

## MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN THE NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF ADVANCED STUDIES (IAEN) AND THE TRANSNATIONAL INSTITUTE (TNI)

This **Memorandum of Understanding** is intended to promote international cooperation between the Transnational Institute, hereinafter referred to as TNI, duly represented by Ms. Fiona Dove, as Executive Director; and the National Institute of Postgraduate Studies (Instituto de Altos Estudios Nacionales), hereinafter referred to as IAEN, duly represented by Dr. Sebastián Torres Ledezma, as Rector; agree to sign this agreement, per the following clauses:

### **FIRST: BACKGROUND**

1.1 The Organic Law on Higher Education, currently in force in Ecuador, in its General Provision No. 9 recognizes the National Institute of Advanced Studies (IAEN) as the Ecuadorian State's Graduate University, with the mission to educate, train and provide postgraduate education to public servants. Moreover, it seeks to conduct research and generate strategic thinking, with a prospective vision of the State and public administration. Further, it looks forward to develop and implement knowledge, methods and practices related to planning, coordination, management and implementation of policies and public management techniques.

1.2 The Transnational Institute (TNI) is an Amsterdam-based research center. TNI acts as a unique nexus between social movements, engaged scholars and policy makers. As laid down in its legal statutes, TNI's mission is to produce and disseminate rigorous research, reliable information, sound analysis and constructive proposals that advance progressive, democratic policy change and common solutions to global problems. Its key activities include research, publications aimed at its three main target constituencies (scholars, policymakers and civic organizations), multi-stakeholder policy dialogues, conferences, and multimedia productions. The Institute holds UN ECOSOC observer status, is a member of the International Social Science Council, and leads or is a member of a number of international civic-based networks relevant to its fields.

### **SECOND: PURPOSE OF THE AGREEMENT**

Both parties agree to explore the following general forms of cooperation: conduct joint

activities that are relevant to their performance and achievement of their statutory goals, as well as leveraging its human, material, academic, technological and financial resources for joint purposes.

This Agreement aims to:

2.1 Promote the joint development of courses and postgraduate programs in areas of common interest.

2.2 Define mechanisms to promote faculty members and student mobility, as well as joint research projects.

2.4 Establish channels for scientific information exchange through joint publication of books, magazines, articles, reports, among other academic resources; and implement internal rules to facilitate access to libraries and repositories by faculty members, researchers and students from each institution.

2.5 Organize joint conferences, seminars and academic events on issues deemed important by both institutions.

2.6 Promote academic exchange and internships for teachers and students.

2.7 Promote joint research and development projects.

### **THIRD: OBLIGATIONS OF THE PARTIES**

All programs or activities implemented under the terms of this MOU shall be mutually agreed upon in writing, including the necessary budget for the program or activity as the need may arise.

### **FOURTH: DURATION AND RENEWAL OF THE AGREEMENT**

This MOU will become effective upon the date of signature by the representatives of the institutions and, if applicable, approval by appropriate authorities in their respective countries. The MOU will be in force for five [5] years and may be renewed or modified upon written agreement of the parties for subsequent terms.

## **FIVE: MANAGEMENT AND SUPERVISION OF THE AGREEMENT**

Administration and monitoring of the actions set forth in this MOU, relating the obligations and rights arising thereof, will be conducted by representatives appointed by each institution.

## **SIXTH: TERMINATION OF THE AGREEMENT**

This Agreement shall be terminated by mutual agreement of the parties.

## **EIGHTH: DISPUTES**

Any disputes arising from the interpretation, implementation and enforcement of this Agreement, shall be resolved amicably. If this is not possible, the parties shall be subject to alternative conciliation and arbitration, at the Mediation Center of the Ecuadorean Attorney General's Office.

## **NINTH: NOTIFICATIONS**

Communications among parties shall be notified to the following addresses:

The National Institute of Advanced Studies:

Address: Av. Amazonas N37-271 and Villalengua.  
Quito, Ecuador.  
Phone: (593) 02 245-7763.

The Transnational Institute:

Address: PO Box 14656 - 1001 LD  
Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Phone: (31) 20 662-6608

This notification address does not imply legal domicile, but seeks to facilitate communication among parties. In case of an address change, each party will have the duty to notify the other.

The MOU is written and signed in four copies (2 in Spanish and 2 in English) having equal force, each party receiving one copy in both languages.

By the Transnational Institute



Fiona Dove, MA  
Executive Director

Date: 18/10/2017

By the National Institute of Advanced Studies



Sebastián Torres Ledezma, PhD  
Rector

Date: 18 OCT 2017