

Letter of Understanding

Between

Abdullah Gül University

And

**the Representation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
in Türkiye**

This LETTER OF UNDERSTANDING (hereinafter "LoU") is hereby signed between the Abdullah Gül University (hereinafter "Partner") and the Representation of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (hereinafter "UNHCR") in Türkiye, hereinafter collectively referred to as "**the Parties**" and individually as "**a Party**".

RECOGNIZING the complementarity of both Parties' work and acknowledging the benefits of closer cooperation and strategic partnership in providing protection and services to refugees¹;

TAKING NOTE of the specific mandate of each Party and the respective role that each Party plays in working in collaboration;

WISHING to meet regularly to ensure direct and efficient communication on the Parties' cooperation, initiated by this LoU;

NOW AGREE to conclude this LoU governed by the following principles and provisions:

1. Purpose and Objectives of Collaboration

The present LoU aims to establish the general framework for collaboration between Abdullah Gül University and UNHCR, with a view to further strengthen their partnership in providing protection and services to refugees and other forcibly displaced or stateless persons falling under UNHCR's mandate, and to foster their social cohesion in local communities.

2. Areas of Collaboration

In light of the scope of this LoU, the Parties agree to collaborate in the following areas:

- **Taking** a protection-appropriate, rights-based, gender-, age- and diversity-sensitive, community-based and participatory approach in every area of intervention/collaboration.
- **Convening and facilitating** contacts among relevant stakeholders to maximize outreach to the refugee and local communities for related activities of common interest to the Parties.
- **Gathering, analysing, and regularly sharing** information, data, and good practices on refugees' inclusion in social services and activities, especially those covered in this LoU, while taking due consideration of data protection principles.

¹ The term 'refugees' in this LoU refers to international protection applicants, international protection status holders and temporary protection beneficiaries.

- **Raising awareness of and jointly advocating** on refugees' inclusion in education, livelihoods, social cohesion, decision-making and other relevant areas mutually agreed upon.
- **Providing** relevant orientation and guidance to each other on the refugee context, asylum system, socio-economic inclusion, and refugee participation.
- **Strengthening capacity** of relevant staff of the Abdullah Gül University in the areas of temporary and international protection by providing the relevant trainings.
- **Promoting protection and social cohesion** for refugees to further collaborate with the host community.
- **Monitoring** the implementation of the interventions by both Parties.
- **Reporting** of the intervention activities as defined in the annex, when necessary, by Abdullah Gül University.

3. Project Implementation and Funding

1. The implementation of this LoU shall be in accordance with each Party's applicable administrative and financial rules, regulations, policies, and procedures, and shall be subject to availability of funds.
2. Unless otherwise expressly agreed by the Parties in specific agreements, the collaboration between the Parties herein does not involve any transfer of financial resources. Each Party shall bear its own costs and expenses generated as a result of this LoU and any intervention initiated under this LoU, unless otherwise specifically agreed by the Parties.
3. This LoU sets out a general framework for cooperation between the Parties and does not commit either Party to provide funds for the other Party for any intervention or activity.
4. Details of the cooperation for each activity carried out on the basis of this LoU shall be mutually agreed by the Parties and described in annex(es) of this LoU, which will be considered an integral part of it. Furthermore, based on written exchanges, the Parties may agree upon any necessary adjustments and modifications to such annex(es), as and when required, following a review of available resources (human, financial and others).

4. Responsibilities of the Parties

1. The Parties shall be cooperating closely throughout implementation of this intervention as defined in the annex(es) and make decisions upon mutual agreement.
2. The Parties shall monitor and review the implementation of the joint activities carried out under this LoU and may compile a joint report annually.
3. Any sharing of information between the Parties shall be subject to their respective policies on handling of confidential information and data protection including, as far as data sharing by the Partner is concerned, the data protection policy in Türkiye. Neither Party shall publish any confidential reports or documents jointly developed, without the express prior and written permission of the other Party. The obligation of confidentiality shall not lapse upon the expiration or termination of this LoU.

4. Each Party shall be responsible for the actions and omissions of its staff, agents or subcontractors and undertakes to retain and indemnify/ defend the other Party or hold the other Party harmless against any action, claim or liability arising out of its respective activities in the context of this LoU, including any action or claim by third parties for damages, injuries or death resulting from acts or omissions of their respective personnel, agents or subcontractors. Each Party shall promptly notify the other of any action, claim or any other issue for which the latter is held liable pursuant to this provision.
5. If, in implementing the activities carried out under this LoU, there is a change of circumstances that reduces or increases the need for support initially provided by the Parties under this LoU and subsequent implementing arrangements, or if UNHCR finds it impossible to fulfil its obligations under this LoU, the Parties shall consult each other in order to decide which arrangements shall be made in order to continue to implement or eventually terminate this LoU.

5. Confidentiality

The Parties agree not to disclose or divulge any confidential information which they may share during the execution of the activities envisaged under this LoU, whether in written or oral form, directly or indirectly. They also undertake to use such information exclusively for the purpose for which it was provided and not for any other purpose, and to take reasonable steps to protect its confidentiality.

6. Visibility – Use of Name and Emblem - Intellectual Property

1. The Parties shall mutually agree on the scope of public information and visibility in line with the requirements of the intervention as described in the relevant annex(es). The logos of both Parties shall be used in activities covered by this LoU and the Parties agree that any public statement, oral or written, that contains the other Party's logo shall be subject to prior consultation and approval between the Parties.
2. The Parties recognize the importance of protecting and respecting intellectual property rights. This LoU does not grant any Party the right to use any materials including educational tools, software etc, or other intellectual property rights belonging to or created by the other Party. Specific arrangements for use and protection of intellectual property will be set forth in separate written agreements between the Parties.

7. General Provisions

1. This LoU shall enter into force on the date of its signature by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties. It shall remain in effect until terminated by either Party in accordance with the provisions below.
2. This LoU may be amended by mutual consent at any time at the initiative of either Party. All amendments shall be in writing and signed by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties.

3. Either Party may terminate this LoU by providing the other Party with 30 days' prior written notice.
4. The start and termination date of each intervention governed by this LoU shall be mutually agreed. If, during the implementation of activities, revision of any terms of the LoU becomes advisable, including the extension of activities beyond the termination date, then such revisions shall be made only with the written consent of the Parties to the LoU.
5. The Parties shall use their best efforts to settle amicably any dispute, controversy or claim arising out of this LoU by negotiation, conciliation or through other non-judicial dispute resolution mechanisms.
6. Nothing contained in or relating to this LoU shall be deemed a waiver, express or implied, of any of the privileges and immunities of the United Nations, including its subsidiary organs and/or of UNHCR (as a subsidiary organ of the United Nations).

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, duly authorized representatives of the respective Parties, have reviewed and signed this Letter of Understanding in two originals in English.

On behalf of the Abdullah Gül University

On behalf of the Representation of the Office of
the UN High Commissioner for Refugees in
Türkiye

Prof. Dr. Cengiz YILMAZ
Rector

Angela LI ROSI
Representative

Date:

Date:

24-06-2025

24 June 2025

Annex: Planned Activities within the Scope of the Letter of Understanding

This annex outlines the planned activities to be undertaken by Abdullah Gül University (AGU) and UNHCR within the scope of the Letter of Understanding (LoU). These activities focus on key thematic areas, including migration, refugee issues, United Nations frameworks, and the UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The collaboration will be structured through meetings, training programmes, international and local projects, and academic initiatives.

Meetings, Activities and Trainings

AGU will provide venue and support for

- Provincial Inter Agency Coordination meetings in Kayseri
- International days, such as
 - 8 March International Women Day
 - 20 June Refugee Day
 - 24 October United Nations Day
 - 18 December International Migrants Day
- Community engagement for asylum-seekers and refugees in Kayseri, including social cohesion and life skills trainings and culture and arts gatherings
- AGU-led trainings for migrants and asylum-seekers on entrepreneurship, volunteering and project management
- UNHCR-led trainings on international migration, UNHCR and UN operational frameworks and climate-induced forced migration

Joint Initiatives:

- UNHCR and AGU will collaborate on local projects to support refugees and migrants through education, awareness campaigns, and capacity-building efforts.

Academic Studies

- AGU will conduct migration-related research, contributing to policy discussions and best practices while ensuring the dissemination of key findings.
- Under a protocol with the Kayseri Chamber of Industry and Kayseri Chamber of Commerce, AGU will lead research within the Climate Studies Centre to explore the intersection of climate change and migration.

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[Signature]