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development and
the rule of law

Joint Declaration on Cooperation

between

the Institutions for Police Education and Training in the Western Balkans

Signatory parties:

From the Republic of Albania

- **Department for Police Training in the General Directorate of State Police, Ministry of Interior of Albania**

From Bosnia and Herzegovina

- **Agency for Education and Professional Training, Ministry of Security**

From the Republic of Macedonia

- **Training Centre, Ministry of Interior of Macedonia**

From Montenegro

- ***Police Academy, Danilovgrad***

From the Republic of Serbia

- ***Directorate for police education, specialized training, professional development and science, Ministry of Interior***
- ***Academy for Criminal and Police Studies, Belgrade.***

DCAF Geneva

(Further in the text: **Partners**)

Following the Police Cooperation Convention for Southeast Europe (PCC SEE) Article 11, the decision of the Committee of Ministers established in the frame of PCC SEE in June 2008; the DCAF Ministerial Declarations on Border Security in SEE signed in Budva 2008, Belgrade 2009, Skopje 2012; and the Meeting of the Chiefs of the Border Police Services from SEE, held in Muta, Slovenia, in April 2012, the **Partners** have come together,

With the desire to cooperate in order to pursue common interests related **to the education and training of police officers**;

With the determination to further strengthen mutual assistance in matters related to the police education and training;

Taking into account the European perspective of the region but respecting differences of internal legislation, organisational structures and their responsibilities,

The Partners have agreed on the following:

1. In order to improve competences of police officers, promote the exchange of know-what and know-how, strengthen professional ties and mutual assistance, and add value for individual organisations – the Partners have agreed to form the **Network** as inter-organisational body with the aim to facilitate cooperation among all institutions of the Western Balkans dealing with police education and training. The Network will, by engaging in a number of activities, strive towards:
 - Facilitating exchange of knowledge and know-how, best practices and other relevant information from the field of police education and training between Partners;
 - Initiating and supporting common training activities, strengthening the existing initiatives and continuation of their development.
2. The purpose of the **Network** is to bring together institutions for police education and training, to facilitate the cross border cooperation through common education and training activities, to strengthen professional competences and to contribute to the sustainable development and to the process of European integration by following the development in the field of security and justice, and in the field of police education and training, without interfering in national policies and aiming beyond their responsibilities.

3. Each Partner shall nominate a **Contact Point** that will serve as the focal point for organising and coordinating activities, for any inquiry or any other effort deemed relevant for the activities of the **Network**.
4. Each Partner in the **Network** shall be represented by one representative.
5. The meeting of the Network shall be convened at least once a year; additional meetings should be convened on the request of one of the Partners. The Network will meet on the territory of each Partner in turn.
6. DCAF Ljubljana shall provide the necessary logistic support to the Network, in terms of administration and coordination.
7. The **Network** may execute the following **activities**:
 - Conduct regular meetings in order to coordinate efforts of the network, facilitate the exchange of information and experience, identify common training needs and best practices, as well as monitor and evaluate achievements;
 - Share experience and support each other in developing and harmonising professional standards and curricula, training methods and evaluation;
 - Develop and organise common education and training products/activities
 - Organise exchange of teachers, students and participants to the training activities
 - Organise specific/thematic learning activities and events;
 - Develop and publish common learning materials;
 - Follow up and discuss developments in Bruges-Copenhagen and Bologna Processes, and to offer mutual support in the process of its implementation;
 - Facilitate the link between the activities of the Association, FRONTEX, EUROPOL and CEPOL's programmes and activities;
 - Support each other in order to find the best possibilities for recognition of prior and non formal learning;
 - Support research activities in the field of policing and border guarding, and education and training;
 - Review and evaluate all activities accordingly;
 - And other activities which are unanimously agreed upon.

8. **Decisions** of the Network shall be taken by consensus.
9. Each Partner shall, in accordance with its national legislation, meet its own **financial costs** arising from activities of the Network, unless otherwise agreed upon in advance or if costs are not covered by external partners.
10. The Declaration shall be given for an **indefinite period of time**. The Partners can at any time propose **amendments** to the Declaration in writing to the DCAF Ljubljana.
11. Any Partner may withdraw from this Network at any time by written notification to other Partners. The withdrawal shall take effect three months after the date of receipt of the notification.
12. This Declaration shall not affect any rights and obligations of the Partners arising out of other international, multi- or bilateral engagements, be of a legal or a political nature.

Signed in Mostar, 27 November 2012



Ministry of Interior of Albania
Department for Police Training in the
General Directorate of State Police

[Signature]
27.11.12



Ministry of Security
Agency for Education and Professional
Training

[Signature]



Ministry of Interior
Training Centre

[Signature]



Police Academy, Danilovgrad

[Signature]



Ministry of Interior, Directorate for
police education, specialized training,
professional development and science

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Academy for Criminal and Police
Studies, Belgrade

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Geneva Centre for the Democratic
Control of Armed Forces

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