this Cooperation Agreement.
2. There will be two annexures related to curriculum and academic ordinances that will be prepared by the local academic coordinators with joint meeting without amendment of this Cooperation Agreement and supplementary to this cooperation agreement.
3. In any case, students who are already enrolled in the Joint Master Program must be able to finish their studies according to study's time schedule.
4. It was agreed that the Joint Master's Program cannot be continued if the Partner does not meet the requirements for re-accreditation or is unable to conduct studies as a result of accreditation. In such a case, the Cooperation Agreement is to be changed or expires.
5. If this Cooperation Agreement or any part thereof is found to be illegal or unenforceable, that part will be removed and the illegality or unenforceability shall not affect the untainted parts of this Cooperation Agreement, which shall continue to be valid and enforceable. Notwithstanding the above, in the event of any such nullification, the Partners shall negotiate in good faith to agree on the terms of a mutually acceptable and satisfactory alternative provision to replace the nullified provision.

ARTICLE- 14 : SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES, APPLICABLE LAW

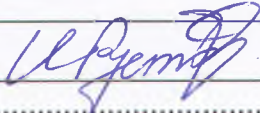

In case of difficulties involving the interpretation or execution of this agreement, the Local Academic Coordinators and academic departments shall attempt to resolve the dispute amicably. In the event of non-

resolution, the first step is mediation by the Rector of TSUL or her/his delegate/s and by the Vice Chancellor of NFSU or her/his delegate/s. Recourse to a court of jurisdiction will be only a last resort, after exhausting all other possibilities. In this case, the conflict will be decided according to the laws of the defendant party.

ARTICLE- 15 : FINAL PROVISIONS

1. The parties are obliged to notify each other in writing of a change in coordinators, addresses, bank details, etc.
2. This agreement has been drawn up in 2 copies, each in two languages (English, Uzbek), having equal legal force, one for each of the parties. In case of any doubts regarding the content, the English version prevails.

ARTICLE- 16 : LEGAL ADDRESSES AND SIGNATURES OF THE PARTIES

For cooperation agreement regarding of the Dobule Degree program	For cooperation agreement regarding of the Dobule Degree program
in its final version dated DD/MM/YYYY	in its final version dated DD/MM/YYYY
For and on behalf of the Tashkent State Univeristy of Law	For and on behalf of the National Forensic Science University
Date: __-__-2024	Date: __-__-2024
Signature: 	Signature: 
.....
Name: Prof. Dr. Islambek Rustambekov	Name: Prof. Dr. S. O. Junare
Title: Acting Rector	Title: Campus Director, NFSU
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