



**A G R E E M E N T**

**B E T W E E N**

**T H E G O V E R N M E N T  
O F M A L T A**

**A N D**

**T H E G O V E R N M E N T  
O F T H E H E L L E N I C R E P U B L I C**

**O N C O O P E R A T I O N B E T W E E N**

**T H E M I N I S T R Y O F H O M E A F F A I R S  
O F M A L T A**

**A N D**

**T H E M I N I S T R Y O F P U B L I C O R D E R  
O F T H E H E L L E N I C R E P U B L I C**

**O N M A T T E R S O F T H E I R C O M P E T E N C E**

The Government of Malta and the Government of the Hellenic Republic, hereafter called "the Parties", expressing their willingness to strengthen and improve the already existing friendly and cooperative relations between the two States,

expressing their concerns about the danger of spreading of international organized crime, international illicit trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances and international terrorism,

respecting the international agreements and legislation existing on both States and without prejudice to their previous commitments, based on bilateral and multilateral agreements with third countries the Parties agree on the following:

## ARTICLE 1

The Parties shall cooperate and provide mutual assistance on the following fields:

- a) Fighting against international terrorism.
- b) Fighting against organized crime.
- c) Fighting against illicit production, consumption and trafficking in narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances.
- d) Fighting against illicit activities concerning weapons, including biological, chemical and radiological weapons, ammunition, explosives, nuclear material and radioactive and poisonous substances.
- e) Fighting against smuggling and international illegal economic activities and legalization of proceeds (money laundering) coming from criminal activities, as well as detection, prevention, suppression and investigation of the suspect economical exchanges.
- f) Fighting against slave-trading, illegal immigration, illegal trade of human beings.
- g) Fighting against forgery and counterfeiting of any kind of identity documents.
- h) Fighting against counterfeiting and forgery of banknotes, credit cards, documents, securities and other values.
- i) Fighting crime against human life, health, freedom, dignity, ethos and also against property.
- j) Search of disappeared persons who have committed crimes within the territory of the other Party, as well as, the identification of corpses.
- k) Fighting against illicit trafficking of works of historical and cultural inheritance, valuable stones and metals, as well as other valuable items.

- l) Improving methods and means of maintaining and restoring public order and handling crisis situations.
- m) Training and education of police personnel.
- n) Cooperation in cultural, sport and social fields through the exchange of police delegations.

The Parties shall cooperate in other areas concerning the control of criminality in general, the prevention of crime and the maintenance of public order, if there is mutual interest.

## ARTICLE 2

The cooperation between the two Parties on the above mentioned fields in the Article 1 will be achieved through:

- a) Exchange of information and experiences on fields of common interest.
- b) Exchange of experiences on utilizing criminal technology as well as methods and means for criminal researching.
- c) Exchange of information, knowledge and experiences on the field of border controls as well as material and technical support of the passport control services in order to detect forged travel documents and to prevent illegal entry and illicit immigration.
- d) Exchange of information helping prevention of the organized crime in general.
- e) Exchange of information, experiences and assistance on new methods used for production of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances, their international trafficking, concealment and distribution, as well as the new methods to combat them, which are mentioned in the paragraph (e) of the above Article 1, in accordance with the Single Convention on Narcotic Drugs of 1961, as it was amended by the Amendment Protocol in 1972, the Convention on Psychotropic Substances of 1971 and the 1988 United Nations Convention against illicit trafficking in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances.
- f) Exchange of brochures, publications and results of scientific researches on fields covered by this Agreement, through organizing and taking measures of common interest.

## ARTICLE 3

In order to improve the effectiveness of the cooperation, the Parties shall hold meetings of experts within the framework of their competence, whenever both agree that it is necessary

to deal with urgent and special matters, such as the mass flow of illicit immigrants, systematic trafficking in narcotic drugs and weapons and other forms of organized crime.

#### **ARTICLE 4**

The Parties assume the obligation to cooperate in the combat against illicit immigration.

Within this framework, they shall readmit the persons who illegally cross the borders of one of the Parties, coming from the territory of the other Party.

Until an agreement of Readmission is concluded, the Parties shall readmit the persons who reside illegally in the territory of the other Party, on the grounds of representative data which proves the illicit immigration or the exceeding of their legal residence.

For the readmission of the said persons, the respective Diplomatic Missions of the two Parties will issue immediately, after the request of one of the Parties, the required travelling documents for the readmission, after having been notified for this reason at least 5 days in advance.

#### **ARTICLE 5**

The Parties shall communicate mutually, through diplomatic channels, specimens of new travel documents, seals and types of visas, in order to prevent and combat the illegal crossing of borders.

#### **ARTICLE 6**

1. Either Party may totally or partially deny the cooperation in such cases, which could put in danger its national sovereignty, its security or its national interests or it is contrary to its national legislation.

The denial of cooperation is served in writing to the other Party without delay.

2. The implementation of this Agreement is subject to the national legislation of each Party.
3. Neither Party may make public or transfer to a third country any confidential information, unless it receives the other Party's consent.
4. For the direct cooperation in the implementation of this Agreement, the Parties shall exchange a list containing the authorized bodies responsible for communication and co-operation.

The responsible bodies are:

**For Malta :**

The Malta Police Force

**For the Hellenic Republic :**

The International Police Cooperation Division of the Ministry of Public Order.

**ARTICLE 7**

1. The Parties shall set up a Coordination Committee, responsible for the implementation of the Agreement, which shall be chaired by the Minister for Home Affairs for Malta and by the Minister of Public Order for the Hellenic Republic, or their representatives of the two Ministries, with participation of experts.

Representatives of other Ministries could attend the meetings of this Committee, if it is necessary.

2. The Coordination Committee shall be met in periods determined through consultations, alternately, in Greece and in Malta. The languages which will be used during the cooperation according to this Agreement will be the English and Greek languages.

**ARTICLE 8**

This Agreement does not affect the rights and obligations arising from other international agreements binding upon the Parties.

**ARTICLE 9**

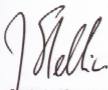
1. The present Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period. This Agreement may be modified through a common accord on the part of both Parties and any such modification shall enter into force according to the provisions of Article 10.
2. This Agreement may be terminated by either of the Parties upon a 30 days advance written notice for this purpose communicated to the other Party.
3. Either Party could, for reasons of national security, internal order or public health, suspend totally or partially the implementation of this Agreement. This suspension and its termination shall be communicated to the other Party, whenever, through diplomatic channels.

## ARTICLE 10

This Agreement shall enter into force within 30 days from the date of the exchange of the documents of its ratification, in accordance with the national legislation of each Party.

Done in two original copies, each in the English and Greek languages, all texts being equally authentic. In case of any disagreement concerning the interpretation of the text of this Agreement, the English text will prevail.

Signed at *Valletta* on *24 May 2001*



On behalf  
of the Government  
of Malta



On behalf  
of the Government  
of the Hellenic Republic