



# **Preliminary Partner Agreement Towards a Local Democracy Agency Kosovo - based in Peja/Pec**

**02/08/2010**

The following subjects:

Local authorities:

- Region Istria (Croatia) with seat in.....in the person of
- Municipalities of Yalova (Turkey) with seat in Yalova in the person of Mr. Hasan Soyguzel, General Secretary
- Municipality of Peja/Pec (Kosovo) with seat in Peja/Pec in the person of
- Association of Municipalities of Kosovo – AMK (Kosovo) with seat in Prishtina in the person of Liridona Ponosheci

NGOs:

- Tavolo Trentino con il Kossovo (Kosovo and Italy) with seat in Trento and in Peja/Pec in the person of Mauro Cereghini, President
- Reggio Terzo Mondo (Kosovo and Italy) with seat in Klina/Kliine in the person of Monica Incerti Telani, Country Representative
- AIBI, Amici dei Bambini (Kosovo and Italy) with seat in Pristina/Prishtine in the person of Mara Bernasconi, desk officer Balkan Area
- Alfa Formation (France) with seat in Vernon in the person of Drita Jetishi

hereinafter named the parties,

***Within the laws of belonging Countries, the Parties agree to enter in the following***

## **PRELIMINARY PARTNER AGREEMENT**

### **Introduction**

The following articles aim at defining principles and methodology of actions that should be common ground for the process towards the opening of a Local Democracy Agency Kosovo based in Peja/Pec, underlining the importance of dialogue and agreement in the participatory democracy process and in international cooperation.



In the following 12 months from the signature of the present agreement the activities of the partners will be mainly focused on this objective. After this period, a final official agreement will be signed for the setting of the LDA, the appointing of the official delegate, the setting of the partnership and the cooperation fields of next years, and the definition of a comprehensive working plan.

#### ARTICLE 1

##### ***Temporary Objectives of the Local Democracy Agency Kosovo based in Peja/Pec***

- a) To develop and strengthen the relationships of cooperation among communities, cross-border, transnational and interregional cooperation toward a permanent relationship among the partners and the Municipalities of Kosovo, in particular the ones of the region of Peja/Pec;
- b) To promote and strengthen local democracy, human rights, equal opportunities, active citizenship and exchange of best practices also in accordance with the legislation and standards of the Council of Europe;
- c) To foster peaceful co-existence and the development of civil society through mutual acquaintance and understanding, dealing with conflict elaboration and transformation among communities in Kosovo, in the Balkans and in the partners' territories;
- d) To commit itself to a pluralistic, multicultural and multi-religious society also throughout the development of unbiased and pluralistic information;
- e) To foster the development of a European perspective for Kosovo and the Balkans.
- f) To provide capacity building assistance to the local communities, including both local authorities and CSOs.

#### ARTICLE 2

##### ***Temporary fields of action of the Local Democracy Agency Kosovo based in Peja/Pec***

- a) Local Democracy and European integration
- b) Culture, Youth and Equal opportunities
- c) Promoting dialogue among communities
- d) Support to the LDAs partners
- e) Local Economic Development
- f) Other matters can be raised and added with the agreement of the partners

#### ARTICLE 3

##### ***The Parties commit themselves to***

- a) To work on mutual knowledge and shared construction of a common vision for the long term agreement for the LDA Kosovo based in Peja/Pec, to be fixed in a final agreement and a working plan by 12 month by this preliminary document;
- b) To cooperate with the Council of Europe, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe and the Association of Local Democracy Agencies;





- c) To promote participative processes in the involvement of belonging communities in the LDA's activities, for a broader and signification cooperation among them.
- d) To appoint a temporary partner leader in the European network for the LDA, and to set up a working group, acting as LDA board of director, with a participant from each party to proceed for the final agreement for the LDA Kosovo based in Peja/Pec in 2011;
- e) To appoint an acting Delegate of the LDA, whose application should be ratified by the LDA board of directors. He/she who will stay in charge until the appointing of the official delegate at the end of the process of 12 months from the signature of the present document;
- f) To support with a budget, contributions in kind and voluntary work the functioning of the acting Delegate, the LDA temporary office, LDA's activities and the working group towards the opening of LDA for the period of the first 12 months (August 2010- July 2011)
- g) To select and to hire the colleagues of the acting Delegate if any.
- h) To organize delegations of local administration and NGOs from local partner to foster and develop links with Peja/Pec Region and to reinforce mutual exchanges among the European network itself;
- i) To appoint a contact person in their administration in charge for communication, planning, monitoring and evaluation of the activities, promoting the respect and the implementation of the Agreement.

#### ARTICLE 4

##### **The Municipality of Peja/Pec, hosting city of the LDA commits itself to**

- a) To produce by municipal regulations of the Municipality Council the accession to the future LDA and the satisfaction for the person appointed as acting Delegate of the LDA, legitimize his/her welcoming in the regional territory, and for all what agreed also at regional and national level
- b) To appoint the Mayor or a person delegated by him/her to take care of the relationship with the the partners' network and the Acting delegate.
- c) To guarantee the free of charge hosting of the LDA in a space with neutrality and free access by all citizens
- d) To guarantee the dissemination and the access to them of the LDA's activities by the representative of all the communities ;
- e) To activate all the local institutions (municipality offices, schools, social services, public firm, etc) and the local NGOs in the process of setting up the LDA

#### ARTICLE 5

This partners' agreement will be legally binding from the date of partners' signature and will stay in force 12 months.

This partners' agreement can be modified or integrated only with common agreement following the request made by one of the partners.

#### ARTICLE 6



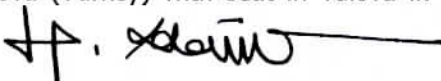

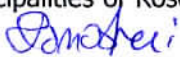
This partners' agreement, including the preamble, has been produced in 3 copies in English only.

ARTICLE 7



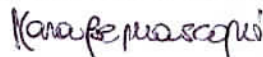

In the event of a fundamental disagreement or problem, the Parties agree to solve the issue throughout a *Working group set up ad hoc*.

Peja/Pec, .2010

**Signatures**

- Municipalities of Yalova (Turkey) with seat in Yalova in the person of Mr. Hasan Soyguzel, General Secretary 
- Municipality of Peja/Pec (Kosovo) with seat in Peja/Pec in the person of 
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- Alfa Formation (France) with seat in Vernon in the person of Drita Jetishi 

The versions in Italian, Albanian, French and Turk will follow.



**Witnesses :**

**ALDA. Lucio GREGORETTI, Member of the Governing Board**

**Congress of the Council of Europe, Günter KRUG, Vice President**