

Cooperation Agreement
no. OLP/3018/2023
concluded between
Mehedinți County
and
the Liberec Region

Mehedinți County (Județul Mehedinți, Romania),
represented by Mr **Aladin Georgescu**, the **Chairman of Mehedinți County**

and

the Liberec Region (the Czech Republic),
represented by Mr **Martin Půta**, the **Governor of the Liberec Region**

hereafter simply referred to as the Parties,

in an attempt to contribute to the development of the bilateral cooperation and friendly relations between their countries,

with an interest in enhancing and diversifying the traditional friendly relations between the Parties, as well as developing new dimensions of bilateral cooperation in the area of local government,

and with a conviction as to the need to open up new options for cooperation on the basis of this Agreement and that this new form of cooperation will contribute to the diversification of the relations between the Parties,

have agreed as follows:

Article 1
The goals

The Parties will especially cooperate by means of direct contact between the local governments in both regions and the municipal authorities and non-governmental organisations active in both regions. This will be realised in compliance with the given remit of each such organisation, as set out in the domestic legal regulations of Romania and the Czech Republic, and for the purpose of increasing the institutional capacities of the local government bodies in their municipalities with the goal of securing the economic and social development of the local communities and the realisation of cross-border projects.

Article 2
The areas of cooperation

(1) The Parties will develop their cooperation in the following areas on the basis of the principles of bilateral cooperation based on trust, equality and mutual advantage:

- a) local government
- b) economics

- c) education and research
- d) culture and sport
- e) civil defence and the safety of individuals
- f) the environment
- g) agriculture and local development
- h) other areas of cooperation that may be of interest to both Parties

(2) The cooperation may also be expanded to further areas of cooperation not listed in paragraph 1 upon the basis of an agreement between the Parties that has been concluded in writing and in compliance with their appropriate remits as stipulated by the domestic legal regulations of Romania and the Czech Republic.

Article 3

The forms of cooperation

The Parties hereby undertaken to perform the following in compliance with their given remits:

- a) they will support exchanges of delegations, visits by experts and specialists in the areas of culture, economics, administration, tourism, social care, health, education and the environment
- b) at the same time, they will also endeavour to exchange experience between the administrative units coordinated by both signatory Parties with regard to the creation and implementation of the system of relationships between said units and the promotion of their activities in the local communities of both Parties
- c) they will contribute to the development of the cooperation between organisations and institutions in the areas of science, culture, healthcare, education, social care, sport, tourism, the environment and municipal administration within the given administrative units.

Article 4

Financial matters

The Parties will independently bear any costs that arise during the implementation of this Cooperation Agreement and will do so within the limits designated by the internal legal regulations of the states of both Parties.

Article 5

The coordination of the cooperation activities

- 1) Each Party will designate a coordinator who will be responsible for the effective implementation of this Cooperation Agreement.
- 2) The coordinators appointed by the Parties will draw up an implementation plan and propose further measures that both Parties can adopt.

Article 6
Dispute resolution

The Parties will resolve any disputes arising in connection with the interpretation or implementation of this Cooperation Agreement by means of direct, amicable negotiations.

Article 7
Modifying the Cooperation Agreement

This Cooperation Agreement can be modified or supplemented on the basis of the mutual, written agreement of the Parties. Any such modifications and additions will come into effect as of the day they are signed.

Article 8
Entry into effect, duration and termination

- 1) This Agreement has been concluded for a period of five years and its validity will be automatically extended by five more years with the exception of the case where one of the Parties withdraws from the Agreement in writing at least three months prior to the expiry of the given period.
- 2) Each of the Parties may terminate this Cooperation Agreement by means of a written notification sent to the other Party. In such a case, this Cooperation Agreement will lapse on the thirtieth day after the day, on which the notification in question was submitted.
- 3) The termination of this Cooperation Agreement will not affect the implementation of any programs and projects commenced within the period of its validity, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

Signed in Cvikov on 26. 9. 2023,

in two originals in Romanian, Czech and English, whereby all the texts are equally authentic. In the case of any differences of interpretation, the English text will be decisive.

On behalf of
Mehedinți County

On behalf of
the Liberec Region

Aladin Georgescu
Chairman

Martin Půta
Governor

This Agreement was ratified by the Regional Authority of the Liberec Region in its resolution no 406/23/ZK dated 26.9.2023 and by the Council of Mehedinți County in its resolution no. 150/2023 dated 7.9.2023.