



🌍🌱 A New Chapter in Southeast Asian Academic Collaboration ✨

Horizon JHSSR and the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Viet Nam National University, Ho Chi Minh City, Advance a Shared Vision for Regional and Global Scholarly Excellence

Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam / Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia

The Horizon Journal of Humanities and Social Sciences Research (Horizon JHSSR), published by Beyond Proofreading Services (Malaysia), is honoured to announce the advancement of a strategic Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with the **Faculty of Oriental Studies, University of Social Sciences and Humanities (USSH), Viet Nam National University, Ho Chi Minh City (VNUHCM)**. Although the agreement is presently in its final stages of formalisation, both institutions have expressed a shared commitment to establishing a long-term partnership dedicated to advancing academic excellence, interdisciplinary research, scholarly publishing, and international knowledge exchange.

The proposed collaboration brings together two institutions that share a profound appreciation for the transformative power of education, research, and intercultural dialogue. As one of Vietnam's leading public research universities, the University of Social Sciences and Humanities has earned international recognition for its contributions to the study of Asian languages, cultures, civilisations, and the humanities. Horizon JHSSR, through its internationally oriented, open-access, double peer-reviewed platform, has similarly established itself as a trusted avenue for the dissemination of interdisciplinary scholarship that addresses the complex social, cultural, educational, and developmental challenges of the twenty-first century.

The Memorandum of Understanding is envisioned as a comprehensive framework for sustained academic cooperation. It encompasses collaborative research initiatives, scholarly publishing, international conferences, academic exchange programmes, editorial cooperation, peer-review participation, faculty engagement, professional development, academic writing workshops, and the publication of selected research outputs in special issues of Horizon JHSSR. These initiatives reflect a shared aspiration to cultivate a vibrant scholarly ecosystem that encourages intellectual curiosity, innovation, and meaningful international engagement.

Beyond its practical dimensions, the proposed partnership carries broader significance for Southeast Asia. It represents an important step towards strengthening regional academic

integration by encouraging collaborative scholarship that transcends national boundaries while celebrating the cultural diversity and intellectual richness of the region. Through this cooperation, both institutions seek to create new opportunities for scholars to engage in comparative research, intercultural dialogue, and multidisciplinary inquiry that contribute to a deeper understanding of contemporary regional and global issues.

The Faculty of Oriental Studies has long played a distinguished role in promoting scholarship that bridges cultures and civilisations. Its commitment to fostering international collaboration aligns naturally with Horizon JHSSR's mission of connecting researchers, universities, and scholarly communities across continents through ethical publishing, rigorous peer review, and the open dissemination of knowledge. Together, both institutions recognise that the future of higher education depends upon partnerships that are inclusive, globally connected, and responsive to the evolving needs of society.

An important feature of the collaboration is its emphasis on nurturing future generations of scholars. Through academic writing workshops, editorial mentoring, research training, and scholarly publishing initiatives, the partnership will provide valuable opportunities for postgraduate students, early-career researchers, and established academics to strengthen their research capabilities while increasing the international visibility and impact of their work.

The proposed Memorandum of Understanding also reflects a broader commitment to advancing academic diplomacy within the Asia-Pacific region. By encouraging sustained cooperation between Malaysia and Vietnam, Horizon JHSSR and USSH–VNUHCM seek to foster enduring relationships that extend beyond institutional boundaries and contribute to a shared regional vision of research excellence, cultural understanding, and sustainable development.

Looking towards the future, both institutions anticipate that this partnership will serve as a catalyst for innovative research, collaborative publications, interdisciplinary dialogue, and scholarly initiatives that enrich academic communities within Southeast Asia and beyond. Through mutual respect, shared expertise, and a common dedication to excellence, the collaboration promises to strengthen regional scholarship while contributing to the global advancement of the humanities and social sciences.

The forthcoming Memorandum of Understanding between Horizon JHSSR and the University of Social Sciences and Humanities, Viet Nam National University, Ho Chi Minh City, is more than the beginning of a new institutional relationship. It represents a shared belief that international collaboration remains one of the most powerful forces for advancing knowledge, fostering cultural understanding, and addressing the complex challenges of an interconnected world.

 **Together, Horizon JHSSR and USSH–VNUHCM are laying the foundations for a partnership that will inspire scholarship, strengthen regional cooperation, and contribute meaningfully to the future of global academic excellence. 🌟**