

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON COOPERATION IN THE
ENERGY SECTOR**

РЕПУБЛИКА СЕВЕРНА МАКЕДОНИЈА
Министерство за енергетика, рударство
REPUBLICA E MAqedonise SE VERIUT
Ministria e Energjisë, Minerave dhe
Burimeve Minerale

BETWEEN

**THE MINISTRY OF ENERGY, MINING AND MINERAL RESOURCES
OF THE REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA**

Бр. Nr 02-8636/1
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AND

THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF CROATIA

Preamble

The Ministry of Energy, Mining and Mineral Resources of the Republic of North Macedonia and the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Croatia (hereinafter referred to as “the Participants”),

- Reaffirming the friendly relations and long-standing cooperation between the Republic of North Macedonia and the Republic of Croatia;
- Recognizing Croatia’s experience as a member state of the European Union and North Macedonia’s strategic commitment to join European Union;
- Acknowledging the importance of energy security, diversification, market integration, and the green transition as key factors for sustainable development;
- Guided by the principles of mutual respect, reciprocity, and shared regional interests;
- Recalling obligations under the Energy Community Treaty (Council Decision 2006/500/EC of 29 May 2006 on the conclusion by the European Community of the Energy Community Treaty) and the importance of progressive alignment with the EU energy acquis;

Have come to the following understanding:

Article 1

Objective

The objective of this Memorandum of Understanding on cooperation in the energy sector (hereinafter referred to as “MoU”) is to establish a framework for enhanced possible cooperation between the Participants in the energy sector, focusing on:

- Strengthening energy security and regional interconnections;
- Advancing the integration of renewable energy sources and the transition toward low-carbon systems;
- Electricity market integration and regulatory convergence with EU rules;
- Supporting institutional capacity building, knowledge exchange, and joint initiatives.

Article 2

Areas of Cooperation

The Participants agree to cooperate in the following priority areas and will consider the possibility of undertaking joint activities when possible:

1. Electricity Markets and Interconnections

- Exchange experience in electricity market design, market coupling, and integration with the EU internal energy market.
- Support potential cooperation between stakeholders from North Macedonia and Croatia in scope of Transmission Systems, Distribution Systems and energy regulation in line with EU and ENTSO-E, E.DSO and ACER standards.
- Explore opportunities for cooperation in the development of the electricity market.
- Support regional efforts to strengthen and expand cross-border transmission infrastructure.

2. Renewable Energy and Energy Transition

- Exchange best practices on integrating large-scale renewable generation, including balancing, flexibility, and system stability.
- Promote cooperation in areas such as energy storage, hydrogen technologies, smart grids, and digitalization.
- Jointly explore opportunities for EU-funded regional projects in the green transition.

3. Energy Efficiency and Just Transition

- Share experience on national energy efficiency policies, building renovation programs, and financial mechanisms.
- Cooperate on policies supporting socially fair and inclusive energy transition in coal regions and vulnerable communities.

4. EU Policy Alignment and Regulatory Cooperation

- Support North Macedonia in aligning its energy and climate legislation with the EU acquis.
- Exchange expertise on implementation of the Fit-for-55 package, carbon pricing, CBAM, and renewable-energy frameworks.
- Promote cooperation between regulatory institutions of both countries.

5. Capacity Building and Knowledge Exchange

Article 3

Implementation

1. Each Participant will designate a **national focal point** for coordination and will cooperate when possible in monitoring the activities under this MoU.
2. For the purposes of this MoU, the Participants may establish a **Joint Working Group**, tasked with identifying priority activities and preparing annual cooperation plans.
3. All activities will be implemented in compliance with national legislation of the States of the Participants and, when applicable, EU rules.

Article 4

Funding

1. This MoU itself does not create financial obligations for either Participant and has no legally binding force.
2. Joint activities may be funded through national budgets, EU programs, the Energy Community, or international financial institutions.

Article 5

Confidentiality

1. Information exchanged under this MoU will be used exclusively for cooperation purposes and will not be disclosed to third Parties without prior written consent of the providing Participant.
2. Notwithstanding the termination of this MoU, the Participants will continue to be bound by the obligations of this Article without any time limit unless otherwise agreed in writing between the Participants.

Article 6

Legal Status

1. This MoU has no legally binding force and reflects the intention of the Participants to consider possible cooperation and explore future binding agreements.
2. Possible future binding agreements arising from this MoU will be defined further with separate legal documents.

Article 7

Effective Date, Duration and Termination

1. This MoU will come into effect on the date when it is signed by both Participants.

2. This MOU will remain valid for a period of five (5) years and will be automatically renewed for additional five-years periods, unless either Participant notifies the other of its intention to terminate this MoU by a notice in writing, at least six “(6)” months prior to the intended date of termination.
3. Termination of this MoU will not affect activities initiated prior to the termination of this MoU and not yet completed on the date of termination.

Article 8

Amendments

1. This MoU may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the Participants.
2. The amendments will come into effect in accordance with the same procedure prescribed under the Article 7.1 of this MoU.

Article 9

Settlement of Disputes

Any dispute about the interpretation or application of this MoU will be resolved by consultations between the Participants.

Signed in Ohrid, on 26 May 2026, in two originals each in the English language, both texts being equally authentic.

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





Sanja Bozhinovska
Minister

**For the Ministry of Economy
of the Republic of Croatia**



Ante Šušnjar
Minister