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# SECURITY COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

The Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Serbia hereinafter referred to as "the Parties";

Desiring to enhance bilateral cooperation in order to strengthen and develop friendly relations between the Republic of Turkey and the Republic of Serbia to promote welfare and stability in a peaceful atmosphere in both States within the framework of the principles of mutual respect of sovereignty, equality and interest of both Parties;

Being concerned about the increase in the international terrorism attacks and international organized crime;

Being aware of the need to develop cooperation within the fields of technical assistance, training and equipment;

In accordance with the principle of effective protection of their citizens and other persons in their countries from terrorist acts and other criminal acts;

Considering the national legislation and international obligations of both Parties;

Taking into consideration basic principles defined in the United Nations Charter, as well as protection of human rights;

Desiring to further strengthen friendly relations between both Parties by respecting the principle of sovereignty and equality of the States;

have agreed the following:

# ARTICLE 1 Obligation to Cooperate

The Parties shall cooperate in fighting transnational crimes, in particular crimes related to terrorism, organized crime, smuggling of goods and migrants, trafficking in human-beings, narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors in conformity with their national legislation in force and the international treaties, to which they are Parties.

# ARTICLE 2 Fields of Cooperation

1. The Parties shall cooperate, within the framework of their means, in order to prevent, suppress and conduct financial investigations and investigations into crimes in the following fields:

a) Transnational organized crime, including laundering of crime revenues, crimes in the field of informatics, smuggling of cultural and natural properties;

b) Illicit production of and trafficking in narcotic drugs;

c) Trafficking in human-beings, smuggling of migrants and irregular migration;

d) Illicit trafficking in weapons, ammunitions, explosives, nuclear, biological, chemical, radioactive material and toxics;

e) Forgery of money, passports, visa and all the other official documents;

- f) Organized crimes, smuggling of all kinds of customs bonded goods, alcoholic drinks, tobacco products and fuel-oil;
- g) Implementing the special investigation methods, such as controlled delivery, in fighting the narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and their precursors;
- 2. The Parties shall also cooperate to prevent and suppress terrorist acts and financing of terrorism in conformity with their national legislation in force and their international obligations arising from applicable international treaties and UN Security Council Resolutions. In this context;

The Parties shall take efficient measures for preventing the preparation and perpetration of terrorist acts within their territories against citizens and security of the other Party.

- 3. The cooperation in combatting terrorism shall cover especially cooperation in information, criminal intelligence and assessment sharing, as well as operational cooperation regarding the terrorist organizations and methods of their action, terrorist acts, financing of terrorism, which affect the security of the Parties and the technical methods used in combatting terrorism.
  - a) Within the framework of combating terrorism under this Agreement, the Parties shall prevent the activities of members/supporters of terrorist organizations reported by either of the Parties to be posing threat against its national security. In this regard, the Parties shall consider such activities of the persons/organizations illegal and therefore, establish submitted terrorist organizations' acts as well as supportive acts as serious criminal offences in domestic laws and regulations, and they ensure that they have established urgent executive measures to prevent further terrorist propaganda simultaneously.
  - b) The Parties shall develop and implement efficient combating measures regarding the persons and institutions providing financial or other support, including sheltering, accommodation, training and treatment, as well as logistical support to the terrorist organizations in their territories.
  - c) The Parties shall exchange information and experience regarding methods in preventing and combating terrorism, including acts of hostage taking and hijacking and shall conduct mutual studies on these issues.
  - d) The Parties shall exchange information and experience regarding weapons, equipment and technical installation used in combating terrorism.

e) The Parties shall cooperate and exchange information by monitoring the movements of the technological equipment, all kinds of weapons and ammunities which can be used

in preparation and perpetration of terrorist acts, with the aim of preventing terrorist organizations from acquiring them.

- 4. The Parties may cooperate in the fields of In-Service Training Certificate Program, Unit and Training Centers, Trainee Education, Basic Training Program for Law Enforcement Personnel, Superior Certificate Program for First Level Law Enforcement Agencies, Post Graduate and Doctorate Programs by giving priority to the superior personnel/personnel in administrative position. The provisions, which include financial issues and conditions of the trainings given in this scope, shall be determined by the Protocol on Training Cooperation, which will be signed later and entered into force pursuant to the Procedure set forth in the Article 11.
- 5. In case of mutual consent, the Parties may conduct short and long term programs and projects for providing support in areas such as training, technical support and assistance, material donation and consultancy, with the aim of building administrative and institutional capacities of the Police and Gendarmerie Organizations which are entrusted with ensuring peace and tranquility. In order to develop joint security policies and make cooperation the Parties may appoint Counsellor and Deputy Counsellor for Security Cooperation and Interior Affairs, Attaché, Law Enforcement Liaison Officer and personnel temporarily or continually.
- 6. The Parties shall cooperate and share information with the aim of countering criminal methods in a more efficient way and strengthening their forensics capacities.
- 7. This Agreement shall not apply to mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and extradition of convicted persons.

# ARTICLE 3 Request for Assistance and Execution

- Cooperation under this Agreement shall take place based on the requests for assistance made by the competent authority concerned or upon initiative of the competent authority, which deems the assistance is of interest to the other competent authority.
- 2. Information may be—without any request transmitted to the other Party in case there are grounds to believe that is of interest to the other Party.
- 3. Requests for assistance shall be submitted in English language in writing, including the use of technical means for data transmission. In case of emergency they may be made orally, but shall be confirmed in writing as soon as possible not later than 7 (seven) days.

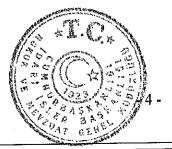
If the request is made using technical means for data transmission, and In case of any doubt regarding the authenticity of the received request, the requested competent authority may request a certificate from the requesting competent authority, as agreed by the Parties.

- 4. Requests for assistance shall contain:
  - a) The name of the authority of the Requesting Party and the name of the Requested Authority;
  - b) Detailed information on the case;
  - c) Aim and reason of the request;
  - d) Description of the requested assistance;
  - e) Level of urgency;
  - f) Any other information, which may contribute to the effective execution of a request.
- 5. If the execution of a request for assistance or a cooperation activity jeopardizes the sovereignty or security or is contrary to national law, international obligations or other essential interests of either Party, the relevant Party may refuse to execute the request wholly or partly or may execute the request subject to certain conditions.
- 6. The Requested Party shall take all the measures necessary to execute the request in the most rapid and complete way as possible. The requested Party shall inform the other Party of circumstances that prevent the execution of a request or significantly delay its execution.
- 7. During the execution of a request, the law of the requested Party shall apply.
- 8. If deemed necessary, the Requested Party may request further information from the Requesting Party for an appropriate execution of the request.

Upon the request of the requesting Party, the requested Party shall take all necessary measures to ensure the confidentiality of the receipt of the request, its content and of providing the necessary information and assistance for the execution of the request.

If the execution of a request is not possible by preserving the confidentiality, the Requested Party shall ask the Requesting Party's opinion whether the request shall be executed in such circumstances.

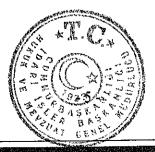
- 9. If the Requested Party considers that the immediate execution of a request may interfere with legal process launched in its country, The Requested Party can delay the execution of the request or make it subordinate to the respect of the circumstances considered necessary as a result of the consultations with the requesting Party. If the Requesting Party agrees to provide assistance under the proposed circumstances, it shall fulfill them.
- 10. Unless the national legislation of the requested Party establishes other time limits, its competent authority shall notify the results concerning the execution of the request to the requesting Party within 30 (thirty) days from its receipt.
- 11. In case of whole or partial refusal of a request for assistance, the requested Party shall notify the requesting Party of the reasons for the refusal.

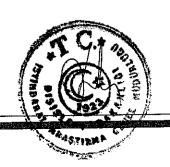




#### ARTICLE 4 Limits on the Use of Information and Document

- 1. The Parties agree that the information and personal data transmitted under this Agreement shall be exclusively used for the purposes envisaged by it, while respecting the human rights of individuals in accordance with relevant domestic legislation and human rights treaties, to which they are Parties.
- 2. The personal data exchanged between the Parties shall be protected according to the same standards applying to national data in conformity with their domestic laws on data and information.
- 3. In compliance with the purposes of this Agreement, the Parties shall adopt the necessary technical and organizational measures to protect sensitive and personal data against unintentionally or unlawful destruction, unintentional loss or disclosure, unauthorized alteration or access or any unauthorized form of processing. The Parties, in particular, must take any necessary measures to ensure that only those authorized to access personal data can have access to such data.
- 4. Under this Agreement, any information, documents and other joint material shall not be disclosed to any third Parties without the prior written consent of the competent authority of the Requested Party. This obligation shall prevail after the termination of this Agreement. The data cannot be used for any other purpose than the execution of the request, without the written consent of the Providing Party.
  - Upon the request of the providing Party, the receiving Party shall provide information on their use and the results obtained.
- 5. Upon the request of the providing Party, the receiving Party is obliged to stop using, correcting or deleting, consistent with its national law, the data received under this Agreement which is incorrect or incomplete or if its collection or further processing contravenes this Agreement or the rules applicable to the providing Party.
- 6. When a Party becomes aware that data it has received from the other Party under this Agreement is not accurate, it shall take all appropriate measures to prevent reliance on such data, which shall include in particular supplementation, deletion or correction of such data.
- 7. Each Party shall notify the other if it becomes aware that the data it has provided to the other Party or received from the other Party under this Agreement is inaccurate or unreliable or might give rise to significant doubt.





### ARTICLE 5 Considerations Regarding Personnel

- 1. Within the scope of the Agreement and with the aim of carrying out the activities set out in fields of cooperation, the personnel of the other Party shall be subjected to the laws, valid legislations of the receiving party without prejudice to the diplomatic privileges and immunities. In case of a violation; duty of the personnel may be terminated.
- 2. The personnel of any Party staying in the country of the other Party for the purpose of training, shall be subject to criminal law of that country, within the framework of the national legislation of their own country, that is, only regulations in force in both countries shall apply.
- 3. Emergency health services of the relevant Party's personnel and their relatives (spouses and dependent children, as well as mentally/physically disabled children over the age of 18), who stay in the country of the other Party, are covered by the Host Country free of charge. Expenses of long-term treatment, medicines and all kinds of health-care and transfer of the personnel or their relatives to their country for the need of treatment are covered by their own country.

## ARTICLE 6 Competent Authorities for the Implementation of the Agreement

- 1. The competent Authorities for the implementation of this Agreement are as follows:
  - a) For the Party of the Republic of Turkey: the Ministry of Interior,
  - b) For the Party of the Republic of Serbia: the Ministry of the Interior
- 2. Within 30 (thirty) days from the entry into force of this Agreement; the Parties shall exchange the list of the contact points authorized to maintain direct contacts in order to implement the provisions of this Agreement and establish the relevant communication channels.
- 3. The Parties shall immediately notify each other on any changes in the list of the contact points authorized to maintain direct contacts in order to implement the provisions of this Agreement.
- 4. The Parties, in addition to the above-mentioned authorized contact points, shall cooperate through their respective liaison officers and other experts in the field of crimes that are covered by this Agreement.

# ARTICLE 7 Meetings and Consultations

- 1. With a view to facilitating implementation of this Agreement, the representatives of the Competent Authorities may, if necessary, hold bilateral meetings and consultations to assess the progress made under this Agreement.
- 2. Meetings shall take place in Turkey and in Serbia, alternately.





#### ARTICLE 8 Settlement of Disputes

Possible disputes arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement are settled amicably through consultations between the competent Authorities mentioned in Article 6 and negotiations through diplomatic channels.

## ARTICLE 9 Relations of this Agreement with Other International Treaties

This Agreement shall not prejudice the rights and obligations arising from other international treaties concluded by the Parties.

#### ARTICLE 10 Expenses

- 1. Expenses for the processing of a request under this Agreement shall be covered by the requested Party.
- 2. Unless otherwise agreed upon, expenses for the meetings shall be covered by the Hosting Party whereas international travel expenses of delegations shall be covered by the Sending Party.

### ARTICLE 11 Final Provisions

- 1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of the receipt of the last written notification by which the Parties notify each other, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of their internal legal procedures required for its entry into force.
- 2. This Agreement is concluded for a period of 5 (five) years from the date of its entry into force. Unless one of the Parties notify the other Party in writing of its intention to terminate the Agreement through diplomatic channels 6 (six) months prior to its expiration, it shall be automatically renewed for successive periods of 5 (five) years. The termination of the Agreement shall not affect the requests for assistance sent before the termination.
- 3. After the Agreement has entered into force; either of the Parties may propose to other Party to make amendments in the text.

Amendments shall come into force in accordance with the procedure set out in the Paragraph 1 of this Article.

On the date of entry into force of this Agreement, the Agreement on Cooperation between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of the Republic of Serbia on the Fight against Serious Crimes, in particular Terrorism and Organized Crime, signed on 10 April 2011 shall be repealed.

This Agreement has been signed and sealed by the undersigned officials, who are duly authorized by the Governments, on 07/10/2019 in Belgrade in two original copies, each in Turkish. Serbian and English all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

For The Government of the Republic of Turkey

Mevlüt ÇAVUŞOĞLU Minister of Foreign Affairs For the Government of the Republic of Serbia

Nebojša ŠTEFANOVIĆ

Deputy Prime Minister

and Minister of the Interior

