

**Agreement between the partners for setting up a
Lokal Democracy Agency of Mostar**

Opened with the signature on November 22, 2004

1.- Preamble:

The creation of the network of Local Democracy Agencies was proposed in 1993 by the Standing Conference of the Local and Regional Authorities of Europe as a means of encouraging the maintenance and/or development of a democratic process at the local level. The creation of these agencies was possible thanks to Resolution 251.

The need and willingness for integration inspired the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies to propose the establishment of the Local Democracy Agency of Mostar.

The Local Democracy Agency of Mostar aims to be a place of mediation, a space for dialogue and development of reciprocal exchanges at every level (cultural, social, economic) among the different local communities of Mostar, and the communities of the European partners.

2.- Text of convention:

The following partners:

- City of Mostar, host city.
- Regione Puglia (Italy)
- Regione Sicilia (Italy)
- Region and the Municipality of Vejle (Denmark)
- City of Montegrotto Terme (Italy)
- City of Monfalcone (Italy)
- City of Kayseri (Turkey)
- City of Kragujevac (Serbia and Montenegro)

Agree to create a Local Democracy Agency based in Mostar.

Each one of these partners is committed to contribute to share the values of the LDA, to set up actions, projects of the Agency.

3. General objectives of the Local Democracy Agency of Mostar (identified by the Association of the LDA):

- The promotion of concrete initiatives to consolidate the democracy at the local level.
- The development of the institutions at the local level thanks to the exchange of know-how, with the training of the local councillors and territorial civil servants.
- The development of a European network citizen engaged for the protection of human rights, including those of minorities.
- The development of the pluralist civil society and the participation of all the components of the society.
- The promotion of an intercultural and interethnic dialogue.
- The promotion of the respect of Human Rights.

4. - LDAs' operational objectives:

The partners, with the co-operation of the local authorities and the delegate of the LDA, agree on a working program. These activities must correspond to the local needs, with the orientations fixed by the Association of the LDA with the constraints related to the operation and the financing of the project and LDA. The list of activities is proposed annually between the partners of the LDA. This list should mention the name of the project, its objectives, as well as the precise details on the financing of the project.

5. - Missions of the Agency of the Local Democracy of Mostar

- To provide a logistic basis for the common missions led by the partners and by the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies.
- To ensure reciprocal information-sharing between the participating cities and with neighbouring areas.
- To inventory the local and regional resources from a cultural and economic point of view and to inform the network of the partners and European areas, in order to weave micro-economic and intercultural bonds.
- To actively support various local and regional activities those are in conformity with the objectives of the permanent mission. This active support can take several forms.

- To ensure contacts with local political parties, NGO's, religious communities, organizations of youth and independent media, in a spirit compatible with the goals of the Local Democracy Agency.
- To make proposals to instigate the action of the partners of the Local Democracy Agency.

6.- International Partners responsibility

- To support the LDA Mostar activities and its functioning through adequate fundraising and/or organisational and operational efforts.
- To nominate the delegate of the Agency through their own proposals.
- To approve the annual activities programme and the previous report.

7.- City of Mostar responsibility

1. To express with a City Council deliberation its satisfaction about the nomination of Delegate of the Local Democracy Agency of Mostar, legitimising his/her acceptance in the city territory and enabling him/her to develop his/her functions in the sphere of LDA activities.
2. To appoint its own representative delegated to relations with the Local Democracy Agency.
3. To guarantee the permanence of the Local Democracy Agency of Mostar in adequate premises at their expense.
4. To continue encouraging the realization and the development of the activities programmed by the Local Democracy Agency of Mostar.
5. To Provide permissions and protection needed in order to guarantee the safety of the Delegate, of his collaborators and of international delegations visiting Mostar in the venue of the activities promoted by the LDA Mostar.

8. Graphic charter

The following acknowledgements will appear on any printed communications of the Local Democracy Agency:

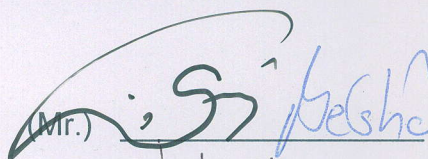
Local Democracy Agency in Mostar

The City of Mostar, Region Puglia (Italy), Region Sicilia (Italy), Region and Municipality of Vejle (Denmark), City of Montegrotto Terme (Italy), City of Monfalcone (Italy), City of Kayseri (Turkey), City of Kragujevac (Serbia and Montenegro).

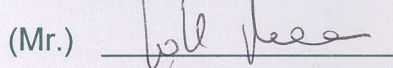
Promoted by the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies and with the support of the Congress of the Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

9. - List and signatures of the parts committed in the Local Democracy Agency of Mostar:

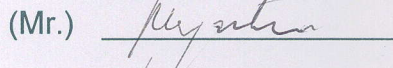
The City of Mostar

(Mr.) 

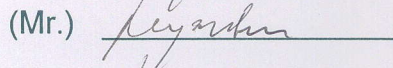
The Region Puglia (Italy)

(Mr.) 

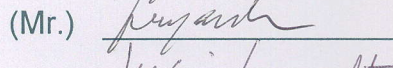
The Region of Sicily (Italy)

(Mr.) 

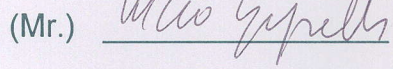
The Region and Municipality of Vejle (Denmark)

(Mr.) 

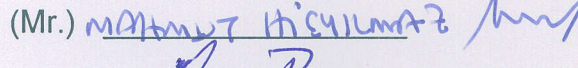
The City of Montegrotto Terme (Italy)

(Mr.) 

The City of Monfalcone (Italy)

(Mr.) 

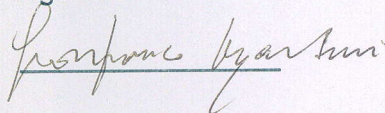
The City of Kayseri (Turkey)

(Mr.) 

The City of Kragujevac (Serbia and Montenegro)

(Mr.) 

Witnessed: Gianfranco Martini, President of the Association of the Local Democracy Agencies



Done in Mostar (BiH) on this 22nd day of November, 2004