

***Erasmus Mundus Student Agreement***  
***EMERALD – Master Degree in Georesources Engineering***

**Academic year 2025/2026**  
**University of Liège (ULiège), Belgium,**  
**Université de Lorraine (UL), France**  
**Luleå University of Technology (LTU), Sweden**  
**Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg (TUBAF), Germany**

**The undersigned**

1. University of Liège (ULiège), acting as the coordinating institution of the consortium, represented by its Rector, Professor Anne-Sophie NYSSSEN further called “the Institutional Coordinator”

**and**

2. Name of the student:  
Born on:  
Nationality:  
further called “the student”

**have agreed as follows:**

**Article 1: Consortium**

The Erasmus Mundus Joint Master (EMJM) in Georesources Engineering (EMerald) is a two-year master taught in English, organised jointly by the University of Liège (ULiège, Belgium), acting as coordinating university, Université de Lorraine on behalf of Ecole nationale supérieure de géologie (UL, France), Luleå University of Technology (LTU, Sweden), and Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg (TUBAF, Germany).

The Programme Coordinator for ULiège is Prof. Eric Pirard.

The local coordinators of the partner Institutions are:

- Université de Lorraine (UL): Prof. Lev Filippov
- Luleå University of Technology (LTU): Prof. Jan Rosenkranz
- Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg (TUBAF): Prof. Urs Peuker

**Article 2: Registration**

In the framework of the Erasmus Mundus EMerald Master programme, the student has to submit his/her application to the EMerald Master Management Committee (acting as Selection Committee).

Once selected, s/he has to register as a regular student at the universities included in her/his mobility pathways.

The study scheme is the following:

Semester 1: ULiège

Semester 2: UL

Semester 3: LTU or TUBAF

Semester 4: ULiège, UL, LTU or TUBAF, according to his/her mobility for master thesis.

S/he will benefit from all rights guaranteed to regular students and s/he will have the same obligations and duties as well concerning academic, administrative, and financial aspects.

The student can find online resources related to the EMJM action in general (e.g. Erasmus + Programme Guide – section EMJM) on the following website:

[https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/opportunities/individuals/students/erasmus-mundus-joint-master-degrees\\_en](https://ec.europa.eu/programmes/erasmus-plus/opportunities/individuals/students/erasmus-mundus-joint-master-degrees_en)

By signing the student agreement, the student commits to answering "student feedback surveys" that are sent regularly during the two-year programme by the administrative coordinator. These surveys are valuable to improve course quality and detect any areas that need improvement. The last survey is sent around 6 months after graduation to keep track of alumni who are also invited to join the "EMerald Alumni Network" Group on LinkedIn and the Erasmus Mundus Students and Alumni Association (EMA, see <http://www.em-a.eu/>).

The current EMerald programme fees, including tuition fees, amount to 8000 EUR per year for non-European students, and 2000 EUR per year for European students. Erasmus Mundus scholarship holders are exempt of the payment of the programme fees.

### **Article 3a: Amount and payment of the EMJM scholarship**

*This article only concerns students with an EMJM scholarship.*

In the framework of the Erasmus Mundus EMerald Master programme, some students are selected by the consortium for an EMJM scholarship granted by the European Commission to finance the participation to the Erasmus Mundus EMerald Master programme.

By signing the student agreement, the EMJM scholarship holder:

- declares not to have already benefited from a previous EMJM scholarship.
- commits not to benefit from another EU funded scholarship scheme to follow the same (or another) EMJM course for the entire period in the course.
- acknowledges that the financial support shall be repaid by the scholarship holder in case of fraud or false declaration.

The EMJM student scholarship will be a contribution to the costs incurred by the beneficiary student and shall cover travel, visa, installation and subsistence costs. It is calculated on the basis of a monthly unit cost for the entire period needed by the enrolled scholarship holder to complete the study programme (pro-rata of the actual number of days). This period covers study, research, placement activities, thesis preparation and defence, in line with the requirement of the joint Master. During this period, the scholarship can only be awarded in full, and to full-time students.

The scholarship is calculated as 1400 EUR / month X duration of the Master Programme.

For partial months, a pro-rata unit cost of 1/30 will be reimbursed for each day.

In addition, EMJM scholarship holders will be exempt of the payment of tuition in each Partner university. The whole amount of the EMJM student scholarship will be transferred to the Coordinating University, which will pay the monthly allowances directly to the scholarship holder's European bank account.

Practical details of the payment of the grant to students will be as follows:

The scholarship covers the period from 1 September 2025 until 31 August. 2027

The academic year starts on 15 September 2025. Students are welcome to arrive from the last weeks of August 2025 onwards to settle down and participate in the induction period and the graduation ceremony of the cohort that started 2 years before should they wish to. The graduation ceremony typically takes place late August two years after the start of the master.

The payment of the scholarship is calculated on a pro-rata basis, one month being equivalent to 30 days.

Starting date:

Arrival before 1 September: the start of the scholarship will be 1 September.

Arrival between 1 and 15 September: the start of the scholarship will be the arrival date in Belgium in order to be settled.

Arrival after 15 September: the start of the scholarship can be 16 September provided the student has duly justified reasons (e.g. in case of visa issues) for not arriving on time and is following the courses online until arrival in Belgium.

The student will need to provide travel invoices and boarding passes proving the arrival in Belgium. If the student comes by car, a proof of payment of the toll, or payment of gasoline with the date mentioned will have to be provided.

The proofs need to be provided before or upon arrival to get the first part of the scholarship.

The student will also need to sign a presence list on the first event (graduation ceremony of the cohort finishing their master, student agreement, welcome address).

End date:

If the graduation ceremony takes place late August, the scholarship can be paid until the last day of August, provided the departure from Belgium is on the last day of August or after.

If the student leaves between the graduation ceremony and the end of August, the scholarship will be recalculated accordingly.

If the student leaves before the last obligatory event such as the graduation ceremony or the graduation date, the scholarship will be recalculated accordingly.

The students will need to provide their travel plan / travel invoice at least 2,5 months before departure of the programme (i.e. by mid-June), if they can, to allow for a final calculation of the scholarship. Students who return by car or who are staying in Europe for some additional months will need to notify it by email by mid-June as well. However, a proof of departure will still be needed to allow for the payment of the last month (e.g. boarding passes, toll payment). The student will also need to sign a presence list on the last event (graduation ceremony).

The student will open a European bank account and will provide the full details of this account to ULiège before or upon arrival in Belgium. If the student changes the bank account during the programme, s/he will provide the new bank account information to the coordinating University and will have to wait for the first payment to be received on the new bank account before closing the former one.

The scholarship will be transferred to the European account provided by the student (1400 EUR per month for 24 months maximum, paid by bank transfer). The payments are typically scheduled between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> of each month to cover the following month. However, there are exceptions to this rule, explained below.

- The first month, a payment is planned by prepaid card or on a European bank account, at arrival, to cover the full month, irrespective of the arrival date.
- A potential pro-rata adjustment regarding the month of September 2025 can be made in the months following arrival of the student.
- Students having retakes may have the payment of their scholarship put on hold a few days, allowing for retakes results to be obtained.
- The payment of the last month (August 2027) can only be made after the final recalculation is done, according to the latest proof of stay / departure. The last payment can therefore potentially be made after the end of the master.

Students should therefore be conscious that they will likely receive less than the maximum amount, unless they arrive before or on 1 September 2025 and leave after 30 August 2027.

The student will have to reimburse ULiège all undue amounts received if the full amount has already been paid.

In case of drop-out, the payments will be stopped, and the student will have to pay back to the Institutional Coordinator all undue amounts according to the date of his/her withdrawal.

If the drop out takes place between the end of year 1 and the beginning of year 2, the student commits him/herself to reimburse the monthly allowances received during the summer holidays.

### **Article 3b: Amount and payment of the EIT AVSA grant**

*This article only concerns students with an EIT AVSA grant.*

The EMerald master is an EIT-Labelled Master programme which means that every year several AVSA grants are made available to eligible EIT-Labelled master students (students who are not holders of another European scholarship).

AVSA grants amount to 15.000 EUR per student for the entire duration of the master programme and are disbursed to eligible students via the EMerald coordinating University. They cover costs such as living and mobility costs for students.

Practical details of the payment of the grant to students will be as follows:

The student will open a European bank account and will provide the full details of this account to ULiège. The AVSA grant is calculated based on a monthly unit cost of 1.250 EUR per month x 12 months. It will be paid in full – EUR 15.000 per student – to each eligible student from Jan. 2026 until Dec. 2026 (1250 EUR /month). Once bank accounts are provided, the payments are scheduled between the 20<sup>th</sup> and the 27<sup>th</sup> of each month to cover the following month.

Students having retakes may have the payment of their scholarship put on hold a few days, allowing for retakes results to be obtained.

If the student changes the bank account during the programme, s/he will provide the new bank account information to the coordinating University. S/he is asked to wait for the first payment to be received on the new bank account before closing the former one.

In case of drop-out, the payments will be stopped, and the student will have to pay back to the Institutional Coordinator all undue amounts according to the date of his/her withdrawal.

If the drop out takes place between the end of year 1 and the beginning of year 2, the student commits him/herself to reimburse the monthly allowances received during the summer holidays.

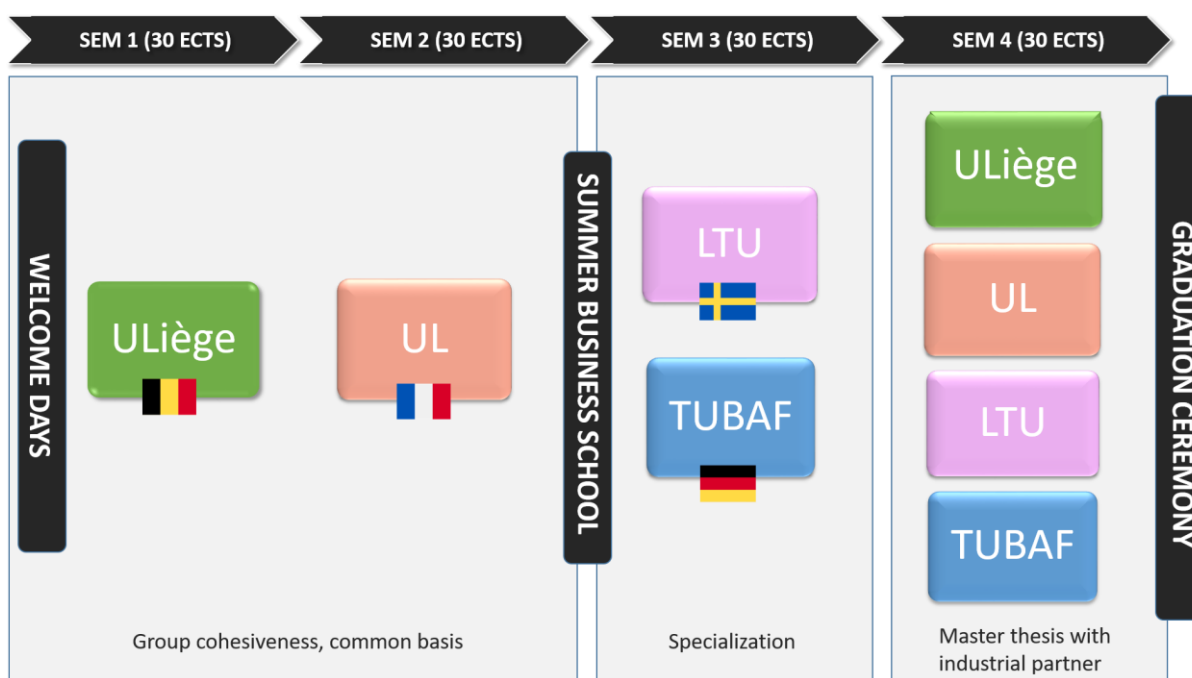
Programme duration:

The academic year starts on 15 September 2025. Students are welcome to arrive from the last weeks of August 2025 onwards in order to settle down and participate in the induction period should they wish to. The graduation ceremony typically takes place late August two years later.

For administrative purposes:

The student will need to provide travel invoices and boarding passes proving the arrival in Belgium. If the student comes by car, a proof of payment of the toll, or payment of gasoline with the date mentioned will have to be provided. The student will also need to sign a presence list on the first event (graduation ceremony of the cohort finishing their master, student agreement, welcome address) and on the last event of the programme (graduation ceremony).

#### **Article 4: Mobility scheme**



The EMJM includes compulsory mobility for all enrolled students (EMJM scholarship holders or not), as set in the Erasmus+ programme guide.

The mobility scheme of the EMerald master includes two mandatory institutions in the first year: first semester at ULiège and the second semester at UL. The student then spends the third semester either at LTU (focus: primary resources) or at TUBAF (focus: secondary resources) and the fourth semester in one of the four partner universities. The partner university chosen for semester 3 and 4 is decided according to the choice of the student and the decision of the Master Management Committee.

A georesources summer business school shall be organized between semester two and three (after the end of the first academic year). This event is an intensive business programme, with several stakeholders from the sector of georesources engineering and teachers in business and entrepreneurship. It may include courses in management and finance, conferences, workshops, business games and debates, etc. The location and details of the programme will be confirmed to students. The business school is considered a mandatory preparation for the master thesis, with a certificate of attendance delivered at the end of it.

During the last semester, EMerald students are offered to join one of the four partner universities depending on the subject they want to specialize into during their master thesis, always under the supervision of one of the partner universities. A student assigned to one of the four EMerald universities (ULiège, UL, LTU and TUBAF) is obliged to perform a 30 credits thesis (including according to the different universities thesis, internship or methodology course) as a complete and coherent set, under the supervision and according to the rules of this university.

Academic activities organized by the consortium within the EMerald programme are part of the programme and thereby need to be attended by the students.

#### **Article 5: Academic calendar and exam sessions**

The calendar of the programme is mentioned on the website.

Before his/her arrival, the student receives a brochure called “vademecum” which contains all practical information for the preparation of his/her arrival in the programme. Among the information provided, it details the academic calendar for the first semester and includes information about the welcome activities in the first host institution. In addition, the student is informed on the academic calendar of each institution at the start of each semester.

Details of the courses (e.g. learning outcomes, mode of delivery of each course, assessment methods and criteria) can be found on the EMerald website (<http://www.em-georesources.eu>). Examinations and evaluations will be organised at the end of each module or at the end of each semester depending on the institution. Examinations can be oral and/or written (including open questions, multiple choice questions, or report in case of a project work). The master thesis will be evaluated by a jury, assigned by the consortium of universities.

Each partner institution will use its local grading system as well as the ECTS grading scale to provide a greater transparency and ease the academic recognition of periods of studies spent in each partner institution.

The ECTS mechanisms including the grading scale for the recognition of study periods will be fully implemented.

| ECTS GRADE | DEFINITION                                                  | ULIEGE         | UL             | LTU   | TUBAF                  |
|------------|-------------------------------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|-------|------------------------|
| A          | Excellent - Outstanding performance with only minor errors  | 20<br>19<br>18 | 20<br>19<br>18 | 5     | 1<br>1.2<br>1.3 -1.5   |
| B          | Very good - Above the average standard but with some errors | 17<br>16       | 17<br>16       | 4     | 1.6 -1.7<br>1.8 - 2    |
| C          | Good – Generally good work with a number of notable errors  | 15<br>14       | 15<br>14       | 4 - 3 | 2.1 -2.3<br>2.4 - 2.7  |
| D          | Satisfactory- Fair but with significant shortcomings        | 13<br>12       | 13<br>12       | 3     | 2.9 - 3.1<br>3.2 - 3.4 |
| E          | Performance meets the minimum criteria                      | 11<br>10       | 11<br>10       | 3     | 3.5 -3.7<br>3.8 - 4    |
| F          | Fail                                                        | <10            | <10            | <3    | 5                      |

A student can take exams for all learning activities twice (except in certain cases duly specified in the course description, e.g. training session which may be evaluated once, at TUBAF where pre-examination assessments can be repeated several times before taking the module exam, and in Luleå where learning activities can be evaluated more than twice).

For the first year of the master, if the student fails once, s/he can present the exam(s) a second time, even if s/he has moved to the following partner institution within the same academic year. Retakes from ULiège will be done remotely at UL or in August in Liège (this will depend on whether or not the student also has retakes at UL).

Examinations at ULiège and at UL must have been successfully passed and credits obtained before the end of the first academic year (typically by the end of August). If the student fails in obtaining all credits from ULiège and UL by the end of the first academic year, the student will have the possibility to repeat the year but the payment of the grant will be stopped.

For the second year of the master, if the student fails exam(s) in LTU, s/he can present the exam again as many times as necessary before the end of the academic year. If the student fails module exam(s) in TUBAF, s/he can present the exam(s) a second time before the end of the academic year.

In order to be graduated, the student must successfully pass the 120 ECTS of the programme.

The student will graduate only if s/he fulfils the requirements of the Universities where s/he followed the courses.

#### **Article 6: Services to the students**

Several weeks before arriving in the programme, the student receives a vademecum containing very practical and detailed information regarding the formalities to enter and stay in Belgium (visa and residence permit), tutoring, insurance/health care system, accommodation, French courses, Erasmus Mundus Alumni association, as well as information regarding the first steps upon arrival and some preliminary information regarding next semesters.

Students with special needs who apply from a financial help from the consortium must provide a certificate delivered by a competent national authority showing their long-term physical, mental, intellectual or sensory impairment, proving that their participation in the master would not be

possible without special needs items or services. In order to benefit from a potential help from the consortium, the enrolled students will need to show that the special needs items or services are not already covered by another source (such as social security or health insurance).

Regular updates and details will be provided before the beginning and during the programme, regarding the administrative requirements in view of installation at the first and second host institution.

Each Partner will provide support and guidance about the obtention of the visa and/or residence permit to enter and reside in the country of that Partner (e.g. ULiège to enter and reside in Belgium).

French courses are offered to students for free in Liège within the Mundus programme, before arrival and during the semester. Details about the registration are provided in the vademecum.

#### **Article 7: Health insurance**

The student will be covered by a health insurance covering all items specified by the Executive Agency for the duration of the EMerald master course (private health and accident insurance). Detailed information about the insurance is provided in the insurance certificate, sent just before the start of the programme.

The insurance fee will be covered by the EMerald consortium.

In addition to this private health care insurance, the student must register in each country of the master to a public health care insurance system (where applicable) and have a European Health Insurance Card.

Each local partner will provide guidance regarding any requirements due to health insurance in its country.

#### **Article 8: Attendance of courses and suspension of the grant**

The student is obliged to attend the courses delivered in the Erasmus Mundus EMerald Master programme regularly. The student is obliged to complete the assignments and participate in all examinations (except for adverse personal circumstances). But in any case, s/he must inform the local academic coordinator and the administrative coordinator of the programme about her/his absence within a week of the absence.

The scholarship may be suspended, depending on the duration and reason of the absence. Each case will be individually examined. The consortium will suspend the scholarship payment if the scholarship holder is forced to temporarily interrupt the studies (following duly justified and well documented reasons) and resume them afterwards, provided that the master is still ongoing. In case of repeated absence to the courses or practical sessions, the Management committee may decide, after having heard the student, to suspend or terminate the payment of the grant.

EMJM includes compulsory physical mobility for all enrolled students consisting of a minimum of two study periods in two countries, of which at least one must be a EU Member State of third country associated to the Programme. These two countries must be different from the country of residence of the student at enrolment stage. In case of official travel restrictions, classes may be attended remotely. However, at the end of the programme, the student must have been physically present in at least 2 different countries for at least 2 semesters, different from the country of residence of the



student. A reduction of the scholarship will be done in case the minimum mobility requirements are not fulfilled.

The country of residence at enrolment stage is to be understood as a stable residence in the months before enrolment. Students taking part in the programme need to prove their residence by providing before enrolment the following documentation to the coordinating university:

- a residence certificate issued in accordance with the candidate's municipality
- a certificate from the candidate's place of work, study or training issued by the employer or institution in question
- a renting contract, phone, or electricity bill can also be provided

The student will obey the rules of the Consortium University where s/he attends courses, in terms of safety, ethics and attendance.

The student will inform the Master coordinator and the administrative coordinator at ULiège as soon as possible of any events or circumstances likely to affect the Student Agreement.

During the assessment sessions, any recognized action of cheating or plagiarism will incur a penalty based on the rules of the institution giving the exam. The student is at risk of being expelled.

#### **Article 9: Degree**

After having successfully passed all exams as well as the Master Thesis and obtained the 120 ECTS credits, the student will be conferred multiple degrees by the University of Liège, Université de Lorraine and depending on its third institution, Luleå University of Technology or Technische Universität Bergakademie Freiberg.

The Diploma of the coordinating institution will be accompanied by its Diploma supplement, which will give details about the mobility of the student and the master thesis research work.

The graduated student will receive, at the end of the programme, provisional documents testifying this success, until the official diplomas can be delivered.

"EMerald" is not a diploma in itself. It is the name of the Erasmus Mundus programme.

The following degrees can be provided by the different consortium universities, depending on the pathways of the students in the programme:

ULiège: Master en ingénieur civil des mines et géologue (master in Geology and Mining Engineering)

UL: Master en Sciences de la Terre et des Planètes, Environnement, spécialité "Georesources Engineering"

LTU: Master of Science – Major: Geosciences

TUBAF: Master of Science in Mechanical and Process Engineering

#### **Article 10: Processing of Personal Data**

Personal data collected by the University of Liège in the context of the performance of its obligations arising from this agreement will be recorded by the University of Liège's administration. This data will be kept in accordance with current legal obligations. It will be processed on the basis of contractual performance.

This data might be transmitted to third parties: e.g. administrations, other institutions, associate universities, for administrative purposes. It could also be sent to the European Commission for monitoring purposes.

In accordance with the provisions of the General Data Protection Regulation (EU 2016/679) and the Belgian Law of 30 July 2018 on the protection of individuals with regard to the processing of personal data, the student may exercise her/his rights relating to such personal data (right of access, rectification, deletion, limitation, opposition, portability) by contacting the University of Liège Data Protection Officer (dpo@uliege.be - Monsieur le Délégué à la Protection des Données, B9 Cellule "GDPR", Quartier Village 3, Boulevard de Colonster 2, 4000 Liège, Belgium). He/She also have the right to lodge a complaint with the Data Protection Authority (<https://www.autoriteprotectiondonnees.be>, [contact@apd-gba.be](mailto:contact@apd-gba.be)).

The European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA), in the context of managing the Erasmus Mundus Joint Master, collects and processes the personal data of some of the candidates. In particular, certain data of the scholarship holders (students and scholars) and non-scholarship holders is shared with the Agency through the EACEA Mobility Tool and treated according to the following [privacy statement](#).

#### **Article 11: Student complaints**

Students attending the EMerald programme have the right to lodge complaints if they feel that the universities have not fulfilled their obligations. They will first contact the administrative coordinator to let him/her know the content of the issue. Usually, the initial raising of a concern is successful in resolving a problem. However, if they are not satisfied with the outcome, they can write an official letter to the EMerald master general coordinator who will inform the local coordinators. The Master Management Committee will take action regarding the complaint, in accordance with rules set out in the University where the case took place, and in line with the student agreement.

#### **Article 12: Duration of the Agreement**

The Agreement is valid from the date of signature of both parties and remains valid until the end of the duration of the EMerald EMJM programme master.

Made in two originals, one for each party.  
Liège, on

| University of Liège                                                                                                                                                    | The student        |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------|
| EMerald's Representative from the<br>Coordination University.<br>Acting on the Rector's authority,<br><b>Oriana BERTUCCI, Director of the<br/>International Office</b> | Name and signature |