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Turkey and Romania

Memorandum of Understanding between the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Government of Romania on European Affairs. Bucharest, 4 April 2012

Entry into force: 20 August 2014, in accordance with its provisions

Authentic texts: English, Romanian and Turkish

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Turquie et Roumanie

Mémorandum d'accord entre le Gouvernement de la République turque et le Gouvernement de la Roumanie relatif aux Affaires européennes. Bucarest, 4 avril 2012

Entrée en vigueur : 20 août 2014, conformément à ses dispositions

Textes authentiques: anglais, roumain et turc

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[ENGLISH TEXT – TEXTE ANGLAIS]

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY AND THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA ON EUROPEAN AFFAIRS

The Government of the Republic of Turkey,

AND

The Government of Romania

Hereinafter referred to as the "Parties",

Considering the Turkish-Romanian cooperation in areas of common interest,

Having regard to the fact that Ministry for European Union Affairs of the Republic of Turkey (MEUA) and Ministry of European Affairs of Romania (MAEur) are interested in deepening their cooperation in the field of European affairs,

Considering the special interest manifested by both parties for the consolidation of the bilateral cooperation and recognizing the advantages of a constant collaboration at European level by setting up an information exchange and consultation mechanism,

Having regard to Romania's willingness to offer support to Turkey by sharing the experience gained during the EU accession negotiation process,

Consent to sign the present Memorandum of Understanding which will be governed by the following provisions:

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The Parties agree to intensify their cooperation efforts in the field of European affairs, observing the principle of equality and mutual advantage.

In the first stage, the cooperation aims at making use of Romania's experience in the EU accession process and offering support to the Republic of Turkey in fulfilling the accession criteria.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

The cooperation between the Parties will focus on the following aspects:

- harmonising national policies with the European Union standards and policies;
- developing the institutional and legal framework for the implementation of European legislation at national level;
- identifying the best practices to be used in the harmonisation process of internal legislation and in the European Union acquis transposition at national level;
- exchanging best practices regarding the exercising/consolidation of the coordinating role of MEUA and MAEur in the process of verifying the compatibility of internal legislation with European regulations;
- identifying the coordinators and the significant actors at national level for the different dossiers under negotiation;
- sharing best practices regarding mediation between certain ministries/central administration institutions in the process of elaborating the negotiation documents;
- monitoring the process of preparation for the accession.

ACTIVITIES

In order to achieve the aforementioned objectives, the Parties will perform the following activities:

- exchange of experts;
- courses on different European topics;
- consultations on draft legislation in the process of legislative harmonisation;
- organising study visits, seminars, common conferences;
- scientific data and information exchange, within the limits imposed by Romania's quality of EU Member State and in accordance with the European norms in the field;
- common research;
- elaborating common programmes and projects;
- any other form of cooperation which is deemed necessary by the two parties.

In order to achieve the specific cooperation objectives, the Parties will give priority to ensuring the financing of the bilateral cooperation programmes and activities from funds that the EU made available for this purpose.

The cooperation between the Parties will be based on a constant information exchange, abiding by the European norms in the field, regarding EU matters through periodical consultations between the MEUA and MAEur homologues. This cooperation will also be based on a transfer of expertise through technical missions of the experts from the two countries.

A draft programme of visits, at expert level, of MEUA experts to Romania and of MAEur experts to the Republic of Turkey will be envisaged in order to contribute to the consolidation of the cooperation in the identified fields of interest.

MEUA and MAEur will facilitate the collaboration of line ministries and other interested institutions and organisms and will ensure the adequate framework for the exchanges of experiences between those institutions at the level of expert in European affairs.

Annually, MEUA and MAEur, in collaboration with the Ministries for Foreign Affairs from the two countries, will organise at least one seminar in the field of European affairs with the participation of the interested ministries in order to realise sectorial best practice exchanges.

Each Party, based on the national legislation in force, will render assistance to the representatives of the other party and will grant all the necessary facilities for the entire period during which they carry on the mission they have been given, in accordance with the provisions of this Memorandum.

ADMINISTRATION FRAMEWORK

The present Memorandum will be managed by the Ministry for European Union Affairs (MEUA), on behalf of the Government of the Republic of Turkey and the Ministry of European Affairs (MAEur), on behalf of the Government of Romania.

In order to ensure the efficient implementation of the present Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties will set up a Coordination Committee which will monitor and evaluate the enforcement of the present Memorandum. The Committee will be responsible for the evaluation of the ongoing cooperation, the elaboration of periodical

activities in the fields of common interest and, if necessary, the setting-up of new means of cooperation within this framework.

The members of the Coordination Committee will meet regularly, in the two countries alternately, on dates mutually agreed on.

The organization of the Coordination Committee will be set up as follows:

- the Parties will notify to each other, within 3 months from the signing date of the present Memorandum of Understanding, the names of the Coordination Committee representatives;
- two representatives one from each party will chair the meetings of the Coordination Committee during which they will monitor the implementation of the bilateral decisions.

FINAL PROVISIONS

The present Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of the receipt of the last written notification by which the Parties notify each other, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of their internal legal procedures required for the entry into force of the concerned document.

This Memorandum of Understanding shall remain in force for a period of 2 years. Unless one of the Parties notifies the other in writing through diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate the Memorandum of Understanding 6 months prior to its date of expiration, the validity of this Memorandum of Understanding shall be extended automatically for successive periods of 2 years.

The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not affect the activities and projects already in progress or executed.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be amended by mutualwritten consent of the Parties at any time. The amendments shall enter into force in accordance with the same legal procedure prescribed under paragraph one of this Article.

This Memorandum of Understanding is prepared in duplicate in Turkish Romanian and English languages all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

Signed on 4th of April 2012, in Bucharest.

On behalf of

The Government of the Republic of Turkey

Egemen BAĞIŞ

Minister for European Union Affairs and

Chief Negotiator

On behalf of

The Government of Romania

Leonard ORBAN

Minister of European Affairs