

STUDENT AGREEMENT (2023-2025)

This Student agreement specifies the rights and obligations of the Student and the MESD consortium, as well as the services provided to the Student.

The parties signing the agreement commit themselves complying with all the arrangements agreed, thereby insuring that both parties are fully aware of the mutual rights and obligations resulting from the implementation and participation in the Program.

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THE INSTITUTION

The Université de Montpellier, whose registered office is at 163 rue Auguste Broussonnet, 34090 Montpellier, France, SIREN n° 130020548 00017, coordinating Institution of the Erasmus Mundus Master in Membrane Engineering for a Sustainable World (MESD), represented by Professor Philippe AUGÉ, acting in his capacity of President, on behalf of the MESD Consortium formed by the following Universities (MESD Partners):

- Université de Montpellier (UM, France)
- Université Paul Sabatier Toulouse III (UT3-PS, France)

- University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague (UCTP, Czech Republic)
- Universidade Nova de Lisboa (UNL, Portugal)
- Universidad de Zaragoza (UNIZAR, Spain)
- University of Twente (UTwente, The Netherlands)
- KU Leuven (KULeuven, Belgium)
- Università della Calabria (UNICAL, Italy)

Called hereafter "the institution", represented for the purposes of signature of this agreement by Philippe AUGÉ
President of the University of Montpellier, on the one part, and

THE STUDENT

Student name and forename:

Nationality:

Date of birth:

Birthplace:

Passport number: with validity until

And residence address (official address in full):

Called hereafter "the Student", on the other part, as

- ☐ Scholarship Holder Student receiving support from Erasmus+ EU funds
- ☐ Non-Scholarship Holder or Self paying Student

Have agreed to the following terms and conditions:

ARTICLE 1 – SUBJECT MATTER OF THE AGREEMENT

- The institution shall provide support to the Student for undertaking the academic activities for studies under the Master in Membrane Engineering for Sustainable Development, Erasmus Mundus Joint Master funded by the European Commission under the Grant Agreement Project number 101081874 — MESD, contracted between the Education, Audiovisual & Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) on behalf of the European Commission, and the Université de Montpellier as coordinating institution. (Key Action 2: Cooperation among organisations and institutions, Erasmus Mundus action Lot 1: Erasmus Mundus Joint Masters (EMJM) - ERASMUS-EDU-2022-PEX-EMJM-MOB
- The Student accepts and commits to carrying out the mobility activity for studies as described in this agreement, as well as to attending the entire academic program of the Master in Membrane Engineering for Sustainable Development.
- Amendments to the agreement shall be requested and agreed by both parties through a formal notification by letter or by electronic message.

ARTICLE 2 – ENTRY INTO FORCE AND DURATION

- The agreement shall enter into force on the date when the last of the two parties signs.
- The physical mobility period shall start on [29/08/2023] at the latest and end on 31/08/2025 at the latest. The start date of the mobility period shall be the first day that the Student needs to be physically present at the receiving institution and the end date shall be the last day the Student needs to be physically present at the receiving institution.
- For students attending a language course provided by the host institution as a relevant part of the mobility period abroad: the start date of the mobility period shall be the first day of language course attendance.

ARTICLE 3 – STUDENT OBLIGATIONS

- Under the present agreement, the Student commits to:
 - Provide with any required information, within prescribed deadline, and necessary to the MESD Team or host institutions for efficient operation of the program (i.e. contact information, mobility status ...)
 - Obtain the required visa and/or residence permit from the competent authorities during the whole duration of the Master.
 - Comply with the mobility periods.
 - Participate in the orientation and welcome meetings as well as informative and official meetings and events, unless special exemption is granted by the coordinator.
 - Attend assiduously, and with the objective of successfully passing, the courses, seminars, summer sessions and the thesis inherent in the program of studies.
 - Participate in program evaluations and surveys, as well as employment surveys after the end of the Master, carried out by the Coordinator, the MESD Partners or the European Commission,
 - To inform the coordinator as soon as possible of any events or circumstances likely to affect the Student Agreement.
 - Comply with the code of conduct in place in each university of the consortium. In case of non-compliance disciplinary measures may be engaged in the concerned university.
 - Behave in line with the ethical norms of scientific research and education. The Student will commit no fraudulent act, and will especially avoid cheating, falsification or plagiarism of any academic work. Moreover, the Student will not abuse or misuse the access to equipment and installations and will not perform any unauthorized access or violation of department, school or university rules.
 - The Student further agrees that they will not disseminate or share any documentation or content received during the courses from professors or other sources without proper authorization or consent.

The non-compliance of these norms and rules will be treated by the Executive Board and may cause the exclusion of the Student from the MESD program.

The attendance of the MESD classes will be recognized by the respective institutions as integral parts of the qualification for which the Student is preparing, as long as the Student is successful in the respective examinations and/or assessments.

- The Student is not entitled to embark on any vocational occupation with a regular salary in parallel to the studies under the MESD Master

Only for Self-paying Students:

- The Student must ensure that the participation costs are paid on time. The participation costs can be paid in four installments (in September and February of the first and second years at the latest).

Only for scholarship holder Students:

- The Student must refuse any other scholarship or subvention financed by the European Commission of the European Union or under any other European Union program.

ARTICLE 4 – INSTITUTIONAL OBLIGATIONS

- The Universities commit to provide the Student with tuition, supervision, assessment, and support services of a professional standard. This includes academic support services, maintaining a safe and healthy learning environment, and ensuring that the Student has access to necessary resources and facilities. Relevant information regarding the structure and organization of the Master's program, its calendar, course outlines, and evaluations will be published or communicated through convenient channels (such as the MESD website, email, or PDF documents).
- The Universities shall share the description of its own courses of the MESD academic program before the beginning of each academic year.
- The Universities use the grading scale of its own institution as well as the ECTS system.
- The Student will receive information via email to learn about the process of becoming a member of the Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association (EMA). Additionally, a link will be available on the Master's website.

Insurance

- The insurance program will be in effect from the time the Student begins traveling to attend the Master's program (no more than two months before the start of the Master's program, August 30, 2023) until at least two months after the end of the program (end of the program, August 31, 2025, unless the Student leaves earlier).
- The cover will include:
 - sickness, pregnancy/childbirth and accident, in particular:
 - direct payment of hospital stays
 - reimbursement of outpatient care and other medical expenses
 - 100% cover for doctor's fees, medicines, examinations and analyses prescribed by a physician, urgent dental care following an accident, all hospital expenses and surgical fees (including advances on hospital expenses), repatriation in the event of serious illness or accident
 - costs for urgent dental care without accident up to 250 EUR per year
 - non-permanent and non-chronic mental disorders
 - pregnancies of less than 6 months (at the moment of departure from the home country to participate in the action) may not be excluded from cover
 - death (whether attributable to the activities under the action or not and covering all cases, including suicide), in particular:
 - transport of the mortal remains to the place chosen by the deceased's family
 - funeral and laying-out costs
 - costs of the coffin
 - permanent invalidity (whether attributable to the activities under the action or not), in particular partial or full permanent disability resulting from an accident
 - third party liability occasioned by physical or material damage to third parties (as provided for under the applicable national law)
 - theft and loss of personal belongings, in particular:

- identification documents (identity card, passport, etc.)
- travel tickets
- luggage
- the entire enrolment period (including mobility periods and worldwide travel required for the participation in the master course)
- ensure that family members of Students can sign the same insurance coverage at their own expense, regardless of their age

Accommodation

- The Universities will provide the necessary assistance to help the Student secure appropriate housing upon arrival in the host country.
- The Universities will ensure that the Student have access to affordable and quality housing options. The Universities are committed to providing assistance to Students in finding housing that meets their needs and preferences. The University teams will guide the Student through the entire process, from identifying housing options to signing the lease. The financial responsibility for housing lies with the Student.

ARTICLE 5 – TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT / DROP OUT

- In the event of failure by the Student to perform any of the obligations arising from the agreement, and regardless of the consequences provided for under the applicable law, the institution is legally entitled to terminate or cancel the agreement without any further legal formality where no action is taken by the Student within 10 days of receiving notification by e-mail.

This concern:

- Non-attendance to the mandatory course activities that the Student cannot justify with medical certificates, or for which permission has not been granted by the MESD staff (written permission shall be asked in advance)
- Failure to pass a year of study
- The Student being the subject of disciplinary measures leading to their exclusion from any of the MESD Partner University.
- Withdrawal from the MESD program course, on the Student own decision or by force majeure, the Student shall be excluded from the MESD Program.

In case of termination by the Student due to "force majeure", i.e. an unforeseeable exceptional situation or event beyond the Student's control and not attributable to error or negligence on their part, the Student shall be entitled to receive at least the amount of the grant corresponding to the actual duration of the mobility period.

ARTICLE 6 – MODIFICATION OF THE CONTRACT AND CONFLICT RESOLUTION CONDITIONS

- Any alteration to the present Agreement or respective Annexes must be communicated in writing. All alterations to the initial situation must be immediately communicated by the Student to the Coordinating Institution and the Host University. Upon mutual agreement of contractual modifications, the Institution will issue an addendum to the present Agreement.
- Any deliberate failure on the part of the Student to fulfill the conditions expected in terms of attendance at the MESD program, in particular non-fulfillment of the conditions stipulated in the present Agreement, constitutes a sufficient reason for actions to be taken towards resolving the issue and could lead to the exclusion of the Student from the MESD program.

- Upon exclusion or withdrawal, the Student shall in due time and before their departure pay for all their financial obligations, in particular:
 - the rent of his/her accommodation,
 - the bank charges to pay for any of his/her bank accounts and credit cards.
- For the Student's information, the European Commission, imposes upon the Coordinating Institution, following the exclusion or the withdrawal of a Student from the program:
 - to reallocate the remaining funds of the scholarship allocated to that Student to another new suitable Student;
 - to refund the EACEA of the European Commission with the remainder of the scholarship allocated to that Student if no new applicant is enrolled as a replacement.
- Without prejudice to the general consequences laid down in national law applicable in the present Agreement, the Institution reserves the right to cease the effects of the present Agreement, without recourse to any juridical procedure apart from adequate communication to the Student. Failing agreement by both parts, the French courts are designated as the only competent authorities to resolve any legal dispute between the Coordinating Institution and the Student emerging from the Agreement.
- The Student is obliged to accept the necessary insurance related to the activities for the full duration of the study period.

Arrangements for complaints procedures

- The Student shall to attempt an informal resolution of their complaint by first discussing the matter with the appropriate faculty member, staff member, or supervisor. This step is intended to promote open communication and prompt resolution of the issue.
- If an informal resolution is not possible or does not satisfactorily resolve the complaint, the student may proceed with the formal complaint process as outlined below:
 - The Student should submit a written complaint detailing the nature of the complaint, the individuals involved, and any supporting documentation or evidence.
 - The written complaint should be addressed to the master address : mesd-project@umontpellier.fr
 - The Master Office will initiate a thorough review of the complaint, ensuring confidentiality and impartiality throughout the process and inform the Executive board.
- The Executive Board will try to resolve the complaint in a fair and timely manner, with the goal of achieving a satisfactory outcome for all parties. The outcome of the complaint will be notified to the Student by e-mail.
- If the resolution is not satisfactory to the student, the student is invited to consult the Guidelines for EMJMD/EM1 students' concerns and complaints https://www.eacea.ec.europa.eu/system/files/2021-01/guidelines_for_erasmus_mundus.pdf

ARTICLE 7 – MOBILITY AND ACADEMIC INFORMATION

The Master in Membrane Engineering for Sustainable Development, MESD, offers an advanced education program related to membrane science and engineering at the interface between material science and chemical engineering.

It involves 7 HEI of 6 European countries: University of Twente (The Netherlands) UT, Universidade NOVA de Lisboa (Portugal), NOVA, Universidad de Zaragoza (Spain), UNIZAR, University of Chemistry and Technology Prague (Czech Republic), UCT Prague, University Toulouse III Paul Sabatier (France), UT3, Lund University (Sweden), LU; and Université de Montpellier, UM, coordinating organization, France. Institute on Membrane

Technology, CNR-ITM, Italy; Katholieke Universiteit Leuven, KU Leuven, Belgium and Università della Calabria, UNICAL, Italy are associated partners.

The MESD has a duration of two years: 4 semesters corresponding to 30 ECTS (European Credits Transfer System) each and spent in at least 3 different countries. The language of instruction is English.

MESD mobility program:

- Semester 1 (August 2023 - January 2024): All MESD Students attend the summer school organized at the Université de Montpellier, France at the end of August (30th – 31st). The Student continues to the different host institutions to follow the selected tracks : Membrane Materials MemMAT at Université de Montpellier, France; Membrane Chemical Engineering, MemENG at Université Paul Sabatier Toulouse III , France or Membrane Technologies and Project management, MemTECH at Universidad de Zaragoza in Spain.
- Semester 2 (February - June 2024): This semester is entirely be spent at University of Chemistry and Technology, Prague in Czech Republic for the Track MemENG and MemTECH and in Universidad de Zaragoza, Spain for the Track MemMAT.
- Semester 3 (September 2024 - January 2025): The choice of the third semester track is decided during Semester 2, and depends on the Student results during semester 1 and the Student preferences. It takes place in one of the following universities: University of Twente (the Netherlands) focused on Energy; Universidade Nova de Lisboa (Portugal) focused on Food, Bio and Health or Lund University (Sweden) focused on Water
- Semester 4 (February 2025 - August 2025): this semester is devoted to the master thesis that takes place at a university laboratory or an industrial company, to be defined during the course of the program.

Optional courses

Each semester includes 30 mandatory ECTS, and extracurricular ECTS might be offered to the students with permission of the local coordinator.

Track and mobility

- The Student can choose their M1 and M2 track orientations based on their interests and professional goals, but availability is limited for each track. There is free choice of orientation between the M1 and M2 tracks. The description of each track is present on the master website <https://mesd.edu.umontpellier.fr/the-tracks/>
- The M1 track choice is made during the application stage and M2 track choice is made after the end of the first semester.
- M1 Track assignments is based on the candidate selection final ranking and choices indicated during the application stage. M2 track assignment considers the student rankings from the First semester and choice indicated before the beginning of Semester 2.

Master thesis and internship

- The semester 4, is dedicated to the master thesis and the internship and represents an experience of 24 weeks in a research academic laboratory or in a company.
- The assignation mechanism for the master thesis subject is designed to evaluate both the scientific and technical qualities of the proposal to suit the activities and the needs of the host organization. It takes into consideration the thematic interests of the student as well as its possibilities for future professional integration.

- The publication of master theses follows the rules of local institutions.
- The Universities from Semester 3 assess the quality of the internship proposal and evaluate the work of the student.
- The internship agreement is contracted between the Student, the host organization and the Université de Montpellier or a full partner University.

ARTICLE 8 – PARTICIPATION COSTS AND SERVICES

- The participation costs to the MESD program course are 7,500 €/year (seven thousand and five hundred euros per academic year). These participation costs include any compulsory administrative and operational costs related to the participation of the Student in the MESD program (e.g. admission, registration, university tuition, course exams, thesis examination, library and computer access, insurance coverage, etc.).
 - Scholarship holders Students awarded with an Erasmus Mundus scholarship are not required to pay participation costs or other mandatory costs related to their participation in the Erasmus Mundus course.
 - Self-paying Students will pay the participation costs to the Coordinating Institution, irrespective of the study destination, at the beginning of each academic year.
- Participation costs cover:
 - Registration as a regular Student at each host university
 - Participation in all teaching activities
 - Participation in the seminars and workshops organized by the MESD consortium
 - Access to all the Student services and activities (library...)
 - Student support in administrative and migratory procedures
 - Health, liability, accident, and assistance insurance.
- Participation costs do not cover:
 - Living expenses or transportation costs (such as travel and visa fees).
- Participation costs can be paid in four installments (in September and February of the first and second years at the latest)

ARTICLE 9 – CONTRIBUTION TO INDIVIDUAL NEEDS OF STUDENTS WITH DISABILITIES

Commitment to equal access

- The MESD consortium is committed to providing equal access and opportunities to all Students, regardless of their backgrounds. This commitment extends to enrolled students, whether they have a scholarship or not, who have disabilities, including long-term physical, mental, intellectual, or sensory impairments.

Financial support for special items or services

- Students with disabilities are eligible to receive extra financial support to meet their individual needs related to the acquisition of special items or services. Examples of such items or services include, but are not limited to:
 - Assistance by third persons

- Adaptation of the work environment
- Additional travel or transportation costs
- The Student having expressed their interest in obtaining financial support for individual need will be guided through the necessary steps. The implementation on the eligibility and application process will be performed at the Coordinating institution, Université de Montpellier.

ARTICLE 10 – SPECIFIC CLAUSES FOR SCHOLARSHIPS HOLDERS

Financial resources

- The scholarship is awarded for full-time enrolment, and covers the entire duration of the Master program (24 months). This period covers all the activities needed by the enrolled scholarship holder to complete the study program: study, research, placement activities, thesis preparation and defense, in line with the requirement of the joint Master.
- The scholarship amount is calculated (pro-rata of the actual number of days) as: 1 400 Euros/month
- It is calculated on the basis of a monthly unit cost for the entire period.

Scholarship Amount

Each Scholarship Holder Student receives a monthly stipend of 1,400 EUROS for the duration of the Master's program, which is 24 months. The scholarship period is from the 30th August, 2023 to the 31st of August 31, 2025. The scholarship amount is calculated on a pro-rata basis, taking into account the actual number of days within each month.

Payment Schedule

Scholarship payments are made according to the following schedule:

- First Payment: Upon arrival and enrollment
Upon arrival and successful enrollment at the Université de Montpellier, the Scholarship Holder Student receives an initial payment of €700.
- Second payment: End of September 2023
At the end of September 2023, the Scholarship Holder Student receives the second payment of 700€.
- Monthly Installments: Starting from October 2023
From October onwards, subsequent scholarship installments are paid at the end of each month, providing the scholarship holder fulfills all the necessary master activities.

Scope of Scholarship

- The scholarship is awarded exclusively for full-time enrollment in the Master MESD program and covers the entire 24-month duration of the program. Funding supports all activities necessary for enrolled scholars to complete the program, including study, research, internship activities, thesis preparation, and defense in accordance with the requirements of the Joint Master's Degree.
- The scholarship does not create or entitle an employer-employee relation between the University of Montpellier and the Student, and therefore is not subject to direct taxation.

Compliance with Master's Activities

- Continued payment of the scholarship is contingent upon the scholar's compliance with all MESD Master's activities. It is imperative that the scholar actively participates in and fulfills the requirements of the program in order to receive continued scholarship support.

Bank Account Requirements

- The Student must possess a bank account within the European banking system (SEPA) to receive their scholarship payment and comply with the procedure established by the University of Montpellier to ensure timely scholarship payment.
- The Student has the option to change their bank account within the European banking system, following the designated procedure established by the university.

Scholarship eligibility conditions

- The Student must hold a Bologna 1st cycle degree or a Bachelor's degree in chemistry, physics, materials engineering, chemical engineering, bio-chemical engineering, or an equivalent degree, from a College, University or Technical School with a recognized standing, or alternatively, have recognized professional experience in these fields. Students who are in their final year of study may be admitted, provided they submit their degree certificate of completion and official transcripts prior to enrolment.
- The Student must successfully pass all stages of the application procedure and be included in the Main List and/or the Reserve List. The specific details of the application procedure may be outlined in the Grant Agreement and the eligibility criteria published on the master website provided: <https://mesd.edu.umontpellier.fr/how-to-apply/>
- Students who have previously obtained an EMJM scholarship are not eligible to apply for an additional scholarship under the EMJM.

Self-paying eligibility conditions

- The Student must hold a Bologna 1st cycle degree or a Bachelor's degree in chemistry, physics, materials engineering, chemical engineering, bio-chemical engineering, or an equivalent degree, from a College, University or Technical School with a recognized standing, or alternatively, have recognized professional experience in these fields. Students who are in their final year of study may be admitted, provided they submit their degree certificate of completion and official transcripts prior to enrolment.
- The Student must successfully pass all stages of the application procedure and be included in the Main List and/or the Reserve List. The specific details of the application procedure may be outlined in the Grant Agreement and the eligibility criteria published on the master website provided: <https://mesd.edu.umontpellier.fr/how-to-apply/>

ARTICLE 11 – LIABILITY

- The student acknowledges that during the course of his/her studies, s/he may be informed in advance by MESD partner institution of their access to proprietary information. Upon such notification, the student agrees to keep all such proprietary information confidential and not to disclose, reproduce, distribute, or use it for any purpose other than what is explicitly authorized by MESD partner institution. This obligation shall continue even after the student's affiliation with MESD EMJM.
- Should the student produce results or materials during the course of their studies that are deemed suitable for intellectual property protection – whether as copyrighted works (e.g., articles, software code, datasets), patentable inventions (e.g., methods, devices, compounds), trade secrets, or

trademarks – MESD partner institution and the student agree to enter into a separate agreement to address the ownership, rights, and any other relevant matters pertaining to such intellectual property.

- Each party of this agreement shall exonerate the other from any civil liability for damages suffered by them or their staff as a result of performance of this agreement, provided such damages are not the result of serious and deliberate misconduct on the part of the other party or his staff.
- The European Commission or their staff shall not be held liable in the event of a claim under the agreement relating to any damage caused during the execution of the period of studies. Consequently, participating institutions or the European Commission shall not entertain any request for indemnity of reimbursement accompanying such claim

ARTICLE 12 – DATA PROTECTION

- All personal data contained in the agreement shall be processed in accordance with Regulation (EC) No 2018/1725 of the European Parliament and of the Council on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data by the EU institutions and bodies and on the free movement of such data. Such data shall be processed solely in connection with the implementation and follow-up of the agreement by the institution, and the European Commission, without prejudice to the possibility of passing the data to the bodies responsible for inspection and audit in accordance with EU legislation¹ (Court of Auditors or European Antifraud Office (OLAF)).
- The Student may, on written request, gain access to his personal data and correct any information that is inaccurate or incomplete. They should address any questions regarding the processing of their personal data to the sending institution and/or the EACEA. The Student may lodge a complaint against the processing of his personal data to the European Data Protection Supervisor with regard to the use of the data by the European Commission.

ARTICLE 13 – LAW APPLICABLE AND COMPETENT COURT The Agreement is governed by the French law.

- The competent court determined in accordance with the applicable national law shall have sole jurisdiction to hear any dispute between the organization and the Student concerning the interpretation, application or validity of this Agreement, if such dispute cannot be settled amicably.

SIGNATURES

The signatories declare that they have read and accept the conditions laid down in the present Agreement.

<p>For the Student</p> <p>Name – FORENAME</p> <p>Done at Place, date</p> <p>Signature:</p>	<p>For the University of Montpellier :</p> <p>Philippe AUGÉ, President of the University of Montpellier</p> <p>Done at Place, date</p> <p>Signature:</p>
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