

**ACUERDOS BILATERALES/ BILATERAL AGREEMENT/
ACORDOS BILATERAIS/ACCORDS BILATERAUX**

Clasificación:
Classification: 13-2021
Classifacation:
Classificação:

Fecha de Ingreso:
Entry Date: March 3, 2021
Data de Admissão:

Nombre del Acuerdo:
Name of the agreement: Cooperation agreement on strengthening democracy and supporting reforms of electoral legislation and practice between the European Commission for Democracy through Law of the Council of Europe (Venice Commission) and the General Secretariat of the Organization of American States

Nom de l'accord:

Nome do Acordo:

Materia:
Subject: Establish a set of provision for the advancement and realization of exchange, cooperation and technical assistance actions related to the further development of the principles of rule of law and separation of powers, among others.

Sujet:
Materia:

Partes:
Parties involved: GS/ the European Commission for Democracy through Law of the Council of Europe (Venice Commission).

Parties:
Partes:

Referencia:
Reference: European Commission for Democracy through Law of the Council of Europe (Venice Commission).

Référence:

Referência:
Fecha de Firma:
Signature Date: June 9, 2020.
Data de Assinatura:

Fecha de Inicio:
Start Date:
Date du commencement:
Data de Início:

Fecha de Terminación:
End Date:
Date de résiliation :
Data de Rescisão :

Lugar de Firma:
Place of Signature: Strasbourg; Washington, DC.
Lieu de la signature:
Lugar de assinatura:

Unidad Encargada:
Unit in Charge:
Unité responsable:
Unidade Encarregada:

Persona Encargada:
Person in Charge:
Personne responsable:
Pessoa Encarregada:

Cierre del proceso:
Closure of proceedings:
Clôture des procédures:
Fechamento do processo:

Notas adicionales/Additional notes/Notes supplémentaires/Notas adicionais:



COOPERATION AGREEMENT ON STRENGTHENING DEMOCRACY AND SUPPORTING REFORMS OF ELECTORAL LEGISLATION AND PRACTICE

between

the **European Commission for Democracy through Law of the Council of Europe**

(hereinafter referred to as "the Venice Commission"), represented by its President and

the **General Secretariat of the Organization of American States**
(hereinafter referred to as "GS/OAS"), represented by the OAS Secretary General

(hereinafter collectively referred to as the "Parties" and individually as the "Party")

WHEREAS

1. The Memorandum of Understanding between the Secretariat General of the Council of Europe (CoE) and the GS/OAS was signed on 19 September 2011 in New York and has since formed the foundation for the fruitful cooperation between the two organisations; and
2. Based on this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties endeavour to intensify their cooperation activities in the fields of strengthening democracy, constitutional and legal reforms, elections, state modernisation and good governance, as well as the protection of human rights;

The Parties have agreed the following:

I. OBJECTIVE

The aim of this Cooperation Agreement is to establish a set of provisions for the advancement and realisation of exchange, cooperation and technical assistance actions related to the further development of the principles of rule of law and separation of powers, as well as fundamental rights, constitutional justice, political systems, representative democracy, notably electoral systems and common work on electoral management guidelines, standards and procedures.

V. COMMUNICATION

Both Parties reserve the right to communicate, at any time and in writing, further contact points to the counterpart.

VI. PRIVILEGES AND IMMUNITIES

The Parties mutually recognise the privileges and immunities they enjoy by virtue of the relevant agreements and laws on the subject and general principles of international law.

VII. OPERATIONAL MEANS AND PROCEDURES

Both Parties will make their best efforts to cooperate under this Cooperation Agreement. In doing so both Parties only commit themselves within the limits of their respective human and financial resources and work programmes.

The financial obligations which the Parties might incur as a result of the cooperation programme originating from this Cooperation Agreement will be determined by their respective institutions, according to their internal rules, including the availability of resources and the corresponding applicable financial and budgetary regulations.

The Parties agree that the ownership of the copyright of materials developed under this Cooperation Agreement will be the property of the one that produced them; if these derive from a joint work, both will be holders of the rights in the same proportion, giving proper recognition to those who have intervened in its realisation. They shall be specified in the corresponding communications exchanged by the representatives of each of the Parties.

VIII. AMENDMENTS

The Parties may modify or amend this Cooperation Agreement at any time, by means of a written agreement signed by the duly authorized representatives of the Parties. Those modifications or additions will take effect from the date of its signature.

IX. RESOLUTION OF DISPUTES

This Cooperation Agreement is a result of good faith, and therefore any conflict that may arise due to its interpretation, enforcement, execution, and fulfilment shall be solved amicably by common consent between the Parties. If a solution satisfactory to both Parties cannot be reached, then the Parties shall submit their differences to arbitration pursuant to Article VIII of the Memorandum of Understanding signed by the CoE and the GS/OAS in 2011.

X. ENTRY INTO OPERATION AND VALIDITY

This Cooperation Agreement shall become effective upon signature by the authorised officials of the two Parties and will remain in effect until it is terminated in accordance with the following paragraph.