



ATENEIO VENETO

Prot. n. 60.XIV/2019

Dear Mr. President,

I have the pleasure to refer to your kind letter on 11<sup>th</sup> of January 2019, which I fully agree in its contents.

Having regard to the fact that, on one hand, the “Ateneo Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti” is an institute with a presence of over two centuries in Venice in the field of sciences, letters and arts, with special emphasis on its history and culture, and promotes the dissemination of research, studies, projects and various cultural expressions through cultural initiatives of high scientific level open to the public, and being aware, on the other hand, that the Gennadius Library of the American School of Classical Studies in Athens is a prestigious scientific institution for the study of history and culture of medieval and modern Greece and the reception of antiquity in Western Europe and, therefore, in close connection with the political, economic, literary, linguistic and cultural history of Venice, I fully agree on the proposal to launch a closer cooperation between the Association of “Friends of the Gennadius Library” and the “Ateneo Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti” of Venice.

Since there is a strong common interest in order to have a fruitful collaboration between the academic community of Italy and Greece, as well as in developing lines of research and promotion of knowledge relating to the History of Venice and Greece, it would be beneficial to these institutions to have direct contacts with an aim to identify fields of thought and activity that are of common interest and opportunities to coordinate the implementation of joint actions, meetings, exhibitions, conferences and, more generally, joint initiatives with an aim to facilitate and develop opportunities of scientific exchange between researchers, teaching staff and students, including the general public.

As suggested, meetings could be organized, for instance, in Athens and Venice, such as lectures on early Venetian print shops that produced Greek books destined for Greek-speaking readers, in the context of the current year during which Athens is the UNESCO World Book Capital (possibly one in Venice and one in Athens) and a meeting on the era of the second period of Venetian Rule in the Peloponnese (17th century- early 18th century), specifically on Francesco Morosini, the 400th anniversary of whose birth will be celebrated in Venice in 2019, as well as exchange of visits, in Venice and Athens, of the Friends of the Gennadius Library and Ateneo Veneto.

It is understood that, to implement the initiatives, some of which are described above by way of example, there will be prompt mutual communication, governed by the principles of rightness, legitimacy, transparency, protection of confidentiality and copyright according to the EU and both domestic laws that govern our institutions.

On the basis of the above framework, I agree that the present letter, together with your letter dated 12<sup>th</sup> January 2019 constitute an understanding on collaboration between the Ateneo Veneto of Sciences, Letters and Arts and the Association of “Friends of the Gennadius Library” for the years 2019 and 2020, that can be renewed and possibly enriched with new activities by common consent.

Gianpaolo Scarante

President of the “Ateneo Veneto di Scienze, Lettere ed Arti”.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Gianpaolo Scarante', written in a cursive style.

Venezia, 11 febbraio 2019