

AGREEMENT
BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SLOVENIA

AND

THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE OF
GEORGIA

ON

CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DEFENCE

The Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia and the Ministry of Defence of Georgia, hereinafter referred to as the »Contracting Parties«,

- Taking into account the need to contribute to the strengthening of peace, confidence and stability and to the development of relations between the states in Europe and world as a whole, and in the spirit of the United Nations Charter, the Helsinki Final Act, the Paris Charter for new Europe and the Agreement between the NATO Member States and other Countries participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the status of their Armed Forces (PfP SOFA) and the additional Protocol to the PfP SOFA,
- Positively assessing the integration process in the world, reflecting the aspirations for mutual benefit and co-operation on the basis of respect and trust,
- Adhering to the responsibilities, resulting from the international agreements on strengthening of security, stability and peace,
- Aimed at long term planning and outlining the areas of co-operation between the Contracting Parties,
- Convinced that the development on the bilateral contacts will result in the expansion of the relations between two states,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Purpose of the Agreement

The purpose of this Agreement is to provide a framework for co-operation between the Parties in the field of defence within the limits of their competencies stipulated by their national legislation.

Article 2

Status of the Agreement

The Contracting Parties carry out their obligations outlined in this Agreement based on the principle of equality and reciprocity.

The Contracting Parties shall implement the provisions of this Agreement in compliance with the international treaties seconded by their states and the national legislations within the framework of their competence.

Article 3

Areas of Co-operation

1. The Contracting Parties shall co-operate in the following areas according to the national legislations of their states and within the framework of their competence:

- Defence and security policy;
- Military economic and military technical activities;
- Military and civil personnel education and training;

- Social, sports and cultural activities;
- Defence legislation;
- Defence industry;
- Defence-scientific activities;
- Military medicine;
- Military geography;
- Confidence and security building measures;
- Arms control and disarmament;
- Joint participation in NATO PfP activities;
- Humanitarian and peace support operations;
- Defence logistics;
- Environmental security issues;
- Rehabilitation, holiday, social, cultural and sport activities;
- Military history, journalism and museums;
- Other fields on common interests.

2. The fields mentioned in this Agreement could be extended or limited by written consent of the two Parties.

3. In order to fulfil the provisions of this Agreement and to implement the co-operation in the fields mentioned in this Article, paragraph 1, the Parties may conclude specific agreements.

Article 4

Forms of Co-operation

The co-operation between the two Parties will be implemented in the following forms:

- official visits and working meetings;
- exchange of experiences and consultations;
- exchange of participants in the training projects, probationary training periods, qualification courses;
- mutual participation in the exercises;
- exchange of participation in conferences, symposiums, seminars, courses, and workshops organised by the Parties;
- Exchange of information of mutual interest;
- Concerts, exhibitions, festivals and other cultural events.

Article 5

Legal status of personnel

The status of the personnel will be governed by the Agreement among the States Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty and the other States participating in the Partnership for Peace regarding the status of their Forces, done at Brussels on 19 June 1995.

Article 6

Annual planning

Based on this Agreement, the Contracting Parties can adopt annual Plans for bilateral defence cooperation in a way that:

- Every year by October 15, the Contracting Parties will co-ordinate an annual Plan for bilateral defence cooperation.
- The annual Plan for bilateral defence cooperation includes the topic of the activity, its form, the time and place where it was realized, the responsible authorities, the number of people and other important information related to the organization and realization of the activity.
- After coordination, the annual Plan for bilateral defence cooperation is signed by the authorized representatives of the Contracting Parties by 15 December of the year preceding the one, which the Plan refers to.

Article 7

Financial Aspects

The required expenditures regarding all cooperation activities implemented within this Agreement shall be covered on mutual agreement of the Contracting Parties.

Article 8

Protection of Classified Information

The Parties shall guarantee the protection of information and data made available to them in bilateral contacts adhering to the respective national legislation of the States of the Parties.

Temporary or final copying, transfer or forwarding of information, documents, methods or technologies produced during co-operation to the third persons will be allowed only in written consent of the other Contracting Party.

The Parties agree that the following classification markings are equivalent and correspond to the classification markings specified in laws and regulations in force in their states:

For the Republic of Slovenia	For Georgia	Equivalent in English
STROGO TAJNO		TOP SECRET
TAJNO		SECRET
ZAUPNO		CONFIDENTIAL
INTERNO		RESTRICTED

The classified information received according to this Agreement will be marked with an equivalent classification marking, corresponding to the classification marking specified by the originating Party. The Parties will ensure the same level of protection for such classified information as it is provided for the national classified information of the equivalent classification marking.

The classified information received according to this Agreement will be marked with an equivalent classification marking, corresponding to the classification marking specified by the originating Party. The Parties will ensure the same level of protection for such classified information as it is provided for the national classified information of the equivalent classification marking.

Once a bilateral agreement on mutual protection of classified information is concluded, the provisions of that agreement will be applicable for the protection of classified information received according to this Agreement.

The commitments of the Contracting Parties on provision of confidentiality, and such information or technical means, equipment and materials shall remain in force after termination of this Agreement until the Contracting Party which transmitted them will dispense the other Contracting Party from these obligations.

Article 9 Disputes

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or application of this Agreement will be resolved by negotiation between the Parties.

Article 10 Final provisions

This Agreement will come into force on the date of receiving the last notification, by which the Contracting Parties notify each other in written form that the relevant national requirements for its entry into force have been fulfilled.

This Agreement may be amended by written consent of both Parties. Such amendments shall constitute the integral part of this Agreement and enter into effect in accordance with the paragraph 1 of this Article.

This Agreement is concluded for a 5-year period and shall be automatically continued for another 5-year period unless either of the Contracting Parties notifies in written form at least six months in advance the other Contracting Party about its intention to terminate the Agreement. In case of termination, the Parties will co-operate in order to reach the best solution for the pending matters.

Signed in _____ on the _____ in two copies in the Slovenian, Georgian and English languages, all texts being equally valid. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English version shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Defence
of the Republic of Slovenia

Andreja Katič, l.r.

For the Ministry of Defence
of Georgia

Tinatin Kidašeli, l.r.