



## **PRESS RELEASE**

### **Memorandum of Understanding (MoU)**

#### **signing ceremony**

#### **between the University of Ioannina and**

#### **OTH Regensburg University of Applied Sciences**

#### **under the European University Alliance, 'ARTEMIS'**

On Sunday, September 8, 2024, the signing of the Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was held by the Rector of the University of Ioannina (UoI), Professor Anna K. Batistatou and the Vice-Rector of OTH Regensburg, University of Applied Sciences, Professor Oliver Steffens, in the presence of the Consul General of the Federal Republic of Germany in Greece, Ms Monica Frank.

The signing ceremony was held at the booth of UoI (Pavilion AKADEMIA) of the 88<sup>th</sup> Thessaloniki International Fair (TIF), in the presence of the Rector of Ionian University, Prof. A. Floros, the members of the Governing Council of UoI, Prof. K. Karamanis and Prof. St. Nikolopoulos, the Chair of the Department of Materials Science Engineering, Prof. S. Agathopoulos, Prof. A. Vlachopoulos (Dept. of History-Archaeology, UoI), Prof. G. Raptis (Faculty of Informatics and Mathematics, OTH Regensburg), Assoc. Prof. G. Andreou (Dept. of Political Sciences, Aristotle University of Thessaloniki), Assist. Prof. Al. Alexandridou (Dept. of History-Archaeology, UoI), the State's Scholarship Foundation General Director, Mr A. Giouvrekas, and students.

The signing of the MoU took place in the framework of the new European University 'ARTEMIS' a partnership that brings together 8 universities from France, Italy, Romania, Belgium, Estonia, and Norway, including the two contracting institutions from Greece and Germany.

The Rector of UoI, Prof. A. Batistatou emphasized that "...ARTEMIS is an inclusive, multilingual, and multicultural new European University Alliance committed to creating a significant impact on employability and socio-cultural awareness. By 2027, ARTEMIS aims to establish a recognized interdisciplinary

environment where its members can study, teach, conduct research, and work together seamlessly across partner institutions - on-site, online, or in combination. The goal is for at least 50% of students to benefit from these opportunities at all levels of study and research...”.

In his response the Vice-Rector, Prof. Oliver Steffens expressed his satisfaction that OTH, “...with its almost 11.000 students and eight faculties is embarking on a journey together with the University of Ioannina, fostering student and staff exchange, starting joint projects in the fields of research and teaching...”. He also highlighted that “...ARTEMIS shall contribute to the European debate by addressing the key areas of technology and traffic, environment and energy, medicine and health, agriculture, circular economy, law, business and creative arts...”.

The Rector's speech entitled “University of Ioannina: a 60-year continuous presence in the European Higher Education Area”, was the final item on the agenda.

The International and Public Relations Directorate of the University of Ioannina was in charge of planning and executing the event.

Ioannina, September 9, 2024

The International & Public Relations Directorate