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**The Turing Scheme at Bournemouth University**

**Information for New Activity Development**

**led by BU staff**

Contents

[Introduction to the Turing Scheme 3](#_Toc151542198)

[The Turing Scheme at BU 3](#_Toc151542199)

[Making a Difference through Activity Development 3](#_Toc151542200)

[Grants for BU students 4](#_Toc151542201)

[Eligibility Criteria 5](#_Toc151542202)

[Student eligibility 5](#_Toc151542203)

[Activity eligibility 5](#_Toc151542204)

[Types of Activities 6](#_Toc151542205)

[Activities Developed with BU Academics 6](#_Toc151542206)

[Example 1 6](#_Toc151542207)

[Example 2 7](#_Toc151542208)

[Example 3 7](#_Toc151542209)

[Example 4 8](#_Toc151542210)

[Example 5 8](#_Toc151542211)

[Other Activity Examples 9](#_Toc151542212)

[Example 1 9](#_Toc151542213)

[Example 3 10](#_Toc151542214)

[Role of Host Organisations 11](#_Toc151542215)

[Traineeship Agreement 11](#_Toc151542216)

[Role of Bournemouth University 12](#_Toc151542217)

[Role of the Student 12](#_Toc151542218)

[Annex A – Widening Participation Criteria 13](#_Toc151542219)

[Annex B – Country Groups 14](#_Toc151542220)

[Group 1 – High Cost-of-living Countries 14](#_Toc151542221)

[Group 2 – Medium Cost-of-living Countries 14](#_Toc151542222)

[Group 3 – Low Cost-of-living Countries 16](#_Toc151542223)

[Annex C – Traineeship Agreement 19](#_Toc151542224)

# Introduction to the Turing Scheme

The Turing Scheme is the UK government’s scheme to provide funding for international opportunities in education and training across the world. It supports Global Britain by providing an opportunity for UK organisations from the higher education, further education, vocational education and training and schools sectors to offer their students, learners, and pupils life-changing experiences to study or work abroad.

Receiving funding to study or carry out a work placement abroad helps participants develop transferable skills, gain vital international experience, and broaden their horizons. They develop cultural awareness and become more open-minded. It is also a great addition to their CV, helping them to stand out in the global job market and boost their employability. Students, pupils, and learners return more motivated, independent, and confident, having improved their language skills, and gained an international network of friends.

# The Turing Scheme at BU

BU is entering its third year of administering the Turing Scheme at BU. Over the last two years, we have supported over 250 student mobilities to date including study exchange, short-term study, internships and work experience, and research traineeships.

Building on the success of collaborative activities delivered over the past two years, we are excited to continue to expand the breadth of activities that we can promote to students. We are particularly keen to develop new academic and work collaborations to best support our students in their academic, professional and intercultural development.

# Making a Difference through Activity Development

**Benefits to BU lead staff**

Developing new activities for students at BU offers significant benefits to staff through enhanced education, research opportunities, societal impact, and professional growth. It contributes to internationalisation efforts, raising BU's profile on a global scale.

These activities can foster research collaboration and co-authorship opportunities, enabling staff to tap into valuable academic or professional networks and expand their research horizons. This can lead to increased credibility and facilitate access to additional research or funding opportunities in the future. The societal impact of such activities is vital, provided they align with ethical and meaningful goals. This could involve partnerships with local and international NGOs and charities, promoting social responsibility and addressing real-world issues. The development of these activities also enhances the student experience and enriches the educational offering. Staff engagement in these activities offers a chance to bridge the gap between HE and industry. It opens doors for industry collaboration and application of knowledge in local communities.

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**Benefits to BU students**

BU students will experience new work environments, education methods and practices which will have a positive impact on their global competencies, academic progress, career ambitions and their competence for effective learning. The activity will not only enhance students' academic performance and employability but also cultivate their soft skills and foster positive changes in their attitudes and values. Social cohesion plays a key role in the current social and political environment. Internationally mobile students showed stronger stances against discrimination, intolerance and xenophobia (EC, 2019). The activity should therefore promote global citizenship by encouraging students to critically assess their role in diverse learning environments, challenging preconceptions about others and exclusionary norms. It should foster a deeper understanding of how teaching and learning objectives are influenced by (e.g. cultural context, societal norms, technological advancements etc.) and impact real-world issues, fostering equality and cognitive justice in global collaboration, as advocated by the UN SDGs. This aligns to the BU2025 strategy of fostering global outlook.

**Benefits to the Host Organisation**

The collaboration between BU staff and host organisations in developing activities offers mutual benefits. Host organisations gain from the expertise and innovative approaches brought by BU staff & students and vice versa. The collaboration enhances student experience and teaching (in the case of host universities) and elevates the international profile in general. It can facilitate further research projects, enabling staff to tap into valuable academic and professional networks, and opening doors to other research or funding opportunities. The activities developed should be ethical, aligning with societal impact goals promoting social responsibility. This could include partnerships with local and international NGOs, enhancing community engagement and benefiting the host organisations by enriching the local community.

# Grants for BU students

The Turing Scheme at BU funding provides grants to support students with specific costs related to undertaking international mobilities. The amount of the grant is determined by the length of the mobility, the destination country where the activity is undertaken, and the student’s eligibility for Widening Participation (WP) status.

WP status is determined within BU’s internal processes and is based on criteria including, income, ethnicity, age, caring responsibilities, and additional learning needs. (See [Annex A](#_Annex_A_–) for more details). Students who qualify as WP receive a travel grant and monthly uplift in addition to the standard cost-of-living grant.

To calculate the cost-of-living grant, destination countries are divided into three groups based on the cost of living in each country[[1]](#footnote-2) (See [Annex B](#_Annex_B_–) for full list of country groups). WP students receive £110/month in addition to the cost-of-living grant and are awarded a travel grant.

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mobilities to Group 1 Countries (higher cost of living)** | | | |
|  | Cost-of-living Grant | WP Monthly uplift | Other notes |
| Mobilities up to 2 months | £545 per month[[2]](#footnote-3) | £110 | Travel grant provided to WP students based on distance to mobility city. |
| Mobilities over 2 months | £380 per month | £110 |

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Mobilities to Group 2/3 Countries (lower cost of living)** | | | |
|  | Cost-of-living Grant | WP Monthly uplift | Other notes |
| Mobilities up to 2 months | £480 per month | £110 | Travel grant provided to WP students based on distance to mobility city. |
| Mobilities over 2 months | £335 per month | £110 |

# Eligibility Criteria

## Student eligibility

All students registered at BU are eligible to apply for funding through the Turing Scheme at BU. The Scheme does not restrict based on programme[[3]](#footnote-4) or level of study and is open to part-time and international students as well. Funding is also available for graduates for 1 year after they complete their studies at BU.

## Activity eligibility

All activities must take place between 1 September 2023 and 31 August 2024. Activities must be at least 28 days in duration (this includes weekends) and can last up to 1 year.

# Types of Activities

The Turing Scheme at BU can be used to support a wide range of curricular and extra/co-curricular activities including study exchange, short-term study, research, and work experience. The case studies below outline activities for which students could receive funding.

## Activities Developed with BU Academics

## Example 1

6 students are undertaking an unpaid 5-week activity in Chennai, India. The activity was planned in collaboration with BU partner institution Sri Ramachandra Institute of Higher Education and Research (SRIHER). Students are participating in the activity both as part of a degree placement or as a voluntary experience.

The student’s activity is comprised of research and professional observation/consultation. Research activities including visiting rural communities for data collection, literature reviews, and collation and presentation of research. Observation includes attending treatment and/or training appointments to observe and contribute as appropriate.

The students are working with an established team at SRIHER with additional support provided by BU academic leads of the project. Each student been assigned one supervisor at SRIHER for the duration of their time with the institution. Supervision is managed through regular check-ins, weekly team meetings, and supervision during treatment/training activity contributions.

***Total Grant (the student does not qualify for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| India  (Group 3 country) | 5 weeks | (£480 x 1.03571 months) | £497.14 |

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| India  (Group 3 country) | 5 weeks | (£480 x 1.03571 months)  +  (£110 x 1.03571 months)  +  £905 travel grant | £1516.07 |

## Example 2

A student is undertaking an unpaid 2.5-month degree placement with a non-profit in Vietnam. The placement opportunity was facilitated by the international office at British University Vietnam, a BU partner. The student’s activity focuses on teaching English to children.

The student is working with a constantly changing group of volunteers but has one assigned supervisor in the site-manager. Supervision is managed through weekly one-to-one meetings and bi-weekly team meetings.

***Total Grant (the student does not qualify for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Vietnam  (Group 2/3 country) | 2.5 months | (£335 x 2.5 months) | £837.50 |

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Vietnam  (Group 2/3 country) | 2.5 months | (£335 x 2.5 months)  +  (£110 x 2.5 months)  +  £905 travel grant | £2017.50 |

## Example 3

A recent graduate is undertaking a paid 2-month voluntary work experience with a higher education provider in Quito, Ecuador. The student’s activity focuses on a multi-media project to raise public awareness and understanding of the local Indigenous population.

The student is working with an established project team and has been assigned one supervisor. Supervision is managed through regular team meetings and weekly one-to-one meetings.

***Total Grant (the student does not qualify for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Ecuador  (Group 2/3 country) | 2 months | (£480 x 2 months) | £960 |

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Ecuador  (Group 2/3 country) | 2 months | (£480 x 2 months)  +  (£110 x 2 months)  +  £905 travel grant | £2085 |

## Example 4

A student is undertaking an unpaid 1-month degree research placement with a higher education provider in Porto Alegre, Brazil. The student’s activity focuses on ecosystem service valuation for environmental management and planning.

The student is working in an established research team and is supervised by the team lead. Supervision is managed through weekly planning meetings and weekly written reports.

***Total Grant (the student does not qualify for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Brazil  (Group 2/3 country) | 1 month | (£480 x 1 month) | £480 |

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Brazil  (Group 2/3 country) | 1 month | (£480 x 1 month)  +  (£110 x 1 month)  +  £905 travel grant | £1495 |

## Example 5

5 students are undertaking an unpaid 5-week activity in Bali, Indonesia. The activity was planned in collaboration with BU partner organisation North Bali Reef Conservation (NBRC). Students are participating in the activity both as part of a degree placement or as a voluntary experience.

The student’s activity is involves constructing artificial reefs, deploying artificial reefs and diving to arrange reef structures underwater.

The students are working on an established programme with NBRC with additional support provided by BU academic leads of the project. Students have been assigned one supervisor at NBRC for the duration of their time with the organisation. Supervision is managed through regular bi-weekly check-ins and regular team meetings.

***Total Grant (the student does not qualify for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Indonesia  (Group 2/3 country) | 1 month | (£480 x 1.03571 months) | £497.14 |

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Indonesia  (Group 2/3 country) | 1 month | (£480 x 1.03571 months)  +  (£110 x 1.03571 months)  +  £1360 travel grant | £1971.07 |

## Other Activity Examples

## Example 1

A student is undertaking a paid 1-year degree placement as a student assistant at a higher education provider supported laboratory in San Francisco, California in the United States. The student’s activity focuses on software development and will culminate in the validation of new software and publication of a research paper co-authored by the student and researchers at the laboratory.

The student is working with a range of colleagues across several departments at the laboratory but is assigned one supervisor for the duration of their time at the institution. Supervision is managed through bi-weekly meetings and continuous communications through Slack. Team building and discussions on cultural exchange are facilitated during regular working lunches with the wider team.

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| United States  (Group 1 country) | 12 months | (£380 x 12 months)  +  (£110 x 12 months)  +  £905 travel grant | £6785 |

**Example 2**

A recent graduate is undertaking an unpaid 6-month voluntary work experience at a marketing organisation in Melbourne, Australia. The student’s activity focuses on developing marketing and communications plans for start-up businesses to obtain investment and increase public awareness of the business.

The student is working in one department with an established team and has been assigned to contribute to projects with several different start-up business clients. The student has been assigned one supervisor for the duration of the activity. Supervision is managed through regular meetings.

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Australia  (Group 1 country) | 6 months | (£380 x 6 months)  +  (£110 x 6 months)  +  £1360 travel grant | £4300 |

## Example 3

A student is undertaking an unpaid 3-month degree placement with a health services organisation in Nepal. The student’s activity focuses on paramedic science including acting as part of an ambulance team supporting the work of the main emergency medical technician.

The student is working with a constantly changing group of ambulance teams but has one assigned supervisor in the central office. Supervision is managed through continuous training, observation during ambulance work, and regular meetings of the emergency services team.

Total Grant

***Total Grant (the student qualifies for WP funding)***

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Activity Location** | **Activity Duration** | **Grant Calculation** | **Total Grant** |
| Nepal  (Group 2/3 country) | 3 months | (£335 x 3 months)  +  (£110 x 3 months)  +  £745 travel grant | £2080 |

# Role of Host Organisations

Any organisation can host an activity for a student who is funded by Turing Scheme at BU for that activity. Hosting organisations are responsible for:

* Writing an activity description
* Conducting any required screening/interviews with student applicants
* Completing the Turing Scheme Traineeship or Learning Agreement
* Providing supervision and monitoring of the student while on activity
* Consulting with BU staff where required

## Traineeship Agreement

Where an organisation is hosting a student for a work experience (internship), no formal agreement is required between BU and the host organisation. Instead, the host organisation will sign a Traineeship Agreement directly with the student (see Annex C).

The purpose of the Traineeship Agreement is to:

* Before Mobility Section
  + Outline the agreed activity
  + Outline agree learning outcomes
  + Outline monitoring plans
  + Outline evaluation mechanisms
  + Provide information on pay and insurance
* During Mobility Section
  + Outline any changes to the activity as agreed in the ‘Before Mobility Section’, including changes to supervisor
* After Mobility Section
  + Provide final confirmation of activity and evaluation of student engagement

# Role of Bournemouth University

Where an organisation is hosting a Turing Scheme at BU supported activity, Bournemouth University is responsible for:

* Supporting development of the activity and written description
* Undertaking targeted promotion of the activity with relevant students (based on programme and/or level of study)
* Coordinating applications from interested students, including coordination of any information/documents requested by the host organisation
* Supporting completion of the Traineeship Agreement by both the student and host organisation
* Ensuring timely grant payments to students
* Providing ongoing support to the student and host organisation as needed throughout the activity

# Role of the Student

For students undertaking a Turing Scheme at BU supported activity, the student is responsible for:

* Completing a funding application
* Attending a pre-departure session
* Completing all funding paperwork including Traineeship Agreement and Grant Agreement
* Completing any application paperwork required by the host organisation
* Researching/considering the following:
  + FCDO Advice (and any associated travel/border restrictions) to host country
  + Visa requirements for host country including costs and processing time
  + Medical/Health and Travel insurance requirements
  + Cultural factors related to host country
  + Cost factors including general finances and any special circumstances
  + Housing and travel factors
  + Health and wellbeing factors
  + Work safety factors
* Maintaining open, timely and clear communication with host organisation and Bournemouth University
* Actively engaging with mobility activities

# Annex A – Widening Participation Criteria

To be eligible for WP funding, students must meet at least one of the following:

1. **Household income of £25,000 or below** (as assessed by Student Finance England/Wales/Scotland/Northern Ireland),
2. **In receipt of a BU Maintenance Bursary or BU Financial Support Fund for the current academic year.**
3. **You meet one or more of the following:**

* Student receiving Universal Credit or income-related benefits because they are financially supporting themselves or financially supporting themselves and someone who is dependent on them and living with them, such as a child or partner
* Care-experienced students (Students who have been or are currently in the care system (including living in care with foster carers, living in a children’s home) or from a looked after background at any stage of their life, no matter how short, including adopted children who were previously looked after)
* Students from low participation neighbourhoods (The Office for Students provides a tool to look at how likely young people are to participate in higher education across the UK and shows how this varies by area. A low participation neighbourhood would be one where young people were not likely to participate in higher education).
* Black and Minority Ethnic Students
* Students who are the first in their family to attend university
* Mature students (21 or older at the start of their programme)
* Students with caring responsibilities (Caring responsibilities are providing unpaid care to a family member or friend who could not cope without their support. This may be due to illness, disability, a mental health issue, or substance misuse.)
* Estranged students (where a student does not have support from their parents due to a breakdown in their relationship or where neither of the student’s parents can be found or it is not reasonably practicable to contact either of them)
* Refugees and asylum seekers

1. **Students with additional learning needs (including students registered with ALS at BU):**

The term additional learning needs refers to learners with special education needs (SEN), including those whose SEN arise because they have a long-term disability that has a substantial and long-term effect on the ability to do everyday tasks or are in receipt of Disabled Student Allowance. This would include learners who identify as having a disability, special needs, or medical condition as categorised below:

* + Social/communication impairment such as Asperger’s syndrome/other autistic spectrum disorder
  + Blind or have a serious visual impairment uncorrected by glasses
  + Deaf or have a serious hearing impairment
  + A long-standing illness or health condition such as cancer, HIV, diabetes, chronic heart disease, or epilepsy
  + Mental health condition such as depression, schizophrenia, or anxiety disorder
  + Specific learning difficulty such as dyslexia, dyspraxia, or AD(H)D 13
  + Physical impairment or mobility issues, such as difficulty using limbs or using a wheelchair or crutches
  + Disability, impairment or medical condition that is not listed above

# Annex B – Country Groups

## Group 1 – High Cost-of-living Countries

* American Samoa
* Australia
* Bahamas
* Barbados
* Bermuda
* Canada
* Cayman Islands
* Cook Islands, Tokelau, and Niue
* Cuba
* Israel
* Japan
* Kiribati
* New Caledonia
* New Zealand
* North America not otherwise specified
* Papua New Guinea
* Puerto Rico
* Samoa
* Solomon Islands
* Switzerland
* Tonga
* Turks and Caicos Islands
* United States
* Vanuatu
* Venezuela

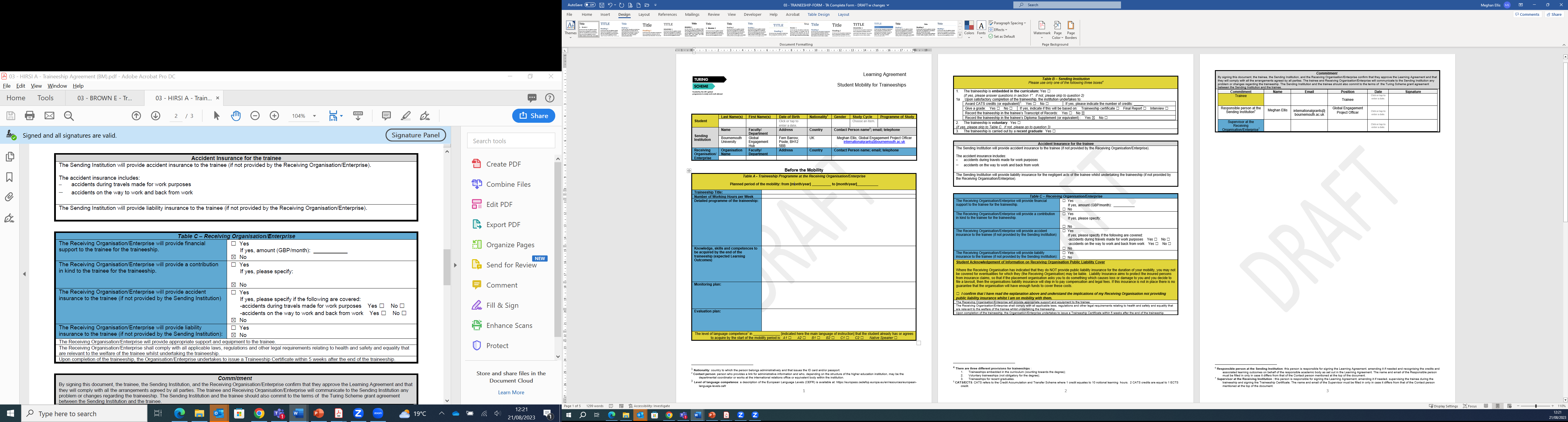
## Group 2 – Medium Cost-of-living Countries

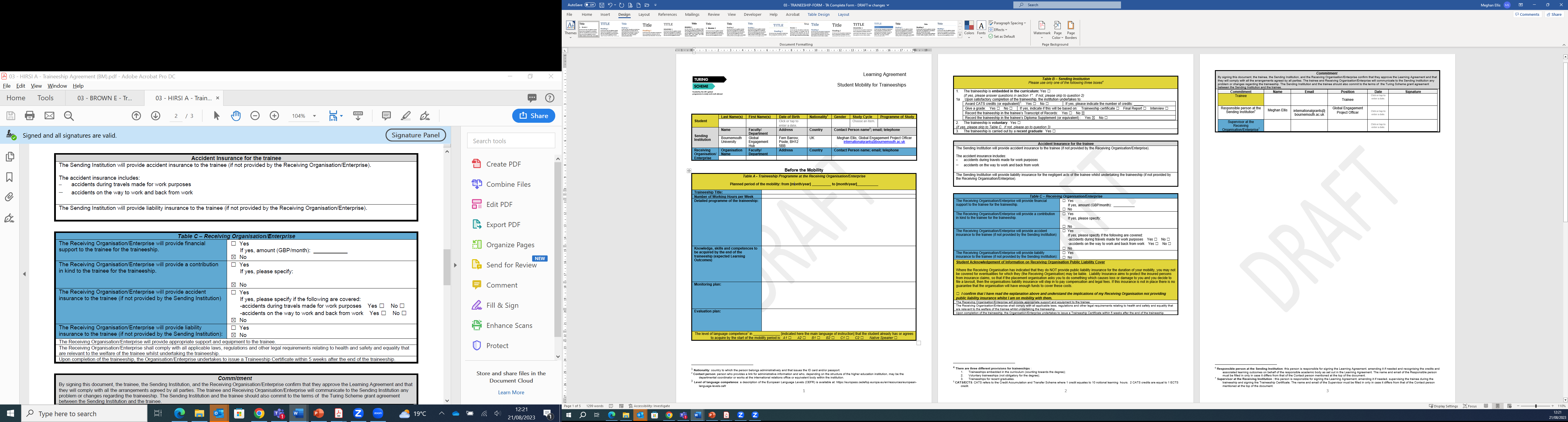
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* Andorra
* Antarctica and Oceania not otherwise specified
* Antigua and Barbuda
* Austria
* Belgium
* Belize
* Brazil
* British Indian Ocean Territory
* British Virgin Islands
* Bulgaria
* Canary Islands
* Caribbean not otherwise specified
* Central America not otherwise specified
* Cote d’Ivoire
* Croatia
* Curaçao
* Cyprus
* Czech Republic
* Denmark
* Egypt
* Estonia
* Europe not otherwise specified
* European Union not otherwise specified
* Falkland Islands
* Faroe Islands
* Finland
* France
* French Guiana
* Germany
* Gibraltar
* Greece
* Hong Kong
* Hong Kong
* Hungary
* Iceland
* Ireland
* Italy
* Laos
* Latvia
* Liechtenstein
* Lithuania
* Luxembourg
* Malta
* Martinique
* Monaco
* Netherlands
* North Macedonia
* Norway
* The Occupied Palestinian Territories
* Poland
* Portugal
* Romania
* Serbia
* Slovakia
* Slovenia
* South Georgia and The South Sandwich Islands
* South Korea
* Spain
* St Kitts and Nevis
* St Lucia
* St Vincent and The Grenadines
* Svalbard and Jan Mayen
* Sweden
* Turkey
* Uruguay

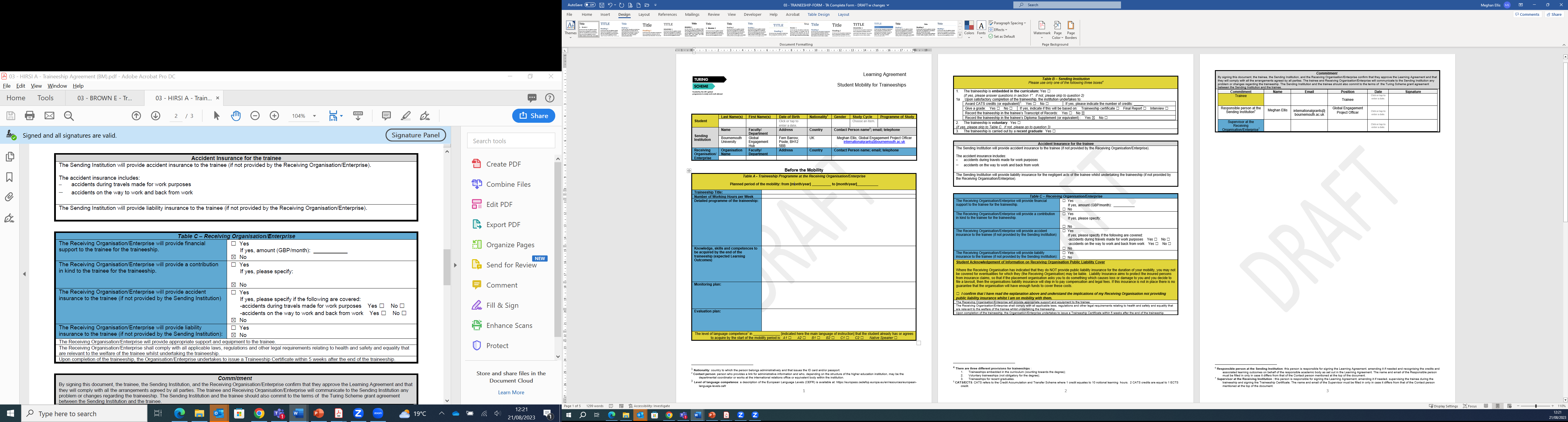
## Group 3 – Low Cost-of-living Countries

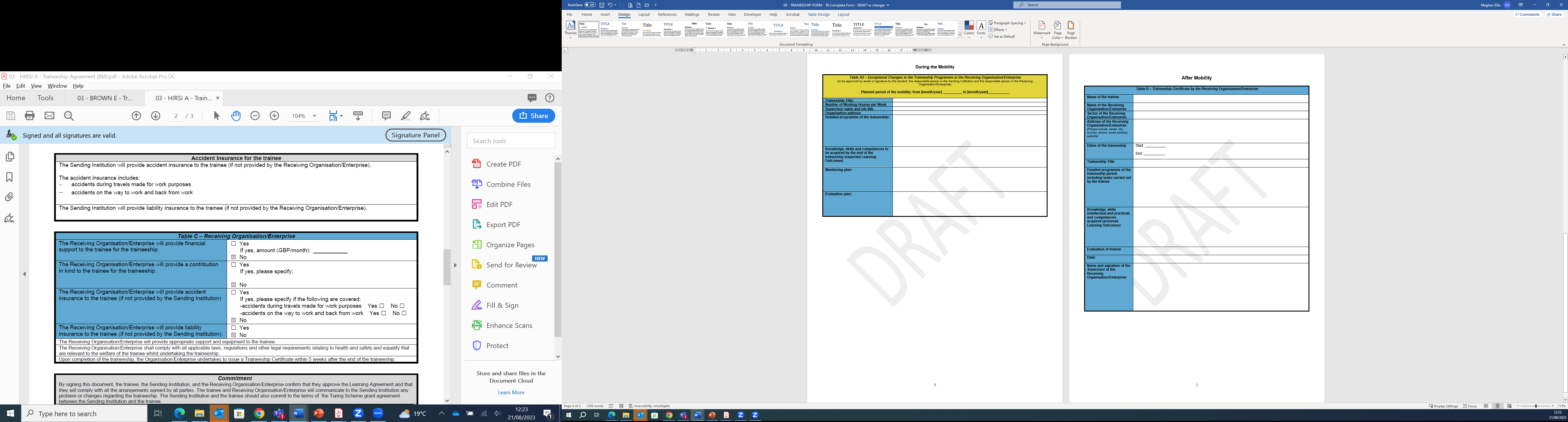
* Afghanistan
* Albania
* Algeria
* Angola
* Argentina
* Armenia
* Azerbaijan
* Bahrain
* Bangladesh
* Belarus
* Benin
* Bhutan
* Bolivia
* Bosnia and Herzegovina
* Botswana
* Brunei
* Burundi
* Cambodia
* Cameroon
* Cape Verde
* Central African Republic
* Chad
* Chile
* China
* Colombia
* Costa Rica
* Democratic Republic of the Congo
* Dominica
* Dominican Republic
* Ecuador
* El Salvador
* Eswatini
* Ethiopia
* Fiji
* The Gambia
* Georgia
* Ghana
* Guinea
* Guyana
* Haiti
* Honduras
* India
* Indonesia
* Iran
* Iraq
* Jamaica
* Jordan
* Kazakhstan
* Kenya
* Kosovo
* Kuwait
* Kyrgyzstan
* Lebanon
* Liberia
* Libya
* Macao
* Madagascar
* Malawi
* Malaysia
* Maldives
* Mali
* Mauritania
* Mauritius
* Mexico
* Moldova
* Mongolia
* Montenegro
* Morocco
* Mozambique
* Myanmar (Burma)
* Namibia
* Nepal
* Nicaragua
* Nigeria
* Oman
* Pakistan
* Panama
* Paraguay
* Peru
* Philippines
* Qatar
* Russia
* Rwanda
* Saudi Arabia
* Senegal
* Seychelles
* Sierra Leone
* Singapore
* Somalia
* South Africa
* Sri Lanka
* Sudan
* Taiwan
* Tajikistan
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* United Arab Emirates
* Uzbekistan
* Vietnam
* Zambia
* Zimbabwe

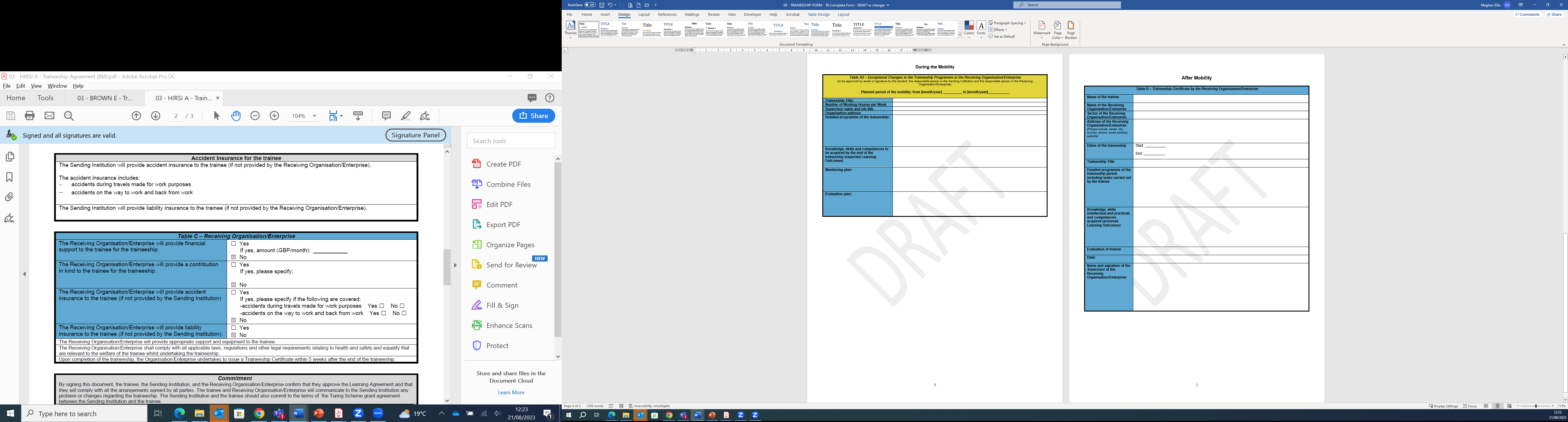
# Annex C – Traineeship Agreement











1. Countries are grouped into Groups 1-3 with group 1 being high cost-of-living, Group 2 being medium cost-of-living, and Group 3 being low cost-of-living. For the purposes of grant calculation Group 2 and 3 countries are assigned the same monthly rate. [↑](#footnote-ref-2)
2. Cost-of-living grants are calculated by multiplying the monthly rate by the months (and partial months) on activity with a month being equal to 28 days. [↑](#footnote-ref-3)
3. Where a specific activity is planned with an employer, restrictions can be placed on programme and level of study. [↑](#footnote-ref-4)