

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE SOUTH EAST EUROPE POLICE CHIEFS ASSOCIATION

AND

THE FEDERAL MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR OF THE REPUBLIC OF AUSTRIA

The South East Europe Police Chiefs Association (hereinafter referred to as "SEPCA") and the **Federal Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Austria**, (hereinafter referred to as "BM.I"); Jointly referred to as the "Sides" or individually as the "Side";

Recognizing the mutual interest of the Sides to promote effective regional cooperation and the need to maintain a close working relationship between competent police and law enforcement authorities;

Bearing in mind that the SEPCA's purpose is the enhancement of regional cooperation in its fields of activities among countries in the region, as a vital part of the EU integration process;

Considering the interest and involvement of the BM.I in promoting development and security in the region of Southeast Europe (SEE) and its strong support for police cooperation amongst Southeast European states;

Considering further that SEPCA favours partnerships to reduce duplications and increase synergies in the region;

Mindful that the Sides wish to cooperate in areas of mutual concern to enhance the effectiveness of their development efforts;

Wishing to coordinate their efforts in developing closer regional cooperation in the field of police cooperation, and rule of law promotion, within the framework of the missions assigned to them.

The Sides have approved the following:

Article 1 Objectives

1. The strategic objective of the Sides is to facilitate their cooperation in areas of common concern, and to work together to promote the rule of law principles and strengthen regional cooperation in the SEE region.
2. The specific objectives of the Sides are:
 - a. to support countries in their efforts to strengthen the regional cooperation among police and law enforcement authorities;
 - b. to foster regional cooperation and collaboration among countries in the SEE region through mutual assistance, implementation of international standards, exchange of best practices and shared policy approaches.

Article 2 Framework of the cooperation

1. Cooperation and coordination will be based on respect and mutual understanding of the respective organizational structures, mandates, institutional capacities, strengths and policies of the Sides, and will be built on each other's comparative advantages.
2. Cooperation and coordination will aim at enhancing countries' ownership and the overall effectiveness of the Sides' activities in the areas which are subject of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Article 3 Mutual consultation

1. SEPCA and the BM.I will consult periodically on matters of common interest for the purpose of realizing their respective objectives and activities.
2. Where appropriate, consultation will be arranged between representatives of the Sides to agree on the most effective way in which to organize particular activities and to optimize the use of their resources in compliance with their respective mandates.

Article 4 Exchange of information

Both of the Sides will keep each other informed of the developments of their work, which are of interest to the other Side; in particular regarding conferences, expert meetings and projects of common interest on the level of SEPCA.

Article 5
Assistance and Support

1. Both Sides will:
 - a. provide information, advice and recommendations to each other on possible opportunities for cooperation;
 - b. inform each other about legislative issues and development in countries of interest, and developments in the SEE region; and
 - c. arrange periodic planning meetings.
2. The Sides will assist each other in any other area of cooperation deemed to be of common interest.

Article 6
Liability and Settlement of Disputes

1. If one of the Sides to this Memorandum of Understanding considers that compliance with the request for assistance and cooperation would be prejudicial to the essential interest or against the official mission and aims of the Side, it may refuse to comply with the request for assistance and cooperation.
2. Any dispute between the Sides, concerning the interpretation or application of this Memorandum of Understanding, or any question affecting the mutual relationship will be settled by consultation between the Sides.

Article 7
Modifications

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified in writing by mutual consent between the Sides at any time in accordance with their respective statutory requirements.

Article 8
Cancellation

Either Side may cancel this Memorandum of Understanding by giving a written notification to the other Side. The cancellation will take effect one (1) month after the date of the receipt of the notification. The ongoing proceedings will be completed irrespective of the cancellation of the Memorandum of Understanding.

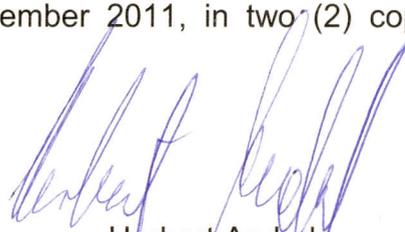
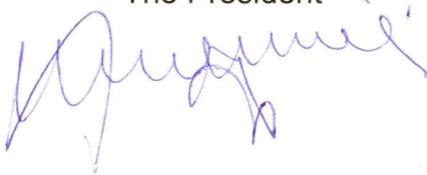
Article 9
Entry into effect

This Memorandum of Understanding is concluded sine die and takes effect from the day of its signature. It will become effective six months after the date of receipt by the other Side.

Done in Budva, Montenegro, on 30 November 2011, in two (2) copies in the English language.

Veselin Veljovic

For the Southeast Europe Police
Chiefs Association
The President



Herbert Anderl

For the Federal Ministry of
the Interior of the Republic of Austria
The Director General for Public Security