



**GERMIN
THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA STATE MINISTER
FOR DIASPORA**

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

**BETWEEN
THE STATE MINISTER FOR DIASPORA
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
AND
GERMIN**

FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DIASPORA



The State Minister for Diaspora of the Republic of Albania and Germin (a non-governmental organization registered in Pristina, Kosovo that specializes in Diaspora engagement and development issues) – hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, with the purpose to encourage the bilateral cooperation in different fields of the engagement of the Diaspora;

Convinced that the cooperation in the field of Diaspora is an instrument of value for the quality of life of the Diaspora members living outside of the home country:

The Parties have agreed as follows:

Article 1 Purpose and Scope

1. The Memorandum of Understanding sets the terms for cooperation and responsibilities of the Parties
2. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to provide a framework of cooperation and facilitate and strengthen collaboration between the Parties, on a non-exclusive basis, in areas of common interest in strengthening the role of the Albanian Diaspora in the social and economic development of home countries.

Article 2 Responsibilities of the Parties

The Parties agree to:

1. Maintain the collaboration/cooperation which respects the professional independence and the transparency of the activity;
2. Collaborate on the design, development, and implementation of joint programs on the thematic areas stipulated in this MoU through exchange of information on specific topics based on the Strategy and Action Plan for the Albanian Diaspora;
3. The exchange of documents and specific information in relation to work programs that are of interest to each of the Parties;
4. Joint meetings to address matters of common interest.

Article 3 Priority Thematic Areas of Engagement

The Parties agree to strengthen their collaboration in the following specific priority thematic areas related to Diaspora engagement:



1. Institutional and Legal Framework for Diaspora Engagement;
2. Voting Rights for the Albanian Diaspora and Representation in the assembly;
3. Diaspora Investment and Economy Policy;
4. Promoting Professional Exchange with the Albanian Diaspora;
5. Cultural and Educational Exchange;
6. Promoting Local Diaspora Projects in Selected Cities/Regions of the respective countries;
7. Albanian Diaspora Philanthropy and Non-Governmental Organizations;

Article 4

Advisory Services

1. The Parties agree that Germin will serve in an advisory role to the State Minister for Diaspora. This role entails to supporting the State Minister for Diaspora with technical assistance, strategic advice, and facilitation of dialogue with the community members living abroad.
2. The Parties agree that Germin will assist the personnel of the State Minister for Diaspora with technical advice and other services upon agreement between the Parties;
3. Both parties collaborate in securing third party collaboration and financing (i.e. from international donors such as IOM, GIZ, SDC etc.);
4. The Parties will provide space on their informative pages (websites and social media) for joint programs.

Article 5

Areas of Collaboration

The Parties agree to cooperate in the following areas of common interest:

1. **Conduct Diaspora Registration:** The Parties agree to work together in developing a joint program to facilitate registration of the Albanian Diaspora Professionals Network. The current database to be developed would include individuals, businesses, and incorporation of the existing database of non-governmental organizations. Any online platform to be developed with transparency and complete exchange of information which will reflect privacy concerns that need to be taken into account;
2. **The Conference for Diaspora:** The Parties agree to secure co-financing for the Conference, which will gather Diaspora communities, interest groups, businesses and professionals to jointly develop a better coordinated approach with the public institutions of Albania and Kosovo, as an opportunity to further strengthen the legal framework and engagement with Diaspora communities;



3. Diaspora Summit: The Parties will work on design, planning and organization of the Diaspora Summit in order to make the process more inclusive.
4. Diaspora School in Albania: The Parties will coordinate assessments in planning, fundraising and implementation of field activities of the first Diaspora School in Albania.
5. Diaspora Council: The Parties will coordinate efforts to form an Albanian Diaspora Council. The Council will be based on similar practices in other countries based on specific Terms of Reference and clear and transparent provisions.
6. Other Programs: The Parties will collaborate on designing and implementing joint programs as referred to in Article 2, point 2.

Article 6

1. Disputes will be settled by mutual agreement between the Parties through periodic consultations.
2. The Parties have the right to make changes to the MoU through consultation and mutual agreement between the Parties.

Article 7

Each Party has the right to terminate this agreement at any time upon prior joint consultation and a written notice.

**STATE MINISTER
FOR DIASPORA**

PANDELI MAJKO

**PROGRAM DIRECTOR
GERMIN**

LIZA GASHI