

PROTOCOL
ON COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
AND
THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Lithuania and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Macedonia, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

guided by their desire to contribute to the promotion of friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries in conformity with the principles of the United Nations Charter, the Final Act of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Charter of Paris for a New Europe and other documents of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe,

wishing to support new ways of cooperation for purposes of expanding and deepening mutual cooperation which is based on principles of partnership and of mutual benefits,

emphasizing the significance and usefulness of the dialog concerning problems of mutual interests and sharing experience of Euro-Atlantic integration process,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall hold regular consultations to explore all aspects of bilateral relations and to exchange opinions on regional and international issues of mutual interest, including the opportunity to undertake joint initiatives.

Article 2

In accordance with the Article 1 of the present Protocol, the consultations shall be held in the Republic of Lithuania and the Republic of Macedonia alternatively. The level of representatives, agenda and date of consultations between the Parties shall be agreed by the Parties through diplomatic channels.

Article 3

The bilateral consultations, upon the consent of both Parties, shall cover issues of political, economic, cultural and other cooperation.

The consultations shall focus on:

- (a) exploration of the opportunities for further expansion and deepening of mutually beneficial cooperation in various spheres of bilateral relations in accordance with the agreements signed between the two Parties;
- (b) review of the implementation of bilateral treaties and agreements and further expansion of legal framework of bilateral relations through updating of the existing treaties and agreements in various spheres, as well as through the signing of the new ones;

- (c) cooperation between the two countries with a view to enhance Macedonia's relations with the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and other Euro-Atlantic institutions and sharing Lithuania's Euro-Atlantic integration experience;
- (d) cooperation issues within the framework of the United Nations, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other international and regional organizations and fora on topical issues of common interest, including mutual support for nominations to international organizations;
- (e) exchange of opinions of the international situation, including that in the regions of the Eastern and South Eastern Europe, and other global and international issues of mutual interest;
- (f) examination of other issues and problems of mutual interest to the Parties.

Article 4

The diplomatic representations of the Parties in third countries, at the United Nations, the European Union, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the Council of Europe, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization and other international organizations, as well as the delegations of both Parties to international fora and conferences shall communicate and consult, if necessary, on issues of mutual interest.

Article 5

The Parties hereby also agree to create favourable conditions for the maintenance of direct contacts and to make arrangements for the exchange of officials, experts and trainees from their respective administrations. This exchange shall be carried out on a short-term basis and it shall be oriented to the spheres identified in this Protocol.

Article 6

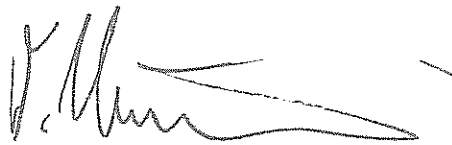
This Protocol may be amended and supplemented upon the mutual consent of the Parties.

Article 7

This Protocol shall enter into force on the date of its signature and shall expire after three months upon receiving by the one of the Parties the notification of the other Party, informing about its termination.

Done at Vilnius on the 26th day of March 2009 in two originals in the English language.

**For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Lithuania**



**For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Republic of Macedonia**

