UNION EUROPÉENNE DES MÉDECINS SPÉCIALISTES
EUROPEAN UNION OF MEDICAL SPECIALISTS
*Association internationale sans but lucratif* *International non-profit organisation*
*EU Transparency Register 219038730914-92*

RUE DE L'INDUSTRIE, 24
BE- 1040 BRUSSELS
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**UEMS 2022 / 30**

# MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**BETWEEN:**

1. **UEMS (European Union of Medical Specialists)**, an international non-for-profit organization incorporated under the laws of Belgium, having its registered seat at 24 Rue de l'Industrie, 1040 Brussels – Belgium,

   *Hereafter: "UEMS"*

   **and**

2. **European Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine**, an NGO incorporated under the laws of Netherlands, having its registered seat at Westersingel 167, 3015LJ Rotterdam - Netherlands, hereby validly represented by Prof. Nicolas Christodoulou;

   *Hereafter: "European Society"*

The parties sub (1) and (2) shall hereafter be referred to individually as a "Party" and collectively asthe "Parties".

## RECITALS

The UEMS and the European Society are active in areas relevant to the quality of medical specialistpractice in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in Europe and to the quality of care for



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the benefit of European patients. The Parties are willing to create a partnership that will promote and facilitate their activities in this area.

The overall goal of collaboration and cooperation is to define joint actions, to achieve the best possible outcomes and to increase visibility of both parties.

The parties seek through this Memorandum of Understanding *("MoU")* to define their partnership, to explore and to develop new opportunities in accordance with their objectives and competence. Through this MoU, the Parties also aim to establish an efficient and transparent communication between them.

**THE PARTIES DECLARE THAT**

**1. SCOPE**

This MoU outlines the principles of cooperation and collaboration between the UEMS Section and the European Society.

**2. INTENTION OF THE PARTIES**

The Parties acknowledge that this MoU does not, and is not meant to, constitute a legally binding agreement between them. Whenever an activity undertaken by both Parties would require a formal legal framework Parties will conclude a formal, legally binding agreement.

The non-binding relationship between the UEMS and the European Society governed by this MoU is that of independent contractors. Nothing contained in this document will be construed as constituting any other relationship between the Parties.

This MoU does not prevent or limit European Society or UEMS to enter agreements with other parties. Both Parties declare that they will not enter agreements that would jeopardize or invalidate this MoU and, whenever reasonable doubt would arise as to whether a new agreement is likely to be in conflict with this MoU, the Parties will communicate and strive to resolve outstanding issues.

**3. INTERNAL POLICIES**

Subject to the terms of this MoU, the implementation and pursuit of the goals, objectives, conditions and terms of this collaboration will be carried out in accordance with the internal policiesand procedures of each Party.

**4. SCOPE OF COMPETENCES AND ROLES**



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***a) European Scientific Society***

According to its articles of association, the European Society mission is:

A) To improve awareness of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine's fundamental role in implementing social changes to fulfil the rights of disabled people.

B) To promote scientific research and education in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine at a European level.

C) To harmonize the way of understanding rehabilitation in different countries at a European level.

D) To diffuse the European knowledge in the International bodies to contribute for the enrichment of contents and awareness of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine at any level and in any matter.

To achieve this goal, the key activities of the European Society include:

1. To facilitate international exchange regarding different aspects of rehabilitation activities and research, including disseminating information regarding rehabilitation related funding, multicentre trials, national and European projects, meetings and congresses.
2. To provide means to facilitate research activity and communication at the European level.
3. To organise a biennial European congress of PRM in one of the member countries.
4. To influence national governments and European organisations to support initiatives and co-operation in the field of research in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine.
5. To establish a close cooperation with the Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine Section and Board of the Union Européenne des Médecins spécialistes (UEMS) and the Académie Européenne de Médecine de Réadaptation.
6. To provide information to local, national and European governments about the contents and evidence-based efficacy of PRM.
7. All activities in the broadest sense that are related to, are part of or are beneficial to the goals mentioned above.
8. All Activities toward other Disabled People, Health, Medical Associations and other scientific associations in Europe.

***b) UEMS***

According to its articles of association, the UEMS objectives are to promote the harmonization of training standards for specialist physicians within the European Union and to promote free movement of specialist doctors within the European Union. The UEMS is independent from medical industry in order to assure unbiased position in areas of medical politics and in accreditation of CME.

The key activities of the UEMS include:



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- Political lobbying (European Commission, Parliament, Support of NMAs);
- Standard setting for specialist training and practice;
- Accreditation of continuing medical education (CME) and continuing professional development(CPD).

The UEMS members co are 37 National Medical Associations. Specialist Sections, their Divisions and Boards, and Multidisciplinary Joint Committees are UEMS bodies, created to promote and defend the interests of medical specialists in their respective fields and to improve the quality of medical specialist training and practice at the European level.

## 5. MUTUAL RECOGNITION

Each Party acknowledges the competences of the other, according to its articles of association.

Each Party acknowledges that the other is an essential partner in the development and improvement of the quality of medical specialist practice of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine in Europe. Parties recognize that their continued collaboration should be a crucial and integral element to the future success of both organizations and their members.

## 6. AREAS OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UEMS AND THE EUROPEAN SOCIETY

Parties undertake to collaborate in order to achieve the objectives of mutual interest.

The areas of collaboration between the UEMS and the European Society can include, but shall not be limited to:

- Elaboration of European specialist training curriculum
- Organisation of specialist European examinations
- Organisation of visitation programs
- Development and promotion of high quality, unbiased CME/CPD
- Setting european standards of specialist practice
- Monitoring status of … and developments in specialist practice of … in European and othercountries
- Lobbying efforts



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- Provision of joint opinion and statements to the EU institutions
- Networking between specialties
- Engagement with :
  - trainee representatives
  - patients organizations

The UEMS and the European Society commit to working in close cooperation and to actively exchange information that is of common interest and/or might be of significance to both organizations and their members.

Parties recognize that:

- each Party is a key partner in areas of collaboration described in this document;
- European Society expertise concentrates on organization of CME/CPD, scientific research, development of practice guidelines and standards,
- UEMS expertise concentrates on accreditation of CME/CPD, elaboration of Training Requirements and curricula and organization of European Examinations.

Parties agree to involve the other Party when elaborating major policy documents at the earliest possible stage of the process in order to receive its input.

## 7. EUROPEAN BOARD

The UEMS and the European Society acknowledge that the European Board is the framework for cooperation and the forum for discussion between representatives of both Parties. The European Society recognizes that European Board in Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine is a UEMS body and should follow the rules of the UEMS described in its Statutes and Rules of Procedures. The Parties will closely cooperate to establish satisfactory representation of each Party in European Boards.

## 8. COMMUNICATION

The UEMS Section will be in charge of communication with the European Society in all matters regarding areas of cooperation defined in this MoU, including communications to the UEMS Executive, other UEMS bodies and to UEMS constituency. This MoU does not change the UEMS representation rules described in statutory documents or waive information and approval duties of UEMS Section. The UEMS is acting through its Specialist Section of Physical and



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Rehabilitation Medicine, validly represented by the President of the Section.

The European Society will communicate with UEMS Section in all matters regarding areas of cooperation defined in this MoU.
The European Society and the UEMS Section will each appoint a person for all contacts with the other party. Should there be a change in each Party's contact person, the partner shall inform each other as soon as possible.

Both parties will provide a link on their website to the other's website.

***Official announcement***

An official announcement of the present agreement will be made on both Parties websites as a common statement by the UEMS and the European Society after signature of the agreement. The statement will be also circulated to both Parties constituency.

**9. REPRESENTATION**

The President of the European Society or an appointed representative of the European Society is invited to take part to the UEMS Section's executive meetings.

Likewise, the President of the UEMS Section and Secretary or another representative of the UEMS Section is invited to take part in meetings of the European Society's Executive Committee meetings.

**10. FUNDING**

This MoU does not include the exchange of funds between parties.

**11. MODIFICATION**

This MoU can be modified or amended only by a writing signed by both parties.

**12. TERM AND TERMINATION**

This MoU is concluded for an indefinite period.



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**13. EFFECTIVITY**

This MoU is effective immediately upon signature parties here to.

Date: 8th October 2022

Prof. Vassilios Papalois
UEMS President

Prof. Nicolas Christodoulou
European Scientific Society of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine

Dr João Grenho
UEMS Secretary General

Dr Mauro Zampolini
UEMS Section of Physical and Rehabilitation Medicine



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