



РЕПУБЛИКА СЕВЕРНА МАКЕДОНИЈА
МИНИСТЕРСТВО ЗА ЕНЕРГЕТИКА, РУДАРСТВО
И МИНЕРАЛНИ СУРОВИНИ
REPUBLIKA E MAQEDONISE SE VERIUT
Ministria e Energjise, Minerave dhe
Bunmeve Minerale
Бр. Nr. 02-10276/1
29-07-2026 20 рад. вт
Скопје-Шkup



MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

between

The Ministry of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources of the Republic of North Macedonia

represented by: Ms. Sanja Bozhinovska, Minister

and

New Third Way

represented by: Mr. Dimitrije Milić, Program Director

Article 1

Purpose

This Memorandum of Cooperation ("Memorandum") establishes a framework for cooperation between the Ministry of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources of the Republic of North Macedonia ("the Ministry") and „New Third Way“ ("NTW") in regard to providing independent expert support for the review of the Draft Law on Geology and the Draft Law on Mining.

The cooperation shall be implemented by „New Third Way“ with the support of Open Society Foundations – Western Balkans (OSF-WB).

Article 2

Objectives

The objective of this Memorandum is to contribute to the development of high-quality, modern and harmonized legislative solutions in line with European standards by providing independent expert support, based on internationally recognized good practices, relevant legal standards and technical expertise.

Article 3

Areas of Cooperation

Within the framework of this Memorandum, the Parties will cooperate in the following activities:

- Review of the Draft Law on Geology;
- Review of the Draft Law on Mining;
- Preparation of written expert opinions, analyses and recommendations;
- Conducting comparative analyses of international legislative and regulatory practices;
- Technical consultations and working meetings with representatives of the Ministry;
- Exchange of information and documentation necessary for the implementation of this Memorandum.

Supported by Open Society Foundations – Western Balkans (OSF-WB)

Article 4

Expert Team

„New Third Way“ shall coordinate the work of an independent international expert team implementing expert support in the process of review of the legislative proposals.

The expert team is expected to include:

- one expert nominated by the Initiative for Responsible Mining Assurance (IRMA);
- one expert from the Faculty of Mining, Geology and Petroleum Engineering, University of Zagreb;
- additional experts engaged by „New Third Way“, where necessary.

The experts will work independently, objectively and in accordance with the highest professional standards.

Article 5

Responsibilities of the Ministry

The Ministry undertakes to:

- provide draft laws and relevant supporting documentation;
- facilitate communication with relevant departments and officials;
- organize consultations and working meetings with the expert team when necessary;
- review the recommendations, and, at its sole discretion, decide whether and to what extent to take them into account.

Article 6

Responsibilities of „New Third Way“

„New Third Way“ shall:

- coordinate the work of the international expert team;
- organize the process of expert review of the legislative texts;
- prepare and submit expert opinions, analyses and recommendations within the agreed deadlines;
- ensure regular communication and coordination with the Ministry throughout the implementation of this Memorandum.

Article 7

Independence

The Parties confirm that all expert opinions, analyses and recommendations prepared under this Memorandum shall be developed independently, objectively, impartially and in accordance with internationally recognized professional standards and best practices.

Article 8

Financial Arrangements

This Memorandum does not create any financial obligations between the Ministry and „New Third Way“.

Supported by Open Society Foundations – Western Balkans (OSF-WB)

The activities carried out by „New Third Way“ under this Memorandum, including the engagement and the honoraria of the experts, are financed by Open Society Foundations – Western Balkans (OSF-WB). All financial arrangements related to this support shall be governed solely between „New Third Way“ and OSF-WB and shall not create any financial obligations for the Ministry.

Article 9

Confidentiality

The Parties undertake to treat as confidential all information and documentation that is not publicly available, exchanged in connection with the implementation of this Memorandum, except where disclosure is required under applicable law or where the Parties otherwise agree in writing.

Article 10

Duration and Termination

This Memorandum shall enter into force on the date of its signature by both Parties and shall remain in force until the completion of the activities envisaged herein, unless terminated earlier by mutual written consent by both Parties.

Either Party may terminate this Memorandum by written notice delivered to the other Party.

Article 11

Final Provisions

This Memorandum reflects the mutual intention of the Parties to cooperate based on the principles of good faith, mutual trust and professionalism and does not create legally binding rights and obligations.

Any amendments or supplements to this Memorandum shall be made in writing through an Annex and shall enter into force upon mutual acceptance by both Parties.

Nothing in this Memorandum shall be construed as creating a partnership, joint venture, agency relationship or any other legal relationship between the Parties, nor as obligation for concluding any future agreement.

This Memorandum is executed in two (2) original copies in the English language, each Party retaining one (1) original.

For the Ministry of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources of the Republic of North Macedonia

Ms. Sanja Bozhinovska

Minister

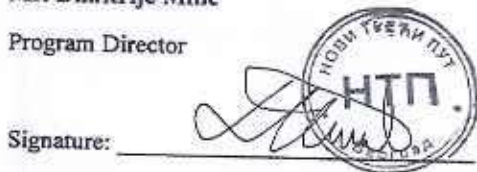


Signature: _____

For „New Third Way“

Mr. Dimitrije Milić

Program Director



Signature: _____

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