EASTERN PARTNERSHIP
CIVIL SOCIETY FORUM
GEORGIAN NATIONAL PLATFORM

KARTLOSI

Memorandum of Cooperation

Gori **August 2018**

I General Part

The Mayor of Gori Municipality Konstantine Tavzarashvili, of the one part, and **Natia Kuprashvili, Chairwoman of the Georgian National Platform (GNP) of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF)** and **Megi Bibiluri, Head of the Association Bridge of Friendship "Kartlosi"**, of the other part, have agreed to sign this Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC). The purpose of this Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) is to ensure cooperation between Gori Municipality City Hall and the civil society to facilitate the process of Georgia's integration into the European Union pursuant to Article 372 of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, which envisages "establishing channels of communication and enhancing exchange of information and experience between national and local authorities, socio-economic actors and civil society".

II Scope of Cooperation

The parties hereby agree that it is crucial to raise public awareness about EU integration process in the Gori Municipality, to ensure the involvement of the civil sector in the implementation of the Action Plan for the EU-Georgia Association Agreement, to enhance the harmonization of the

Georgian legislation with the EU law, regional development, cooperation at the regional level and civic participation in decision-making process at the local level.

III Cooperation between the Parties

Cooperation between the parties includes the following:

1. Promotion of the EU integration process among employees of non-governmental organizations (NGOs) operating in the Gori Municipality, local self-government bodies, public service, business and other non-budgetary area, youth and the general population, commitments assumed by Georgia under the EU-Georgia Association Agreement and public awareness about the tasks related to Georgia's European way development goals.
2. Enhancement of the participation of civil society organizations, members of the Georgian National Platform in the preparation and implementation of those decisions of the Gori Municipality that are related to the commitments assumed by Georgia under the EU-Georgia Association Agreement and related tasks.
3. Facilitation of the monitoring ensured by the Georgian National Platform member orgnizations through timely delivery of relevant information, open and transparent dialogue with the national and local governments and implementation of other relevant activities.
4. Joint cooperation in terms of regional economic development, including tourism, education, cultural heritage preservation and with international organizations operating in the region, among them to enhance relations with the European Economic and Social Committee (EESC) and the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) to promote democracy and decentralization.
5. Enhancement of the participation of NGOs in determining human rights, environmental, promotion of people-to-people contacts, priority social programs and projects at the local level and enhancement of the participation of the civil society/regional representation in drafting and reviewing the municipal budget.
6. Within the competence, ensure joint organization and implementation of internships and trainings in cooperation for advocacy and lobbying and conduction of active public campaigns to promote institutional capacity development of employees of non-governmental and governmental sectors.

IV Mechanisms for Cooperation

1. The parties to this Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) shall cooperate within planned and future projects;
2. They shall design formats of cooperation in accordance with paragraphs 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 6 of Article 3, Cooperation between the Parties, within which the authorized representatives of the parties will meet periodically and discuss the topical issues, draw joint conclusions and develop recommendations, action plans, etc. based on the goals of the MoC.
3. The Parties shall enhance their cooperation pursuant to Article 372 of the EU-Georgia Association Agreement to implement the following key activities:
    - Hold working meetings on projects/issues to be discussed in the municipality at least once every 6 months;
    - Send a draft budget to the Bridge of Friendship Kartlosi, Regional Representation of the Georgian National Platform for review within 1 month prior to the submission to the Local Council (Sakrebulo) for approval;
    - Provision of written feedback regarding comments and recommendations ensured by the City Hall within 1 week of the receipt of comments and recommendations;
    - Invite representatives of the Bridge of Friendship Kartlosi to oral discussions of proposals;
4. The Georgian National Platform and the Association Bridge of Friendship "Kartlosi" shall make their efforts to obtain financing from national and international organizations and funds, encourage business and other actors to co-finance and participate in development projects.

V Final Part

This MoC shall be considered as a declaration of cooperation. No amendment or modification of this MoC shall be binding unless it is in writing and signed by the parties. The MoC shall be effective for 2 (two) years that will be automatically extended for the same period, unless either party gives the other party written notice of the intent not to extend the MoC at least one (1) month prior to the expiry of the deadline.

The MoC has been executed in Georgian in three original copies, each having equal legal force. It expresses the intent of the parties confirmed by seal and signatures.

The MoC was signed by the Parties in Gori on August 22 2018.

Konstantine Tavzarashvili
Mayor of Gori Municipality

Natia Kuprashvili
Chairwoman of the Georgian National Platform (GNP) of the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum (EaP CSF)

Megi Bibiluri
Head of the Association Bridge of Friendship Kartlosi