



**Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**



**Slovak Republic
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

MEMORANDUM ON COOPERATION

BETWEEN

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

AND

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE SLOVAK REPUBLIC

Bratislava, May 5th 2009

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Justice of the Slovak Republic (hereinafter referred as Parties),

- Aware of the importance of international cooperation and the intense need to harmonise national legislation with international and European standards,
- Desirous of contributing to regional cooperation by developing relations between the two ministries,
- Reaffirming their determination to contribute constructively and substantially to the European integration process and the development of bilateral relations,

Have agreed on the following:

Article 1

Goals

The Parties shall cooperate in affairs falling within their respective jurisdiction, including a comprehensive and meaningful exchange of experiences and practices, in order to

- a) harmonise national legislation with international and European standards,
- b) modernise the judicial system,
- c) educate and train the Ministry of Justice staff,
- d) cooperate in the enforcement of penal sanctions,
- e) cooperate in the fight against organized crime, trafficking in human beings, drugs, money laundering, corruption and terrorism.

The Parties shall agree to promote the policy and trends of European integration in their special cooperation agreements, programmes or projects.

Article 2

Cooperation in the Harmonisation of Regulations

The Parties will share, on request, mutual assistance in the harmonisation of regulations with international and European standards.

Cooperation in this field shall include mutual exchange of information on legislation falling within the jurisdiction of the Parties, especially exchange of information and experience on harmonization of national law with the *acquis communautaire*.

Article 3

Cooperation in the Modernisation of Judiciary

The Parties shall cooperate to introduce the international and European standards when regulating the modernisation of all segments of the judicial system, implementing the principles conducive to an efficient and independent judiciary.

A special focus applies to the cooperation in the exchange of experience and technical assistance on elaboration and use of the court case management system and business register, court publications – court edicts, legal information systems and the constitution of an IT infrastructure.

Article 4

Cooperation in Education and Training of Administrative Staff

The Parties shall place special emphasis on an exchange of experiences, in order to provide high-quality education and training programs for the administrative staff of the Parties.

Article 5

Cooperation in the execution of penitentiary sanctions

Department for Execution of Correctional Sentences of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia and Corps of Prison and Court Guard of the Slovak Republic shall focus on cooperation in the reform and modernisation of execution of penitentiary sanctions imposed by the courts by enforced judgments in accordance with international and European standards.

Article 6

Cooperation in Combating Organised Crime, Terrorism, Human Trafficking, Money Laundering, Corruption and Other Related Offences

The Parties shall act within their competence to strengthen the cooperation, especially the transnational cooperation in the struggle against organised crime, trafficking in human beings, drugs, money laundering, corruption, terrorism and other offences which pose increasingly greater dangers to society, the curbing of which constitutes a special international interest.

Article 7

Costs

Based on principle of reciprocity and in accordance with their national legislation, the Parties will bear costs of visit resulting from the activities contained in the items of this Memorandum as follows:

The receiving party will cover the costs related to the accommodation where the visit takes place.

The sending party will cover travel expenses to and from the place where the visit takes place.

Article 8

The realisation of the projects will be carried out in the context of the personnel, budgetary and organizational possibilities of both parties.

Article 9

Amendments

The Parties can amend this Memorandum based on written mutual consent.

Article 10

Taking Effect

This Memorandum shall enter into force on the day of its signature and does not create any new legal obligations.

This Memorandum shall be concluded for an indefinite period of time.

This Memorandum may be terminated by either Party by written notification to the other Party three (3) months from the date of said notification.

Done in Bratislava on May 5th 2009 in three (3) original language versions in two (2) copies, each in Serbian, Slovak and English, all texts being equally authentic. In the case of any difference in interpretation, the English - language version shall prevail.

**Minister of Justice
of the Republic of Serbia**

Mrs. Snežana Malović



**Deputy Prime Minister
and Minister of Justice
of the Slovak Republic**

Mr. JUDr. Štefan Harabin

