



MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

THE MINISTRY FOR THE NATIONAL HERITAGE, THE ARTS
AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT OF MALTA

AND

THE MINISTRY OF CULTURE, YOUTH AND SPORT OF REPUBLIC OF
KOSOVO

ON

CULTURAL COOPERATION

The Ministry for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government of Malta and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sport of Republic of Kosovo hereinafter referred to as the “Participants” and individually as a “Participant”,

AIMING to further develop and strengthen friendly relations and cooperation between the two countries and to promote mutual knowledge of the contemporary achievements and cultural heritage of each country;

BEING CONVINCED that such cooperation is a valuable tool to strengthen mutual understanding between the two countries, with the belief that cultural exchange encourages cooperation among communities, contributing to inclusive and peaceful communities, and desirous of developing cultural relations in all fields, including education and capacity building between the communities;

HEREBY CONFIRM their understanding and intentions as follows:

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Paragraph 1
Objective

This Memorandum of Understanding aims to broaden cooperation between competent institutions of the Participants in the field of culture and cultural heritage by implementing activities contributing to better knowledge of both countries, while respecting the rights and obligations contained under other international agreements by which they are bound and current national legislations of both Participants.

Paragraph 2
Cooperation

The Participants will support cooperation in all areas of culture and cultural heritage through development and implementation of cooperation programmes, cultural exchanges and direct cooperation between cultural institutions, organizations and individuals in both countries.

The Participants intend to cooperate, including by facilitating support, through different measures, inter alia, training, exchange of information, expertise and experiences, and counselling as well as in usage and transfer of know-how and best practices.

The Participants will encourage the joint programmes that aim to support the public cultural and cultural heritage institutions through capacity building programmes;

The Participants will encourage and facilitate the direct collaboration, contacts and professional exchange between institutions in the fields of arts, management of cultural and creative sectors and cultural heritage;

The Participants will particularly encourage cooperation in the field of protection, management and promotion of cultural heritage, between their respective institutions in charge of cultural heritage;

To that end, the Participants will promote cooperation between their respective institutions in for development and management of culture and creative sectors, including national theatres, music and dance, visual arts, performing arts, artistic education, creative industries, archives, libraries, museums, literature.

The Participants intend to join the resources for the implementation of cooperation programmes.



Paragraph 3
Development of Cultural and Creative sectors

The Participants will encourage the direct cooperation between national institutions and agencies for development of cultural and creative sectors.

In the area of development of cultural and creative sectors, the Participants intend to:

- a. Establish direct cooperation between the institutions and national agencies of the Participants, for enhancement of the cultural and creative sectors, respectively direct collaboration between Arts Council of Malta and Cultural Institutions of Kosovo;
- b. Establish professional exchange of experts in the management and development of cultural sectors, respectively to nurture and support development of professional activity, to build capacity of Public Cultural Organisations and independent cultural organisations, in both countries.

Paragraph 4
Music and Dance

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation in the fields of music and dance by exchanging information and mutual invitations to music, ballet and dance international events organized on their territory of their countries. The Participants will also encourage collaboration among professional dance institutions regarding the sharing of good practices especially with the aim of fostering emerging artists.

The Participants will encourage the presentation of the work of their composers in the other country as well as direct contacts between musicians (conductors, soloists, etc.), music schools, organizations, institutions, associations, orchestras in the areas of classical and contemporary music.

The Participants will strive to facilitate the exchange of musical artist and students between Music Schools in Malta and Kosovo, including:

- 1.1. Professional exchange between art students of Music schools of both countries;
- 1.2. Organisation of joint performances between Music school students of countries;
- 1.3. Promotion of cultures of both countries, through joint organisations and publications.



Paragraph 5 Cultural Heritage

The Participants will particularly encourage the cooperation in the field of protection, management and promotion of cultural heritage through development and implementation of specific cooperation programmes.

In the field of cultural heritage, the Participants intend to:

- 1.0 Establish professional exchange of experts in the field of management of cultural heritage. Professional exchange with the aim of capacity building of Kosovo staff, for enhancement of the condition of management of cultural heritage sites, including:
 - 1.1. Professional exchange between experts responsible for Implementing the Management Plan of City of Valletta in Malta and experts responsible for Implementing the Management Plan for Historic Centre in Prizren, Kosovo;
 - 1.2. Professional exchange in the conservation policy level for Cultural Heritage sites, with special attention: conservation and development of urban conservation areas and protective zoning.
 - 1.3. Presentation and promotion of the result through joint dedicated publications;
 - 1.4 Promote the joint organization of exhibitions, seminars, and workshops in museums, sites and conservation centers identified by the Ministry in their respective countries;
 - 1.5 Collaboration regarding conservation of cultural heritage and promote further bilateral interaction;
 - 1.6 Exchange of information, experience and expertise in the fields of cultural heritage;
 - 1.7 Promotion of direct training and potential staff exchange program to enhance interaction and create opportunities for learning and development;
 - 1.8 Supporting dissemination of information by way of attainable research projects identified by the respective Ministries;
 - 1.9 Exploring the possibility of organizing reciprocal lectures with the purpose of providing an insight on the progress and development of such partnership.

Paragraph 6 Cultural Diplomacy

The Participants will encourage direct cooperation in the field of cultural diplomacy, by supporting the organisation of Cultural Weeks of each country in their countries.



Paragraph 7
Other forms of cooperation

The Participants intend that this Memorandum of Understanding does not to exclude the possibility of other forms of cooperation which are not specified in this Memorandum but are in line with its objectives.

Paragraph 8
The joint commission

Aiming to realise the objectives of this, the Participants will establish a Joint commission in charge of implementing and coordinating cooperation in relation to the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Jointed commission will meet as decided, upon request by either of the Participants alternated between the Ministry for the National Heritage, the Arts and Local Government of Malta and the Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports of Republic of Kosovo.

Paragraph 9
Amendments

At the initiative and mutual written consent of the Participants, amendments can be made to this Memorandum and will shall form an integral part thereof.

Paragraph 10
Dispute Settlement

Any difference or dispute arising from or relating to the interpretation, implementation or application of any of the provisions of this Memorandum will be resolved amicably through consultation and negotiation through the established diplomatic channels between the Participants in good faith and on the basis of mutual respect without reference to any third party or international tribunal, organisation or forum.

Paragraph 11
Legal Status

The Participants intend to use their best efforts in good faith to work together to achieve the objectives of this Memorandum of Understanding.

The Participants acknowledge that this Memorandum of Understanding is non-binding. Each Participant accepts that this Memorandum of Understanding does not create rights or commitments for the Participants under international law.



Paragraph 12
Coming into effect, Duration and Termination

This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the date of signing and will remain in effect for a period of five (5) years.

The Memorandum of Understanding is concluded for five (5) year period and shall be automatically extended for further five (5) year periods, unless Contracting Participant notifies the other in writing, through diplomatic channels, of its intention to terminate it.

The termination of this Memorandum of Understanding shall not effect of the completion of any programme, project or activity that was invited within the framework of this Memorandum of Understanding prior to the data of its termination, unless the Participants decide otherwise.

Signed in Valletta on 17 January 2024 in two identical copies in English, both being equally valid.



**For the Ministry for the National Heritage,
the Arts and Local Government of the
Republic of Malta**

Kevin Mahoney
Permanent Secretary



**For the Ministry of Culture, Youth
and Sport of the Republic of Kosovo**

H.E. Lendita Haxhitasim
Ambassador