#### **AGREEMENT**

# BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITALIAN REPUBLIC

## AND THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

ON COOPERATION IN
THE FIELD OF DEFENCE

The Government of the Italian Republic and the Government of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter referred to as "Parties"),

taking into account the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations.

desiring to contribute to peace and security in the world,

acting in the spirit of partnership and cooperation with a wish to develop good relations in the field of defence, in order to enhance mutual esteem, confidence and understanding,

have agreed as follows:

#### Article 1 DEFINITIONS

The terms to be used in this Agreement have the following meanings:

- 1. Sending Party means the State that sends personnel, assets and equipment to the territory of the Receiving Party;
- 2. Receiving Party means the State on whose territory the personnel, assets and equipment of the Sending Party are present;
- 3. Personnel means military personnel and civilians employed within the institutions and authorities of the Parties.

#### Article 2 PRINCIPLES AND PURPOSE

- 1. Cooperation between the Parties, ruled by the principles of equality, reciprocity and mutual interest, will be carried out in conformity with the respective national legislations of the States of the Parties and international law, as well as obligations of the Italian Party ensuing from its membership of the European Union and obligations of the Parties ensuing from their membership of the international organisations.
- 2. The purpose of this Agreement is to establish areas and forms of cooperation, general principles and procedures for cooperation of the Parties in the field of defence.

#### Article 3 GENERAL COOPERATION

- 1. On the basis of this Agreement, Competent Authorities of the Parties will develop long-term and annual bilateral plans of cooperation, specifying activities, time and venue, responsible authorities, number of participants and other issues regarding organisation and implementation of the plans.
- 2. For the purpose of implementation of this Agreement, the Competent Authorities of the Parties may conclude specific arrangements.
- 3. The Competent Authorities in charge of the implementation of this Agreement are

the Ministry of Defence of the Italian Republic for the Government of the Italian Republic and the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Serbia for the Government of the Republic of Serbia.

4. Possible consultations of the Parties' representatives will be conducted alternatively in the Italian Republic and the Republic of Serbia in order to draw up and agree, if advisable and subject to bilateral approval, possible specific arrangements to supplement and complete this Agreement, as well as possible cooperation programmes between the Italian Armed Forces and the Armed Forces of Serbia.

#### Article 4 AREAS OF COOPERATION

The Parties shall cooperate in the following areas:

- 1) defence and security policy;
- 2) research and development of arms and military equipment;
- 3) procurement of defence products and services;
- 4) logistic support;
- 5) peace support operations (PSO) and Humanitarian Operations;
- 6) defence industry, exchange and transit of military materials and equipment;
- 7) Armed Forces organization, structure, acquisition and management of the Armed Forces, administration and human resources management;
- 8) environmental protection and control of pollution caused by military activities;
- 9) military education and training;
- 10) military police;
- 11) military medicine;
- 12) military culture and history;
- 13) military sports and
- 14) other areas of mutual interest, agreed upon by the Parties or their Competent Authorities.

### Article 5 FORMS OF COOPERATION

The Parties will cooperate through the following forms:

- 1) meetings of the Ministers of Defence, Chiefs of Defence, their Deputies and other authorised representatives;
- 2) exchange of experiences between experts of the Parties;
- 3) talks, consultations, meetings and participation in symposia, conferences, seminars and courses;
- 4) organisation and conducting of training and military exercises;
- 5) exchange of observers in military exercises;
- 6) participation in peacekeeping and humanitarian operations;
- 7) visits to military units;
- 8) exchange of cultural and sporting activities and
- 9) other military areas that may be of mutual interest to the Parties or their Competent Authorities.

### Article 6 CO-OPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DEFENCE MATERIALS

- 1. In accordance with their respective national laws and in order to regulate activities relating to arms and military equipment, the Parties agree on possible cooperation in the following categories of armaments:
  - 1) ships and related equipment for military use;
  - 2) military aircrafts and helicopters and related equipment;
  - 3) tanks and vehicles for military use;
  - 4) automatic firearms and associated ammunition:
  - 5) medium and large-calibre weapons and associated ammunition;
  - 6) bombs, mines (excluding anti-personnel mines), rocket missiles, torpedoes and associated monitoring equipment;
  - 7) gunpowder, explosives and propellants for military use;
  - 8) electronic, electro-optical and photographic systems and related equipment for military use;
  - 9) especially manufactured armoured technical materials;
  - 10) specific materials for military training;
  - 11) machines and equipment designed for manufacturing, testing and monitoring weapons and ammunition and
  - 12) special equipment manufactured for military use.
- 2. Joint procurement of materials of interest of the respective Armed Forces will take place in accordance with this Agreement and can be implemented either through direct State-to-State operations or through companies authorized by the Parties.
- 3. The importing Party undertakes not to re-export the acquired material to third party without the previous written consent by the exporting Party.

## Article 7 FINANCIAL MATTERS

- 1. Each Party shall be responsible for its own expenses incurred during the implementation of this Agreement, including:
  - 1) travel, food and accommodation expenses, salaries, health and accident insurance and any other allowance due to its own personnel under its regulations;
  - 2) medical and dental expenses, as well as those due to the evacuation of its own sick, injured or deceased personnel.
- 2. The Receiving Party shall provide free emergency treatment for the personnel of the Sending Party, as necessary, while they are on its territory.
- 3. All activities carried out under this Agreement shall be subject to the availability of funds of the Parties.

#### Article 8 COMPENSATION FOR DAMAGES

- 1. Compensation for any damage caused to the Receiving Party, by a member of the Sending Party during the mission/exercise and other areas of cooperation under this Agreement will be indemnified by the Sending Party.
- 2. If the Parties are jointly responsible for any loss or damage caused during or in connection to the activities under this Agreement, including any loss or damage caused to a third party, the Parties shall, by mutual agreement, reimburse that loss or damage.

#### Article 9 INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY

The Parties undertake to implement the necessary procedures for the protection of the intellectual property stemming from the initiatives carried out pursuant to this Agreement, according to the national legislations of the Parties' states and to international agreements in this area signed by the Parties.

#### A.rticle 10 SETTLEMENT OF DISPUTES

Any potential dispute arising from the interpretation or implementation of this Agreement shall be resolved exclusively by consultations and negotiations between the Parties, through the diplomatic channels, without mediation of a third party.

#### Article 11 ENTRY INTO FORCE

- 1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receiving the second of the two notifications by which the Parties have notified each other in writing through the diplomatic channel that they have completed their respective national requirements for the entry into force of this Agreement.
- 2. This Agreement, once it enters into force, shall replace the Agreement on Defence cooperation between the Government of the Italian Republic and the Council of Ministers of Serbia and Montenegro, signed in Rome on 19 November 2003.

### Article 12 AMENDMENTS

- 1. This Agreement may be amended by mutual written consent of the Parties.
- 2. The amendments shall enter into force as specified in Article 11 paragraph 1 of this Agreement.

#### Article 13 **DURATION AND TERMINATION**

- This Agreement is concluded for an indefinite period of time and will remain in force until the Parties, or one of them, decide to terminate it.
- Either Party may terminate this Agreement at any time by a written notification to the other Party. In that case the Agreement is terminated ninety (90) days after the receipt of such a written notification, through the diplomatic channels.
- 3. In case of termination of this Agreement, all the activities initiated in the period when this Agreement was in force shall be carried out under the same conditions that were applied when the activities were initiated, unless otherwise decided by the Parties.

IN WHITNESS WHEREOF, the undersigned, being duly authorized thereto by their respective Governments, have signed this Agreement.

41440.....on Me. detta his .....2013, in two originals, each in Italian, Serbian and English languages. In case of discrepancies in the interpretation of this Agreement, the English text shall prevail.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE ITAZIAN REPUBLIC

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SERBIA

LAVORI PREPARATORI

Camera dei deputati (atto n. 1541):

Presentato dal Ministro degli affari esteri e cooperazione internazionale (Enzo Moavero Milanesi) e dal Ministro della difesa (Elisabetta Trenta) (Governo Conte-I) il 24 gennaio 2019.

Assegnato alla III commissione (affari esteri e comunitari), in sede referente, il 1º marzo 2019, con pareri delle commissioni I (affari costituzionali), II (giustizia), IV (difesa), V (bilancio) e X (attività produttive).

Esaminato dalla III commissione, in sede referente, il 12 marzo 2019 ed il 9 aprile 2019.

Esaminato in aula il 15 aprile ed approvato il 30 aprile 2019.

Senato della Repubblica (atto n. 1263):

Assegnato alla 3ª commissione (affari esteri, emigrazione), in sede referente, l'8 maggio 2019, con pareri delle commissioni 1ª (affari costituzionali), 2ª (giustizia), 4ª (difesa), 5ª (bilancio) e 10ª (industria).

Esaminato dalla 3<sup>a</sup> commissione, in sede referente, il 3 luglio 2019 e l'8 ottobre 2019.

Esaminato in aula ed approvato il 30 ottobre 2019.

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