



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE WORLD CUSTOMS ORGANIZATION¹ (WCO)
AND
THE FACULTY OF ECONOMICS
UNIVERSITY SS. CYRIL AND METHODIUS**

***TO PROMOTE CO-OPERATION IN THE DEVELOPMENT AND PROVISION
OF WORLD-CLASS CUSTOMS TRAINING, EDUCATION, CAPACITY BUILDING
AND RESEARCH***

This Memorandum of Understanding is concluded

between

The World Customs Organization (WCO)

and

The Faculty of Economics, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius" (FE), Skopje,

Collectively referred to hereafter as "the Parties" and individually as "the Party".

The Parties :

¹ Established in 1952 as the Customs Co-operation Council.

B/H) A

- (a) **ACKNOWLEDGING** that the WCO is the sole competent global intergovernmental organization in Customs matters, whose mission is to enhance the effectiveness and efficiency of Customs administrations,
- (b) **ACKNOWLEDGING also** that the Faculty of Economics, University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius", Skopje, is a leader among higher education institutions in economics and business, whose mission is the continuous education of highly qualified professionals, capable of solving problems, meeting the challenges of the new millennium and strengthening the competitiveness of enterprises on a European and international level through high-quality programmes in business and economics. The Faculty of Economics also provides professional services and research for enterprises and the public sector.

It offers courses on international economics, international trade, international organizations and the integration and operations of international trade. The objective of the courses on international trade is to develop highly educated human resources capable of organizing and dealing with contemporary Customs practices and WTO policies.

- (c) **RECOGNIZING** the desire of both Parties to assist Customs administrations in their efforts to meet the challenges of the modern business environment and adapt to changing circumstances, by promoting international communication and co-operation, and by fostering integrity, human-resource development, transparency, improvements in the management and working methods of Customs administrations and the sharing of best practices,
- (d) **NOTING** that the WCO is committed to enhancing regional Customs training, education and capacity building, in particular through its e-learning programme and through its Regional Offices for Capacity Building (ROCBs) and Regional Training Centres (RTCs),
- (e) **RECOGNIZING** also the potential synergies between the Parties through their commitment to world-class Customs training, education, capacity building and research,

Hereby agree as follows :

General

1. To develop a long-term strategic alliance that will mutually benefit the organizational aims and objectives of both Parties.
2. To permit reference to the professional association between the two Parties to be made by either Party in public documents such as information brochures, subject to the prior approval of the other Party.

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Training, education and capacity building initiatives

3. To explore opportunities to co-operate and minimize duplication of effort in the areas of training, e-learning, capacity building and management development.
4. To seek to maximize the level of articulation between the training and development programmes provided by the WCO and its Members and the programmes provided by FE.
5. To explore opportunities to progress jointly regional training, education and capacity building activities through ROCBs and RTCs.
6. To explore opportunities to develop and subsequently extend accreditation to activities pursued by any or all WCO Members worldwide.
7. To facilitate co-operative arrangements by providing FE with observer status on the High Level Working Group on Capacity Building, Training and Technical Assistance, as well as access to the WCO Members' Web site.

Research

8. To collaborate on strategic research activities that will assist the WCO and its Members to position themselves to meet the future demands of the global economy.
9. To negotiate an agreed research output on an annual basis.

Intellectual property

10. To recognize the respective ownership of materials based upon the source and the individual Party's contribution to the commissioning, writing and preparation of such materials.
11. To reach agreement on the use of each other's intellectual property on a case-by-case or on a general basis. The agreement, which may involve a fee, should be in writing and specify any conditions on the use of the material.
12. When either FE or the WCO agrees to allow the other Party to use its material, this is done so on the basis that the assigning Party has the right to license the use of the material.

Communication

13. Formal communication between the two parties will generally be exchanged between Professor Bobek Suklev, Ph.D. (FE) and Joseph Kelly (WCO).

Legal force

14. This Memorandum of Understanding does not create legal rights or obligations. The Parties will co-operate in good faith to implement this Memorandum of Understanding.

Modifications

15. Modifications to this Memorandum of Understanding may be made subject to the mutual consent of both Parties. Such modifications will be attached to and will form part of the Memorandum of Understanding.

Period of validity

16. This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force until terminated by either Party giving three months' written notice to the other Party.

In witness whereof, the undersigned legal representatives of the Parties hereto have duly affixed their signatures on the four originals of this Memorandum of Understanding, two in the English language and two in the French language.

Done at Brussels on 5 October 2007.

Michel Danet
Secretary General

World Customs Organization.

Professor Bobek Suklev, Ph.D.
Dean
Faculty of Economics
University "Ss. Cyril and Methodius".

