

GISP (German Iranian Scholarship Programme)**Cooperation Agreement**

Between the

Ministry of Science, Research and Technology of the Islamic
Republic of Iran, represented by the Deputy Minister of
International Affairs, Prof. Hossein Salar Amoli,
and the

Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst e.V. (German
Academic Exchange Service), Kennedyallee 50, 53175 Bonn,
represented by the Secretary General, Dr. Dorothea Rüländ,
Bonn

July 2016

Preamble

In the context of intensifying the German-Iranian cooperation in the field of science and research, this Cooperation Agreement is made between the Ministry of Science, Research and Technology of the Islamic Republic of Iran (hereinafter called the "MSRT") and the Deutscher Akademischer Austauschdienst (German Academic Exchange Service), Bonn (hereinafter called the "DAAD"), (hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties") on the Cooperation Programme for short term scholarships for PhD Candidates for research visits from six to nine months to Germany.

In the framework of the long-standing cooperation between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Federal Republic of Germany the aforementioned Parties have agreed on the following:

Article 1***a. Aim and duration of the studies in Germany***

Each year a group of researchers will be sent to Germany for doctoral studies in the fields agreed upon by both Parties. The distribution of the monthly units will be defined by a bi-national independent selection committee according to the proposals presented for doctoral candidates. This distribution may change annually if both Parties agree. Generally speaking, the number of months granted should not exceed nine months per candidate and should not be less than six months. The distribution should be done in consideration to the number of applications from doctoral candidates. Scholarships cannot be extended after commencement of travel to Germany and/or final distribution of the monthly units.

The scholarship shall enable advanced graduate students to pursue part of their doctoral research to carry out a specific research project at German universities, archives, libraries or research institutes. The typical candidate for the scholarship should have obtained his/her degree at least one year before applying for this scholarship.

The scholarship cannot be awarded for general information-gathering visits or for participation in scientific meetings.

b. Beginning of the programme

In a typical year, applicants should submit their applications to both the Iranian Universities, and by mid-June of each year via the DAAD online portal, provided that the financial contribution of the MSRT has been paid three months in advance.

Article 2***Obligations for both parties***

On general basis, this programme should set the example of a jointly run programme of scholarships between both parties. Nevertheless, the responsibilities of the two parties are as follows:

For the DAAD:

- Responsibility of running the programme through the channel of the DAAD Information Center Tehran and the DAAD section ST 35, Joint Scholarship Programmes.
- Counseling services for the candidates throughout their stay in Germany.
- Taking over the responsibility of arranging the selection procedure in Tehran.
- Organizing information sessions for the candidates whenever needed.
- Organizing a cultural preparation course in Tehran.

- Organizing a short intensive German language course in the Deutsches Sprachinstitut Tehran (DSIT).
- All candidates will have access to the DAAD Alumni network and benefits.

For the MSRT:

- Participating in the selection process.
- Participation in setting up the priorities of the programme for each given year.
- Assisting the candidates in Germany through the embassy in Berlin.
- Providing logistic and administrative support for the candidates in their home institutions.

Article 3***a. Amounts of the grants:***

The financial support provided according to this agreement will be arranged through co-financing by both parties. The DAAD and MHESR will finance the Iranian scholars for the duration of academic activity with a basic stipend, travel allowance plus insurances covering health, accident, care and liability as defined in annex I which is considered part of this agreement. The calculation is based on DAAD-standards. In case of increase of the rates the DAAD is entitled to adjust the costs accordingly. Insurances will be administrated from DAAD.

b. Costs for Programme Administration and Project Implementation:

Costs for the programme administration including project implementation are listed in annex I. The calculation of the costs for the programme administration is based on the preliminary total costs of the scholarship programme and is no subject to change.

c. Financial procedures

MSRT is obliged to transfer the costs for programme administration, project implementation and insurances for 50% of the scholarship holders according to annex I to DAAD in advance. After a successful selection of the candidates DAAD will issue an invoice for the costs of programme administration, project implementation and insurance.

MSRT will transfer the money within 30 days after receipt of the invoice to the following account of DAAD:

Commerzbank, Bonn

IBAN: DE 28 3708 0040 0208 5185 00

SWIFT-BIC: DRESDEFF370

DAAD will pay 50% of the monthly installments in Euro directly to the students in Germany on private bank accounts. MSRT will transfers its share of the financial contribution in accordance with annex 1 to the other 50% of the students. MSRT will send DAAD a list of the monthly payments to the students including scholarship rates, airline tickets and any further financial contributions every 3 months.

DAAD will be able to meet its responsibilities determined in this agreement only if it receives from the MSRT the funds needed for the programme implementation, project administration and insurances on time (cf. annex 1). Selected candidates will receive the scholarship award which is necessary for the visa application from DAAD after the payment.

DAAD will submit the balance of account for the previous period (1.1. – 31.12.) by 31st March of any following year. Credit or debit of the yearly balance of account will be considered for the next invoice by taking into account the funds being committed. The final invoice depending on the final balance of account will be sent after termination of the programme.

(The contracting partners are obliged to transfer the excessive payments.)

Article 4

a. Selection of the candidates and application requirements and documents

In a typical year, there shall be one call for applications in the beginning of each year. A minimum of four months is required from that date before commencement of travel to Germany.

The candidates will be selected through a paper based joint selection committee consisting of Iranian and German university professors who will be nominated by the two parties. If possible, the number of the Iranian and German voting members of the selection committee should remain equal.

Members of the MSRT, as well as members of the DAAD and the German embassy can participate as observers to the selection procedure. The DAAD will take the nonvoting chairmanship of the selection.

Final selection of the candidates will be based on:

- Excellent study achievements
- At the time of application the M.A./M.Sc. or PhD degree should not be older than five years.
- Good command of English is required; preference will be given to holders of TOEFL (minimum of 550 points) or IELTS (band 6) certificate. German is a plus.
- Candidates should participate in the German language course which will be offered in Iran. Alternatively a German online course is recommended.
- At the time of application, candidates must have an acceptance letter from a supervisor in Germany.

(DAAD can support candidates in medical science only if they intend to visit Germany for research purposes due to the complicated procedure regarding the medical license. It is not possible to obtain the license of practicing medicine due to the limited time of the scholarship.)

b. Control of the study progress

To be able to control the progress of each scholarship holder, the German supervisors will be informed to report to DAAD headquarters immediately should they notice the candidate is not fulfilling the requirements of the selection committee. DAAD will inform the MSRT immediately and discuss further steps. After the completion of the scholarship a report has to be signed by the supervisor and is to be presented by the scholarship holder to DAAD headquarters.

Article 5***Publication***

The MSRT should inform all Iranian universities and all research institutions (private and public) about the new programme.

Article 6***Dropping of the scholarship***

If a scholarship holder asks to drop his/her scholarship without a justified reason both parties will decide about the individual case. Depending on the circumstances, the candidate may then be asked to refund the monthly stipend he/she collected according to the DAAD-Standard guidelines.

The MSRT as well as DAAD have the right to suggest the termination of a scholarship if the candidate's progress is not sufficient or if he/she does not fulfill the conditions mentioned in this contract or does violate against German law. In any case both parties will discuss the individual situation and agree about further steps.

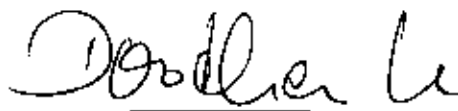
Article 7***Validity, duration and cancellation of the contract***

- The agreement will come into effect after both parties have signed it.
- The agreement will be valid for an initial period of two academic years starting at the date of signature.
- If the agreement is canceled, both parties have to fulfill their duties for the scholarship holders who are, at that moment, doing their studies in Germany.
- If necessary, additional conditions can be agreed on by the exchange of letters.

Article 8***Programme coordinators***

To facilitate the cooperation, both parties shall name a special programme coordinator. For the DAAD, the head of the section for joint scholarship programmes Middle East / North Africa in DAAD will be the person in charge. On the Iranian side the coordinator will be nominated at a later stage.

On behalf of DAAD
Dr. Dorothea Rüländ



Bonn, 6th July, 2016

On behalf of MSRT
Prof. Hossein Salar Amoli



Tehran 8th July, 2016

**DAAD-Iran co-financed programme for short term scholarships
(6 to 9 months, 75 scholars per year)**

Programme Costs per scholarship holder

	DAAD-rates	frequency of payment	per year	2 years
scholarship rate (per month) *	1.200,00 €	6 months	7.200,00 €	14.400,00 €
health insurance, accident- and personal liability insurance and care insurance (per month)*	95,00 €	7 months	665,00 €	1.330,00 €
travel allowance**	650,00 €	once	650,00 €	1.300,00 €
Total			8.515,00 €	17.030,00 €
batch of 75 scholars/year =			638.625,00 €	1.277.250,00 €

programme costs for the DAAD per year (50%)	319.312,50 €	638.625,00 €
programme costs for Government of Iran per year (50%)	319.312,50 €	638.625,00 €

Preparatory German Language Course

(costs are covered by the DAAD) at DSIT Teheran	1,5 months	120,00 €	
	75 scholars	9.000,00 €	18.000,00 €

Costs for Programme Administration and Project Implementation

(costs are covered by the MRST)

Programme administration	75.000,00 €	150.000,00 €
Project implementation	50.000,00 €	100.000,00 €
Total	772.625,00 €	1.545.250,00 €

Total Costs for the Scholarship Programme (2 years)

The total costs of the scholarship programme amount to EUR 1.545.250 of which EUR 888.625 would be borne by the Iranian government while the German Academic Exchange Service (DAAD) would cover EUR 656.625.