



**Republic of Serbia
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**



**Republic of Macedonia
MINISTRY OF JUSTICE**

COOPERATION PROTOCOL

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia

and

Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Macedonia

Skopje, 29 September 2004

The Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Macedonia, hereinafter: parties signatories,

- *believing* in the importance of international cooperation between the states, as well as the noted need for harmonisation of domestic regulations with international and European standards,
- *taking into consideration* the circumstances in which over the years there has been compatibility of the legal systems of both states,
- *wishing* to give a contribution to the improvement of the regional cooperation by enhancing the relations between both ministries,
- *confirming* their determination to contribute to the promotion of European integration processes and to the development of bilateral relations in a constructive and concrete way,
- *with an intention* to continue and expand the so far cooperation,

have agreed on the following:

Article 1

Aims

The parties signatories shall cooperate in the matters in their competence, which includes a comprehensive and suitable exchange of experiences and practice for the purposes of realising the following aims:

- a) Harmonisation of the regulations with international and European standards;
- b) Modernisation of the justice system;
- c) Advanced training and training of the employees in the Ministries of Justice;
- d) Cooperation in the field of execution of correctional sentences, that is, of enforcement of sanctions;
- e) International legal assistance in civil and criminal matters.

The parties signatories agree to realise the policy and directions of European integrations in their mutual cooperation.

Article 2

Cooperation in the field of harmonisation of regulations

The parties signatories, with a view to joining the European Union, shall cooperate and exchange experiences in connection with the harmonisation of regulations with international and European standards, including mutual exchange of regulations from their competences.

Article 3

Cooperation in the field of modernisation of the justice system

The parties signatories shall cooperate in the modernisation of all segments of the justice system, by means of implementation of the principles that reinforce an efficient, independent and autonomous justice system.

Article 4

Cooperation in the field of advanced training and training of employees in the Ministries of Justice

The parties signatories shall attach special importance to the exchange of experiences with a view to more qualitative advanced training and professional training of the employees in the Ministries of Justice.

Article 5

Cooperation in the field of reform of systems for execution of sanctions

The Administration for the Execution of Correctional Sentences of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Serbia and The Administration for Enforcement of Sanctions of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Macedonia shall realise the cooperation in the field of reform and modernisation of systems for execution of sanctions in accordance with international and European standards.

Article 6

Cooperation in the fight against organised crime, terrorism, trafficking in human beings, money laundering, corruption and other criminal offences with an increased degree of social danger

The parties signatories shall support all regional initiatives in Southeast Europe aimed at fighting organised crime, trafficking in human beings, money laundering, corruption, terrorism, and other criminal offences with an increased degree of social danger.

Article 7

Changes and supplements

The parties signatories may change and supplement the present Protocol on the basis of mutual agreement, in writing.

Article 8

Entry into force

The present Protocol shall become effective immediately after being signed.

The present Protocol shall be signed to an indefinite time.

Each Party Signatory may break the present Protocol by written notification to the other party signatory. The present Protocol shall cease to be valid after the expiration of a time limit of three months following the date when the written notification for the break of the Protocol was received.

This Protocol is made in Serbian, Macedonian and English, in two original copies in each language, whereby all the texts are equally credible. In case of difference in interpretation, the English text shall be valid.

The present Protocol is done in Skopje, on 29 September 2004.

**FOR THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA**

**DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE,
Branislav BJELICA**



**FOR THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

**DEPUTY MINISTER OF JUSTICE,
Tanja ALTANDZIEVA**

