

**PROTOCOL**  
**ON COOPERATION BETWEEN**  
**THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF MALTA**  
**AND**  
**THE MINISTRY OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

The Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria, hereinafter referred to as “the Signatories”,

Desiring to consolidate the friendly relations and understanding that have traditionally existed between the two countries,

Desiring to develop and strengthen their bilateral relations based on common interests, mutual understanding, and non-interference in the internal affairs of each other,

Mindful of the relevance of regular consultations on bilateral relations and on international issues of common concern,

Have agreed as follows:

**Article 1**

The Signatories will hold consultations on regular basis to examine all aspects of bilateral relations and to exchange views on regional and international issues of mutual interest, including the possibility of taking joint initiatives.

## Article 2

The consultations referred to in Article 1 shall take place alternatively in Malta and in the Republic of Bulgaria, with the Signatories determining the agenda, the level of representatives and the venue through diplomatic channels.

## Article 3

The bilateral consultations, with the agreement of both Signatories, shall cover political, economic, scientific, technological, cultural and other co-operation issues, particularly European Union issues and cooperation in the Mediterranean.

The consultations shall focus on:

- (a) examining the opportunities for a further expansion and deepening of mutually advantageous cooperation in the different spheres of bilateral relations, in accordance with the agreements concluded between the two countries;
- (b) a review of the implementation of the bilateral treaties and agreements and of the further expansion of the legal framework of bilateral relations through the updating of existing treaties and agreements in the various spheres as well as through the conclusion of new ones;
- (c) exchange of experience and advice on positions and issues concerning:
  - the Common Foreign and Security Policy {CFSP} and the Common European Security and Defence Policy {CESDP};
  - the introduction, application and development of positions on Community policies based on the *acquis communautaire*;
  - the coordination, at national level, on matters of organisation and operational aspects of the work and interrelations in the EU institutions;
- (d) issues of cooperation within the framework of the UN, the OSCE, the Council of Europe and other international and regional organisations and for a on topical issues of mutual interest, including reciprocal support for candidatures for international organisations;
- (e) exchange of views on the international situation, including the situation in the regions of the Mediterranean and of South-eastern Europe, regional conflicts questions of peace and security, the fight against international terrorism, other global issues and international issues of mutual interest;
- (f) considering other matters and problems of mutual interest to the Signatories.

## Article 4

The diplomatic missions of the Signatories in third countries, to the UN, to the European Union, to the OSCE, and other international organizations, as well as the delegations of the Signatories to international fora and conferences, shall maintain contacts and shall consult one another, where necessary, on issues of mutual interest.

## Article 5

The Signatories also agree to create favourable conditions for pursuit of direct contacts and to organise the exchange of public officials, experts and interns from their respective administrations. These exchanges shall be on a short-term basis and shall focus on areas identified under this Protocol. Such exchanges shall be made once yearly or at the request of either Signatory and shall be operated in a manner to be mutually established through diplomatic channels.

## Article 6

Both Signatories shall facilitate the pursuit of sustained cooperation between the Mediterranean Academy of Diplomatic Studies of Malta and the Diplomatic Institute with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria in the training and education of diplomatic personnel and in scientific research.

## Article 7

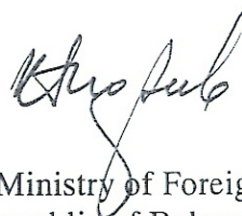
This Protocol may be amended and supplemented by mutual agreement of the Signatories.

This Protocol will become effective on the date of its signing and will remain effective for a period of three years. Thereafter, the term of validity shall be automatically renewed for further successive periods of two years, unless either Signatory notifies the other in writing, three months in advance, of its intention to denounce the Protocol.

Signed in *Valletta, Malta* on the *21<sup>st</sup>* day of *October* 2009 in two originals, each in English and Bulgarian languages, both texts being equally authentic.



For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of Malta



For the Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of the Republic of Bulgaria

**THE MINISTER OF FOREIGN AFFAIRS  
OF  
THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA**

CERTIFIES HEREBY THAT

**KONSTANTIN ANDREEV**  
**Permanent Secretary of**  
**the Ministry of Foreign Affairs**

is authorized to sign a Protocol on Cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta.

Sofia, 15<sup>th</sup> October 2009



**For the MINISTER : sgd/ MILEN LYUTSKANOV**  
**Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs**

Verified translation:

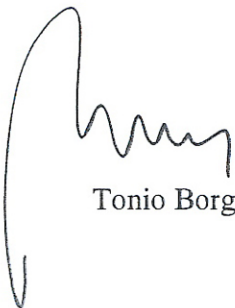


*Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Malta*

I, **TONIO BORG**, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Malta,

**HEREBY AUTHORIZE**, Ambassador Cecilia Attard Pirotta, Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, to sign on behalf of the Government of Malta, the Protocol on Cooperation between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Malta and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Bulgaria.

**IN WITNESS WHEREOF** I have signed and sealed these presents at Valletta, this *13<sup>th</sup>* day of *October*, Two Thousand and Nine.

  
Tonio Borg

