



**НАЦИОНАЛНО СДРУЖЕНИЕ  
НА ОБЩИНИТЕ В  
РЕПУБЛИКА БЪЛГАРИЯ**



**ASSOCIAZIONE NAZIONALE  
COMUNI ITALIANI**

**FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT FOR COOPERATION  
BETWEEN THE  
NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF MUNICIPALITIES IN THE REPUBLIC OF  
BULGARIA (NAMRB)  
AND  
THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF ITALIAN MUNICIPALITIES (ANCI)**

On behalf of their members, the two Associations, represented by the duly authorized persons, as referred in the text bellow **Parties**:

- ✓ Convinced that the development of bilateral cooperation will be beneficial for the both signed Parties;
- ✓ Recalling that they are bound to obey the main principals of the local self-government, and the **European Charter on Local Self-Government of the Council of Europe**, as well as their commitment to it;
- ✓ Relying on the already established practice for the development of bilateral relations and signing of such Agreements for Cooperation with similar organizations, have agreed as follows:

**Article 1  
Fields of Cooperation**

Both Parties will develop mutual cooperation and provide support in all fields of common interest for their members and administrations. Also, such fields can be where some of the parties have a specific need of assistance in a particular time. The priority fields of cooperation settled are:

- ✓ Preservation and development of cultural and historical heritage;
- ✓ Problems of the mountain, peripheral and municipalities with a low population density;
- ✓ The work with young people at local level.

Both Parties can determine also other priority fields. It depends on the needs of their members and development of local democracy in the respective countries and in Europe.

**Article 1.a  
Fields of Cooperation in First Year**

During the first year after the signing of the Agreement, both parties will develop priority fields of youth activities and exchange and intangible cultural heritage. The particular activities are, as follows:

- ✓ Promotion of youth exchanges between both Association municipalities' members and development of mutual programs;

- ✓ Foster and development of cooperation between Bulgarian and Italian twin cities, focusing on the young people governance participation at local level;
- ✓ Promoting youth people forums on municipal issues between the Italian and Bulgarian youth organizations;
- ✓ Mutual participation at the initiatives of international cultural organizations.
- ✓ Institutional and moral support to the activities for the year 2013 "Italy-Bulgaria" and the forthcoming cultural events - tangible and intangible field;
- ✓ Support to the scheduled appointments and activities for the "EU Capital of Culture in 2019" throughout the realization of the planned Intangible Cultural Heritage events in Italian and Bulgarian Municipalities

## **Article 2**

### **The Forms of Cooperation**

The forms of cooperation between the parties could be:

- ✓ Exchange of useful information in all accessible ways with the priority of best practices in the municipal governance;
- ✓ Two-side visit exchanges, meetings, training and consultations in Bulgaria, Italy or other countries.
- ✓ Exchange of results summarized from the consultations between members of the two organizations;
- ✓ Interaction between both parties representatives in multilateral international meetings, conferences and other forums of local authorities in Europe and the whole world;
- ✓ Joint development, application and participation in European and other funding projects, as well as with the other countries;
- ✓ Mutual support and assistance for cooperation development between members of the two organizations and twinning between the Italian and Bulgarian cities.

Both parties may determine, also other forms of cooperation.

## **Article 3**

### **Cooperation with the Committee of Regions and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in the Council of Europe**

The Parties determine as a priority of their cooperation for consultations in case of need, as well as development and defending common positions and conducting joint activities between the representatives of their delegation members of the Committee of Regions of the European Council and the Congress of the Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe .

## **Article 4**

### **Financial and Administrative Commitments**

This Agreement does not derive any direct financial commitments for the both parties. All administrative activities or the concrete financial commitments for the joint events, invitation for the visits or other form of the above mentioned forms of cooperation will be a subject for the negotiations between both parties for every particular case.

Both Parties select one or more expert from their administrations, as contact persons and

operational relations for the implementation of the Agreement.

#### **Article 6**

##### **Amendments of the Agreement's text**

The text of the Agreement can be amended by a request from one of the parties, which should be sent to the other party in written format. An Annex with the changes approved by the competent authorities of both parties and signed by the authorized persons has to be attached to this Agreement.

#### **Article 7**

##### **Duration of the Agreement**

This Agreement shall come into force on the date of its signing by the two Parties and shall remain in force for a period of one year and shall be automatically renewed for another period of twelve (12) months, unless terminated earlier by written notice of either party, which shall be sent to the other party at least three months before the expiration date of this Agreement.

#### **Article 8**

##### **Languages**

This Agreement is signed in three copies in Bulgarian, Italian and English languages.  
The English version of the Agreement shall prevail in case of dispute.

**For the National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria (NAMRB):**

**Mr. Todor Popov, The NAMRB Board of Directors Chair**  
*Mayor of Pazardjik Municipality*

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**For the Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI)**

*Veronica M. G. L.*

.....  
*Date and place.....*

A. N. G. L.  
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