

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

BETWEEN

**THE MINISTRY OF LABOUR AND SOCIAL POLICY
OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA**

AND

**THE MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA**

in the areas of Labour, Employment and Social Policy

The Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Macedonia and the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Republic of Estonia (hereinafter referred to as "the Parties"),

On the basis of mutually expressed interest in developing of cooperation in the areas of labour, employment and social policy,

Recognizing the significance of the integration of the Republic of Macedonia in the European Union and with the wish to contribute to the development of friendly relations between the Parties,

With an intention to create significant contribution towards cooperation in the areas of labour, employment and social policy between both countries,

Have decided to cooperate in the areas of labour, employment and social policy and have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Both Parties shall exchange experience and information in the areas of labour, employment and social policy.

Article 2

The cooperation will be conducted in the following areas:

- Development and implementation of the employment policies;
- Policies, measures and activities in the area of labour;
- Development and implementation of policies and measures to tackle poverty and social exclusion, methods for monitoring indicators for success of undertaken measures aimed at reducing poverty and social exclusion;
- Protection of children's rights;
- Forms of care of children with special needs;
- Sharing expertise and experiences for strengthening of capacity building and administrative structure for successfully starting and running a membership

negotiations with the European Commission, notably on the chapters 3:19 Social policy and employment and 3:02 Free movement of workers;

- Social security system;
- Use of funds from the European Social Fund, with a focus on the following topics: programming of funds, the procedure of generating and defining projects, and presenting of concrete projects financed by the ESF in the area of employment and social inclusion, the mechanism of monitoring and control. Cooperation among different partners (ministries, employment services, local authorities, non-governmental sector) that are being involved in the process of programming and preparation of the projects;
- Protection at work;
- Safety management system at work;
- Safety standards at work in the construction sector;
- Accidents at work and their prevention;
- Strengthening of the tripartite approach in labour inspection of legal entities;
- Equal opportunities for women and men, economic independence and empowerment of women, gender-based violence, human trafficking;
- Gender budgeting;
- Implementation of EU acquis on gender equality.

Article 3

The cooperation shall take the following forms:

- Expert consultations;
- Participation of experts in conferences, seminars and other international events organized by both Parties;
- Exchange of legislative and professional documents, as well as other materials in the areas of labour, employment and social policy;
- Study visits by the staff of the two Parties;
- Elaboration and realisation of common projects in the field of labour, employment and social policy.

Article 4

Financing of the activities within the framework of this Memorandum shall be carried out from each Party's own budget funds. Each Party shall pay the costs for the stays of their participants on the territory of the state of other Party.

Working language of the actions under this Memorandum is English. Additional interpretation and translation costs shall be covered by the Party requiring specific language.

Article 5

This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signing.

This Memorandum shall be concluded for a period of three years.

Done in Tallinn on September 2, 2014 in two originals, each in English languages, all versions being equally authentic.

For the
Ministry of Labour and Social Policy
of the Republic of Macedonia

For the
Ministry of Social Affairs
of the Republic of Estonia

Minister
Dime Spasov



Minister,
Helmen Kütt



Minister,
Urmas Kruise

