

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING (MOU)
ON THE REVIEW OF IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OHRID FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

between

THE GOVERNMENT, AS REPRESENTED BY THE DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OHRID FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT AND THE SECRETARIAT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF THE OHRID FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT (hereinafter referred to as "the Government")

and

THE EUROPEAN INSTITUTE OF PEACE (hereinafter referred to as "the EIP"),
together hereinafter referred to as the "Parties to this MOU",

WHEREAS the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA) was signed on 13 August 2001,

WHEREAS the OFA provides measures for implementation and follow-up by the parties to the OFA,

WHEREAS outstanding matters in the follow-up to the agreement are reviewing the implementation status of the OFA and formulating future policies towards the full integration of the Macedonian society,

The Parties to this Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) have agreed on the following:

Article 1
Purpose

The purpose of this MOU between the Government and the EIP is to enable the Government to complete the Ohrid Framework Agreement (OFA) Implementation Review Process and develop possible new policy initiatives supporting social cohesion and the structural integration of society.

The above goals will be accomplished by undertaking the following activities:

- Establishing the quantitative implementation status of OFA in the areas of education, decentralization, anti-discrimination, equitable representation, smaller communities and the use of languages;
- Completing a qualitative analysis of OFA implementation and challenges in wide consultation with all direct and indirect stakeholders in society, aimed at developing new implementing modalities and policy initiatives in line with the spirit of the agreement;
- Convening an international conference discussing the above towards formal endorsement of recommendations in a declaration to be annexed to the OFA Implementation Review Report to be produced and considered by Government for adoption and subsequent implementation.

Article 2
Roles

The Government, as represented by the Office of the Deputy Prime Minister and the SIOFA, is the principal executive of the OFA Implementation Review Process and the implementation of those recommendations it adopts from it.

In this responsibility it will:

- Appoint and convene an OFA Implementation Review "Core Group", building upon but expanding the existing SIOFA - OSCE Focal Point Coordination Mechanism by involving representatives of SIOFA, EIP, the DPM's Cabinet, OSCE and others and including a smaller designated executive group, before 31 July 2015;

- Convene and consult a wider OFA Implementation Review "Consultancy Group" focused on the quantitative implementation review, consisting of representatives from all relevant Governmental institutions, before 11 August 2015;
- Present initial findings on the quantitative implementation status of the OFA and a detailed roadmap of the OFA Implementation Review process, its objectives and phases at a roundtable on the OFA anniversary date of 13 August 2015;
- Engage with the qualitative analysis by way of a series of public consultations / working groups on the 6 identified focal areas through September and October 2015, seeking the widest possible inclusion of all segments of society, including civil society, academia, political parties, policy makers and experts;
- Prepare, convene and chair an international conference on the OFA Implementation Review and its recommendations by 1 December 2015, aiming to have an endorsed declaration with recommendations annexed to the OFA Implementation Review Report and adopted by Government before 15 January 2016;
- Pro-actively monitor, further and pursue comprehensive implementation of recommendations adopted.

The EIP shall actively support, and where needed facilitate, the OFA Implementation Review Process in a manner that seeks to guarantee an inclusive and strategic approach while building a wide consensus behind its recommendations. In this effort, the EIP will act in close consultation with the OSCE Mission to Skopje and the European Commission and Delegation in Skopje. The EIP shall not charge a fee for its services.



**Article 3
Duration**

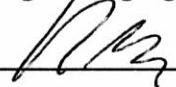
This MOU shall become effective upon signature by the authorized officials from the Government and the EIP and will remain in effect until modified or terminated by any one of the Parties by mutual consent. This MOU will remain in effect in the event of changes in staff and leadership composition of the Parties to this MOU. This MOU shall end by mutual agreement between the Parties.

**Article 4
Dispute Resolution**

In the event of a dispute, controversy or claim arising out of or relating to this MOU, or the breach, termination or invalidity thereof (a "dispute"), the Parties shall use their best efforts to settle promptly such dispute through direct negotiation. Any dispute that is not settled within thirty (30) days from the date a Party has notified the other Parties of the nature of the dispute and of the measures that should be taken to rectify it shall be resolved through consultation between the executive heads of the Parties: the Deputy Prime Minister for Implementation of the Ohrid Framework Agreement on behalf of the Government, and the Executive Director of the European Institute of Peace. Each Party shall give full and sympathetic consideration to any proposal advanced by another to settle amicably any matter for which no provision has been made or any controversy as to the interpretation or application of this MOU.

This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in two originals in the English Language.

Signature: 
 Signed in (Skopje) Macedonia on (16.07.2015)
 For the Government 

Signature: 
 Signed in (Skopje) on (16/07/2015)
 For European Institute of Peace 