
**STATE POLICY
ON DIASPORA
2019**





GOVERNMENT POLICY FOR DIASPORA



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INTRODUCTION

The Albanian diaspora has now begun to play a more important role on the Albania's history.

The "State Policy for the Diaspora 2019" is an annual publication of the National Diaspora Agency. It gives a summary of the state policies of the Republic of Albania for the Albanian Diaspora during 2019. The 2019 publication is followed by the "State Policy for Diaspora 2018" publication.

The information included in this publication serves to inform the public in Albania and abroad about the progress of the activity of state structures, policies and new legislation for the Albanian Diaspora.

State policy on the diaspora is supported by a new legal framework, which is under development. It is supported by the document of the National Strategy of the Diaspora 2018-2024, which was approved by the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 259, dated 09.05.2018.

The organization of the Second Summit of the Albanian Diaspora was an significant event for 2019. It served as a tool for assessing the progress of the state policy documents made for the Albanian Diaspora.

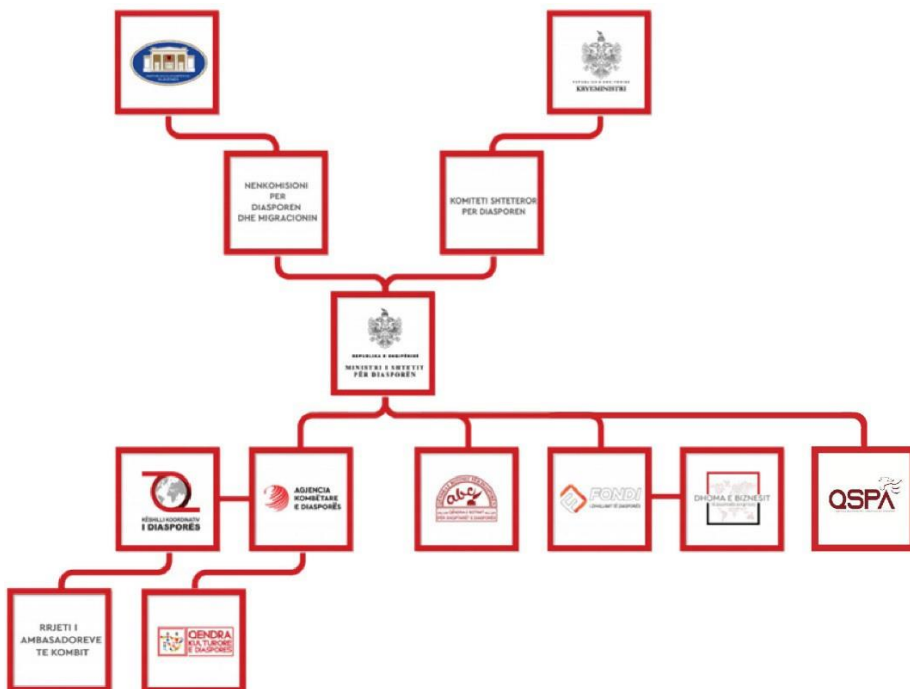
In the framework of the new state policy for the Diaspora in 2019, the following agencies were established: the Diaspora Publication Center, the Diaspora Business Chamber, and the Diaspora Coordination Council. All the aforementioned institutions coordinate their work with the National Diaspora Agency and the Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development.

On January 1, 2020, the Arbëresh Publication Center will start functioning. The focus of state policy on diaspora is to protect the rights of Albanians living abroad and to engage the diaspora in Albania. It aims to strengthen the role of the Albanian Diaspora in social and political life by increasing its contribution and impact on the development of the country.

The emerging phenomenon of the Albanian Diaspora can be considered a progress. The diaspora publications will continue to be published in the future.



GOVERNMENT STRUCTURE





**SUBCOMMITTEE FOR
DIASPORA AND MIGRATION**



**DECISION
No. 98/2017**

**FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE “ON DIASPORA
AND MIGRATION”, AS A PART OF THE PERMANENT PARLIAMENTARY
COMMITTEE ON FOREIGN POLICY**

Pursuant to Article 78, paragraph 1 of the Constitution and Articles 19, paragraph 2 and 21, item 1 of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, upon the proposal of the Conference of Presidents,

PARLIAMENT
OF REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

DECIDED:

- I.** The Subcommittee “On Diaspora and Migration” is established within the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Policy.
- II.** The scope of this subcommittee are diaspora issues and migratory phenomena of Albania.
- III.** The Subcommittee consists of 5 members as follows:
 1. Adnor Shameti – Chairman (SP);
 2. Tritan Shehu – Deputy Chairman (DP);
 3. Elona Hoxha – member (SP);
 4. Eglantina Gjermeni – member (SP); and
 5. Klajda Gjoshaj – member (LSI).
- IV.** This decision comes into force immediately.

**CHAIRMAN
GRAMOZ RUÇI**

Approved on 5.10.2017



**STATE COMMITTEE
FOR DIASPORA**



DECISION

No. 690, Date 22.11.2017

**ON ESTABLISHMENT AND FUNCTIONING OF THE STATE COMMITTEE ON
DIASPORA**

Pursuant to articles 95, paragraph 2 and 100 of the Constitution, upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Establishment of the State Committee for Diaspora, hereafter the Committee as a Consultative Body of the Council of Ministers for co-ordinating the policies and activities of the state in the diaspora field.
2. The Committee is chaired by the Prime Minister and comprises of these members:
 - a) Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs;
 - b) Minister of Interior;
 - c) Minister of Finance and Economy;
 - d) Minister of Justice;
 - e) Minister of Education, Sports and Youth;
 - f) Minister of Culture;
 - g) Ministry of Environment and Tourism;
 - h) State Minister for Diaspora;
 - i) Governor of the Bank of Albania;
 - j) Chair of the Academy of Sciences;
 - k) The Director of INSTAT.
3. The scope of activity of the Committee includes:
 - a) Preparation of guidelines for drafting new active policies and setting of strategic priorities in the diaspora field;
 - b) Proposing legal and institutional mechanisms for issues related to improving the position of Diaspora members and protecting their rights and interests in their countries of residence;
 - c) Encouraging and developing a dialogue on the implementation of the strategy, policies and legislation in the field of development of Diaspora communities;
 - d) Coordination and implementation of the National Diaspora Strategy;
 - e) Supporting and monitoring the activities of the National Agency for Diaspora.



4. The Committee shall meet not less than once every three months and whenever necessary at the request of the Prime Minister.
5. Representatives of parliamentary groups, central and local government bodies or other institutions may be invited to attend meetings of the Committee, whose participation is deemed valuable for the accomplishment of the mission.
6. The activity of the Committee shall be supported by the Technical Secretariat. The composition and duties of the technical secretariat are determined by order of the Prime Minister.
7. Prime Minister Order No. 115, dated 11 May 2006, "On the establishment and functioning of the Inter-Ministerial Committee on Migration", is abrogated.
8. Members of the Committee are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision comes into force immediately and is published in the "Official Gazette".

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**

**STATE MINISTER
FOR DIASPORA
PANDELI MAJKO**



ORDER

No. 231, Date 7.12.2017

**ON THE COMPOSITION AND DUTIES OF THE SECRETARIAT OF THE STATE
COMMITTEE ON DIASPORA**

Pursuant to point 3, Article 102 of the Constitution, and point 6 of Decision No. 690, dated 22.11.2017, of the Council of Ministers “On the establishment and functioning of the State Committee on Diaspora”,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. The Technical Secretariat of the State Committee for Diaspora is chaired by the representative of the State Minister for Diaspora and consists of members, representatives from:
 - State Minister for Diaspora;
 - Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs;
 - Ministry of Interior;
 - Ministry of Finance and Economy;
 - Ministry of Justice;
 - Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth;
 - Ministry of Culture.
2. The main tasks of the Technical Secretariat of the State Committee for Diaspora are as follows:
 - Prepare meetings of the Committee;
 - Periodically report to the Committee on the performance of the tasks set out in its previous meetings;
 - Coordinate the work between the institutions involved in implementing and monitoring the tasks assigned by the Committee;
 - Keep the minutes and draw up decisions taken by the Committee;
 - Carry out other duties determined by the Chair of the Committee.
3. The Technical Secretariat shall meet on a regular basis, with the announcement of the Chairperson.
4. The heads of the institutions mentioned in point 1 of this order shall be responsible for sending the names of their representatives to the secretariat within ten (10) days from the date of its entry into force.



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5. The members of the Technical Secretariat of the State Committee for Diaspora are responsible for following up the implementation of this order.

This order shall enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER
No. 45, Date 12.2.2019

**ON APPOINTMENT OF THE STATE COORDINATOR FOR DIASPORA
INFORMING**

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, and Decision of the Council of Ministers no.259, dated 9.5.2018 “The approval of National Strategy for Diaspora for 2018-2024 and the Action Plan”, upon proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Appointment of the Director for Programming and Development, in the National Agency for Information Society (NAIS), Mr. Fatjon Hallkaj, State Coordinator for informing the Albanian Diaspora.
2. The State Coordinator acts in compliance with measure 51 of the Action Plan of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by Decision No. 259 dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers. The State Coordinator estimates and coordinates the work performed for the information published by the public administration institutions protecting the interests of the Albanian community abroad.
3. On this process the coordinator shall report in writing, every three months, in the next meeting of the State Committee on Diaspora.
4. The National Agency for Information Society shall be responsible for the implementation of this order.

This order shall enter into force immediately.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



ORDER
No. 43, Date 12.2.2019

**ON APPOINTMENT OF THE STATE COORDINATOR ON STATE AGREEMENTS
IN THE FIELD OF INSURANCES FOR ALBANIAN CITIZENS ABROAD**

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, and Decision of the Council of Ministers no.259, dated 9.5.2018 “The approval of National Strategy for Diaspora for 2018-2024 and the Action Plan”, upon proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. The appointment of the Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Mr. Etjen Xhafaj, as state coordinator, who will be responsible to oversee the process of initiation, negotiation, and finalisation of bilateral state agreements in the field of insurances for Albanian citizens living abroad, in implementation of Measure 23 of the Action plan, of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by decision no.259 dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers.
2. The Deputy Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs is authorized to conduct discussions on initiation and negotiation of state agreements up to finalising their signature.
3. On this process the coordinator shall report in writing, every three months, in the next meeting of the State Committee on Diaspora.
4. The Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs is responsible for implementing this order.

This order shall enter into force immediately.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



ORDER

No. 44, Date 12.2.2019

ON APPOINTMENT OF THE STATE COORDINATOR FOR THE ANNUAL PROGRAMME ORGANIZATION OF ACTIVITIES ON THE ALBANIAN DIASPORA

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, and Decision of the Council of Ministers no.259, dated 9.5.2018 “The approval of National Strategy for Diaspora for 2018-2024 and the Action Plan”, upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. The appointment of the Deputy Minister for Tourism and Environment, Mrs. Ornela Çuçi, as State Coordinator for the follow up and organization of an Albanian annual cultural activities programme which will serve to the Albanian community in Diaspora and “Days of Albania” in implementation of Measure 45 of the Action plan, of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by Decision No. 259 dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers.
2. Deputy Minister of Tourism and Environment is responsible and authorized to coordinate and organize activities in the host countries of Albanian communities in Diaspora, on the basis of an annual programme and other periodic activities contributing to the Albanian tourism.
3. On this process the coordinator shall report in writing, every three months, in the next meeting of the State Committee on Diaspora.
4. The Ministry of Tourism and Environment is responsible for implementing this order.

This order shall enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER
No. 47, Date 18.2.2019

**ON APPOINTMENT OF THE STATE COORDINATOR FOR PROGRAMMES/
DONORS WHO OFFER STUDY ABROAD SCHOLARSHIPS**

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, and Decision of the Council of Ministers no.259, dated 9.5.2018 “The approval of National Strategy for Diaspora for 2018-2024 and the Action Plan”, upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. The appointment of the Deputy Minister of Education, Sports and Youth, Mr. Redi Shtino, as state coordinator, who will be responsible to follow up programmes and coordinate donors that offer study abroad scholarships, in implementation of measure 64 of the Action plan, of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by Decision No. 259 dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers.
2. The Deputy Minister of Education, Sports and Youth is responsible and authorized to coordinate the inter-institutional work for the follow up and implementation of Measure 64 of the Action Plan, of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by decision no.259 dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers.
3. On this process the coordinator shall report in writing, every three months, in the next meeting of the State Committee on Diaspora.
4. The Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth is responsible for implementing this order.

This order shall enter into force immediately.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



ORDER

No. 78, Date 17.4.2019

**ON APPOINTMENT OF THE STATE COORDINATOR
ON STATE AGREEMENTS IN THE FIELD OF DRIVING LICENCES
RECOGNITION FOR ALBANIAN CITIZENS ABROAD**

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, Article 28 “d” of Law 9000 dated 30.1.2003 “On the Organization and Functioning of the Council of Ministers” of Decision no. 510, dated 13.09.2017 of the Council of Ministers “On the definition of the scope of activity of State Minister of Diaspora” and Decision no.504, dated 13.9.2017 of the Council of Ministers “On the definition of the scope of activity of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy”, upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. The appointment of the Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Energy, Mr. Artan Shkreli, who will be responsible to oversee the process of initiation, negotiation of mutual state agreements in the field of driving licences recognition for Albanian citizens abroad.
2. The Deputy Minister of Infrastructure and Energy is responsible for the inter-institutional coordination for negotiating state agreements up to finalising their signature.
3. On this process the coordinator shall report in writing, every three months, in the next meeting of the State Committee on Diaspora.
4. The Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy is responsible for implementing this order.

This order shall enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 92, Dated 17. 05. 2019

ON ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP AND APPOINTMENT OF THE RESPONSIBLE PERSON FOR THE PROTECTION OF RIGHTS OF ALBANIANS SERVING AN IMPRISONMENT ABROAD, THE RIGHTS OF MIGRANTS THROUGH ACCESS TO INFORMATION ON POSSIBLE OPTIONS TO APPEAL AGAINST VIOLATION OF THEIR RIGHTS, IN THE INTERNATIONAL STRUCTURES OF HOST COUNTRIES

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, and Article 12(1) of the Law No.9000, dated 30.1.2003, "On the Organization and Functioning of the Council of Ministers",

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Establishment of the working group and appointment of the responsible person for implementing measure 24 and 44 of the Action Plan of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by Decision No. 259 dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers.
2. The working group will be chaired by the Deputy minister of Justice Mrs. Fjoralba Caka, as the responsible person for the protection of rights of Albanians serving an imprisonment abroad, the rights of migrants through access to information on possible options to appeal against violation of their rights, in the international structures of host countries, and the composition of the working group will be as follows:
 - a) representative from the Ministry of Justice;
 - b) one assigned representative from the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs
 - c) One representative appointed the responsible Minister of State for Diaspora;
3. The working group is responsible for coordinating interinstitutional work for the collection of complete information, for the follow-up and treatment in accordance with the legislation in force in the host countries of Albanian citizens serving an imprisonment abroad.
4. With the aim of the accomplishment of this task, the Deputy Minister of Justice



shall cooperate with the Ministry responsible for foreign policy, the Ombudsman or civil society organizations with the aim of informing on various opportunities to appeal to migrants' rights violations in the structures of host countries as well as in international structures dealing with the protection and respect of human rights and the protection of migrants' rights.

5. The coordinator shall report the performance and progress of this process in writing, every 3 months, in the next meeting of the State Committee on Diaspora.
6. The state institutions in charge for implementing this order shall appoint their representatives in the working group within 5 (five) days of the entry into force of this Order.
7. The Ministry of Justice, the Minister of State for Diaspora and the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs are assigned to the implementation of this Order.

This Order shall enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER
No.112, dated 30.8.2019

**ON APPOINTMENT OF THE STATE COORDINATOR FOR REALISATION
OF THE PROGRAMME “I AM ALBANIAN” FOR THE ALBANIAN LANGUAGE
AND CULTURE**

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, and Decision of the Council of Ministers no.259, dated 9.5.2018 “On the approval of National Strategy for Diaspora for 2018-2024 and the Action Plan”,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. The appointment of the Deputy Minister of Education, Sports and Youth, Mrs. Lorena Haxhiu, in the quality of State Coordinator for the follow up, organizing and implementation of the “I Am Albanian” Programme of Albanian language and culture in compliance with the signed Memorandum on this purpose between the responsible institutions in the implementation of measure 28 of the Action Plan, of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by decision no.259 dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers.
2. The Deputy Minister for Education, Sports and Youth is authorized to coordinate the inter-institutional work for the follow-up and implementation of the “I am Albanian” Program of Albanian Language and Culture. On the performance and progress of this process the coordinator shall report in writing, every three months, in the next meeting of the State Committee on Diaspora.
3. The Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth is responsible for implementing this order.

This Order shall enter into force immediately.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



**STATE MINISTER
FOR DIASPORA**



DECISION
No. 510, date 13.9.2017

**ON THE DEFINITION OF THE SCOPE OF ACTIVITY OF STATE MINISTER FOR
DIASPORA**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and point 2 of Article 5 of Law No. 90/2012, “On the Organization and Functioning of the State Administration”, upon the proposal of the Prime Minister, the Council of Ministers.

DECIDED:

1. Approval of the mission and field of responsibility for State Minister for Diaspora, according to the definitions of this decision.
2. The mission of the State Minister for Diaspora is to represent and promote policies of cooperation and interaction with all Albanians, promoting and strengthening cooperation in all areas with Albanians outside the borders of the Republic of Albania and the countries where they live.
3. State Minister for Diaspora exercises his activity in these areas:
 - a) Organizing, designing and implementing state policy for Albanians outside borders and in their countries of residence, in cooperation with the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs;
 - b) Encouraging and assisting the development of communication and interaction between diaspora and Albanian outside the borders with the diplomatic representations of the Republic of Albania in the countries where they reside;
 - c) Promotion and assistance in enhancing the development of Albanian values and traditions of Albanian nationals outside the state borders;
 - d) Cooperation with international organizations for the expression and protection of the interests of Albanians outside borders;
 - e) Assist in the preservation and cultivation of national identity, as well as undertaking initiatives to promote language, culture, traditions and all national values, in cooperation with the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth and the Ministry of Culture;
 - f) Coordination of the process to guarantee the registration and the right of diaspora participation in the polls, in cooperation with the Ministry of Interior and the Ministry of Justice;



- g) Organization and management of the establishment of the State Agency for Diaspora;
 - h) Coordination of the organization of the National Diaspora Summit, as well as other national and international conferences for enhancing the cooperation between the Diaspora and Albania;
 - i) Cooperate with responsible ministries to encourage foreign investment in Albania.
4. State Minister for Diaspora represents and protects the interests of the state within the areas of responsibility according to point 3 of this decision.
 5. State Minister for Diaspora is responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision comes into force immediately and is published in the "Official Gazette".

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No.124, dated 18.9.2019

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERINSTITUTIONAL WORKING GROUP FOR DRAFTING OF THE LEGAL PACKAGE FOR GUARANTEEING THE RIGHT TO VOTE TO ALBANIAN CITIZENS OUTSIDE THE TERRITORY OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, Article 12(1) of Law No. 9000, dated 30.01.2003 "On the Organization and Functioning of the Council of Ministers", and point 3(f) of the Decision no.510, dated 13.9.2017 of the Council of Ministers, "On the definition of the scope of activity of State Minister of Diaspora",

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Establishment of the inter-institutional working group for drafting the legal package for guaranteeing the right to vote for Albanian citizens outside the territory of the Republic of Albania.
2. The inter-institutional group is chaired by the Minister of State of Diaspora and shall be composed of members, representatives from the institutions as follows:
 - a) Ministry of Interior;
 - b) Ministry of Justice;
 - c) Ministry of Finance and Economy;
 - d) Ministry of Health and Social Protection;
 - e) Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs;
 - f) The Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
 - g) Institute of Statistics.
3. The inter-institutional group shall collaborate with the Central Election Commission at the Parliament of Albania. The group coordinates the work with the Central Election Commission and responds on behalf of the Prime Minister to cooperative work requirements related to the accomplishment of the purposes set out in this order.
4. The methodology of drafting the legal package for guaranteeing the right to vote for Albanian citizens outside the territory of the Republic of Albania shall be based on the recommendations of the European Union serving this purpose, as well as on the best practices and models of its member states.



5. In drafting the legal package in order to guarantee the right to vote for Albanian citizens outside the territory of the Republic of Albania, the inter-institutional working group may conduct consultations and receive support from civil society representatives, external experts or stakeholders of international organizations.
6. The legal package with legal amendments to guarantee the right to vote for Albanian citizens outside the territory of the Republic of Albania shall be drafted and submitted for approval to the Council of Ministers within December 2019.
7. The heads of the institutions referred to in point 2 of this order shall be required to submit, within 15 (fifteen) days of its entry into force, the names of their representatives to the State Minister of Diaspora.
8. The State Minister of Diaspora is hereby appointed, within 15 (five) days of the entry into force of this Order, to ensure the commencement of the activity of the inter-institutional group.
9. The State Minister of Diaspora and all the institutions mentioned in point 2 of the order herein, are responsible for its implementation.

This Order shall enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



**LAW No. 16/2018
FOR DIASPORA**



LAW
No. 16/2018

FOR
DIASPORA

Pursuant to articles 78, 81 and 83, paragraph 1 of the Constitution, upon the proposal of the Council of Ministers,

THE PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

DECIDED:

CHAPTER I
GENERAL DISPOSITIONS

Article 1

Object

The object of this law is to define the rules for:

- a) The competencies of the state authorities responsible for relations with the Diaspora;
- b) The method of maintaining, strengthening and realizing diaspora links with the country of origin;
- c) The establishment of the Diaspora Coordination Council;
- d) The award of national prizes in the field of relations between the country of origin and the diaspora;
- e) The preservation and cultivation of national, linguistic, cultural and educational identity of diaspora members and their linkage with the state institutions in their country of origin.

Article 2

Definitions

Under the framework of this law, the following terminologies have these meanings:

1. The "National Agency of Diaspora", hereinafter called "The Agency", is the responsible governmental body for matters related to diaspora.



2. "Diaspora" includes:
 - a) The ancient Albanian communities in the world;
 - b) Any individual born in Albania that resides outside of its political borders;
 - c) Any individual in possession of Albanian citizenship, whom was born outside of the Albanian political borders but keeps linguistic and cultural ties as well as continues the heritage and has the wish to preserve linkage with Albania.
3. The "Responsible minister", is the Minister whom under this Government covers all activity related to diaspora.
4. The "Country of origin", is the Republic of Albania.
5. The "CCD", a cultural center for the diaspora, established in countries of interest to the diaspora and in the Republic of Albania.
6. The "Diaspora Coordination Council" (The Council), is the representative and coordinating body of relations with the Diaspora.
7. The "Diaspora organization" is a voluntarily organization of diaspora members.

CHAPTER II

STATE BODIES RESPONSIBLE FOR DIASPORA RELATIONS

Article 3

State bodies responsible for diaspora

State bodies responsible for diaspora relations are:

1. The Council of Ministers;
2. The State Committee for Diaspora
3. The responsible Minister for Diaspora;
4. The Coordination Council for Diaspora
5. The National Agency of Diaspora;
6. The Cultural Centers for Diaspora;
7. The Albanian Development Fund for Diaspora;
8. The Publishing Center for Diaspora;
9. Other state authorities in accordance with their field of activity.

Article 4

Council of Ministers

1. The Council of Ministers determines:
 - a) The policies of the country of origin for the diaspora to be implemented by



- the state bodies responsible for relations with the diaspora;
- b) The method and policies for the registration of Albanian citizens living outside the territory of the Republic of Albania.

Article 5

Responsible Minister for diaspora

The responsible Minister for diaspora exercises these competencies:

- a) Proposes to the Council of Ministers the issuance of regulatory acts and the carrying out of other measures necessary for realization of the state policy on relations with the diaspora;
- b) Supervises the implementation of the National Strategy for Relations with the Diaspora;
- c) Keeps records and monitors the relations with the diaspora;
- d) Creates and systematically updates any data related to its organization in forums;
- e) Cooperates with the responsible ministries, in compliance with their field of activity, for the establishment of cultural and informal centers in the countries where diaspora lives;
- f) Proposes to the Prime Minister the award of prizes for special contributions in the maintenance and strengthening of ties between the country of origin and the diaspora as well as special contributions to the promotion of Albania in the world;
- g) Establishes relationships and promotes vicinity and connecting activities with the respective embassies in countries where the diaspora lives;
- h) Exercises other competencies according to the legislation in force.

Article 6

Cultural Centers for Diaspora

1. CCDs are created with the scope to preserve, cultivate the national, linguistic, cultural and educational identity of the diaspora and strengthen its links with the institutions of the Republic of Albania.
2. CCDs exercise their activities in the countries of interest to the Diaspora of the Republic of Albania and shall be established in agreement with these countries.
3. The Directors of CCD's shall be nominated and dismissed by the order of the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs upon the proposal of the Minister responsible for Diaspora. The head of CCD possess the diplomatic status for the period on



- duty and shall be provided with a diplomatic passport.
4. The CCD is subordinated to the head of the diplomatic mission of the country where it is accredited and exercises its functions in accordance with the obligations arising from this law and other obligations arising from the legislation in force.
 5. The work relations for CCD employees are regulated in accordance with Labor Code provisions in force. The detailed rules for employee recruitment are determined by a decision of the Council of Ministers, upon the proposal of the responsible Minister for the Diaspora and the responsible Minister for Foreign Affairs.
 6. The establishment, organization, method of functioning and the budget of the CCDs are approved by a decision of the Council of Ministers.
 7. The structure and organization of the CCDs are approved by order of the Prime Minister.
 8. The National Agency for Diaspora cooperates and coordinates activities with CCDs.

Article 7

CCD's responsibility

1. The CCD is responsible to:
 - a) promote Albania;
 - b) encourage and develop knowledge of language and cultural heritage of Albania;
 - c) encourage scientific, technical, technological, sports and economic cooperation between Albania and the Diaspora;
 - d) provide information on investments in Albania, fiscal relief, organization of cultural and educational activities, meetings with fellow countrymen and state institutions in Albania;
 - e) support and organize cultural, educational and sports activities;
 - f) perform other duties as provided by the legislation in force.
2. The Director of CCD receives instructions from the responsible Minister for the Diaspora through the head of the diplomatic mission of the country where he is accredited and regularly informs him about his activity.



Article 8

CCD's financing

Tools for CCD activities are provided by:

- a) The state budget;
- b) Income from projects, donations and other legitimate sources.

CHAPTER III

MAINTENANCE, STRENGTHENING AND ESTABLISHMENT OF TIES BETWEEN
THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND DIASPORA

Article 9

Ties between the country of origin and the diaspora

The maintenance, strengthening and realization of relations between the country of origin and diaspora is realized through:

- a) The improvement of the position of members of the diaspora and the protection of their rights and interests through the conclusion of international agreements, bilateral or multilateral, in accordance with the highest international standards;
- b) Use of Albanian language teaching as well as the preservation of the cultural, ethnic, linguistic identity;
- c) The promotion of economic cooperation, and fiscal relief between the country of origin and diaspora;
- a) Providing conditions for the functioning of the Diaspora Coordination Council;
- a) Awarding national prizes for the special contribution in the preservation, strengthening of ties between the country of origin and the diaspora, promotion of Albania in the world and for supporting its interests.

Article 10

Support for learning and advancement of Albanian language

1. The Council of Ministers, through the responsible minister, helps to create conditions for the preservation and learning of the Albanian language.
2. The responsible Minister, together with the responsible Minister for Education, according to the educational program, assists and supports the development of



the Albanian language teaching process in countries where large numbers of Diaspora members exist, where they are more compact and places of special interest for the state.

3. The responsible Minister for diaspora and the responsible Minister for Education sign bilateral agreements with the counterpart state institutions of the countries where the diaspora members live, for the organization of the Albanian language learning process and other cultural knowledge for the Republic of Albania.
4. The organization of the teaching process and the selection of teachers in the respective countries, where the diaspora lives and operates, is regulated by a decision of the Council of Ministers, with the co-proposal of the responsible Minister for the diaspora and the responsible Minister of Education, respecting the signed and in force international agreements.
5. The responsible Minister of diaspora, in cooperation with the responsible ministry of education, assist in the distribution of books tailored for learning and advancing of the Albanian language and other cultural knowledge for the Republic of Albania in the countries where the diaspora lives and operates.
6. The responsible Minister of diaspora, in cooperation with the responsible ministry of education, prepare and implement programs for the teaching of the Albanian language in the distance, via the Internet (phone or tablet programs), electronic networks and channels of mass communication, for the learning of Albania's history and other cultural knowledge for it, organizes training seminars for teachers, promote and take various measures to encourage complementary learning for members of the diaspora.

Article 11

Cultural cooperation and promotion of Albania's cultural heritage

1. The responsible Minister of Diaspora, in cooperation with the responsible ministry of culture, support cultural activities of the diaspora members with the scope of preserving and developing the identity, preservation of cultural heritage and promotion of its diffusion.
2. A special diaspora pavilion shall be established at the National History Museum.
3. The responsible Minister of Diaspora, in cooperation with the responsible ministry of culture, shall support the Albanian communities in different countries where they live, and assist, promote and develop intercultural relations between the Republic of Albania and the respective countries, in compliance with this law and other by-laws.
4. The responsible Minister of Diaspora, in cooperation with the ministry responsi-



ble for culture, helps the youth to promote, preserve, cultivate cultural, linguistic and cultural heritage identity in the interest of historical memory for the country of origin through special public calls for concrete co-operation and publishes calendars of possible cooperation events between the country of origin and the Diaspora.

Article 12

Cooperation in the field of sport

The responsible Minister of Diaspora, in cooperation with the ministry responsible for sports, support sports activities of diaspora members, with the scope to preserve and develop the identity, cultural heritage and promotion of their diffusion.

Article 13

Information

1. The Albanian Radio and Television shall provide a broadcasting channel with a diaspora radio-television program. Expenditures for the production of programs devoted to diaspora and broadcasting shall be borne by the state budget.
2. The National Library, in cooperation with the responsible ministries of education and culture, shall provide free access to the on-line fund of education and literature books, dedicated to the diaspora's interests.
3. The Council of Ministers promotes and encourages the media activities of the Albanian Diaspora members based on the efficiency of their activity.

Article 14

Economics and science

1. The responsible Minister of Diaspora pays special attention to the empowerment of economic ties, cooperation in the field of science and development of new technologies between the Diaspora and the institutions of the Republic of Albania, through economic cooperation and various measures of economic policy, according to the legislation in force of the Republic of Albania.
2. The responsible Minister of Diaspora supports the cooperation of scientists, members of the diaspora, with the responsible state institutions in the institutional research projects.



Article 15

Diaspora yearly award

1. The “Ambassador of the Nation” award shall be awarded to successful diaspora members.
2. The criteria and the method of awarding the prize shall be determined by a decision of the Council of Ministers.

Article 16

Financial resources

Funds for maintaining and strengthening ties between the country of origin and diaspora shall be ensured by:

- a) The state budget;
- b) Funding from projects, donations and other legitimate sources.

Chapter IV

ORGANIZATION OF DIASPORA

Article 17

Diaspora organization

1. The diaspora organization is a voluntary nonprofit organization of diaspora which acts in compliance with the rules of the foreign country where diaspora lives.
2. The diaspora organization aims to promote Albania and support its state interests as well as to maintain and encourage cultural, educational, scientific, humanitarian or sports relations with the country of origin.

Article 18

Coordination Council of Diaspora

1. The Coordination Council of Diaspora (The Council) represents and coordinates relations with the Diaspora.
2. The Council has the following competencies:
 - a) Identifies diaspora problems, proposes to the Minister of Diaspora actions to be taken for their resolution, sets out guidelines for the drafting of the Strategy of Diaspora;



- b) Adopts procedural rules for the fulfillment of its activity and decision-making procedure.
3. Professional responsibilities, for the use of funds and administrative responsibilities, for the Council are exercised by the National Agency of Diaspora.
4. The National Agency of Diaspora carries out the functions of the Technical Secretariat.

Article 19

Composition of The Council

1. The Council consists of 15 members, who are representatives of the Diaspora.
2. The activities of the Council are attended by the Prime Minister, the responsible ministers of Diaspora, Foreign Affairs, the Interior, Finance and Economy, Education, Culture, the Academy of Sciences, the National Chamber of Commerce and Industry, the Albanian Radio Television, the National Agency of Diaspora as well as representatives of cultural centers for diaspora.
3. The President of the Republic, upon his request and in coordination with the Prime Minister and the responsible state Minister of Diaspora, shall chair special meetings of the Coordination Council of Diaspora.

Article 20

Eligibility criteria for the Council

1. The representatives of the diaspora, whom shall be members of the Council, must fulfill these qualities:
 - a) Have a high integrity and reputation in the community where they live in;
 - b) Have the capacity to perform the duties of maintaining and strengthening the relations between the country of origin and the diaspora.
2. Representatives of diaspora are elected according to this classification:
 - a) Three representatives from the diaspora of the United States of America;
 - b) Two representatives from the Canadian diaspora;
 - c) Six representatives from the European diaspora;
 - d) A representative from the Turkish diaspora;
 - e) A representative from the Australian diaspora;
 - f) Two representatives from the United Kingdom diaspora.
3. The detailed rules on the conditions and method of election of the representatives shall be determined by a decision of the Council of Ministers.
4. The country of origin shall not exercise any influence on the procedures and con-



- ditions for the election of respective representatives to the Council.
5. The decision on the election of representatives shall be notified to the responsible Minister of Diaspora at least 30 days before the date set for the meeting of the Council.

Article 21

Council's Meeting

1. The Council convenes, as a rule, on the National Day of Diaspora.
2. The Council may convene in an extraordinary session upon request of at least one third of the representatives or upon request of the responsible Minister of Diaspora, with a program determined in advance.
3. The Council may, as appropriate, set up working groups to deal with technical, economic, statutory, cultural, scientific, and sporting matters. The number of members and the method of organization and functioning of the working groups is determined by a decision of the Coordination Council of Diaspora.

Article 22

Albanian Development Fund for Diaspora

1. The Albanian Development Fund for Diaspora will have the mission of providing and distributing financial resources in the framework of encouraging socio-economic and cultural development, based on specific priority strategies for the diaspora as well as within the country through promotion, encouragement and orientation of philanthropic trends and diaspora investments in support of the development of the Republic of Albania and abroad.
2. The Albanian Development Fund for Diaspora shall serve as a mechanism recognized by the law for orienting philanthropic trends / donations and investments of diaspora members in efforts for socio-economic and cultural development in the Republic of Albania and abroad.
3. Rules on the activity, organization and functioning of the Albanian Development Fund for Diaspora will be adopted upon special law.



Chapter V
TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 23

Diaspora Publishing Center

1. The publication of special texts which will serve the diaspora, will be realized through the Diaspora Publishing Center which will be financed from the state budget and shall be organized and function under the dependency of the responsible Minister of Diaspora.
2. The establishment, organization and functioning of the Diaspora Publishing Center will be regulated by a Decision of the Council of Ministers.

Article 24

Relations with the Parliament of Albania

In order to follow up and supervise the implementation of this law, within the composition of the Permanent Committee on Foreign Policy of the Albanian Parliament, a sub-commission "For Diaspora and Migration" shall be established, which shall be organized and function according to the legal provisions for the subcommittees of the Parliament of the Republic of Albania.

Article 25

Diaspora day

December 18, is designated as the National Day of the Diaspora.

Article 26

The Albanian Development Fund for Diaspora, the Coordination Council for Diaspora, the Cultural Centers for Diaspora have their logo. The model of the logo complies with the annexes format attached to this law.

Article 27

By-laws

The Council of Ministers shall be charged responsible for issuing by-law acts pursuant to articles 4; 6, paragraph 5 and 6; 10, paragraph 4; paragraph 2; 20, paragraph 3; and 23, paragraph 2, of this law.



Article 28

Entry into force

This law enters into force 15 days after its publication in the Albanian “Official Journal”.

**SPEAKER
GRAMOZ RUÇI**

Approved on 5.4.2018





DECISION

No. 339, Date 6.6.2018

ON CRITERIA FOR AWARDING THE PRICE “AMBASSADOR OF THE NATION”

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and point 2 of Article 15 of the Law No. 16/2018, “On Diaspora”, upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers.

DECIDED:

1. Determining the criteria and the method of awarding the price “Ambassador of the Nation”.
2. The award of the “Ambassador of the Nation” award is guided by the principles of appreciation for the contribution, meritocracy, transparency, public acknowledgment. The criteria that must be met by the successful diaspora members for obtaining the prize are:
 - a) Integrity and reputation in the community where he/she lives;
 - b) Successful representation in the diaspora in:
 - Humanitarian activities;
 - Education, science, technology;
 - Culture or sports;
 - Business.
 - c) A special contribution to the Republic of Albania or diaspora.
3. Ambassadors of the Republic of Albania, accredited abroad, through the Minister responsible for foreign affairs, propose to the Minister responsible for Diaspora the most successful representatives of the Albanian communities abroad for the award of the prize “Ambassador of the Nation”.
4. Proposals must be accompanied by a biography and necessary evaluations of the activity of the proposed subject.
5. The Minister responsible for Diaspora evaluates the proposals, together with the recommendations for the award, and nominates them officially to the Prime Minister.



6. The “Ambassador of the Nation” award is given by the Prime Minister.
7. The “Ambassador of the Nation” award is delivered personally to the person who receives the prize, but in special cases it can be delivered to the family members or their representatives.
8. The “Ambassador of the Nation” prize does not have monetary value.
9. The “Ambassador of the Nation” award is given in the form of a certificate.
10. The design of “Ambassador of Nation” certificate is according to the attached format to this decision.
11. Exceptionally, in special cases, the proposal for the “Ambassador of the Nation” award may be made directly by the Minister responsible for Diaspora in accordance with this decision and in this case the provision of point 3 shall not apply.
12. The Minister responsible for the Diaspora, the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs and the National Agency for Diaspora are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the “Official Journal”.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION

No. 340, Date 6.6.2018

**ON DETERMINATION OF DETAILED RULES ON THE CONDITIONS
AND METHOD OF CHOICE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE DIASPORA
COORDINATION COUNCIL**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and point 3 of Article 20 of the Law No. 16/2018 "On Diaspora", upon the proposal of the State Minister for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Definition of the detailed rules on the conditions and manner of election of 15 representatives of the Diaspora Coordination Council.
2. Representatives of Diaspora, candidates for members in the Diaspora Coordination Council, in addition to the criteria provided for in the Law No. 16/2018 "On Diaspora", must also meet these criteria:
 - a) A prominent person in the fields of education, science, technology, culture, sports, etc., or successful in the field of business;
 - b) A recognized person in the field of philanthropy and have contributed to issues related to the diaspora or place of origin;
 - c) Play an active part of the diaspora organizational forums in host countries.
3. The provisions of the legislation in force for the prevention of conflicts of interest in the exercise of public functions shall apply to the procedure of proposal and election.
4. The number of candidacies shall be not less than twice the number of representation, referring to the order set out in point 2 of Article 20 of the Law No. 16/2018 "On Diaspora".
5. Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary Ambassadors of the Republic of Albania, accredited abroad, through the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs, propose to the Minister responsible for Diaspora candidates for the Diaspora Coordination Council.



6. Ambassadors collaborate with diaspora organizations, known and registered according to the legislation of the host country, for finding candidacies.
7. For special cases or in the absence of proposed candidacies, the proposal for the election of members of the Diaspora Coordination Council (no more than 3 proposals) can be done directly by the Minister responsible for Diaspora.
8. Proposals should be accompanied by necessary biographies and documents, qualifications and evaluations of the activity of the proposed representative.
9. Following the proposals received, the Minister responsible for Diaspora selects 15 candidates for members of the Diaspora Coordination Council and forwards them for approval to the Council of Ministers.
10. At least 30 percent of the membership must be represented by the female gender.
11. Representatives of the Diaspora Coordination Council shall be elected for a period of 4 years, with the right of re-election no more than twice.
12. A member of the Diaspora Coordination Council is released before the expiration of the 4-year mandate, when:
 - a) Resigns, upon individual request;
 - b) Exercises activity in conditions of conflict of interest;
 - c) Is released for other reasons.
13. A member of the Diaspora Coordination Council is released before the expiration of the 4-year mandate, when:
 - a) Neglects the performance of duties and regular attendance at the meetings of the Steering Council;
 - b) Does not fulfill the functions provided by law No. 16/2018, "On diaspora", and this decision;
 - c) Does not participate, without reason, in meetings for more than 2 consecutive times;
 - d) Becomes incapable of performing the functions charged due to physical or mental illnesses;
 - e) In exercising its functions, acts in contravention of the interests of the Diaspora Coordination Council.



14. The Minister responsible for Diaspora, no later than 30 working days before the next meeting of the Diaspora Coordination Council, proposes to the Council of Ministers new candidates to replace the released or dismissed member. The substitute's mandate is counted fully from the day of his appointment.
15. Exceptionally for the first election, proposals must be submitted before the end of August 2018.
16. The State Minister for Diaspora, the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs and the National Diaspora Agency are responsible for implementing this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the "Official Journal".

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION

No. 469, Date 26.7.2018

ON CREATING, ORGANIZING AND FUNCTIONING OF THE DIASPORA PUBLICATION CENTER

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and point 2 of Article 23 of the Law No. 16/2018 "On Diaspora", upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Creation of the Diaspora Publishing Center (hereinafter referred to as DPC), as a public legal entity, based in Tirana, under the Minister responsible for Diaspora.
2. DPC is responsible for:
 - a) Publishing, in accordance with Law No. 9616, dated 27.9.2006, "On the Book in the Republic of Albania", as amended, and the Law No. 35/2016, "On Copyright and Related Rights with them" of the texts that will serve the diaspora;
 - b) The final editing of the texts to be published;
 - c) Promotion of on-line access to special diaspora textbooks;
 - d) Encouraging the creation of special formats for e-books;
 - e) Co-ordination of work with the economic operator, who distributes the texts;
 - f) Coordination with the responsible institutions of the Republic of Kosovo for diaspora publications.
3. The printing of the texts set out in point 2 of this decision is carried out by the DPC itself and the expenditures are borne by the state budget.
4. DPC use curriculum programs approved by the ministry responsible for education and other publications with the approval of the Minister responsible for the Diaspora.
5. At the request of the Minister responsible for Education and after the approval of the Minister responsible for the Diaspora, the DPC publishes texts other than those mentioned in point 2 of this decision.
6. The DPC is represented by the director, who organizes and directs all the activ-



ity of the center and answers to the Minister responsible for the Diaspora. He is appointed, released or dismissed by order of the Minister responsible for the Diaspora.

7. Employees and employees of the DPC administration should be appointed and released from the Director of the DPC. The work relationship for the Director and the DPC staff is regulated by the Labor Code.
8. The Diaspora Publishing Coordination Council functions as an advisory and decision-making body for issues of diaspora publications at the DPC.
9. The Coordination Council for Diaspora Publications is a collegial body, composed of five members, who has representatives from:
 - Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs;
 - Ministry responsible for Education;
 - Ministry responsible for Diaspora.
 - Academy of Sciences of Albania;
 - National Library of Albania.
10. The Coordination Council for Diaspora Publications has the following competencies:
 - a) Collect and review annual publication requirements for diaspora and review periodic requirements that may not be foreseen in annual requirements;
 - b) Approves the DPC publications programs, in accordance with the Diaspora Relations Strategic Documents;
 - c) Plans the distribution of texts published by the center;
 - d) Decides on other matters in accordance with the obligations of the legislation in force;
 - e) Proposes to the Minister responsible for Diaspora the publication of other texts;
 - f) Proposes to the Minister responsible for the Diaspora the sales of textbooks, which are decided by respecting the provisions of the law No. 9616, dated 27.9.2006, as amended, and the categories that receive free copies of texts published by the DPC, which are approved by a decision of the Council of Ministers.

This council also has other powers, in accordance with the law, assigned by the Minister responsible for the Diaspora or the director of the center.

11. The mandate of members of the Coordination Council for Diaspora Publications



- is 4 years, with the right of re-election.
12. Members of the Co-ordination Council of Diaspora Publications should be high-level leaders of the represented institutions, who are appointed and dismissed by order of the Minister responsible for the Diaspora, upon proposal of the head of the respective institution. The Minister responsible for Diaspora appoints one of the members as chairman of this council.
 13. The chairman and members of the Diaspora Publishing Coordination Council shall be dismissed before the expiration of the four-year mandate when:
 - a) Released or dismissed by the governing function exercising in the institution he represents;
 - b) Upon the proposal of the head of the institution represented, due to the change of mission and duties that he performs in that institution;
 - c) Neglects the performance of duties and regular attendance at meetings of the Coordination Council of Diaspora Publications.
 14. The Minister responsible for the Diaspora, 30 (thirty) days before the expiration of the 4-year mandate or shortly after the dismissal of the member, asks the institution represented in the Coordination Council of Diaspora Publications to present the name of the candidate for this council member.
 15. The remuneration of the chairman and members of the Coordination Council of Diaspora Publications are determined by a decision of the Council of Ministers.
 16. The structure and organization of the DPC are approved by order of the Prime Minister, as defined in the legislation in force for the organization and functioning of the state administration.
 17. The Rules on Internal Working Methods and the Behavior of the DPC staff are approved by the Minister responsible for Diaspora upon the proposal of its Director.
 18. The DPC is a budget institution funded by the state budget.
 19. The prices for the sale of texts published by the DPC and the categories that can be obtained free of charge are determined by a decision of the Council of Ministers, with the co-proposal of the Minister responsible for the Diaspora and the Minister responsible for Finance.
 20. The DPC has its own official emblem and logo. The emblem consists of the em-



blem of the Republic of Albania with the notes “Republic of Albania”, “State Minister for Diaspora”, “Diaspora Publishing Center”, in accordance with the decree of the Council of Ministers on how to use the coat of arms of the Republic of Albania. The DPC logo shall be placed in each publication, in accordance with Article 26 of Law 16/2018, “On Diaspora”.

21. The DPC stamp has the form and the elements according to the decision of the Council of Ministers on rules of production, administration, control and preservation of official stamps. The seal is produced, administered and stored in accordance with the legislation in force.
22. The Publishing House of Textbooks (BOTEM), with the entry into force of this decision, is being restructured at the Diaspora Publishing Center (DPC). For administrative employees, the provisions of the Labor Code apply.
23. Decision No. 843, dated 2.11.2012, of the Council of Ministers, “On the Establishment of the Textbook Publishing House (BOTEM)”, as amended, is repealed.
24. State Minister for Diaspora, the Minister of Education, Sports and Youth, the Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the National Library of Albania, the Academy of Sciences of Albania and the Diaspora Publishing Center, are responsible for following up and implementing this decision.

This decision is published in the “Official Gazette” and comes into force on 1 January 2019.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



DECISION
No. 470, Date 26.7.2018

**ON CREATING, ORGANIZING AND FUNCTIONING OF CULTURAL CENTERS
FOR DIASPORA**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, paragraphs 5 and 6, Article 6, Law No. 16/2018 “On Diaspora”, Law No. 90/2012, “On the Organization and Functioning of the State Administration”, and of Decision No. 58, dated 31.1.2018, of the Council of Ministers, “On the approval of the agreement between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Kosovo on Cultural Centers in Diaspora”, with the proposal of the State Minister for Diaspora, Council of Ministers.

DECIDED:

1. Establishment of Cultural Centers for Diaspora (DCC) as public and juridical persons, dependent of the head of the diplomatic mission accredited in the host country.
2. DCCs conduct their activity in accordance with Law No. 16/2018, “On Diaspora”, and are supervised and coordinated by the National Diaspora Agency (NDA) to whom they report to.
3. DCCs’ mission is the preservation, cultivation of the national, linguistic, cultural and educational identity of the Diaspora and the strengthening of its relations with the institutions of the Republic of Albania.
4. DCCs will perform the following administrative functions:
 - a) Promote Albania in preserving, cultivating the national, linguistic, cultural and educational identity of the Diaspora and strengthening its links with the institutions of the Republic of Albania;
 - b) Encourage and develop knowledge of Albanian language, culture and cultural heritage;
 - c) Promote scientific, technical, technological, sports and economic, artistic and cultural cooperation between Albania and the Diaspora;
 - d) Support and organize youth and different age groups of diaspora with cultural, educational, sports activities etc;
 - e) Cooperate with other institutions to develop its activity within and outside



- the country;
- f) Perform other duties provided by the legislation in force.
5. DCC engages in activities in countries of interest to carry cultural heritage, identity etc in the diaspora, and are opened to bilateral agreement with the countries of these countries.
 6. The organizational structure of a DCC is approved by order of the Prime Minister, upon the proposal of the Minister responsible for Diaspora.
 7. DCCs are financed from the approved budget for the diplomatic missions.
 8. Diplomatic missions, where DCCs will exercise their activities, functions they will perform, relationship with the head of mission as well as other issues of their activity are regulated by a joint instruction of the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs and the Minister responsible for Diaspora.
 9. Internal staff rules and regulations of DCCs are approved by order of the head of the diplomatic mission, in accordance with the joint instruction of the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs and the Minister responsible for the Diaspora.
 10. DCC is managed by a Director, who manages and directs its daily activity and represents it in relations with third parties. For his administrative activity he reports to the head of the diplomatic mission and the Minister responsible for the Diaspora. For issues that require political decision-making, the head of the DCC should take the opinion of the head of mission.
 11. The Director of the DCC is appointed and released upon the order of the Minister responsible for Foreign Affairs, upon the proposal of the Minister responsible for Diaspora, in accordance with point 2, article 31, of the law No. 23/2015, "On the services outside Republic of Albania".
 12. The Director exercises all competences for running the activity of the institution in accordance with the legislation in force and with the functions and objectives of the DCC, as follows:
 - a) Lead and represent the DCC;
 - b) Report to the head of the diplomatic mission, the Minister responsible for the Diaspora and the Executive Director of NDA;
 - c) Coordinates the work between the center structures and assigns the respec-



- tive tasks and objectives to be carried out by these structures;
- d) Proposes the annual program of the activities of the DCC, which he submits for approval to the head of the diplomatic mission and to the attention of the Minister responsible for the Diaspora of the Executive Director of NDA;
 - e) Controls the progress of the activity of the DCCs in order to achieve the set objectives and full implementation of its functions, and also takes the necessary measures for better coordination of work between the DCC structures.
 - f) Informs regularly and responds to the head of the diplomatic mission, the Minister responsible for the Diaspora and the Executive Director of NDA for the progress of the activity of the DCC and for the accomplishment of its functions.
 - g) The DCMs appointed to diplomatic mission are provided with a diplomatic passport and enjoy the same status as diplomats during the period they are appointed to these missions. They receive diplomatic grades, depending on the structure of the diplomatic mission, and are financially compensated by salary, salary supplements and compensation for the cost of living by rank of appointment in the diplomatic mission in the country where they serve.
13. According to law No. 23/2015, "On Foreign Service of the Republic of Albania", and by-laws in force, members of the family of the Head are provided with diplomatic passports and enjoy the same treatment with the families of diplomatic members
 14. DCC staff will work full-time but will not be accredited in the receiving state. They are appointed by the Minister for Diaspora, based on the proposal made by the head of the diplomatic mission
 15. DCC stamps have the shape and the elements according to the decision No. 390, dated August 6, 1993, of the Council of Ministers, "On rules of production, administration, control and preservation of official stamps"
 16. The DCC emblem consists of the emblem of the Republic of Albania with the notes "Republic of Albania", "Relevant Embassy", "Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs", and "Cultural Center for Diaspora" in accordance with the decision No. 474, dated 10 July 2003, of the Council of Ministers, "On the use of the republican emblem and its size report", as amended.
 17. The Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the State Minister for Diaspora, the National Diaspora Agency and the Cultural Centers for Diaspora are responsible



for implementing this decision.

This decision enters in force after its publication in the public "Official Journal".

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION
No. 690, Date 14.11.2018

**ON PRODUCTION, TRANSMISSION AND FINANCING OF SPECIAL
EDUCATIONAL AND CULTURAL TELEVISION PROGRAMS DEDICATED TO
DIASPORA**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, Article 13, Law No. 16/2018, "On Diaspora" of Article 116, of the Law No. 97/2013, "On audio-visual media in the Republic of Albania", of as amended, and Law No. 9936, dated 26.6.2008, "On the management of the budget system in The Republic of Albania", as amended, with the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Production, transmission and financing from the state budget of special television programs for the teaching of the Albanian language and programs for Albanian culture, dedicated to diaspora, as part of the "RTSH3" program of the Albanian Radio and Television (RTSH).
2. The special TV show for learning the Albanian language is produced and transmitted by Albanian Radio and Television (RTSH) and is funded from the approved budget of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth.
3. Special TV show for Albanian culture, as an independent production of the Ministry of Culture, broadcast by Albanian Radio and Television (RTSH), with budget funding approved for the ministry.
4. Content of special TV program for the teaching of the Albanian language will be devoted to the education interests of Albanian communities abroad, according to the common curriculum realized for this purpose, based on the agreement with the Government of the Republic of Kosovo.
5. The platform of special programs for the teaching of the Albanian language, Albanian culture and national identity are prepared by a working group inter-institutional structure, set up by order of the Prime Minister, with representatives of the ministries responsible for education, culture and diaspora.



6. Broadcasting of approved programs will encourage on-line teaching and, after periodic transmission to “RTSH 3”, will be made available to the public interested free of charge.
7. Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth and Ministry of Culture, for production, transmission and financing of special programs, according to points 1, 2 and 3 of this decision, should conclude relevant agreements with Albanian Radio and Television (RTSH).
8. Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Ministry of Culture and Minister of State for Diaspora, within their area of responsibility, in cooperation with Radio and Television Albanian, to take the necessary measures for the realization of special programs and their broadcasting, starting from the new academic year 2019-2020.
9. Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Ministry of Culture and Ministry responsible for Diaspora to support Albanian Radio and Television (RTSH) for implementing the agreement with Radio Television of Kosovo (RTK) for the realization, within 2019, of the joint television program based on the interests of the Albanian Diaspora.
10. The Minister of State for Diaspora, Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth and the Ministry of Culture are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the “Official Journal”.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



**MINISTRY OF EDUCATION
SPORT AND YOUTH**

**STATE MINISTER
FOR DIASPORA**

**No. 10700,
Tirana, on 15.10.2018**

**No. 4791,
Tirana, on 16.10.2018**

**JOINT ORDER
No. 682, Date 15.10.2018**

**ON ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE DRAFTING OF SUB-
LEGAL ACTS FOR THE STATE REGISTRATION OF DIASPORA TEACHERS AND
CERTIFICATES OF DIASPORA STUDENTS**

Pursuant to Article 102 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and Article 12, point 5 of the Law no. 48/2018, dated 2.8.2018, "On some amendments and additions to Law" No. 69/2012, "On the pre-university education system in the Republic of Albania", as amended,

I HEREBY ORDER:

Establishment of the working group for drafting by-laws of the state registry of diaspora teachers and diaspora students' certificates, with the following composition:

- | | |
|------------------|----------------|
| a. Besnik Rama | Chairman, MESY |
| b. Anila Ferizaj | Member, MESY |
| c. Dorina Rapti | Member, EDI |
| d. Ilda Sadikaj | Member, MESY |
| e. Altea Tahiraj | Member, MESY |
| f. Florian Nurce | Member, MESY |
| g. Dritan Delija | Member, SMD |
| h. Erta Skora | Member, SMD |

**MINISTER
LINDITA NIKOLLA**

**MINISTER
PANDELI MAJKO**



DECISION

No. 11, dated 9.1.2019

**ON AN ADDITIONAL FUND IN THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR 2019 FOR THE
GOVERNMENTAL SERVICES DIRECTORATE**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, Articles 5 & 45 of Law no. 9936, dated 26.6.2008 "On management of the budgetary system in the Republic of Albania", as amended, and Law no. 99/2018 "On the budget of 2019", upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora.

DECIDED:

1. To the Governmental Services Directorate, in the budget of 2019, in the item "Governmental Services" is added the fund of 66 972 800 (sixty six million nine hundred seventy two thousand and eight hundred ALL), within January 31, 2019, for the organization of the Second Summit of the Diaspora, to be held on February 28 - March 2, 2019 in the cities of Tirana and Lezha.
2. This fund shall be covered by the state budget reserve fund, approved for 2019.
3. The Ministry of Culture, within the scope of its responsibility, shall coordinate with the Governmental Services Directorate for the organization of socio-cultural activities and make the cultural monuments available as appropriate.
4. The Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Ministry of Culture and the Governmental Services Directorate for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force immediately and is published in the Official Gazette.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 50, dated 27.2.2019 ON

THE AWARD OF “AMBASSADOR OF THE NATION” AWARD

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, Article 15 of Law no.16/2018 “On Diaspora”, and paragraphs 5 and 6 of the Decision no.339 dated 6.6.2018 of the Council of Ministers “On the criteria and method of awarding the “Ambassador of the Nation”, upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Awarding the “Ambassador of the Nation” award to the persons attached herein.
2. Minister of State for Diaspora is responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This Order shall enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION

No. 104, dated 28.02.2019

ON DETERMINING THE CRITERIA FOR ESTABLISHING THE STATE REGISTER FOR TEACHERS OF THE ALBANIAN LANGUAGE AND CULTURE AND FOR CERTIFICATE AWARDING FOR STUDENTS IN DIASPORA

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, and Articles 11 and 49 of the Law No. 69/2012, "On pre-university education system in the Republic of Albania", as amended, upon proposal of the Minister of Education, Sports and Youth, the Council of Ministers,

DECIDED:

1. The Ministry in charge of Education drafts the state register of teachers of Albanian language and culture in Diaspora.
2. The register contains a list of teachers eligible to teach on the programme of Albanian language and culture in the Diaspora.
3. The state register of teachers in Diaspora is drafted after the evaluation of the documentation submitted by them, electronically or by mail, to the ministry responsible for education.
4. In the state register of teachers in Diaspora are selected teachers that:
 - a) Have graduated in the field of teaching in higher education institutions. Priority is given to teachers graduated in the branches of Albanian language and literature, preschool, elementary education, history, geography, ethnology, music and arts of Albanian culture.
 - b) Teachers who are licensed as teachers according to the legislation in force of the Republic of Albania, the Republic of Kosovo or the countries where the curriculum of teaching the Albanian language and Albanian culture in the Diaspora is developed.
 - c) are accepted as teachers of Albanian language and culture in the respective countries.
5. Ministry responsible for education approves rules for application, procedures, deadlines and documentation that should be submitted by Albanian language and culture teachers in Diaspora.
6. The state register of teachers of Albanian language and culture in Diaspora contains data according to the attached model and is an integral part of this decision.
7. Teachers who become part of the state register of teachers of Albanian language and Albanian culture in the Diaspora, are provided with a registration certificate, according to the attached model herein and constitute an integral part of this



decision.

8. The state register of teachers of Albanian language and culture in the Diaspora is administered, updated and maintained by the institution responsible for quality assurance in pre-university education.
9. The Ministry responsible for education prepares the certificate for students completing the curriculum of Albanian language and Albanian culture in Diaspora, according to the “On the joint organization of the Albanian language and Albanian culture in Diaspora”, dated 23.03.2015.
10. The student’s certificate should be in Albanian language and contain the following information:
11. Number of registrations,
 - a) Student’s data,
 - b) Evaluation of achievements,
 - c) The form and content of the student certificate is approved by the Minister responsible for education.
12. The request for the quantity of student certificates is submitted to the Ministry responsible for education by the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.
13. Student certificates, teacher registration certificates, as well as the state register of Albanian language teachers and Albanian culture in Diaspora are produced by the Publishing Centre of Diaspora, as instructed by the ministry responsible for education. Certificates for the students are distributed from the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs.
14. The Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs and the State Minister of Diaspora are responsible for implementing this order.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



DECISION

No. 443, dated 26.06.2019

**ON “ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE TEACHING PROCESS AND THE
SELECTION OF TEACHERS IN THE DIASPORA”.**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and Article 10(4), of the Law no. 16/2018, dated 05.04.2018 “On Diaspora”, upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora and the Minister of Education Sports and Youth, the Council of Ministers,

DECIDED:

1. The scope of this decision is to encourage and support the organization of the teaching process and the selection of teachers in the host countries of the Albanian Diaspora. The teaching process in the host countries of the Albanian Diaspora consists in the teaching of Albanian language and culture.
2. The teaching process and selection of teachers in the Diaspora is supported by the Ministry responsible for education pursuant to the mutual state agreements and in accordance with the legislation of the host country of the Albanian Diaspora. This process is carried out in co-operation with the Ministry responsible for the Diaspora and the Ministry responsible for Foreign affairs, according to their area of responsibility
3. The following are entitled to the right to attend classes in Albanian language and culture in the host countries of the Albanian Diaspora:
 - a) children up to 18 years of age with Albanian nationality.
 - b) any person of Albanian origin residing in the host country, irrespective of his status, with a temporary or permanent residence, asylum seekers, temporary sheltered or stateless persons.
4. The lesson is conducted in accordance with the common curriculum of Albanian language and Albanian culture in the Diaspora, according to the agreement between the Ministry of Education and Sport of the Republic of Albania, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology and the Ministry of Diaspora of the Republic of Kosovo “On the joint organization of the Albanian language and Albanian culture in Diaspora” dated 23.3.2015, or pursuant to programs and plans adopted by the ministries responsible for education in the host countries.
5. The responsible Ministries of Education of the Republic of Albania and Kosovo cooperate in drafting joint documents for the organization of the teaching



- process, providing for the formation of student groups, learning outcomes by respective levels, thematic and instructional topics, curriculum, the duration of classes, the evaluation method of students and other aspects related to the field of learning.
6. The Ministry responsible for Diaspora, through the Diaspora Publishing Centre in cooperation with the Ministry responsible for Education and the Ministry responsible for Foreign affairs, supports and encourages the process of teaching the Albanian language and culture in Diaspora with textbooks, supplementary materials and professional development of teachers.
 7. The data on demand for textbooks, supplementary materials and their quantity is collected by the diplomatic missions of Albania in the host countries of the Albanian Diaspora. The Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs submit these data on demands, determined by countries and age groups of children, within May of each year to the Diaspora Publishing Centre, the State Minister for Diaspora and to the Ministry responsible for Education. The Diaspora Publishing Centre delivers to the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs the number of textbooks and supplementary materials, within August of each year, to be distributed respectively upon request of the host countries of the Albanian Diaspora.
 8. The Diaspora Publishing Centre also receives requests for textbooks from teachers who have become part of the state register of teachers of Albanian language and culture in the Diaspora, confirmed by the Ministry responsible for Education. The Diaspora Publishing Centre concludes with these teachers supply contracts for textbooks dedicated to Diaspora children.
 9. The Diaspora Publishing Centre prepares annual information on the quantity and manner of textbook distribution in the Albanian Diaspora, which is submitted afterwards to the Ministries responsible for Education and the Ministry responsible for Foreign affairs.
 10. Points 6.5 and 6.6 of Decision No. 107, dated 10.2.2010 of the Council of Ministers "On the publication, printing, distribution and sale of textbooks of the pre-higher education system", as amended, shall be repealed.
 11. Until the adoption of joint textbooks on education in Diaspora by the Joint Commission in pursuance of the Agreement "On the joint organization of the Albanian language and Albanian culture in Diaspora", dated 23.03.2015, signed by the Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth of the Republic of Albania, Ministry of Education, Science and Technology of the Republic of Kosovo and Ministry of Diaspora the Republic of Kosovo, demand for textbooks, supplementary materials and their quantity in accordance with point 7 of this Decision, shall be directly sent to the Diaspora Publishing Centre, which is assigned for their provision and



distribution within September.

12. The State Minister of Diaspora, the Minister of Education, Sports and Youth, the Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Publishing Centre of Diaspora, are responsible for following up and implementing this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

PRIME MINISTER

EDI RAMA

Acting under delegated authority

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

ERION BRAÇE

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DIASPORA

**MINISTER OF EDUCATION
SPORTS AND YOUTH**

PANDELI MAJKO

BESA SHAHINI



DECISION
No. 24, dated 16.1.2019

**ON ESTABLISHMENT, ORGANISATION AND FUNCTIONING OF THE
NATIONAL BOOK AND READING CENTRE**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, Article 10, Law No. 9000, dated 30.1.2003, "On the Organization and Functioning of the Council of Ministers", and Article 6 of Law no. 90/2012, "On the Organization and Functioning of the State Administration", upon the proposal of the Prime Minister, the Council of Ministers.

DECIDED:

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. The establishment of the National Book and Reading Centre (hereinafter referred to as NBRC)
2. NBRC is established and functions as a public legal entity based in Tirana, subordinated to the Minister of Diaspora head quartered in Tirana.
3. The scope of the NBRC is to fulfil the development tasks and direct services in the field of books, within and outside the territory of the Republic of Albania.
4. The NBRC mission is the follow up and implementation of projects in the field of books, under the ministry's governing program for the book, aiming at spreading literacy across the country, fostering creativity, strengthening the promotional and educational role of libraries and supporting projects for the promotion of Albanian papers in the European and world markets.
5. Revenues of the NBRC consist of:
 - a) The state budget;
 - b) Other revenues, in accordance with the legislation in force;

II. FUNCTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES OF NBRC

1. The NBRC performs all functions related to supporting, boosting and promoting literary and translation creativity, and contributes to the development of book policies within and outside the territory of the Republic of Albania.
2. The NBRC provides the conditions for raising awareness of the importance of books and reading in the development of the individual and society, domestically and abroad.



3. The NBRC performs the functions foreseen in the public interest, in order to create the conditions for the development in the field of books and to make professional, qualitative and independent decisions in the selection of programs and projects financed by the state budget.
4. The purpose of the functioning of the NBRC, as set out herein, does not include textbooks.

III. NBRC ORGANISATION AND OPERATION

1. NBRC duties are as follows:
 - a) Drafts programs and finances projects in the field of books;
 - b) Supports publications of books and magazines in the field of literature and social sciences also in accessible formats for people with disabilities;
 - c) Creates incentives for authors in the field of literature, providing financial support and organizes competitions for the award of national literary prizes;
 - d) Encourages the promotion of books and Albanian authors and translators inside and outside the territory of the Republic of Albania;
 - e) Carries out and promotes, in various forms:
 - f) International cooperation in the field of books;
 - g) translations of works of Albanian authors in foreign languages;
 - h) Introductions of the Albanian literature at international level.
 - i) Creates conditions for the development of reading culture in all age groups, within and outside the territory of the Republic of Albania.
 - j) Promotes the development of the book network throughout the country and develops the conditions for an increased access to book policies for readers outside the Republic of Albania, in collaboration with the Diaspora Publishing Centre;
 - k) Cooperates with international institutions operating in the field of books;
 - l) Monitors and oversees the implementation of the programs and project support;
 - m) Cooperates with state institutions for the implementation of public policies and other regulatory acts in the field of books, as well as with organizations focusing on the development and dissemination of book culture;
 - n) Provides external funding and other sources of funding in the field of books, in accordance with the legislation in force;
 - o) Issues administrative acts and performs other tasks, of a training and promotion nature, in accordance with the purpose of the NBRC;
 - p) Proposes to the ministry responsible for the book amendments to the legislation in force in the field of book.



2. The NBRC through its approved budget for each calendar year, finances projects submitted by natural or legal persons whose object of activity is the field of books.
3. The financing of projects and the organization of the activities of the NBRC, as appropriate, shall be carried out in accordance with the letters “a” or “b”, point 1, Article 26, Law no. 10352, dated 18.11.2010, “On art and culture”, as amended.
4. Implementation of the NBRC projects is approved by order of the director, upon proposal by the NBRC Collegial Body.
5. The Collegial Body is a collegial structure within the NBRC.
6. The Collegial Body established in accordance with the provisions of this Chapter, evaluates and selects projects from the content and financial point of view, presenting proposals for approval to the General Director.
7. The Collegial Body consists of not less than 3 members, selected by personalities in the field of letters. The members of the Collegial Body are appointed by order of the General Director of the NBRC.
8. The selection criteria for the members of the Collegial Body Are set out in the statute of the NBRC.
9. The competences and the manner of functioning of the Collegial Body of NBRC are approved by the General Director of the institution.
10. The criteria and procedures relating to project proposals for financial support provided for in this chapter shall be determined by the order of the General Director of the NBRC.
11. The structure and organization of the NBRC are approved by order of the Prime Minister, upon the proposal of the Minister responsible for the book, in accordance with the provisions of the legislation in force for the organization and functioning of the state administration.
12. The employment relationship of the NBRC staff is regulated by the provisions of law no. 7961, dated 12.7.1995, “Labour Code of the Republic of Albania”, as amended.
13. NBRC is administered and represented by the General Director, who organizes and directs all activities of the Centre and reports to the Minister of Diaspora. The General Director is appointed, released or dismissed by the order of the Minister of Diaspora.
14. The procedure followed for the appointment, release or dismissal of the General Director of NBRC is conducted in accordance with the decision no. 173, dated 7.3.2003, of the Council of Ministers, “On the appointment, release or dismissal of heads of institutions under the dependency of the Council of Ministers, the Prime Minister or the Minister”.
15. The Regulation that regulates internal working methods and behaviour of the



NBRC staff is approved by the Minister responsible of the book upon proposal of the Executive Director of NBRC.

16. The emblem of the NBRC consist of the emblem of the Republic of Albania with the inscription: "Republic of Albania, Journal of the Ministry of Culture, National Book and Reading Centre", in accordance with the legislation in power.
17. The seal of NBRC is produced, administered and stored in accordance with the legislation in force.

IV. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

1. Financial management and logistic support of the NBRC are provided by the Ministry of Culture.
2. The Minister of Culture is assigned to, within 15 days, from the date of entry into force of the Decision herein, to propose to the Prime Minister the structure and organizational chart of the NBRC.
3. The Ministry of Culture, and the National Book and Reading Centre are assigned to the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 76, Dated 15. 04. 2019

**ON THE APPROVAL OF THE ORGANIZATIONAL STRUCTURE OF THE
PUBLISHING CENTER OF DIASPORA**

Pursuant to Article 102(3) of the Constitution, Article 7 of Law no. 152/2013, “On Civil Servant” as amended, Article 10 of Law no. 9000, dated 30. 1. 2003 “On the Organization and Functioning of the Council of Ministers”, Article 21 of Law no. 90/2012 “On the Organization and Functioning of the State Administration”, I

ORDER:

1. The structure of Publishing Centre of Diaspora will be in accordance to scheme 1, as attached herein and shall constitute an integral part of it.
2. The structure of Publishing Centre of Diaspora will be in accordance to scheme 2, as attached herein and shall constitute an integral part of it.
3. The number of employees of the Publishing Centre of Diaspora will be 15 employees in total.
4. The Prime Minister’s Order no. 94 dated 21.2.2014 “On Approval of the Organizational Structure of the Publishing House of Educational Textbooks” is repealed.

This Order shall enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION

No. 492, dated 10.7.2019

ON "APPROVAL OF PRICES AND ELIGIBLE CATEGORIES RECEIVING FREE TEXTBOOKS PUBLISHED BY THE PUBLISHING CENTER OF DIASPORA FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2019 - 2020"

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, point 5, Article 10 of Law No. 16/2018 "On Diaspora", of Law no.9616 dated 27.9.2006 "On the Book in the Republic of Albania", of Law no. 99/2018 "On the budget of 2019", and pursuant to point 19 of Decision No. 469, dated 26.7.2018 of the Council of Ministers "On the establishment, organization and operation of the Publishing Centre of Diaspora", upon proposal of the Minister of Diaspora and the Minister of Finance and Economy, the Council of Ministers:

DECIDED:

1. Contributing to the preservation, development and teaching of Albanian language and culture in the Diaspora, the Diaspora Publishing Centre, publishes and provides free textbooks and supplementary texts, for the 2019-2020 school year, as listed in Schedule 1 attached hereto.
2. The categories that benefit from free textbooks published by the Diaspora Publishing Centre are the students and teachers determined pursuant to the Council of Ministers Decision No. 443 dated 26.06.2019 "On the organization of the teaching process and the selection of teachers in the Diaspora".
3. Textbooks and supplementary textbooks published by the Diaspora Publishing Centre must be fitted with the logo of the institution and the holographic stamp of the certification on the part of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth. The Diaspora Publishing Centre provides the holographic stamp from the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth towards payment.
4. Textbook and supplementary textbooks awards for teaching in the Albanian Diaspora are placed on their respective covers, in accordance with Schedule 1 attached this decision.
5. The financial impacts arising from the implementation of this decision must be borne by the budget approved for the Diaspora Publishing Centre.



6. The Diaspora Publishing Centre is responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



STATE MINISTER OF DIASPORA

PANDELI MAJKO

MINISTER OF FINANCES
AND ECONOMY

ANILA DENAJ

List no. 1

LIST OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS FOR THE DIASPORA FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR
2019 - 2020

No.	Title	Quantity	Price per item / lekë
1	Abetare (<i>Shkronjë pas Shkronje</i>)	3215 copë	507 lekë
2	Fletore pune Abetareje	2775 copë	243 lekë
3	Gjuhë shqipe 2	1510 copë	453 lekë
4	Fletore pune 2	330 copë	250 lekë
5	Gjuhë shqipe 3	945 copë	394 lekë
6	Fletore pune 3	330 copë	300 lekë
7	Gjuhë shqipe 4	310 copë	460 lekë
8	Fletore pune 4	200 copë	300 lekë
9	Gjuhë shqipe 5	185 copë	530 lekë
10	Fletore pune 5	150 copë	250 lekë
11	Gjuhë shqipe 6	85 copë	539 lekë
12	Fletore pune 6	50 copë	250 lekë
13	Histori e Shqipërisë 9	220 copë	297 lekë
14	Gjeografi e Shqipërisë 9	220 copë	284 lekë
15	Të mësojmë gjuhën amtare dhe kulturën shqiptare 1 / Seteshkolllore për filestarë	120 copë	346 lekë
16	Të mësojmë gjuhën amtare dhe kulturën shqiptare 2 / Seteshkolllore për më të rritur	150 copë	346 lekë
17	Të mësojmë gjuhën amtare dhe kulturën shqiptare 3 / Seteshkolllore për më të rritur	150 copë	346 lekë



18	Matematika 1	24 copë	530 lekë
19	Matematika 2	24 copë	291 lekë
	TOTAL	10 993 copë	4.231.499 lekë



DECISION

Nr. 723, dated 11.11.2019

FOR "SOME AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO DECISION NO. 492, DATED 10. 07.2019 OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS "FOR APPROVAL OF PRICES AND CATEGORIES THAT PROVIDE FREE TEXT PUBLISHED BY THE DIASPORA PUBLISHING CENTER FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR 2019 - 2020"

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, point 5, Article 10, of Law 16/2018, "On Diaspora", of Law no. 9616, dated 27.9.2006, "On the book in the Republic of Albania", of Law No.99 / 2018, "On the budget of 2019", as amended, and of point 19 of Decision no. 469, dated 26.7.2018, of the Council of Ministers, "On the establishment, organization and functioning of the Diaspora Publishing Center", on the proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora and the Minister of Finance and Economy, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

In decision no. 492, dated 10.07.2019, of the Council of Ministers changes and additions are made as following:

1. Point 1 is amended as follows:
"1. The Diaspora Publishing Center, in order to enable the preservation, development and teaching of Albanian language and culture in the Diaspora, publishes and provides free textbooks for the 2019-2020 school year according to list no. 1, additional textbooks according to list no. 2 and supplementary literature according to list no. 3, which are attached to this decision. "
2. Point 2 shall be amended as follows:
"2. The categories that benefit from free textbooks and supplementary literature published or provided by the Diaspora Publishing Center are students and teachers as defined by Council of Ministers Decision No. 443, dated 26.06.2019, "On the organization of the teaching process and selection of teachers in the diaspora".
3. In point 4, after the words "...with list 1, ..." is added "... with list 2 and list 3, ...".



4. Point 5 is amended as follows:

“5. Financial effects arising from the implementation of this Decision on the provision of textbooks and supplementary textbooks, pursuant to figure no. 1, 2 and 3, and the distribution of additional and supplementary textbooks in figures no.2 and no.3, attached are supported by the budget approved for the Diaspora Publishing Center.

5. After list no.1, attached to the decision, lists no.2 and no.3 are added to this decision.

This Decision shall enter into force after its publication in the Official Journal.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**

**STATE MINISTER OF DIASPORA
PANDELI MAJKO**

**MINISTER OF FINANCES AND
ECONOMY
ANILA DENAJ**



List no. 2

**LIST OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS FOR THE DIASPORA FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR
2019 - 2020**

No.	Title	Quantity	Price per item / lekë
1	Abetare	81 copë	507
2	Fletore pune Abetare	81 copë	243
3	Gjuha shqipe 2	51 copë	453
4	Gjuha shqipe 3	51 copë	394
5	Gjuha shqipe 4	45 copë	460
6	Gjuha shqipe 5	37 copë	530
7	Gjuha shqipe 6	36 copë	539
8	Gjuha shqipe 7	36 copë	450
9	Gjuha shqipe 8	40 copë	410
10	Gjuha shqipe 9	40 copë	492
11	Gjuha shqipe 11	26 copë	350
12	Gjuha shqipe 12	26 copë	570
13	Të mësojmë gjuhën amtare 1	79 copë	346
14	Të mësojmë gjuhën amtare 2	58 copë	346
15	Të mësojmë gjuhën amtare 3	50 copë	346
	TOTAL	737 copë	304 563 lekë

*On total value is included also VAT (for book 6%).



List no. 3

**LIST OF SCHOOL TEXTBOOKS FOR THE DIASPORA FOR THE SCHOOL YEAR
2019 - 2020**

No.	Title	Quantity	Price per item / lekë
1	LUAJ ME SHKRONJAT (Kuti kartoni që ka fisha me shkronja e figura dhe me CD) Shtëpia Botuese ALBAS	500 copë	954 lekë
2	SHKRONJAT (shkruaj, fshi, mëso) me laps magjik Shtëpia Botuese AEDITIONS	500 copë	500 lekë
3	NJË HAP DREJT SHKOLLËS (Paketë për fëmijë 5-6 vjeç) Shtëpia Botuese ALBAS	500 copë	2200 lekë
4	ÇUFOJA DHE BUBI KAÇURREL Shtëpia Botuese ÇABEJ	500 copë	750 lekë
5	TREGIME TË MOÇME SHQIPTARE (lidhje speciale) Shtëpia Botuese KUTELI '04	500 copë	2000 lekë
6	NJË ELEFANTELEGANT (Përrallë me pengesa) Shtëpia Botuese BOTART	500 copë	400 lekë
7	50 PËRRALLAT MË TË BUKURA Shtëpia Botuese AEDITIONS	500 copë	1500 lekë
8	DI TË LUAJ DHE TË QESH (150 GJËEGJËZA) Shtëpia Botuese EXTRA	500 copë	300 lekë
9	FABULAT E EZOPIT (lidhje speciale) Shtëpia Botuese PEGI	500 copë	500 lekë
10	PRINCESHA ARGJIRO Shtëpia Botuese ONUFRI	500 copë	500 lekë
11	Malli për Mëmëdhenë Shtëpia Botuese MEDIAPRINT	500 copë	2500 lekë

*On total value is included also VAT (for book 6%).



DECISION

No. 195, Dated 05. 04. 2019

**ON APPROVAL OF MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATION COUNCIL OF
DIASPORA**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and Article 19(1), Article 20 of the Law no. 16/2018 dated 05.04.2018 "On Diaspora", and point 9, of Decision no. 340, dated 6.6.2018 of the Council of Ministers "On the determination of rules, conditions and method of selection of representatives of the Coordination Council of Diaspora", upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora, the Council of Ministers,

DECIDED:

1. The approval of the Coordination Council composition from the selected members following the order herein:
 - Mr. Mark Gjonaj - representative from the Diaspora in the United States of America;
 - Mr. Visar Tasimi - representative from the Diaspora in the United States of America;
 - Mrs. Esmeralda Mosko - representative from the Diaspora in the United States of America;
 - Mrs. Adriana Fishta Bejko - representative from the Diaspora in Canada
 - Mr. Ardian Radovicka - representative from the Diaspora in Canada;
 - Mr. Lazim Destani - representative from the Diaspora in Germany;
 - Mr. Sokrat Sinaj - representative from the Diaspora in Switzerland;
 - Mr. Ardian Lekaj - representative from the Diaspora in Netherlands;
 - Mr. Rosario Peta - representative from the Diaspora in Italy;
 - Mrs. Anila Hyka Smorgrav - representative from the Diaspora in France;
 - Mr. Gazmend Kapllani - representative from the Diaspora in Greece;
 - Mr. Namik Shabi - representative from the Diaspora in Turkey;
 - Mr. Bashkim Bekiri - representative from the Diaspora in Australia;
 - Mrs. Brikena Muharremi - representative from the Diaspora in the United Kingdom;
 - Mr. Endri Hatillari - representative from the Diaspora in the United Kingdom;
2. The first meeting of the Coordination Council of Diaspora will be held on the National Day of Diaspora, on December 18th, 2019.
3. The Minister of Diaspora, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the National Agency



of Diaspora are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION

No.320, dated. 15. 05. 2019

**ON THE STATUS OF MEMBERS OF THE COORDINATION COUNCIL OF
DIASPORA**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, Law no.16/2018, Article 5, letter “a” “On Diaspora”, upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Members of the Coordination Council of Diaspora, during their mandate and exercise of their activities, are entitled to a special status in accordance with the provisions of this decision.
2. Members of the Coordination Council of Diaspora, in the function of fulfilling their duties to protect and strengthen the relationships between the country of origin and Diaspora, are entitled to:
 - a) search for relevant information in the area of responsibility covered by the responsible state institutions;
 - b) make proposal for administrative acts to state institutions regarding the interests of Albanian community in Diaspora;
 - c) attend hearings in the State Committee on Diaspora or the committees of the Parliament of Albania on matters regarding the interests of the Albanian Diaspora;
 - d) be provided with an official domain address@diaspora.gov.al.
3. Members of the Coordination Council of Diaspora are entitled to be treated with immediate and direct priority by the extraordinary and plenipotentiary ambassadors of Albania as well as by the heads of diplomatic missions in their respective countries whenever necessary for the smooth running of the process.
4. Professional responsibilities in the use of funds and administrative responsibilities of the Council fall under the responsibility of the National Agency of Diaspora.
5. The National Agency of Diaspora performs the functions of the technical secretariat of the Coordination Council of the Albanian Diaspora.
6. The expenses for travel, accommodation and per diem allowances for the official meetings of the members of the Coordination Council of Diaspora shall be covered by the approved budget by the National Agency of Diaspora in accordance with the legislation in force.



7. The State Minister of Diaspora, the Minister of Foreign Affairs and the National Agency of Diaspora are responsible for implementing this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

PRIME MINISTER

EDI RAMA

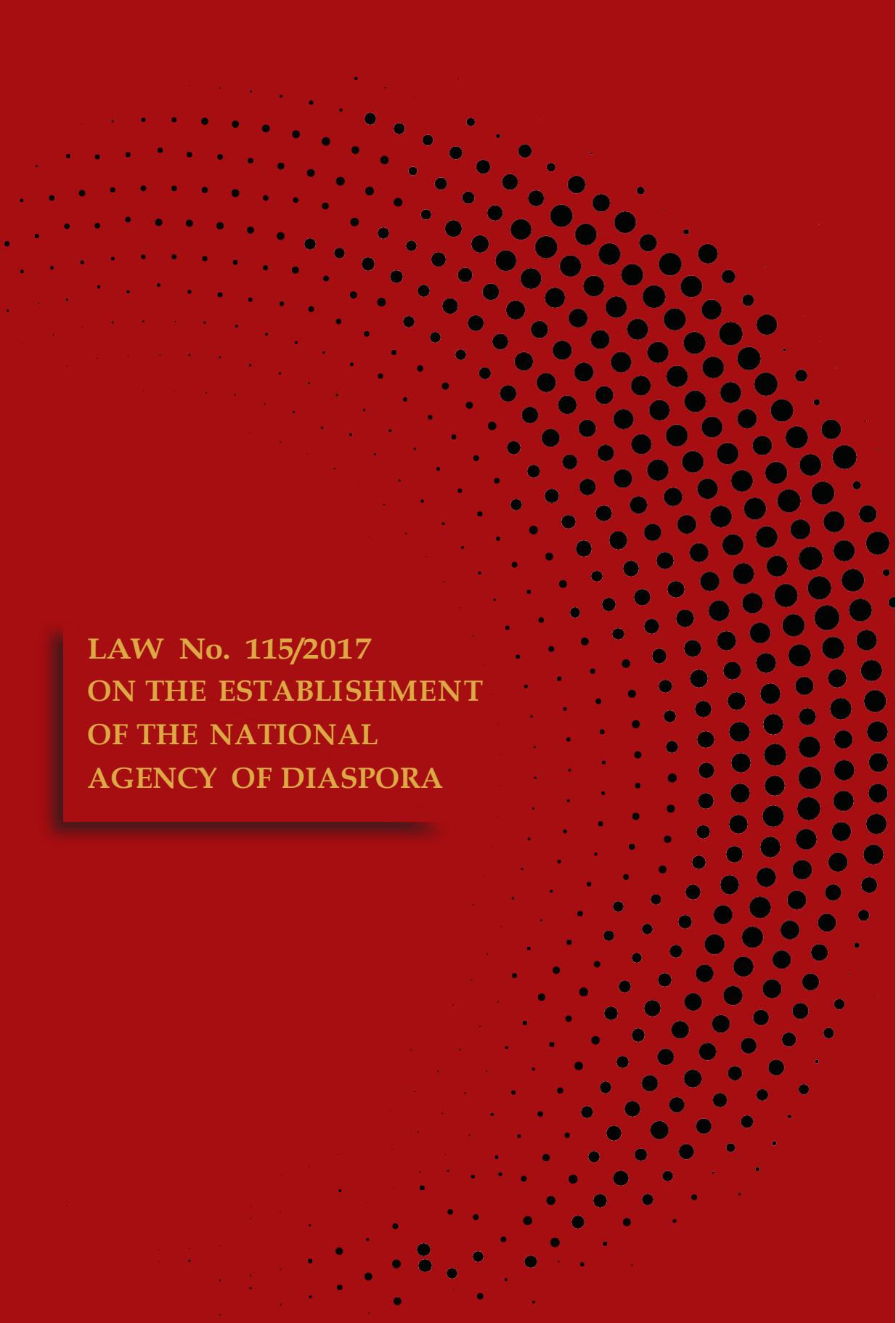
Acting under delegated authority

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

ERION BRAÇE

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DIASPORA

PANDELI MAJKO



LAW No. 115/2017
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT
OF THE NATIONAL
AGENCY OF DIASPORA



LAW
No. 115/2017

ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE NATIONAL AGENCY OF DIASPORA

Pursuant to articles 78, 81, and 83, point 1, of the Albanian Constitution and based on the Council of Ministers' proposal,

THE PARLIAMENT OF ALBANIA,

DECIDED:

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Object

This law defines the mission, content and functioning of the National Agency of Diaspora, as well as well as other issues related to its activity.

Article 2

Mission

The mission of the National Agency of Diaspora is to develop and strengthen the institutional cooperation with Diaspora through:

- a) The improvement of diaspora community members' position, as well as protection of their interest and rights at the respective countries where they live;
- b) Offers assistance in preserving the language and in protecting the national cultural heritage;
- c) The encouragement of economic cooperation between the country of origin and diaspora;
- d) Cooperation for prosperity, peace, wellbeing, culture and social solidarity of the whole nation.

Article 3

Definitions

Under the framework of this law, the following terminologies have these meanings:



“National Agency of Diaspora”, hereinafter called “The Agency”, is the responsible governmental body responsible for matters related to diaspora.

“Diaspora” includes:

Early Albanian communities in the world;

Any individual born in Albania that resides outside of its political borders;

Any individual born outside of Albanian political borders but is of Albanian origin.

“Responsible minister”, is the Minister whom under this Government covers all the activity related to diaspora.

“Country of origin”, is the Republic of Albania.

Article 4

Principles of activity

The Agency is organized and operates based on the principles of legality, constitutionality, cooperation and inclusiveness.

CHAPTER II

AGENCY'S ORGANISATION AND OPERATION

Article 5

Agency's organization

1. The Agency is an independent legal public entity, seated in Tirana, under the framework of the respective law on the organization and functioning of the public administration.
2. The Agency's activity will be under the supervision of the responsible Minister for Diaspora.
3. The supervising bodies of the Agency are the Steering Council and the Executive Director.
4. The structure and the organizational competencies of this Agency are pursuant to Council of Minister's Decision under the proposal of the responsible Minister for diaspora.
5. The organizational structure of the Agency shall be approved by a decree of the Prime Minister.
6. The employment relations for the Executive Director and the Agency's employees



are regulated pursuant to Civil Employee's Legislation. As per the administrative employees, employment relations are regulated pursuant to the Labor Code provisions.

7. The Agency has its logo and stamp, approved by its Executive Director.

Article 6

Duties of the Agency

The Agency performs the following duties:

1. Takes measures to create a unique diaspora database according to the free will of the individual. The saved records and the data elaboration are completed in conformity with the legislation in power on the personal data protection.
2. Implements policies and projects related to diaspora.
3. Prepares periodic reports to be presented to the responsible Minister for Diaspora.
4. Prepares and coordinates the work for the preparation of the National Strategy of Diaspora and follows up its implementation.
5. Maintains ties with the diaspora, its representatives and the country of origin.
6. Is responsible for financial operation and management as well as its periodic monitoring.
7. Cooperates and coordinates activities with other state institutions, civil society and other organizations in and out of Albania to improve the diaspora community members' position.
8. Assists in the protection and development of national and cultural values of diaspora.
9. Informs diaspora on the political processes in the country of origin, with the scope to include them in the political, economic and cultural life of the Republic of Albania.
10. Administers the assets at its disposal.

Article 7

Steering Council

1. The Steering Council is the decision-making body for all the administrative and financial matters of the Agency.

The Steering Council is a collegial body, composed by seven members as follows:

- One representative of the responsible Minister for Diaspora;
- One representative of the responsible Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs;



- One representative of the responsible Minister for Interior Affairs;
 - One representative of the responsible Minister for Finances and Economy;
 - One representative of the responsible Minister for Education, Sport and Youth;
 - One representative of the responsible Minister for Culture;
 - One representative of the responsible Minister for Tourism.
2. The mandate of the Steering Council members is four years.
 3. The chairman of the Steering Council is selected from one of its members and nominated by the responsible Minister for Diaspora.
 4. The detailed rules on the nomination, dismissal and retribution of the Steering Council's chairman and its members are approved by a decision of the Council of Ministers.

Article 8

Competencies of the Steering Council

The Steering Council has the following competencies:

- a) Approves the development programs of the Agency in accordance with the diaspora relations Strategic Documents;
- b) Approves the regulation on the internal administrative organization, functions and responsibilities of the internal structures and the administrative and support staff;
- c) Exercises the powers provided by the applicable legislation on the financial management and control;
- d) Proposes the structure and the organizational competencies as well as the salary scale of the Agency's employees;
- e) Approves the action plan, financial report, annual report and other reports of the Agency;
- f) Decides on other matters, in accordance with the obligations of the legislation in force.

Article 9

Executive Director

The Executive Director is responsible for the administration and functioning of the Agency and represents it in its relations with the third parties.

The Executive Director is nominated from the responsible Minister for Diaspora, in accordance with the law on the civil servant status.

The Executive Director reports to the Steering Council for the Agency's activity.



Article 10

Agency's resources and funding methods

1. The financial resources of the Agency are:
 - a) The revenues coming partly from the state budget;
 - b) The income from projects, donations and other legitimate sources.
2. For the purpose of implementing this Law and its relevant activity, the Agency may invite other domestic or foreign co-financing subjects to contribute in maintaining and strengthening the link between the country of origin and the diaspora, according to the legislation in force.
3. Criteria, procedures for allocation of funds for co-financing of projects and the method of reporting on their implementation shall be in accordance with the legislation in force on the management of the budget system in the Republic of Albania.

CHAPTER III

COMPETENCIES FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN THE COUNTRY OF ORIGIN AND DIASPORA

Article 11

Policies of the country of origin for the diaspora

The Council of Ministers defines the policies of the country of origin for the diaspora, to be implemented by the responsible minister, the Agency and other state authorities, in accordance with their field of activity.

Article 12

Responsible Minister for Diaspora

The responsible Minister supervises the activity of the Agency as related to its state responsibility field and in accordance with the law on the organization and functioning of the public administration.

Article 13

Inter-institutional cooperation

1. The state authorities cooperate mutually to fulfill their duties in the field of relations between the country of origin and the diaspora.



2. This cooperation is carried out through joint reporting and coordination of activities, in the manner determined by the decision of the Council of Ministers.

CHAPTER IV OTHER PROVISIONS

Article 14

The National Strategy for Diaspora

1. The National Strategy for Diaspora has as its scope to preserve and strengthen relationships between the country of origin and diaspora, as well as to identify the current status of these relations and the actions to be taken for their development.
2. The Strategy shall be approved by a decision of the Council of Ministers, upon the proposal of the Minister responsible for the diaspora.
3. The National Diaspora Agency is entitled to periodically review the strategy document.

Article 15

Logo of the National Diaspora Agency

The logo of the National Diaspora Agency will be according to the attached Annex.

Article 16

By-laws

The Council of Ministers is responsible for the issuance of secondary legislation pursuant to article 7, paragraph 5, article 11, article 13, paragraph 2, and article 14, paragraph 2 of this law.

The Prime Minister is entitled to issue the by-laws in order to implement paragraph 4 of the article 5 of this law.

The issuing of the by-laws foreseen under this article shall be done within 3 months from the entry into force of this law.



Article 17

Entry into force

This law enters into force 15 days after its publication in the public “Official Journal”.

Announced with the decree No. 10706, date 26.12.2017, of the President of the Republic of Albania, Ilir Meta.

**SPEAKER
GRAMOZ RUÇI**

Approved on 18.12.2017





DECISION

No. 114, Date 23.2.2018

**ON DETERMINING THE RULES APPOINTING, DISMISSING AND
REPRESENTING THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE SUPERVISORY
BOARD OF THE NATIONAL DIASPORA AGENCY**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and Article 7 of Law No. 115/2017, “On the establishment of the National Diaspora Agency”, upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers,

DECIDED:

1. Members of the Supervisory Council of the National Diaspora Agency shall be appointed and dismissed by order of the Minister responsible for Diaspora, upon the proposal of the respective minister, according to the composition defined in point 2 of Article 7 of Law No. 115/2017, “On the establishment of the National Diaspora Agency”.
2. The Minister responsible for the Diaspora appoints the chairman of the Supervisory Board from one of its members.
3. The chairman and the members of the steering council shall be high level leaders in the ministry or members of the cabinet of the minister.
4. The chairman and members of the board of directors are discharged before the end of the 4-year term:
 - a) When released or dismissed by the governing function exercising at the ministry he represents;
 - b) UPON proposal of the respective minister, due to the change of mission and duties, which he performs in the ministry;
 - c) NEGLECTS performance of duties and regular attendance at council meetings.
5. The Minister responsible for the diaspora, 30 (thirty) days before the expiration of the 4-year mandate or shortly after the dismissal of the member, asks the Ministry represented in the Managing Board of the National Diaspora Agency to present the name of the candidate for this council member.



6. The chairman and members of the Supervisory Board of the National Diaspora Agency are rewarded according to decision No. 418, dated 27.6.2012, of the Council of Ministers, “On determining the remuneration of members of councils, boards or commissions of central government units”, as amended.
7. The respective ministers shall send proposals to the members of the Supervisory Board of the National Diaspora Agency within 10 days from the date of entry into force of this decision.
8. The State Minister for Diaspora, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Interior, the Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Tourism and the Environment are responsible for implementing this decision.

This decision enters in force 15 days after its publication in the public “Official Journal”.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 1, Date 25.9.2018

**ON APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE
SUPERVISORY BOARD OF THE NATIONAL DIASPORA AGENCY**

Pursuant to law No. 115/2017 “On the Establishment of the National Diaspora Agency”, point 1 and 2 of the Decision No. 114/2018 of the Council of Ministers “On the appointment, dismissal and remuneration of members of the Supervisory Board of the National Diaspora Agency,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Appointment of members of the Supervisory Board, as follows:
 - Mr. Etjen Xhafa, representative of the Ministry of European Affairs and Foreign Affairs;
 - Mrs. Rovená Voda, representative of the Ministry of Interior;
 - Mrs. Besa Shahini, representative of the Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports;
 - Mr. Hajrulla Çeku, representative of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment;
 - Mrs. Esmeralda Hasani, representative of the State Minister for Diaspora;
 - Mrs. Suzana Stefa, representative of the Ministry of Finance and Economy;
 - Mrs. Mimoza Hysa Çuliqi, representative of the Ministry of Culture.
 - Mr. Etjen Xhafa, representative of the Ministry of European Affairs and Foreign Affairs, is appointed Chairman.

2. The chairman and the members of the Supervisory Board are responsible for following up and implementation of this order.

This order enters in force immediately.

**MINISTER
PANDELI MAJKO**



ORDER
Nr. 53, dated 16.03.2018

**“ON THE APPROVAL OF THE STRUCTURE AND ORGANIZATION OF THE
NATIONAL DIASPORA AGENCY**

Pursuant to point 3, Article 102 of the Constitution, Article 7, Law no. 152/2013, “On the civil servant”, as amended, of Article 10 of Council no. 9000, dated 30.1.2003, “On the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers”, and Article 21 of Council No. 90/2012, “On the organization and functioning of the state administration”,

ORDER:

1. The structure of the National Diaspora Agency should be according to Scheme 1, which is attached to this order and is an integral part of it.
2. The staff of the National Diaspora Agency shall be in accordance with Scheme 2, which is attached to this order and is an integral part of it.
3. The number of employees of the National Diaspora Agency should be 15 in total.

This order shall enter into force immediately.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



LAW No. 32/2018
ALBANIAN FUND FOR
DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT



LAW
No. 32/2018

ALBANIAN FUND FOR DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT

Pursuant to articles 78, 81, point 1, and 83 point 1, of Constitution, by proposal of Council of Ministers,

PARLIAMENT OF REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

DECIDED:

CHAPTER I
GENERAL PROVISIONS

Article 1

Scope

This law aims to define operational and organizational rules of Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development.

Article 2

Mission

The mission of Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development is to provide and distribute funding, for the encouragement of social, economic and cultural development, based on the national strategy of diaspora, through promoting, encouraging and boosting the philanthropic competence and investments in support of diaspora development in the Republic of Albania and abroad.

Article 3

Definitions

The following terms used in this Law have the following meaning:

- a) "Donations" is offer of funds, funding or materials through a contract or agreement to support accomplishment of projects implemented by AFDD;
- b) "Donors" are all the banking and financial institutions, national and international,



- public or private, which finance development projects to be implemented by AFDD;
- c) “Philanthropy” is contributing to wellbeing and social economic development of diaspora.
 - d) “AFDD” is Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development (hereinafter AFDD);
 - e) “Procedures Manual” is the manual of managing administrative, technical and financing procedures of AFDD;
 - f) “Project” are projects or development programmes implemented by AFDD being sponsored by different donors or the state;
 - g) “Statute” is the act that regulates the AFDD activities and operation.

Article 4

Juridical status

- 1. AFDD is a public juridical person.
- 2. AFDD manages projects financed by the Council of Ministers or donors in accordance with scope of its activity pursuant to terms and conditions foreseen in the relevant agreement.
- 3. AFDD seat is defined in its Statute.

Article 5

Scope of activity

- 1. AFDD serves as a mechanism recognized by law to encourage philanthropic skills/ donations and investments of diaspora members as an attempt towards social economic and cultural development in the Republic of Albania and abroad.
- 2. Pursuant to its mission AFDD has the following objectives:
 - a) Support the diaspora members to enable their contribution in issues such as education, culture and health;
 - b) Strengthening of cooperation with other non for profit organizations and philanthropic organizations, which are active in social-economic and cultural development.

Article 6

Competencies

- 1. AFDD activity includes drafting, management, financing, implementation and supervision of projects included in its mission.



2. AFDD competencies include:
 - a) Project management for projects funded by Council of Ministers and/or other donors, whose aim is to boost mediation of philanthropy;
 - b) Mediation of financial support through philanthropy, for improvement of cultural and social economic infrastructure in Albania and in diaspora;
 - c) Performing different activities pursuant to policies and instruments for boosting philanthropy of projects with development impact in Republic of Albania and diaspora.
3. AFDD cooperates with public institutions and civil society organizations that operate in fields or sectors connected with development of investments in Albania and diaspora.
4. AFDD assists in establishment of diaspora Chamber of Commerce according to legislation in force. Diaspora Chamber of Commerce has its logo. Logo design is as per attached annex of this law.
5. AFDD can sign agreements with Council of Ministers pursuant to relevant agreement for management of projects financed by CoM and/or donors, based on the scope of Fund's activity.

CHAPTER II SOURCE OF CAPITAL

Article 7 **Source of capital**

1. Revenues in AFDD budget are created by:
 - a) funds generated by agreements between Republic of Albania, Council of Ministers, and other donors to finance projects implemented by AFDD;
 - b) Funds from the state budget for projects financed by the Council of Ministers as foreseen by this law;
 - c) Individuals and institutions, in the Republic of Albania or abroad, pursuant to relevant agreements;
 - d) Revenues generated from its own activities and offered services;
 - e) Material contribution from programmes of two or multi-parties as well as physical persons and other non-for-profit organizations which perform philanthropic activity;
 - f) Other sources, accepted and recognized by legislation in force.



2. AFDD makes use of revenues created for its activity according to legislation in force on financial management.
3. AFDD implements all the rules and regulations as per financial management and control.

CHAPTER III ORGANISATIONAL CHARTER

Article 8

Governing bodies

Governing bodies of AFDD are:

- a) Steering Committee;
- b) Executive Director.

Article 9

Composition of the Steering Committee

1. Steering Committee is the Supreme decision-making body composed of 7 (seven) members, as follows:
 - a) 6 (six) members, which are elected from public administration institutions according to their field of activity, based on the projects to be implemented by AFDD;
 - b) 1 (one) member, representing diaspora, elected from Coordinating Council of Diaspora members.
2. The Chairman of the Steering Committee is elected from one of its members.
3. The Chairman and the members of Steering Committee are elected and dismissed by a decision of the Council of Ministers upon a proposal made by the State Minister for Diaspora.
4. The mandate of the Chairperson and of the members is 4 (four) years with a right to be re-elected;
5. During the selection of the members of the Steering Committee the legislation in force on gender equality is applicable.



Article 10

Steering Committee tasks

1. Steering Committee has the following tasks:
 - a) Approves major activities of the Fund such as financial, organizational and administrative tasks of AFDD;
 - b) Approves Statute and procedures manual of AFDD by a quorum of 2/3 of votes from members;
 - c) Approves project implementation agreements as well as service activities which generate revenues;
 - d) Nominates and discharges the executive director pursuant to article 11 of this law;
 - e) Supervises administration and activity of AFDD;
 - f) Approves AFDD organizational structure;
 - g) Approves terms and basic criteria of employment in AFDD as well as salaries scale based on legislation in force on salary scales;
 - h) Approves the annual balance sheet, annual and periodic AFDD activity reports;
 - i) Approves annual AFDD budget;
 - j) Analyses and approves reports of controls and audit carried on AFDD activity;
 - k) Approves operating regulation of supervisory board and criteria for decision making, necessary quorum etc.;
 - l) Makes decision on issues related to AFDD activity and approves the necessary documents for this activity;
 - m) Reports periodically to the respective Ministry.
2. Steering Committee has a secretary who is selected among the administration employees of AFDD.
3. More detailed procedures about supervisory competencies are defined in the Statute, procedures manual and its operating regulation.

Article 11

Executive director

1. Executive Director:
 - a) Is the highest executive authority of AFDD;
 - b) Reports to Steering Committee;
 - c) Is nominated by a majority of 2/3 of members of the Steering Committee of AFDD.



2. Executive Director need to have the following:
 - a) Albanian citizenship;
 - b) Has completed a second degree of university;
 - c) Has experience not less than 3years ofmanagement of other donors' projects;
 - d) Fluent in one or more foreign languages.
3. Executive Director is nominated for a period of 5-years with the right to be re-elected not more than once.
4. Executive Director shall be discharged from duty before the expiration of the term, with a 2/3 majority of the total number of AFDD Committee members, only if:
 - a) Is sentenced by the court, by a final decision, for a criminal offense;
 - b) Is physically or mentally incapable of exercising its functions for a period of more than six months;
 - c) It seriously violates the rules of ethics of work, which are determined by the Steering Committee in the AFDD procedures manual;
 - d) Does not fulfill the duties assigned according to article 12 of this law;
 - e) Resigns.

Article 12

Competencies of the Executive Director

1. The Executive Director exercises these powers:
 - a) Represents the AFDD in relations with third parties at home and abroad;
 - b) Directs the administrative and organizational activity of the AFDD, pursues the implementation of the decisions of the Steering Committee and the instructions stemming from the statute;
 - c) Administers the financial resources of AFDD in accordance with this law and the statute;
 - d) Signs agreements with different donors;
 - e) Elects and appoints staff, in accordance with the Labor Code;
 - f) Calls for the convening of extraordinary meetings of the Steering Committee;
 - g) Performs all other duties assigned by this law, the statute and the manual of the AFDD procedures.
2. The manner and procedures for exercising the powers of the Executive Director are set out in the AFDD's statute and manual of procedures.

Article 13

AFDD administration

1. The activity of AFDD is supported by an administration, which functions in accordance with the AFDD's statute and manual of procedures.



2. The labor relations of the employees of this administration are regulated by the Labor Code.

Article 14

Reporting

1. AFDD reports to the ministry responsible for the annual and periodic activity of the institution.
2. The AFDD reports on the funds collected and how they are spent, at the Sub-Commission on Diaspora and Migration at the Parliament of Albania, at its request.

Article 15

Conflict of Interest

During their activity, AFDD employees must observe the rules to prevent and avoid conflicts of interest, according to the legislation in force for the prevention of conflict of interest in the exercise of public functions.

CHAPTER IV

TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

Article 16

Transitional provisions

1. The Steering Committee and the Executive Director of AFDD are appointed no later than 3 months from the date this law enters into force.
2. The statute and the manual of the procedures are approved by the board of AFDD, not later than 3 months from the date of establishment of this council.

Article 17

By-laws

The Council of Ministers is responsible for the issuance of subordinate legal acts pursuant to point 3 of article 7 within 6 months from the entry into force of this law.



Article 18

Entry into force

This law comes into force 15 days after its publication in the “Official Gazette”.

SPEAKER

Gramoz RUÇI





DECISION
No. 594, Date 9.10.2018

**ON APPOINTMENT OF THE CHAIRMAN AND MEMBERS OF THE ALBANIAN
FUND MANAGEMENT COUNCIL FOR DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and point 3 of Article 9 of Law No. 32/2018 “On the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund”, upon the proposal of the State Minister for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Appointment of the members of the Managing Board of the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund, as follows:
 - Mr. Elton Haxhi, representative from the ministry responsible for finances;
 - Ms. Teuta Vodo, representatives from the ministry responsible for justice;
 - Mr. Andris Stastoli, representative from the ministry responsible for foreign affairs;
 - Ms. Besa Shahini, representative from the ministry responsible for education;
 - Mr. Hajrulla Çeku, representatives from the ministry responsible for tourism;
 - Ms. Mimoza Hysa Çuliqi, representative from the ministry responsible for culture.

Appointment of Mr. Elton Haxhi, representative from the ministry responsible for finance, as the chairman of the board of directors of the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund.

State Minister for Diaspora and the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund are responsible for implementing this decision.

This decision comes into force immediately and is published in the “Official Gazette”.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



DECISION

No. 611, Date 17.10.2018

**ON THE FINANCING OF THE "DIASPORA FOR DEVELOPMENT" PROJECT
AND IMPLEMENTING THROUGH THE ALBANIAN FUND FOR DIASPORA
DEVELOPMENT**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution of the Law No. 9936, dated 26.6.2008, "On the Management of the Budgetary System in the Republic of Albania", as amended, of Law No. 109, dated 30.11.2017, "On the Budget of the Year 2018", as amended, and letter "b" of point 1 of Article 7 of Law No. 32/2018 "On the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund", upon the proposal of the State Minister for Diaspora, Prime Minister

DECIDED:

1. Funding from the state budget of the project "Diaspora for Development", with a duration of 36 (thirty-six) months, with a total fund of 100 590 600 (one hundred million and five hundred and ninety thousand six hundred) ALL, according to the project attached.
2. The fund of 100 590 600 (one hundred million five hundred and ninety thousand six hundred) ALL is divided as follows:
 - a) For the remaining amount of 2018, a fund of 4 078 811 (four million seventy-eight thousand eight hundred and eleven) ALL shall be made available;
 - b) For 2019, a fund of 44 901 844 (forty-four million nine hundred and one thousand eight hundred and forty-four) shall be made available;
 - c) The amount of 32,367,559 (thirty-two million three hundred and sixty-seven thousand five hundred and fifty-nine) ALL will be made available for 2020;
 - d) For the year 2021, the amount of 19 242 386 (nineteen million two hundred and forty-two thousand three hundred and eighty-six) ALL will be made available.

The amount projected for the 2018 project of 4 078 811 (four million seventy-eight thousand eight hundred and eleven) ALL will be covered by the reduction of budget funds approved in the 2018 budget and unused for the Agency National Diaspora.

3. For 2019, foreseen for the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund, a diaspora for development project, with a duration of 36 (thirty-six) months, in the amount of



96 511 789 (ninety-six million five hundred and eleven thousand seven hundred and eighty-nine) ALL.

4. This project will be implemented by the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund.
5. The total fund of 100 590 600 (one hundred million and five hundred and ninety thousand six hundred) ALL shall be transferred in the form of a grant, with the beneficiary of the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund, in the bank account, at the second level bank.
6. The Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Minister of State for Diaspora and the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund, are responsible for implementing this decision.

This decision comes into force immediately and is published in the "Official Gazette".

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION

No 67. dated 13.2.2019

ON APPROVAL OF DETAILED RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR ACCOUNTS MANAGEMENT, ESTABLISHMENT AND USE OF REVENUE, OF THE ALBANIAN DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT FUND.

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution of the Republic of Albania and Article 7(3), Article 17 of the Law no. 32/2018, “Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”, upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Approval of detailed rules and procedures for administration of accounts, establishment and use of revenue, of the Albanian Diaspora Development Fund.
2. ADDF manages accounts in accordance with the financial accounting and financial reporting legislation in force provided for public institutions.
3. Regarding to funding from foreign donors, reporting standards as provided in the financing agreement shall apply.
4. The financial resources of the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora are specified at Article 7(1) of Law no.32/2018 “On the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”
5. Revenues of ADDF are acquired from agreements between the Republic of Albania, Council of Ministers, and different donors for the financing of implemented projects from ADDF, funds of the state budget for projects funded by the Council of Ministers; individuals and institutions, within and outside the Republic of Albania, pursuant to the relevant agreements; revenues received from the activities and services provided; material contributions from bilateral and multilateral programs, as well as from natural persons and various non-profit organizations that perform philanthropic activities as well as other resources in accordance with the by applicable legislation.
6. ADDF manages accounting records in accordance with the specifications of the internal regulations of the institution enabling:



- a) Facilitation of auditing and reporting of projects/ programs;
 - b) the identification of cost groups and subgroups for all costs, with a view to physical comparison and other monitoring;
 - c) presentation of expenses, by cost categories, such as maintenance, goods, consulting services, training, operating costs, etc.;
 - d) presentation of financial resources whenever required;
 - e) record of assets and liabilities and accumulated funds of the project for target groups.
7. ADDF has its own accounts plan named and codified according to the legislation in force, in order to record transactions by type, category, source of funding and destination of use of the funds established;
 8. Presentation in the accounting of the bank accounts is performed in base currency and its equivalent in ALL or EUR
 9. Fund deposit in the accounts is carried out by the donor upon request for funds withdrawal.
 10. Bank accounts, pursuant to Article 7 (1/b) of Law no. 32/2018 “On the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”, “on funds from the state budget for projects financed by the Council of Ministers” are opened in accordance with the provisions of the legislation in force for budgetary funds.
 11. Bank accounts dedicated to all other revenue established pursuant to Article 7(1) of Law no. 32/2018 “On the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”, are opened by AFDD unless otherwise provided for by law.
 12. ADDF, in accordance with the financing agreement, opens a special bank account nominated “Diaspora to Diaspora”.
 13. The funds in this account will be acquired by donations from members of the Diaspora, dedicated to expenses of economic, socio-cultural, scientific and health character,
 14. The revenue generated from these financings shall be administered by the ADDF in accordance with the financing agreement, as well as financial management and control rules.



15. The use of these funds is determined depending on the source of their creation, as follows:
 - a) the revenue generated pursuant to Article 7, letter “a”, “c” of Law no. 32/2018, “Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”, shall be used in accordance with the terms and conditions of the relevant agreements.
 - b) The revenue generated pursuant to Article 7, letter “b.” of Law no. 32/2018, “Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”, are used through the treasury system in accordance with the legislation in force on budgetary and financial management.
 - c) Revenue generated pursuant to Article 7 point “ç”, and point “dh”, are deposited in the AFDD Bank Account
16. Costs related to external audit carried out by companies and independent experts, service demanded by Donors in accordance with the specifications of the financing agreement, shall be borne by the Donor.
17. The Minister of State for Diaspora and the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



DECISION
No. 321, Dated 15. 05. 2019

ON THE FINANCING OF THE PROJECT “SCIENTIFIC DIASPORA AS A FACTOR OF CHANGE IN THE PROCESS OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION OF ALBANIA” AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION FROM THE ALBANIAN FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF DIASPORA

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, Articles 5 and 45 of Law no. 9936, dated 26.6.2008 “On management of the budgetary system in the Republic of Albania”, as amended, and Law no. 99/2018, “On the budget of 2019”, Article 7 point 1, letter “b” of Law no.32/2018, “On the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”, upon the proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora, the Council of Ministers.

DECIDED:

1. On Financing of the project “Scientific Diaspora as a factor of change in the process of European Integration of Albania”, with duration of 30 (thirty) months, with a total fund of 40,984,477 (forty million nine hundred and eighty four thousand four hundred and seventy seven) ALL, according to the document attached to this decision.
2. For the purpose of carrying out for the year 2019 the study of the project “Scientific Diaspora as a Factor of Change in the European Integration Process of Albania”, the Fund of 4 214 895 (Four million two hundred fourteen thousand eight hundred ninety five) ALL, is added to the Albanian Fund for Development of Diaspora
3. The fund provided for in point 2 herein, is financed by the state budget reserve fund for 2019.
4. Funds for the years 2020 - 2021 for the project attached to the decision herein, are foreseen in the mid-term budget plan of the Albanian Fund for the Development of the Diaspora for the years 2020-2022.
5. The Project “Scientific Diaspora as a factor of change in the process of European Integration of Albania” as attached to this decision, shall be implemented by the Albanian Fund for Development of Diaspora.



6. The Ministry of Finance and Economy, Minister of State of Diaspora and the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force immediately and is published in the "Official Gazette".

PRIME MINISTER

EDI RAMA

Acting under delegated authority

DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER

ERION BRAÇE

STATE MINISTER OF DIASPORA

PANDELI MAJKO



DECISION
No. 514, dated 19.7.2019

**ON FINANCING OF THE PROJECT “ON DIASPORA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE
- ESTABLISHMENT AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF DIASPORA INVESTMENTS
IN ALBANIA” AND ITS IMPLEMENTATION BY THE ALBANIAN FUND FOR
DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, Articles 5 and 45 of Law no. 9936, dated 26.6.2008 “On management of the budgetary system in the Republic of Albania”, as amended, and Law no. 99/2018, “On the budget of 2019”, Article 7 point 7, letter “6” of Law no.32/2018, “On the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora”, upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers,

DECIDED:

1. Financing the project “On Diaspora Chamber of Commerce - Establishment and Encouragement of Diaspora Investments in Albania”, with a duration of 28 (twenty-eight) months, with a fund of ALL 9,000,000 (nine million), according to the project attached to the decision herein.
2. For the year 2019, in order to establish and organize the Diaspora Chamber of Commerce as a mechanism for the protection and promotion of the Albanian Diaspora businesses, to the Albanian Fund for the Development of Diaspora will be added the fund of 3 (three million) ALL which is funded by the state budget reserve fund.
3. Additional funding for the project attached to this decision will be provided by donors as well as from the revenues from the activities and services provided by the Diaspora Chamber of Commerce.
4. The project “On Diaspora Chamber of Commerce - establishment and encouragement of Diaspora investments in Albania” and its implementation by the Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development.



5. The Ministry of Finance and Economy, Minister of State for Diaspora and the Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**

**MINISTER OF STATE FOR DIASPORA
PANDELI MAJKO**



DECISION
No. 746 date 20.11.2019

ABOUT SOME AMENDMENTS TO DECISION NO. 294, DATED 08.04.2015
OF THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS “ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE
INVESTMENT COUNCIL”, AMENDED

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, of the Agreement between the Government of the Republic of Albania and the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development, on Cooperation in Support of the Investment Climate and Good Governance, signed on 24 February 2014, on the proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora, Council of Ministers,

DECIDED:

In decision no. 294, dated 8.4.2015, of the Council of Ministers, the following changes are made:

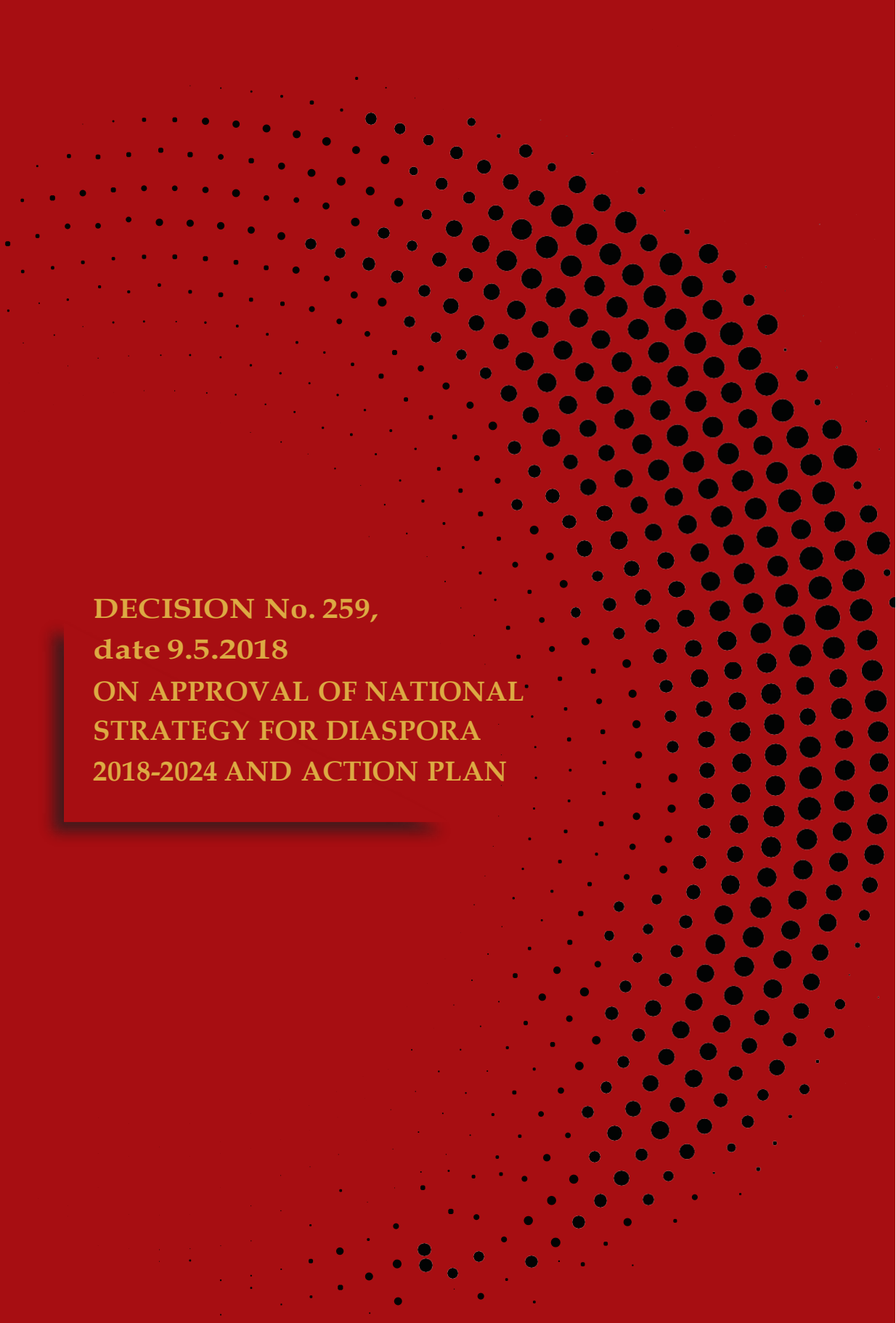
1. The subdivision “i” of the letter “a)”, point 5, is amended, as follows:
“i. state institutions, 4 members:
 - State Minister for the Protection of Entrepreneurship;
 - The Bank of Albania;
 - Albanian Investment Development Agency;
 - Albanian Diaspora Development Fund.

2. The subdivision “iii” of the letter “a”, point 5, shall be amended, as follows:
“iii. Chambers of Commerce and Industry, 3 members:
 - Tirana Chamber of Commerce and Industry;
 - Diaspora Business Chamber. ”

This Decision shall enter into force after its publication in the Official Journal.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA
Acting under delegated authority
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
ERION BRAÇE

STATE MINISTER
OF DIASPORA
PANDELI MAJKO



**DECISION No. 259,
date 9.5.2018
ON APPROVAL OF NATIONAL
STRATEGY FOR DIASPORA
2018-2024 AND ACTION PLAN**



DECISION
No. 259, Date 9.5.2018

**ON APPROVAL OF NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DIASPORA 2018-2024 AND
ACTION PLAN**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution and Article 14 of Law No. 115/2017 “On the Establishment of the National Diaspora Agency”, upon the proposal of the Minister of State for Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. Approval of the National Strategy for Diaspora 2018-2024 and its Action Plan, according to the document attached to this decision.
2. State Minister for Diaspora and all the institutions mentioned in the strategy and action plan for the implementation of this decision

This decision enters in force after its publication in the public “Official Journal”.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA

STATE MINISTER FOR DIASPORA
PANDELI MAJKO



ORDER

No. 96, Date 16.7.2018

**ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE WORKING GROUP FOR THE
ORGANIZATION OF THE DIASPORA SUMMIT**

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 102 of the Constitution, point 1, Article 12, Law No. 9000, dated 30.1.2003 "On the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers", and Decision No. 494 dated 13.9.2017, of the Council of Ministers, "On the establishment of the state commission for the organization of activities under the "Nationwide Year of Gjergj Kastrioti - Scanderbeg", upon the proposal of the State Minister for Diaspora,

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Establishment of the Working Group for the Organization of the II Diaspora Summit to be held in Tirana in November 2018.
2. The inter-institutional working group is chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and consists of members:
 - Secretary General of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs;
 - Secretary General of the Ministry of Finance and Economy
 - Secretary General of the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth;
 - Secretary General of the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy;
 - Secretary General of the Ministry of Culture;
 - Secretary General of the Ministry of Health and Social Protection;
 - Secretary General of the Ministry of Tourism and Environment;
 - Secretary General of the Ministry of Interior;
 - Director of Cabinet of the State Minister for Protection of Entrepreneurship;
 - Director of the Cabinet of the State Minister for Diaspora;
 - Director of the Directorate of Government Services;
 - General Director of State Police;
 - Director of the State Intelligence Service;
 - Commander of the Guard of the Republic.
3. At the invitation of the Chair of the Inter-Institutional Working Group, other experts from within or abroad may attend meetings, according to the needs related to the scope of this order.



4. The main tasks of the inter-institutional working group include the design of the programs, the organization, the direction, the coordination of the work, the realization of the activities, and the drafting of the necessary draft acts for the organization of the activity and the financial effects.
5. Projects should be submitted to the State Commission for the organization of activities within the “Nationwide Year of Gjergj Kastrioti - Scanderbeg”, to be proposed to the Council of Ministers.
6. The representatives of ministries and institutions referred to in point 2 for the implementation of this order shall be responsible.

This order will enter into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 98, Date 16.7.2018

ON DETERMINATION OF THE COORDINATORS GROUP TO IMPLEMENT THE ACTION PLAN OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR DIASPORA 2018-2024

Pursuan to paragraph 3, Article 102 of the Constitution, and Article 12 of Law No. 9000, dated 30.1.2003, "On the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers", of Decision No. 259, dated 9.5.2018 of the Council of Ministers "On the Approval of the National Strategy for Diaspora 2018-2024 and the Action Plan",

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Definition of the Coordinator's Group for the Implementation of the National Action Plan for Diaspora 2018-2024 adopted by the DCM No. 259, date 9.5.2018, "On the Adoption of the National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024 and the Action Plan".
2. The Coordinator Group is chaired by the State Minister for Diaspora.
3. The institutions responsible for the implementation of the Action Plan shall be represented at the level of the Deputy Minister, as well as by 2(two) other representatives, specialists in the field and shall be, as follows:
 - Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs;
 - Ministry of Finance and Economy;
 - Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth;
 - Ministry of Culture;
 - Ministry of Tourism and Environment;
 - Ministry of Interior;
 - Ministry of Justice;
 - Ministry of Health and Social Protection;
 - Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development.

Minister of State for Protection of Entrepreneurship, to be represented by the Director of the Cabinet. The Academy of Sciences, INSTAT and National Diaspora Agency will be represented by their Directors.

4. Coordinators are responsible for coordinating the work to implement Action Plan measures in the institution they represent.



5. Group of Coordinators is responsible for:
 - a) Follow up and implementation of measures set out in the Action Plan of the National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024.
 - b) Determining the detail of costs and indicators for all the measures provided for in the action plan.
6. Coordinators must meet not less than once a month and whenever necessary, at chairman's announcement.
7. Experts from other structures, such as non-profit organizations, international bodies, universities and personalities may also be invited to meetings of the Coordinator's Group.
8. The heads of the institutions mentioned in point 3 of this order shall be assigned to appoint their representatives within 5 (five) days from its entry into force.
9. State Minister for Diaspora, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Justice the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the State Minister for the Protection of Entrepreneurship, INSTAT, the Academy of Sciences, the National Agency for Diaspora, to follow up the implementation of this order.

This order shall enter into force immediately

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



ORDER

No. 135, Date 13.9.2018

**ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERINSTITUTIONAL WORKING GROUP
FOR IMPLEMENTING MEASURE 64 OF THE ACTION PLAN OF DIASPORA
NATIONAL STRATEGY**

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 102 of the Constitution of point 1 of Article 12 of Law No. 9000, dated 30.1.2003, "On the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers", of the decision No. 259, dated 9.5.2018, of the Council of Ministers, "On the approval of the National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024 and the Action Plan".

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Establishment of the interinstitutional working group for implementation of measure 64 of the National Diaspora Action Plan approved by the Council of Ministers Decision No. 259 of 9 May 2018.
2. The interinstitutional working group consists of:
 - The Minister responsible for Diaspora – chairman;
 - The Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs – member;
 - The Deputy Minister at the ministry responsible for Education – member;
 - The Deputy Minister at the ministry responsible for Finances - member;
 - The Director of National Agency for Diaspora - member.
3. Inter-institutional working group will carry out an assessment of the number of Albanian students in the universities abroad, in the areas where they are specialized and to consider the inclusion of a return condition in Albania for students who receive scholarships abroad and organize information of their employment opportunities at home.
4. The inter-institutional working group meets every 3 (three) months and reports in writing to the State Committee on Diaspora.



5. State Minister for Diaspora, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance and Economy, the National Agency for Diaspora are responsible for implementing this order.

This order enters into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 136, Date 13.9.2018

**ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERINSTITUTIONAL WORKING GROUP
FOR IMPLEMENTING MEASURE 51 OF THE ACTION PLAN OF THE NATIONAL
DRAFTING STRATEGY**

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 102 of the Constitution of point 1 of Article 12 of Law No. 9000, dated 30.1.2003, "On the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers", of the decision No. 259, dated 9.5.2018, of the Council of Ministers, "On the approval of the National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024 and the Action Plan".

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Establishment of the interagency working group for the implementation of Measure 51 of the Action Plan of the National Strategy for Diaspora, approved by the Council of Ministers Decision No. 259, dated 9.5.2018.
2. The inter-institutional working group shall consist of:
 - Minister responsible for the Diaspora - chairman;
 - Minister responsible for External Affairs – member;
 - Minister responsible for Finances - member;
 - Minister responsible for Education - member;
 - Minister responsible for Culture - member;
 - Minister responsible for Tourism - member;
 - Minister responsible for Internal Affairs - member;
 - Minister responsible for Justice - member;
 - Minister responsible for Health and Social Protection - member;
 - Minister responsible for Agriculture and Rural Development - member;
 - Minister responsible for the Protection of Entrepreneurship - member;
 - Head of the Academy of Sciences - member;
 - Head of INSTAT- member;
 - Director of National Diaspora Agency - member;
 - Head of NAIS (National Agency for Informative Services) - member.
3. The head of the NAIS, the head of the National Diaspora Agency, as well as members of the inter-institutional working group, conduct periodic meetings (every 6 months) for the evaluation and coordination of the institution's information pages.



4. The head of the NAIS is charged that, within 5 (five) days from the entry into force of this order, determine the coordinators for each responsible institution.
5. State Minister for Diaspora, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Finance and Economy, Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, Ministry of Culture, Ministry of Tourism and Environment, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Health and Defense Social Affairs, Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, State Minister for the Protection of Entrepreneurship, Academy of Sciences, INSTAT, National Agency for Information Services (NAIS), National Diaspora Agency for the implementation of this order.

This order enters into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 137, Date 13.9.2018

**ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERINSTITUTIONAL WORKING GROUP
FOR IMPLEMENTING MEASURE 15 OF THE ACTION PLAN OF THE NATIONAL
DRAFT STRATEGY**

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 102 of the Constitution of point 1 of Article 12 of Law No. 9000, dated 30.1.2003, "On the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers", of the decision No. 259, dated 9.5.2018, of the Council of Ministers, "On the approval of the National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024 and the Action Plan".

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Establishment of the inter-institutional working group for implementation of measure 15 of the National Action Plan on Diaspora, approved by the Council of Ministers Decision No. 259 of 9 May 2018.
2. The inter-institutional working group shall be composed of:
 - Head of INSTAT – Chairman
 - Representative of the Minister responsible for the Diaspora - member;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for Foreign Affairs- member;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for Education – member;
 - Director of the National Agency for Diaspora - member.
3. The Institute of Statistics, in accordance with measure 15 of the National Action Plan for Diaspora Action Plan approved by the Council of Ministers Decision No. 259 of 9 May 2018, in cooperation with the responsible institutions defined in this warrant, draft the report annual statistical data for the Albanian Diaspora, where the data and the assessment of the states should be reflected, with priority being given to diaspora policies,
4. The structure of INSTAT's annual report on the Albanian Diaspora is to be realized in cooperation with the National Diaspora Agency.



5. State Minister for Diaspora, Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, Institute of Statistics (INSTAT) and the National Diaspora Agency are responsible for implementing this order.

This order enters into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER

No. 138, Date 13.9.2018

**ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE INTERINSTITUTIONAL WORKING GROUP
FOR IMPLEMENTING MEASURE 2 AND 45 OF THE ACTION PLAN OF THE
NATIONAL DRAF STRATEGY**

Pursuant to paragraph 3 of Article 102 of the Constitution of point 1 of Article 12 of Law No. 9000, dated 30.1.2003, "On the organization and functioning of the Council of Ministers", of the decision No. 259, dated 9.5.2018, of the Council of Ministers, "On the approval of the National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024 and the Action Plan".

I HEREBY ORDER:

1. Establishment of the inter-institutional working group for implementation of measures 2 and 45 of the National Action Plan on Diaspora, approved by the Council of Ministers Decision No. 259 of 9 May 2018.
2. The inter-institutional working group shall be composed of:
 - Minister responsible for the Diaspora - Chairman;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for External Affairs - member;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for Culture - member;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for Education - member;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for Tourism - member;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for Finance - member;
 - Deputy Minister at the Ministry responsible for the Infrastructure - member;
 - Representative of the Minister responsible for Protection of the Entrepreneurship - member;
 - Secretary of the National Agency for Diaspora - member.
3. The Minister responsible for the Diaspora will define the Annual National Program for joint activities in the host countries of the Albanian communities in the diaspora, as well as periodic activities for Albanian tourism and investment opportunities in Albania.
4. The annual program for joint activities for the Diaspora (activities involving the book, education, culture and business) is proposed and approved at the State Diaspora Committee.



5. The State Minister for Diaspora, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, the Ministry of European Affairs and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Finance and Economy, the Ministry of Culture, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment, the Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy, the State Minister for the Protection of Entrepreneurship and the National Agency for Diaspora for the implementation of this order.

This order enters into force immediately.

**PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**



ORDER
No.601, dated 4.9.2019

**ON ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY AND PUBLICATION
OF ARBËRESH**

Pursuant to Article 100, of the Constitution, Article 10 of Law no 9000, dated 30.01.2003 “On the Organization and Functioning of the Council of Ministers”, of Article 6 of Law no 90/2012 “On the Organization and Functioning of the State Administration”, of Article 13 of Law no. 7893, dated 22.12.1994 “On Science and technological development”, upon proposal of the State Minister of Diaspora, the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

I. GENERAL PROVISIONS

1. Establishment of the Centre for the Study and Publication of Arbëresh, hereinafter referred to as CSPA, as a budgetary public legal entity headquartered in Tirana, subordinated to the Minister of Diaspora.
2. The mission of CSPA is to carry out specialized studies on the history, literature and culture of the Arbëresh community.
3. The financial resources of CSPA are:
 - a) The state budget;
 - b) donations;
 - c) Other lawful sources.

**II. ESTABLISHMENT AND ORGANIZATION OF THE CENTER FOR THE STUDY
AND PUBLICATION OF ARBËRESH**

4. The CSPA is administered and represented by the Director, who organizes and directs all activities of the Centre and reports to the Minister of Diaspora. He is appointed, released or dismissed by the order of the Minister of Diaspora.
5. The employment relationships of the head, officials and employees of the CSPA are regulated in accordance with the Labor Code.



6. CSPA duties and functions are as follows:
 - a) Conducts studies on the history, literature and culture of the Arbëresh community;
 - b) Publishes studies in cooperation with the Diaspora Publishing Center, in accordance with applicable legislation;
 - c) Promotes the preservation of the language and cultural identity of the Arbëresh community;
 - d) Organizes scientific activities, workshops and conferences with the focus on the Arbëresh community.

7. The Coordination Council operates within the CSPA in the quality of advisory body for:
 - a) CSPA studies and publications projects, in line with strategic documents on relations with Diaspora and scientific and research programmes;
 - b) defining a plan of activities and any other organization, with specialists in the field, providing specialized expertise in the implementation of the CSPA area of responsibility.

8. The Coordination Council of CSPA represents a collegial body composed of members being representatives of:
 - a) Academy of Sciences of Albania;
 - b) Academy of Albanological Studies;
 - c) the Ministry responsible for foreign policy;
 - d) the Ministry responsible for culture;
 - e) Faculty of History and Philology, University of Tirana;
 - f) the National Agency for Diaspora;
 - g) Three representatives of the Arbëresh community, one of them from the municipality of Zadar, in Croatia.

9. The mandate of the members of the Coordination Council for Publications of Diaspora is 4 years, entitled to the right of re-election.

10. Members of the Coordination Council of CSPA should be senior officials of the institutions they represent. They are appointed and dismissed by order of the Minister of Diaspora, upon the proposal of the head of the relevant institution. Representatives of Arbëresh communities abroad are nominated by accredited ambassadors in countries with Arbëresh communities. The responsible Minister for Diaspora appoints one of the members as the chair of the Council.



11. The Chair and members of the Coordination Council of CSPA shall be discharged before the end of the 4-year term, when:
 - a) Released or discharged from the leadership position he/she occupied at the relevant ministry;
 - b) upon proposal of the head of the relevant institution, due to changes in mission and duties performed in the respectful institution;
 - c) Neglects performance of duties and regular attendance at meetings of the Coordination Council.
12. The responsible Minister for Diaspora, 30 (thirty) days prior to the expiration of the 4-year term, or shortly after the discharge of a member, requests to the represented institution in the Coordination Council to submit the name of the replacing candidate for this Council.
13. The structure and organization of the CSPA are approved by order of the Prime Minister, in accordance with the legislation in force for the organization and functioning of the public administration.
14. The Regulation of CSPA is approved by the responsible Minister for Diaspora, upon the proposal of its Director.
15. CSPA has its official emblem and logo. The emblem consists of the emblem of the Republic of Albania with the inscription "Republic of Albania", "State Minister of Diaspora", "Centre for the Study and Publication of Arbëresh", in accordance with the decree of the Council of Ministers on how to use the coat of arms of the Republic of Albania.
16. The logo of CSPA, in accordance with the model as attached to the decision herein, is placed in every publication and study of this institution.

The CSPA stamp has the form and the elements as defined by decision of the Council of Ministers in accordance with the rules of production, administration, control and preservation of official stamps. The seal is produced, administered and stored in accordance with the legislation in force.



III. TRANSITIONAL AND FINAL PROVISIONS

17. The Minister of State for Diaspora, the Academy of Sciences of Albania, the Academy of Albanological Studies, the Ministry for European and Foreign Affairs, the Ministry of Culture, the National Diaspora Agency and the Faculty of History and Philology (University of Tirana) are responsible for the implementation of this decision.

This decision is published in the "Official Gazette" and comes into force on 1 January 2020.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA



LAW
No. 38/2019, Date 13.9.2018

ON SOME AMENDMENTS AND ADDITIONS TO LAW NO.139/2015 “ON LOCAL SELF-GOVERNANCE”

Pursuant to Articles 13, 78, 81(2), 83(1) and Articles 108 – 115 of the Albanian Constitution and based on the Council of Ministers’ proposal,

THE PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

DECIDED:

Law No.139/2015 “On Local Self-governance” includes the following additions and amendments:

Article 1

After Article 29, Article 29/1 is added with the following content:

“Article 29/1

The functions of the municipalities as regards Diaspora and Migration

Municipalities are responsible for the performance of these functions:

- a) establishment of a special structure for Diaspora and migration, for the administration of services at local level, as an administrative part of the local self-governance unit;
- b) encouragement of organizations, domestically and outside the country, for maintaining continuous communications in strengthening relationships with the Albanian community abroad.
- c) provision of assistance and information on issues related to gaining the Albanian citizenship;
- d) provision of assistance and information to all stakeholders from Diaspora and migration, on the Albanian legislation in the area of investments, in cooperation with institutions responsible for investment issues;
- e) coordination of work with the responsible Ministry of Internal Affairs, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Diaspora, for the provision and facilitation of information access regarding the issues related to Diaspora and migration.”



Article 2

In Article 44, the words “31 March” shall be replaced with “31 May”.

Article 3

Article 54 is amended and complemented as follows:

- a) Letter “e” is amended as follows:
“e) approves the alienation of third-party properties”.
- b) After the letter “e”, letter “e/1” is added as follows:
“e/1) approves the use of third-party property or property development through co-operation with private entities”.

Article 4

Article 55(3), following reference with letter “d”, reference with letter “e/1” is added.

Article 5

This law enters into force 15 days after its publication in the public Official Gazette.

**SPEAKER
GRAMOZ RUČI**

Approved on 20.6.2019



DECISION
No. 400, dated 19.6.2019

**ON THE APPROVAL OF NATIONAL STRATEGY ON MIGRATION AND THE
ACTION PLAN FOR 2019-2022**

Pursuant to Article 100 of the Constitution, upon proposal of the Minister of Interior,
the Council of Ministers

DECIDED:

1. The approval of National Strategy on Migration and the Action Plan for 2019-2022, in accordance with the text attached hereby which shall constitute an integral part to this decision.
2. Responsible for the implementation of the decision herein are all line ministries in addition to the central institutions, whereby in the Strategy and the action plan are defined specific duties for each.

This decision enters into force after its publication in the Official Gazette.

PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA

Acting under delegated authority
DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER
ERION BRAÇE

MINISTER OF INTERIOR
SANDËR LLESHAJ



**RESOLUTION
ON THE STATE POLICY
REFORM FOR DIASPORA**



RESOLUTION ON THE STATE POLICY REFORM FOR DIASPORA

PARLIAMENT OF ALBANIA

- Assessing the steps taken to build state policy structures for the Diaspora;
- Praising the legislative reform devoted to the Albanian communities abroad and concretely the adoption within a short period of the Law No. 16/2018 “On Diaspora”, Law No. 115/2017 “On the establishment of the National Diaspora Agency” and Law No. 32/2018 “On the Diaspora Development Fund”;
- Considering the state activity in this field as of a special importance, which links the responsibilities of the Albanian state with the legal status of our citizens and our fellow countrymen abroad;
- Assessing cooperation with the state of Kosovo and other neighboring countries in this important and strategic direction for the future, as part of the European integration process of the region;
- Considering the proposals of the Sub-Commission on Diaspora regarding:
 - Adoption of the National Strategy for Diaspora 2018-2024 by the Council of Ministers as a key document for the cooperation and application of new policies of state institutions in this field of state activity.
 - Initiate the functioning of the institutions as soon as possible by the new legislation adopted for this purpose.
 - Institutional cooperation, in particular, with the state of Kosovo to define a sustainable and long-term policy in function of the interests of the Albanian communities where they live in the host countries.
 - The preliminary work of the Electoral Reform Commission, in the program of which one of the issues to be discussed and decided is the granting of the right to vote to Albanian citizens who reside abroad.
 - Decision of the Council of Ministers on the occasion of the year of Gjergj Kastrioti Skënderbeu to organize in Tirana the activity of the Second Albanian Diaspora Summit.
- In 2017 - 2018, in the Presidency of the Assembly, several activities were organized in the function of diaspora and migration interests. These public meetings have been an occasion to make it even more sensible for different levels of politics and administration to guarantee the constitutional rights of diaspora and migration.
- The creation of a TV channel “TVSH 3” by the Albanian Public Radio Television



pursuant to the Law “On Diaspora” is an important step in strengthening communication with the country’s peoples abroad.

- The beginning of work by the National Museum, based on the new Diaspora law, for the space within it dedicated to the history of the Albanian Diaspora, is a legal and moral obligation to the Albanian society that has helped the country from the distance of exile. Examples of this aid are still valid today the conditions of a global society, where preserving identity is a state duty and challenge.
- The approval by the ministries responsible for education of Albania and Kosovo of the “curricula” of diaspora education is an important step in preserving the Albanian cultural and educational identity in the Diaspora. This work should be completed with the realization of the necessary textbooks for the new generation of exiled Albanians.
- Diaspora cultural organizations have started to have a first-rate role in preserving identity abroad. The establishment of cultural centers in the diaspora, under the new legislation and in cooperation with the state of Kosovo, in the function of bilateral agreements between the two states, will assist in creating a common cultural program for young people and young people in the diaspora.
- The Ministry for Europe and Foreign Policy has taken important actions in the field of consular services for Albanian citizens living abroad. On-line services have facilitated and reduced bureaucratic procedures in consular services. This ministry has signed and is negotiating important agreements on the quality of life of Albanian citizens abroad, such as those in the insurance field.
- The establishment of the Diaspora Publishing Center, implementation of the new diaspora legislation is an important step in preserving identity and education for young Albanians far from home. This center will serve as a new quality in the field of publications and distribution of the diaspora book.
- For the nationals who have left the country, there is a small number of on-line publications in Albanian. In this regard, an institutional cooperation of the ministries responsible for education, culture and diaspora is required to find solutions and create results.
- Albania’s relationship with the diaspora is feeling the need for cooperation with skilled intelligence and skilled workforce abroad.
- Diaspora involvement in Albania’s sustainable economic development is an administrative challenge. The beginning of work for the establishment of the Business Chamber for Diaspora is an important step in the right direction.
- Requires:
 - Subcommittee on Diaspora and Migration created by decision No. 98/2017 of the Albanian Parliament as an indicator of increasing attention that the Assembly, as



the highest institution of the country has devoted to this issue, has an active role in following the implementation of the legal framework for the Diaspora and to be an interlocutor name of the Assembly, for verification and information on the progress of the reform in the areas it covers.

- Continuous engagement by the institutions and responsible agencies of the administration in evaluating the measures of the Action Plan of the National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024.
- Resolving the right to vote for Albanian citizens abroad with legal mechanisms by the Electoral Reform Commission, based on the models known in the West, in cooperation with OSCE-ODIHR.
- Making it functional based on approved legislation, institutional organization and state structures for the Diaspora, within 2018.
- Co-ordination with responsible institutions in the diaspora of the state of Kosovo for joint action, in a relationship where cooperation with other neighboring states and the region is also important.
- Creation of a special program by the ministries responsible for education, culture and diaspora for on-line publication in the field of education and the Albanian book, for which the responsible committees in the Albanian Parliament request information periodic for the stages of its realization.
- Encouraging local self-government bodies to enable diaspora access to reduce administrative “distances” to the non-domestic population layer.
- Introducing and/or undertaking necessary initiatives from competent bodies for reviewing the law “On Citizenship” and the relevant legal framework to respond to the concerns of Albanian citizens abroad and the “statelessness” phenomenon established by the responsible UN structure for this issue, the UNCHR office in Tirana.

The Albanian Parliament considers it necessary to discuss and evaluate periodically issues related to the Diaspora and the interests of Albanian citizens abroad. It considers that in the new social conditions and the process of integration in to the European Union, the differences of citizens, who live “outside” and “inside” the country, have narrowed. They require proper legal and administrative responses.

Diaspora is the national wealth of Albania. Albania’s Assembly is committed to turn this into a tangible reality from the citizens who have voted or will vote tomorrow for the common future.

Approved on 23.7.2018



**AGREEMENTS
& MEMORANDUMS**



**AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA AND
GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO
FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DIASPORA**

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Kosovo (hereafter referred to as "the Parties") with the desire to cooperate in the field of Diaspora;

With the aim to develop and further strengthen existing bilateral agreements between the two countries, in the diaspora field. Encouraged by the common will to promote co-operation among their countries the diaspora field for: preservation, development and promotion of national, cultural, language and education; improving their social situation in host countries; realization of their political rights in the Homeland; as well as their involvement in economic and social developments of its own; Convinced that their cooperation in the diaspora field is an instrument of value and benefits for both countries, as well as for the Albanian diaspora in the world; Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

The parties will support and develop cooperation in the diaspora field between the two countries over the principles of equality and mutual benefit.

This cooperation will include:

1. The field of learning Albanian language for children of Albanian Diaspora; support activities and cultural and artistic projects for the promotion of Albanian culture and strengthening of the national identity in host countries but also of origin;
2. Linking new agreements on the recognition of social contributions and the protection of their fundamental rights;
3. Identification and mapping of the Albanian Diaspora, in order to realize their right to vote from places where they live for parliamentary and local elections in Homeland;
4. Realization of projects and initiatives aimed at the active inclusion of the Diaspora Albanians in the economic and social development of the homeland.

Article 2

The Parties will encourage exchanges of experiences and programs in the diaspora field.



Article 3

The Parties will encourage direct cooperation between the Diaspora responsible institutions countries, which will be realized through the exchange of visits of the leaders and experts in the areas mentioned, as well as through conferences or joint activities. The parties agree to set contact points in this regard.

Article 4

As appropriate, the Parties agree to work together with a joint action plan in diaspora field.

Article 5

The Parties undertake to establish joint cultural centers for the Albanian Diaspora wherever it will consider it necessary for the preservation of Albanian language, culture and identity.

Article 6

The Parties shall encourage in direct co-operation of the responsible institutions involved coordination for the education, registration, organization and joint protection of rights all Albanians who have left their homeland.

Article 7

The Parties shall support the co-operation of their institutions within the framework of the Principles the European Union, the Council of Europe and the United Nations.

Article 8

This Agreement shall not affect the rights and obligations of the Parties arising from the Agreement other international obligations that are binding on the parties.

Article 9

The Parties agree that this agreement shall not preclude the possibility of other forms of cooperation, which are not specified in it but are in line with its objectives.



Article 10

1. For the purpose of implementing this Agreement, a Joint Commission shall be established (hereafter referred to as “the Commission”), composed of representatives, as follows:
 - a) A representative of the Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania;
 - b) A representative of the Ministry of Economy and Finance of the Republic of Albania;
 - c) A representative of the Institutions responsible for the Diaspora of the Republic of Albania;
 - d) A representative of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - e) A representative of the Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Kosovo;
 - f) A representative of the institutions responsible for the Diaspora of the Republic of Kosovo.

2. The Commission will meet periodically in Tirana and Pristina, and the dates of the meeting will be agreed through diplomatic channels. The Commission will prepare periodic cooperation programs, which will determine the details and the terms of cooperation, in accordance with the provisions of this Agreement and shall evaluate and monitor its implementation, and will decide on the appropriate recommendations with the intention of its effective implementation.

Article 11

The Parties agree to co-operate, as the case may be, for the above financial performance their joint commitments, with a constructive and dialogue spirit.

Article 12

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the last written notification by which it is addressed. The Parties shall notify each other, through diplomatic channels, that they have fulfilled the procedures legal interim necessary for the entry into force of the agreement.

The duration of this Agreement is for a period of five (5) years and is automatically renewable for a subsequent period of five (5) years, unless one of the Parties has announced its desire to conclude in writing through diplomatic channels.

In one case such Agreement shall expire six (6) months from the date on which the other



Party has received such notification. In the event of termination of this Agreement, its provisions shall continue to apply to each exchange program agreement, or project initiated under this Agreement that is still in progress, until their completion, unless the Parties agree otherwise.

This Agreement may be amended at any time by mutual consent of the Parties, through exchange of grades. The amendment will take effect on the date when the consent of the The other party.

In witness whereof, the authorized representatives have signed this Agreement.

Signed in Korca, on 27.11.2017, in two original copies each in Albanian.

**FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA**

PRIME MINISTER

EDI RAMA

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF
KOSOVO**

PRIME MINISTER

RAMUSH HARADINAJ



**COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE
COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO
FOR CULTURAL CENTERS IN DIASPORA**

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and The Government of the Republic of Kosovo (hereafter referred to as “the Parties”),

Willing to strengthen and extend intercultural relations between Parties and Albanian community in diaspora;

Motivated by common will to promote and preserve the historical and cultural identity, and common values in the scope of culture and cultural heritage, and other scopes which are connected directly to the Albanian community abroad;

The Parties agreed as follows:

Article 1

The aim of The Agreement is to develop and support cultural collaboration and to preserve the identity through a network of cultural centers in coordination between The Parties.

Article 2

The Parties agree to use and empower existing cultural centers in diaspora.

Article 3

The Parties shall enhance cooperation between relevant cultural and educational institutions, associations and individuals in diaspora, and will offer their assistance in managing joint centers.

Article 4

The Parties shall equally share any financial commitment and ownership in the cultural centers in the Diaspora.



Article 5

The Parties shall commit to support cooperation in cultural heritage activities, museum activities, gallery, folklore and activities that are related but not limited to this area of action and the interests of the diaspora community as well as host countries.

Article 6

The Parties in this agreement shall support and enhance cooperation through:

1. Exchange of experiences and drafting development policies in accordance with the domestic legislation standards and applicable international standards;
2. Realization of joint projects in all disciplines of education and culture, including seminars and trainings for various activities such as cultural heritage, visual arts, theater, cinematography, music, libraries, etc;
3. Information exchange, mutual technical and material assistance in publishing, literature and other artistic and linguistic activities;
4. Organization of joint programs of cooperation between educational, culture and art institutions (philharmonic, opera, ballet, theater, traditional song and dance ensembles, etc.) and other musical associations in the operation of diaspora culture centers;
5. Annual Coordination of Libraries, Archives, Galleries, Museums, Cultural and Artistic Institutions, book fairs, and promotion of publications in the framework of Diaspora activities;
6. Creating new networks and empowering existing ones, such as business networks, professionals, youth and students, association networks in diaspora, coordination of investment attractiveness, promotion of both countries for doing business opportunities, diaspora registration as well as areas of which is directly linked with the Albanian Diaspora;
7. Information exchange related to International Conventions in the scope of diaspora and are related to issues of identity and culture, subject of this Agreement;
8. Provide assistance in direct cooperation in the areas of protection of identity and culture for Albanian communities in Diaspora;
9. Artistic and cultural performances, in the organization of concerts, theatrical performances and other arts performances for the diaspora;
10. Realization of special exhibitions for diaspora within the framework of direct cooperation of cultural institutions; Realization of joint programs and exchange of information in the field of film, art photography, new technologies and audio-



- visual media and multimedia to present the common history of the diaspora;
11. Supporting contacts in the field of literature and the network of publishers in the Diaspora;
 12. Encouraging direct collaboration of libraries and archives to identify Diaspora activity;
 13. The Parties shall agree on the activities they will organize for each Diaspora cultural center under their own responsibility.
 14. Non-commercial programming and assistance of books, periodicals and other types of typographical products for diaspora cultural centers;
 15. Joint participation in book fairs and related activities to be organized in Diaspora host countries;
 16. Enabling the joint publication of literature originating from Albanian diaspora communities;

Article 7

1. The Parties shall support and facilitate cooperation between registered associations and other forms of Albanian diaspora organization.
2. The Parties shall involve diaspora associations with their activities according to their field of activity and according to the plans and objectives set forth in this agreement.

Article 8

In the field of identity and culture, The Parties agree to:

1. Through Cultural Centers, improve the activity and the necessary acts in the field of protection and promotion of culture in the countries where the diaspora community is located sharing the best practices of this field, based on the legislation of the host countries, as well as the other local and international legislation applicable;
2. Promote the protection and promotion of cultural diaspora heritage in host countries;
3. Build direct cooperation between the institutions of the Parties and agencies specialized in promoting, and preserving identity and culture and identifying objects with material and non-material inheritance;
4. Promote the protection and respect of Albanian identity and culture;



Article 9

1. The Parties shall promote the development of bilateral relations with filmmakers, as well as facilitate realization of projects for joint production of films with the diaspora theme.
2. The parties will invite film producers and relevant film institutions to organize film festivals at the most popular diaspora centers.
3. The parties shall cooperate in the activities related to the film festivals for the Diaspora, organized in accordance with the festival rules and specifications.

Article 10

The Parties shall organize and coordinate all activities and events in their respective countries on the diaspora theme.

Article 11

The Parties agree to jointly harmonize and plan the annual joint national program related to the proposed activities of the two institutions of the Albanian diaspora.

Article 12

This agreement is for an indefinite period of time.

This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the latest written notice through diplomatic channels by which the Parties notify each other that they have completed the internal procedures necessary for the entry into force of the agreement.

Each of the Parties may withdraw from this Agreement at any time by notifying the other Party through diplomatic channels. In this case, the denunciation will take effect six (6) months from the date of receiving such notice.

This Agreement was signed in Korca, in 27 November 2017 in two original copies each in the Albanian language.

**FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
PRIME MINISTER
EDI RAMA**

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO
PRIME MINISTER
RAMUSH HARADINAJ**



AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
AND GOVERNMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO FOR COOPERATION,
BUSINESS INVESTMENT AND DIASPORA INFORMATION

The Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Kosovo (hereafter referred to as “the Parties”) with the desire to cooperate in the framework of their functions, purposes and jurisdictions;

Considering that their cooperation will help to realize the responsibilities also in the function of “Agreement between the Council of Ministers of the Republic of Albania and the Government of the Republic of Kosovo for cooperation in the diaspora field” signed in Korca on 27.11.2018;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Purpose

This agreement aims to co-operate and promote doing business and inform the diaspora.

Article 2

Areas of cooperation

1. The Parties in cooperation shall promote and assist in the establishment of the Albanian Diaspora Cooperation Council, which shall contribute to the realization of the better organization of the Albanian communities in the host countries.
2. The Parties shall promote and assist the establishment of the Diaspora Chamber (Oda) of Commerce in Tirana and Pristina while respecting the rules of operation of the same business network in the Diaspora.
3. The Parties shall encourage the commencement of work by the respective national television stations, RTSH Radio and Television and Radio Television of Kosovo, to realize a common television channel dedicated to the interests of the Albanian communities in the diaspora.
4. The Parties shall undertake, by 2019, to start broadcasting specific language and program programs approved by the relevant ministries responsible for education, responsible ministries of culture and the ministries responsible for the Albanian diaspora.



5. The Parties agree to assist the establishment initiative of the Diaspora Bank in Tirana and Pristina from the business networks of the Albanian communities of the Albanian Diaspora.

Article 3

Forms of cooperation

The Parties shall exchange information and experience under the respective regulatory legislation for the promotion of effective cooperation and agree to cooperate in the following matters:

1. Establish coordination and information procedures by means of which the parties assist each other for common goals.
2. Evaluate a joint action plan for cooperation with Diaspora organizational structures in view of effective assistance to the interests of the Albanian community in host countries.
3. To organize joint activities in function of the purposes of this Agreement.
4. To organize regular meetings between the Parties to discuss the implementation of this Agreement, to exchange information and to address specific issues of regulation or problems that may have arisen.
5. Provide relevant documents, including the following:
 - Organigrams of the Parties with the names of the respective staff and their responsibilities; and
 - List of authorized representatives to carry out activities under this Agreement.

Article 4

Applicable law

Activities carried out in accordance with this Agreement, in particular for the sharing of information and participation in joint actions shall be carried out in accordance with the regulatory legislation of the Parties.

Article 5

Language

The official language of this Agreement is the Albanian language. Official exchanges of information and documents will be made in Albanian language.



Article 6

Changes

This Agreement may be amended or supplemented only in writing through the negotiation and mutual consent of the Parties. The amendment shall enter into force on the date when the consent of the other party is notified.

Article 7

Resolving Disputes

Any dispute in the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled through consultations and negotiations between the competent authorities of the Parties.

Article 8

Entry into Force and Termination

1. This Agreement shall enter into force on the date of receipt of the latest written notification whereby the Parties notify each other, through diplomatic channels, of the completion of their internal legal procedures required for their entry into force.
2. This Agreement shall remain in force for an indefinite period. Each Party may notify the other Party in writing, through diplomatic channels, of the termination of the Agreement. The termination shall take effect six months after receipt of such notification.

Place Peja, date 26.11.2018, in two original copies in Albanian, both texts equally valid.

**FOR THE COUNCIL OF MINISTERS
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
PRIME MINISTER**

EDI RAMA

**FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO
PRIME MINISTER**

RAMUSH HARADINAJ



AGREEMENT
BETWEEN NATIONAL AGENCY OF DIASPORA IN ALBANIA AND
UNIVERSITÀ DEGLI STUDI E-CAMPUS IN ITALY FOR COOPERATION IN
RESEARCH ACTIVITIES, EDUCATION, TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENT
AND INNOVATION

National Agency of Diaspora in Albania and Università degli Studi E-Campus in Italy (thereof referred as Parties),

Willing to cooperate in the field of research activities, education, technological advancement and innovation;

- a) eCampus, as an authorized University with D.M. 30.01.2006, can activate and provide degree courses and distance learning courses utilizing information and telematic technologies;
- b) under the Statute, the University is a community whose job is to spread the culture and carry out research activities and formation activities via distance learning, with particular attention to the applications of e-learning. For this purpose, regular courses of study are organized for those who choose to follow this methodological and didactic project, or, for any given reason - job, residence, health - cannot participate regularly to the activities and lessons. The University also offers flexible and customizable educational courses for the continued, recurring and permanent education of adults;
- c) the Italian legislation and specifically the legislative decree 64/17 encourages the worldwide promotion of the Italian educational system in multicultural and pluralistic contexts, as well as the spread and promotion of the Italian culture and language abroad;
- d) the University is interested in starting new collaborations and enhancing the existing ones with public and private, national or international institutions active in the fields of research and promotion of education and transmission of scientific knowledge;
- e) the opportunity of keeping and in creating this kind of collaboration in order to enrich the educational activities, with great contribution to scientific research and the spreading of the results, is acknowledged by the University;
- f) the National Agency of Diaspora, established by law no. 115/2017, aims to develop and consolidate institutional cooperation with diaspora and to protect its rights and interests; to offer assistance in preserving the language and national cultural heritage; to promote economic cooperation between the country of origin and



diaspora and cooperation for prosperity, wellness, culture and social solidarity of all the nation.

- g) it is in both institutions' interest to continue and develop research activities of common interest through cooperation on projects and initiatives, utilizing each other's resources;
- h) it is in the interest of both institutions to encourage high-level training through the provision of orientation activities for university and post-graduate courses;
- i) the opportunity of evaluating, in the scope of research activities and education, the fulfillment of professor and student mobility is acknowledged by both institutions, as well as promoting and carrying out every possible scientific collaboration considered useful towards a better realization of each institution's purpose, even with the participation of other public or private, national or international subjects, in order to innovate and exploit the results.

It is hereby agreed and stipulated as follows

Article 1

Premises

1. Premises form an integral and substantial part thereof.
2. The clauses of this agreement will have to be interpreted according to the intentions inferred from the clauses.

Article 2

General principles

1. In order to better achieve the respective institutional purposes, the Parties acknowledge the common interest in maintaining and developing forms of cooperation in partnerships for the conduct of research activities, education, technological advancement and innovation in the educational and formational field, as well as providing services to support the research activities.
2. The internalization of educational, formational and research activities, also through participation to international and European projects, represents a strategic asset in both institutions' position policies. The Parties therefore intend to identify common actions in the definition of network and international relationships, as well as in the organization of institutional events of promotion of the scientific-technological culture and local business. Moreover, collaborations concerning initiatives aimed towards the creation and organization of institutional



- events, along with other subjects in the field of scientific and business research, will be possible.
3. The Parties intend to identify new models and strategies to strengthen the link with the territory, also in social and cultural terms, through examining new forms of communication and the diffusion of knowledge and experience with a high technological content within the local community.
 4. The Parties mutually undertake to evaluate the possibility of creating forms of student mobility and of teaching and research staff and of university orientation activities.

Article 3

Purpose

1. The parties undertake to mutually undertake, in accordance with their respective laws and with regard to the matters pertaining to each, to collaborate in order to:
 - a) identification of priorities for the formulation and development of projects of teaching and orientation in entrance, research, development, also identified through a careful analysis of the demand expressed by the different components of the Albanian social, economic and industrial reality, and also in collaboration with other Albanian universities and research institutions;
 - b) realization of student mobility, teaching and research;
 - c) planning of joint training courses or providing for the recognition of educational activities in compliance with the regulations in force in the two countries;
 - d) designing, implementing and providing international doctorate courses involving, to this end, Albanian universities;
 - e) exploitation of research results, technological transfer and innovation, favoring interactions with the industrial and territorial system;
 - f) carrying out educational activities, research and dissemination of the results of the research activities (the third Mission) by the University professors at the Albanian institutions and universities.
2. These actions will be developed favoring also collaborations and synergies with the National Bodies and Agencies, with the industrial system and with any other Bodies that show the interest to participate.
3. The collaboration between the parties will be governed by the provisions contained:
 - a) in this Agreement;



- b) in the individual Operating Acts described below;
- c) in all applicable provisions.

Article 4

Collaboration for research, development and innovation activities

1. The parties will foster mutual cooperation in research, development and innovation. It is understood that during the period of validity of this Agreement, the parties may agree specific research themes.
2. These forms of collaboration can be achieved through the stipulation of Operational Acts, later disciplined, identifying the scientific structures of each body involved in the project. Each Act must be approved by the Parties according to their internal laws.
3. The collaborative activities in carrying out partnerships of specific projects may include, for example:
 - a) the definition of medium-term research programs and the development of research, development and innovation projects for the joint participation in the European Framework Programs, in addition to the formulation of proposals at national and international level;
 - b) collaboration in the development and promotion of activities of joint interest through the international networks in which the parties participate;
 - c) the study and experimentation of innovative services for the exploitation of research results, technology transfer and financing of innovative start-ups.
 - d) the promotion, creation, growth and development of new business activities and new products supporting the dynamism of innovation in the territories involved and experimenting with an innovative model;
 - e) the promotion of activities for the spreading of scientific and technological culture on the territory.

Article 5

Cooperation for education, culture and advanced training

1. As part of the cooperation in teaching and training activities, the Parties declare their availability to carry out joint activities among which, in a non-exclusive way, the following:
 - a) support for the carrying out of graduation papers and projects for master's degrees graduation and research doctorates graduation;
 - b) solving exercises;



- c) organization of visits and educational internships addressed to students;
- d) organization of conferences, debates and seminars;
- e) organization of university orientation and teaching activities;
- f) cooperation in the development and promotion of activities of joint interest through national and international networks to which the Parties adhere;
- g) organization of events, also in synergy with other institutions;
- h) favoring internship activities regulated by specific agreements drawn on the basis of current legislation
- i) offering scholarships to excellent students from diaspora
- j) offering reduced tuition fees for students from diaspora

Article 6

Joint Steering Committee

1. For the coordination of the cooperation activities referred to in this Agreement, the Parties agree to evaluate the establishment of a joint steering committee consisting of two representatives for each Party. The Committee appoints the Chairman of the Committee; in the event of a tie vote, the oldest member among those who have been voted is appointed.
2. The Committee meets, also telematically, at one of the Parties' offices and will draw up a regulation for its operation.
3. The Committee remains in office for the duration of the Agreement and is reappointed in case of renewal of the Agreement.
4. Committee members do not receive any compensation for their membership. Any expenses for the mission of the members will be borne by the Entity of respective membership.
5. The Committee has the following tasks:
 - a) coordinates the cooperation activities;
 - b) plans the interventions on a three-year basis;
 - c) monitors the joint initiatives carried out in cooperation and writes regular reports on their progress to the competent bodies of the Parties.

Article 7

Operating Acts

1. The Parties agree to carry out research projects, training activities, university orientation and higher education activities, initiatives aimed at enhancing the results of scientific research and any other activities of common interest, through



the stipulation of Operational Acts, identifying the scientific structures of each body involved in the project or joint initiative. Each Act must be approved by the Parties according to their national laws.

Article 8

Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

1. The Parties are mutually obliged to the confidentiality constraint in regards to information, data, know-how, and the information that they will exchange during the validity and/or execution of this Agreement, with the exception of that information, data, news and decisions for which the law or an administrative or judicial order imposes an obligation to communicate and/or save the consent of the Party from which such data originate.
2. Any intellectual property right owned by a Party will remain in full ownership of the same, and should its use be allowed to the other Parties under this Agreement, this will not imply the recognition of any license or right in relation to the same, except the cases in which the transfer of this license or right is expressly provided in the Operating Acts.
3. Any intellectual property right owned by a Party may be used by the other Parties for the activities referred to in this Agreement only with the express consent of the Proprietary Party and in accordance with the rules indicated by that Party and/or contained in the Operating Acts.

Article 9

Processing of personal data

1. The Parties allow the processing of their personal data in accordance with current legislation on the subject of personal data protection; the same data may be included in databases, computer files and telematic systems only for the purposes related to this Agreement.

Article 10

Forms of cooperation

The Parties agree that this agreement shall not exclude the possibilities of other forms of cooperation with third parties.



Article 11

Responsibility

National Agency of Diaspora is not responsible for disputes that the other party may face with third parties.

Article 12

Duration, renewal procedure and right of withdrawal

1. This Agreement shall enter into force when signed by both Parties.
2. This Agreement has a duration of five years starting from the date it entered into force and may be renewed for the same period on the basis of a written Agreement between the Parties.
3. The parties may withdraw from this Agreement by communication through written notice. The Agreement is not valid six months after the other Party has accepted the withdrawal notice; withdrawing from this agreement does not produce effects on the implementation relationships existing at the time of withdrawal.

Article 13

Disputes

Any dispute in the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled through consultations and negotiations between the competent authorities of the Parties.

Article 14

Registration

This Agreement is written in three languages, namely English, Albanian and Italian (two copies each)

FOR THE UNIVERSITY

THE DEAN

**FOR THE NATIONAL
AGENCY OF DIASPORA**

THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF ALBANIA, THE MINISTER OF STATE
FOR DIASPORA AND THE ALBANIAN RED CROSS**

Considering that the Ministry of Justice, the Minister of State for Diaspora and the Albanian Red Cross (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”) wish to cooperate in the framework of their functions, purposes and jurisdictions;

Considering that the Parties through such cooperation, to support the achievement of their respective responsibilities towards the families that are separated or lose contact with their members as a consequence of migration or other situations requiring humanitarian action;

Considering that the Parties through such cooperation, wish to enhance and expand cooperation, information exchange and experience on the matter of tracing the location of lost individuals in migration and re-establishing contacts with their relatives, on the basis of the Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their Additional Protocols of 1977;

For the reasons above, the Parties have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Commitments and Responsibilities of Parties

Based on the standard International Red Cross operational procedures, when there are no other ways of communication between members of separated families for the reasons outlined above, the Parties agree to cooperate, within the scope of their respective responsibilities, in the following matters:

1. The search for lost persons will be conducted through the International Research Network within the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, which enables the pursuit of missing persons search cases in countries where the presence of the Red Cross is present and Red Crescent.
2. Requests for Search of a Lost Person may be made by the Parties, Standard operational procedures in finding the location of people who have been separated with their relatives begin immediately after the family member submits the application to the Albanian Red Cross.
3. Whenever possible, the Parties shall provide family reunification services to vulnerable individuals, mainly unaccompanied children, elderly or special individual needs, through referral of the case to the Social Service.
4. When normal communication channels between relatives are broken off (for example, a lost person is found in punishment centers) and there is no other way of communicating, people are offered a special communication service. The



- individual in this case, completes a personal message on a special Red Cross (Red Cross message) form, which is sent to the family in good faith.
5. The Parties undertake to designate countries that have been the destination of lost family members who have migrated or are currently not known to be located for unknown reasons in order to reach the identification of persons who may also be located in the penitentiary system.
 6. Parties or other state authorities may identify and refer to the Albanian Red Cross, national family members of Albania, who have lost contact with relatives who have migrated to initiate the search process.

Article 2

Modalities Search for missing persons

All modalities for the search process for missing persons are specified in a separate appendix attached to this agreement.

Article 3

Extension, Substitution and Conclusion

1. The duration of this Memorandum is indefinite from its entry into force.
2. In the event of a substitution of the conditions that have dictated its signature, the Parties shall present and approve the relevant amendments to this Memorandum only with the mutual written consent.
3. The Parties may grant unilaterally at any time this Agreement for legitimate reasons. To do so, they must notify their written request at least at least 90 days before the chosen date for its revocation.

Article 4

Resolving disputes

The controversial issues concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum shall be settled by mutual consent, through consultation and negotiations between the Parties.

Article 5

Entry into force



This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force upon signature by the Parties.

Tirana, on December 6th 2017, in three original texts in English and in Albanian, both texts being authentic equally, a copy of which shall be submitted to each of the Parties.

STATE MINISTER OF DIASPORA OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Date: 6.12.2017

MINISTRY OF JUSTICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA

Date: 6.12.2017

ALBANIAN RED CROSS

Date: 6.12.2017



**MINISTRY OF FINANCE
AND ECONOMY**

No. 6311, Date 11.12.2017

**STATE MINISTER FOR
DIASPORA**

No. 15824, Date 15.12.2017

THE BANK OF ALBANIA

No. 5518, Date 11.12.2017

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

Ministry of Finance and Economy, Minister of State for Diaspora and Bank of Albania (with hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”) shall enter into this Understanding Agreement with a view to assessing and enhancing the efficiency of one of the main sources for the country’s economic development, such as diaspora and migration abroad.

For this reason, the Parties agree to sign this Memorandum of Understanding as per the content the following:

I. THE AIM OF THE MEMORANDUM

The purpose of this Memorandum is to keep awareness, facilitate dialogue and promote effective cooperation between the parties on remittance-related issues in cash from Albanian diaspora emigrants for the development of the economy. Also, the Memorandum aims to highlight the role of Diaspora in promoting investment in the Albanian economy as well in the absorption of human capital, in full compliance with the National Strategy for Diaspora. For this purpose, the parties will coordinate policy-making under the legislation respective adjustments in the fulfillment of the points as follows:

1. Identify and evaluate the effects of remittances in the economy Albanians and their further analysis in view of drafting the stimulating policies in this framework,
2. Evaluating mitigation measures that help broaden the use of channels and instruments formal shipments, as well as in creating the financial involvement of the population.
3. Coordination of the co-ordination, in order to:
 - a) Identify and promote the best policies, programs, practices and experiences financial institutions in terms of strengthening the contribution of immigrants, as well as transparency and protection of consignees in the field of remittances by money laundering;



- b) Encouraging measures to provide financial products or services at the lowest possible cost the arrival of cash dispatches by emigrants through increased competition, the use of technological modern solutions and innovative business models;
 - c) Joint commitment to new legal initiatives and improvements to existing legal acts, with the aim of reducing regulatory barriers and other restrictions on shipments of shipments in front of immigrants, promoting diaspora investments, and facilitating the actions of financial institutions in relations with the diaspora and migration.
4. Developing concrete and feasible recommendations to absorb the potential of diaspora investments and remittances.
 5. Collection, analysis and processing of statistical and research information related to the level and impact of remittances and diaspora investments, as well as presentation of the results by the Bank of Albania through a periodical publication.
 6. Develop a national development strategy that promotes successful business models and which include diaspora and immigrant contributions, informing on the opportunities the economy offers ours and their motivation to invest in particular sectors of the economy.
 7. Cooperation with the financial structures of countries with high diaspora presence and Albanian migration, as well as with the diaspora and migration business community, with in order to exchange information and motivate investment projects that affect us economic development.
 8. Examining opportunities to relieve the investment potential of the Diaspora, with focus on especially in innovative and sustainable business models, which expand the current markets money sheds, create synergies with markets and other financial products, increase access and inclusion in services and financial products and promote available channels for remittances to migrant communities in the country of origin.

II. CO-OPERATION MODES

1. The Parties shall establish working groups at institutional or inter-institutional level when judged by them necessary and will exchange common information in order to fulfill this purpose Memorandum;
2. The Parties shall cooperate with international and national institutions such as IMF, WB, INSTAT etc. for evaluation and/or assistance in the field of remittances from abroad;



3. The Parties shall establish a periodic dialogue with representatives of the country's financial institutions and will coordinate their actions by assessing, on a case-by-case basis, the needs in view of the improvements of different nature required by the entrepreneur's representatives;
4. The Parties shall cooperate with business chambers, non-profit organizations as well as with local academic institutions in function of the purposes of this Memorandum;
5. The Parties shall hold regular meetings to discuss the progress of the commitment Memorandum of Understanding, as well as to address specific issues of regulation or problems that may have been born;
6. The Parties shall conduct joint activities in order to celebrate the International Day Remittances to Parents in Families;
7. The Parties shall provide a list of authorized representatives for each institution to carry out activities in function of this Memorandum of Understanding;
8. The Parties shall support the work of the National Payments System Committee headed by the Bank of Albania, as a collegial body of advisory character, which aims to cooperate and coordinate actions with all institutions involved in this field.

III. LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF CONFIDENTIALITY

1. Activities carried out in accordance to this Memorandum of Understanding, in particular share of information and participation in joint activities, should be carried out in accordance to the legislation which regulates activities of Parties,
2. Parties agree to maintain confidentiality of every information of material secured by one Party for the other Party. The Parties, based on this Memorandum of Understanding, will not release any information or material to a third party without prior authorization of the Party involved.

IV. THE LANGUAGE USED

Under this Memorandum of Understanding, regardless of whether the Parties may otherwise agree, as a rule they communicate for the exchange of documentation in the Albanian language.

V. AMENDMENT AND TERMINATION

1. This Memorandum of Understanding can be amended only in a written form and with the understanding of both Parties



2. Each Party may terminate its engagement in this Memorandum of Understanding under the condition that it would notify the other Party in writing 90 days prior to termination.

VI. SETTLEMENT OF DISAGREEMENTS

Parties shall opt to settle any disagreements that may result from the fulfillment of the responsibilities taken by signing this Memorandum of Understanding.

VII. ENTRY INTO FORCE

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force the day it was signed by Parties.
2. Parties sign this Memorandum of Understanding in three original copies in Albanian Language, on the date written on page one.

MINISTRY OF FINANCE AND ECONOMY
ARBEN AHMETAJ
MINISTER

STATE MINISTER FOR DIASPORA
PANDELI MAJKO
STATE MINISTER

THE BANK OF ALBANIA
GENT SEJKO
GOVERNOR



**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE STATE MINISTER FOR DIASPORA OF THE REPUBLIC OF
ALBANIA AND GERMIN FOR COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF DIASPORA**

The State Minister for Diaspora of the Republic of Albania and Germin (a non-governmental organization registered in Pristina, Kosovo that specializes in Diaspora engagement and development issues) – hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, with the purpose to encourage the bilateral cooperation in different fields of the engagement of the Diaspora;

Convinced that the cooperation in the field of Diaspora is an instrument of value for the quality of life of the Diaspora members living outside of the home country:

The Parties have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Purpose and Scope

1. The Memorandum of Understanding sets the terms for cooperation and responsibilities of the Parties
2. The purpose of this Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is to provide a framework of cooperation and facilitate and strengthen collaboration between the Parties, on a non-exclusive basis, in areas of common interest in strengthening the role of the Albanian Diaspora in the social and economic development of home countries.

Article 2

Responsibilities of the Parties

The Parties agree to:

1. Maintain the collaboration/cooperation which respects the professional independence and the transparency of the activity;
2. Collaborate on the design, development, and implementation of joint programs on the thematic areas stipulated in this MoU through exchange of information on specific topics based on the Strategy and Action Plan for the Albanian Diaspora;
3. The exchange of documents and specific information in relation to work programs that are of interest to each of the Parties;
4. Joint meetings to address matters of common interest.



Article 3

Priority Thematic Areas of Engagement

The Parties agree to strengthen their collaboration in the following specific priority thematic areas related to Diaspora engagement:

1. Institutional and Legal Framework for Diaspora Engagement;
2. Voting Rights for the Albanian Diaspora and Representation in the assembly;
3. Diaspora Investment and Economy Policy;
4. Promoting Professional Exchange with the Albanian Diaspora;
5. Cultural and Educational Exchange;
6. Promoting Local Diaspora Projects in Selected Cities/Regions of the respective countries;
7. Albanian Diaspora Philanthropy and Non-Governmental Organizations;

Article 4

Advisory Services

1. The Parties agree that Germin will serve in an advisory role to the State Minister for Diaspora. This role entails to supporting the State Minister for Diaspora with technical assistance, strategic advice, and facilitation of dialogue with the community members living abroad.
2. The Parties agree that Germin will assist the personnel of the State Minister for Diaspora with technical advice and other services upon agreement between the Parties;
3. Both parties collaborate in securing third party collaboration and financing (i.e. from international donors such as IOM, GIZ, SDC, etc.);
4. The Parties will provide space on their informative pages (websites and social media) for joint programs.

Article 5

Areas of Collaboration

The Parties agree to cooperate in the following areas of common interest:

1. Conduct Diaspora Registration: The Parties agree to work together in developing a joint program to facilitate registration of the Albanian Diaspora Professionals Network. The current database to be developed would include individuals, businesses, and incorporation of the existing database of non-governmental organizations. Any online platform to be developed with transparency and complete exchange of information which will reflect privacy concerns that need to be taken into account;



2. The Conference for Diaspora: The Parties agree to secure co-financing for the Conference, which will gather Diaspora communities, interest groups, businesses and professionals to jointly develop a better coordinated approach with the public institutions of Albania and Kosovo, as an opportunity to further strengthen the legal framework and engagement with Diaspora communities;
3. Diaspora Summit: The Parties will work on design, planning and organization of the Diaspora Summit in order to make the process more inclusive.
4. Diaspora School in Albania: The Parties will coordinate assessments in planning, fundraising and implementation of field activities of the first Diaspora School in Albania.
5. Diaspora Council: The Parties will coordinate efforts to form an Albanian Diaspora Council. The Council will be based on similar practices in other countries based on specific Terms of Reference and clear and transparent provisions.
6. Other Programs: The Parties will collaborate on designing and implementing joint programs as referred to in Article 2, point 2.

Article 6

1. Disputes will be settled by mutual agreement between the Parties through periodic consultations.
2. The Parties have the right to make changes to the MoU through consultation and mutual agreement between the Parties.

Article 7

Each Party has the right to terminate this agreement at any time upon prior joint consultation and a written notice.

**STATE MINISTER FOR PROGRAM
PANDELI MAJKO**

**DIRECTOR DIASPORA GERMIN
LIZA GASHI**



**MEMORANDUM BETWEEN
THE NATIONAL AGENCY OF DIASPORA AND THE INSTITUTE OF CULINARY
“NERANXI” FOR THE PROMOTION OF THE ALBANIAN CULINARY IN
DIASPORA**

The National Agency of Diaspora and the Institute of Culinary “Neraxi” (hereafter referred to as “the Parties”), encouraged by the common will to promote the exchange of gastronomic cultures in the host countries of the Albanian diaspora;

Article 1

Parties with the desire to develop joint activities for the promotion of the Albanian culinary in the host countries of the Albanian communities in the Diaspora, in order to preserve the culture and the national identity are agreed as follows:

- a) The Parties will support and develop cooperation in the Diaspora field, on the principles of equality and mutual benefit.
- b) The Parties will encourage the exchange of experiences and programs for the promotion of the Albanian culinary in diaspora.
- c) The Parties will organize the activity “Culinary Days in Diaspora”, with the aim of promoting the Albanian gastronomic recipes in diaspora on the basis of annual programs approved by the parties.
- d) The parties will engage in common cultural annual programs for the Diaspora, wherever they will consider it necessary.

Article 2

The financial costs of the activities will be covered by the Institute of Culinary “Neraxi”.

Article 3

The National Agency of Diaspora will undertake the facilitation of domestic legal procedures and the provision of assistance for the organization and conduction of activities under this Memorandum.

Article 4

The Parties agree that this memorandum shall not exclude the possibilities of other forms of co-operation that are not specified in it but are consistent with its objectives.



Article 5

The disputes on this memorandum will be resolved by common understanding between the parties.

Article 6

The memorandum will become effective immediately after signing by the parties.

Signed in Tirana, on 20.11.2018 in two original copies each in Albanian language, the whole text is the same.

**FOR THE NATIONAL
AGENCY OF DIASPORA**

**FOR THE INSTITUTE OF
CULINARY "NERANXI"**



AGREEMENT
BETWEEN NATIONAL DIASPORA AGENCY AND “OC INTERNATIONAL”
FOR CULTURE PROMOTION AND NATIONAL IDENTITY

National Diaspora Agency and “OC International” (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”),

Encouraged by the shared desire to promote the promotion of national culture and identity in the Diaspora;

Desiring to cooperate in the dissemination of national cultural heritage;

Have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Purpose

The Parties, based on mutual commitment, cooperate with the aim of:

- a) Organization of Diaspora cultural events, concerts and activities;
- b) The dissemination of cultural heritage and national identity;
- c) Preserving and developing the language, national and cultural values of the Diaspora;
- d) Undertaking other initiatives in the field of diaspora necessary by the Parties in accordance with the purpose of this Agreement.

Article 2

General principles

1. The Parties to this Agreement shall be guided by the principle of equality and mutual benefit, in accordance with the scope of their activities and the scope of their competences.
2. The Parties consider the common interest and desire to develop forms of cooperation in accordance with Article 1 of this Agreement.



Article 3

Forms of cooperation

The parties are engaged in organizing cultural activities through various forms of cooperation which include:

- a) Organizing events, concerts or other forms of cultural activities in the host countries of the Albanian communities, as well as in the Republic of Albania;
- b) Promotion of Albanian national culture and identity in the Diaspora;
- c) Providing continuous artistic advice and not only for the activities foreseen in the annual programs of activities of the National Diaspora Agency;
- d) Providing a list of Albanian cultural, artistic or business associations operating in the diaspora;
- e) Promoting the organization of activities in places where the Albanian Diaspora is located;
- f) Other forms of cooperation not mentioned in this Agreement but consistent with the purpose of the Agreement after the Parties have given their written consent.

Article 4

Confidentiality and Intellectual Property

1. The Parties have an obligation to maintain confidentiality with respect to the information, data and knowledge they will exchange during the validity and/or implementation of this Agreement.
2. The intellectual property rights of the parties shall continue to be infringed separately, unless the parties otherwise agree by written agreement.
3. Intellectual property rights owned by one party may be exercised by the other party for the activities referred to in this Agreement only with the express written consent of the party to whose ownership this right is and in accordance with the rules of provided by that party.

Article 5

Processing of personal data

1. The Parties shall permit the processing of data for the purposes of this Agreement in accordance with the legislation in force on the protection of personal data.
2. The personal data that one party provides from the other party, in the



implementation of this Agreement, may be used only as long as the Agreement is in force and in accordance with its purpose.

Article 6

Cooperation with third parties

This Agreement does not exclude the possibility of other forms of cooperation with other entities not party to this Agreement, provided that cooperation with third parties does not conflict with the purpose of this Agreement.

Article 7

Responsibility

The parties are not responsible for any disputes that each of them may have with third parties.

Article 8

Duration, renewal and right of withdrawal

1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon signature by both parties.
2. This Agreement shall have an indefinite duration starting from the date of entry into force.
3. The Parties may withdraw from this Agreement by written communication. The Agreement shall terminate six (6) months after the date on which the other Party has received the notice to withdraw from this Agreement. The withdrawal of the parties from this agreement does not exclude the parties' liability for the relationships and obligations that have begun to exist during the time this agreement was in force.

Article 9

Disputes

Any dispute in the interpretation and application of the provisions of this Agreement shall be settled by mutual agreement between the parties.



Article 10

Language of the Agreement

This Agreement is in duplicate copies in the Albanian language.

**FOR THE NATIONAL AGENCY OF DIASPORA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
DRITAN DELIJA**

**FOR "OC INTERNATIONAL"
ADMINISTRATOR
OLEN ÇEZARI**



**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION
ON THE PROGRAMME “I AM ALBANIAN” FOR THE ALBANIAN LANGUAGE
AND CULTURE BETWEEN MINISTRY OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND YOUTH,
MINISTRY OF TOURISM AND THE ENVIRONMENT, AND MINISTRY OF
CULTURE AND MINISTER OF STATE FOR DIASPORA,**

PREAMBLE

The Minister of State for Diaspora, the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, the Ministry of Tourism and Environment and the Ministry of Culture, hereinafter referred to as *Parties*:

Acknowledging the value of inter-institutional cooperation with a view to preserving the cultural, linguistic and national identity of the Diaspora;

With a view to encourage younger generations to engage in specific projects of educational and cultural programs that promote Albanian traditions, history and culture;

By Considering regular and periodic homeland visits as one of the ways of recognizing the country of origin and as a mechanism to keep alive the interest of the younger generation of Albanians in the Diaspora;

By confirming the willingness and determination to collaborate and contribute to the realization of this memorandum to meet the commitments within the framework of the state policy for the Albanian Diaspora;

Have agreed to sign this Memorandum of Cooperation, hereinafter referred to as the Memorandum.

Article 1

Scope and Objective

- 1 The purpose of this memorandum is to create the “I AM ALBANIAN” Programme by promoting and organizing cultural, linguistic and tourist activities for cultural, linguistic education, make introduction with tourist attractions and the Albanian history of Albanian representatives in the Diaspora to improve and guarantee identity preservation, national, cultural and linguistic values and the legacy of these values from generation to generation.
- 2 This memorandum aims to:
 - a) facilitating the administrative procedures for the establishment of the “I AM ALBANIAN” Program as a joint structure of Albanian language and culture courses certified by the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth;



- b) providing professional available pedagogical staff for concrete realization of lectures in Albanian language and culture courses;
- c) introducing the programme to participants about their homeland or country of origin as well as promoting Albanian nature and tourism with a view to bring participants back to their roots of national identity;
- d) providing mutual assistance in the establishment and maintenance of the infrastructure for the delivery of Albanian language and culture courses, or for the handling of any future unforeseen situation in this Memorandum.

Article 2

Scope of Cooperation

1. The Parties shall collaborate with one another for the drafting and implementation of the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme under the direction of the State Coordinator appointed by order of the Prime Minister. The Programme is a structure of Albanian language and culture courses for Albanian participants in the Diaspora aged from 11 to 17, who wish to visit their country of origin and get acquainted with nature, tourist sites, environment, traditions, culture, customs, Albanian history, Albanian language and literature, as well as archaeological parks.
2. The duration of the Albanian language and culture courses is a maximum of 15 (fifteen) days within the period from June - September (or even at different time duration as mutually agreed between the parties). Based on demand - registrations of members of the diaspora, several consecutive groups can be established.
3. The place where it will take place shall be determined by agreement between the parties year after year.

Article 3

The role and responsibilities of the parties

1. Cooperation under this memorandum is realized as follows:

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth:

- a) Develops and approves the curriculum to be provided to Albanian Diaspora participants who will visit the country and attend Albanian language and culture courses in compliance with the components of Albanian culture, history, literature and language;
- b) Authorizes subordinate institutions which are responsible for the publication of information regarding Albanian language and culture courses also on their



official websites;

- c) Authorizes local educational institutions responsible for pre-university education to include in the course activities the number of teachers necessary for the smooth running of the course activities throughout the 15 (fifteen) day period, as well as the supervision and care of children attending these courses;
- d) Appoints a contact person who will take care of the preparation and subsequent development of Albanian language and culture course activities.

State Minister of Diaspora;

- a) Collaborates with Albanian embassies and diplomatic missions to coordinate the drafting of participants lists and facilitate the travel of minor age participants from their country of residence to Albania;
- b) Through the National Agency of Diaspora coordinates with local educational institutions responsible for pre-university education in compiling the list of participants in the Albanian language and culture courses programme;
- c) The State Coordinator of the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme through the National Agency of Diaspora coordinates with the National Tourism Agency in the preparation of the itinerary to be attended by groups of participants in Albanian language and culture courses;
- d) The National Agency of Diaspora administers the fees for each tourist package paid by participants in the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme courses that are approved by the State Program Coordinator. All revenues collected shall be used to cover the costs of Albanian language and school course activities and will be published in a transparency report within one month of the completion of the last courses;
- e) The National Diaspora Agency covers the cost of diets for NAD teachers and support staff who oversee the activities of Albanian language and culture courses throughout the duration and publishes them in the transparency report and at the State Programme Coordinator of the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme.

Ministry of Finance and Economy;

- a) Authorizes the National Tourism Agency, in cooperation with tour operators/agencies, in the preparation of a tourist package to find an optimal offer including tourist destinations, accommodation, transport and full board;
- b) The tourist package for summer courses of Albanian language and culture is coordinated by the National Tourism Agency in cooperation with local educational institutions responsible for pre-university education and the National Agency of Diaspora;



- c) The National Tourism Agency may, in exceptional cases, request the modification of the tourist package by accomplishing any request logistically.

Ministry of Culture:

- a) Authorizes free access to archaeological parks, cultural monuments and national museums that are subject to the Ministry of Culture, participants in summer courses, following the list previously sent by the National Agency of Diaspora;
 - b) Provides tour guides in archaeological parks, museums and cultural monuments;
 - c) Provides courses and training at archaeological museums/parks, as well as courses in traditional dance and Albanian folk songs at the National Song and Dance Ensemble;
 - d) It enables, on a case-by-case basis, the implementation and coordination of activities, according to the typology of the institution, based on the curriculum of the respective courses upon agreement of the parties.
1. The Parties agree within 3(three) months from the signing of this Memorandum to:
 - a) Way of distribution of the "IAM ALBANIAN" Certificate.
 - b) Establishment of a technical secretariat with representatives from each institution party to this Memorandum

Article 4

Registration of participants

1. **The State Coordinator for the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme** and the National Agency of Diaspora annually announces, within April, the programme of Albanian language and culture courses, as well as the logistical details.
2. Enrolment in the Albanian language and culture courses programme may be carried out online or through the available official email: summerschoolalbania@akd.gov.al
3. **The State Coordinator for the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme** sends the final list with the names of participants, selected by age group, to MESY and MoC for the appointment of teachers and cultural specialists, who will implement the language courses program and Albanian culture.



Article 5

Certification of participants

1. Only participants who have fully attended the program of Albanian language and culture courses in all its components are entitled to certification.
2. Participant certification is carried out by the State Coordinator for the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme, according to the template attached to this Memorandum.
3. Certificates for participants who cannot receive them in person at the end of the summer courses, shall be submitted to the National Diaspora Agency for the purpose of sending them through accredited Albanian embassies around the world.

Article 6

Types of Activities

The basic activities to be conducted during the Albanian language and culture courses of the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme are as follows:

1. Albanian language, culture, history and geography lessons;
2. exercises, workshops, interactive games;
3. illustrative excursions to archaeological parks, national museums, cultural monuments and tourist sites;
4. activities aimed at tourist visits, promotion of tourism as well as nature and environment of Albania;
5. cultural activities (concerts, exhibitions).

Article 7

Evaluation of Memorandum Implementation

1. The Parties undertake to jointly evaluate the implementation of the Memorandum by drafting and submitting a periodic written report from the State Coordinator for the "I AM ALBANIAN" Programme at the end of each calendar year.
2. The report contains, in addition to the data on the progress of the activities carried out during the year, the concrete recommendations for addressing the identified problems. The report is published on the ministry's official website.



Article 8

Communication between the parties

1. The Parties undertake to establish a Technical Secretary under the direction of the State Coordinator for the “I AM ALBANIAN” Programme consisting of representatives of the Parties who shall carry out the communication and coordination of actions to be taken on a case-by-case basis for the implementation of this Memorandum.
2. The Parties engage to maintain continuous communication between them and to exchange any information necessary for the performance of their duties. Communication shall be conducted in paper form or electronically. In each case of submission of a request, the parties undertake to respond within 10 (ten) days. In each case of submitting a request, the parties shall engage to respond within 10 calendar days.

Article 9

Financial Costs

1. The remuneration and accommodation of teachers and persons engaged in the smooth running of this process will be covered by the budget of the National Diaspora Agency.
2. The financial costs resulting from the implementation of this Memorandum are subject to the legislation in force and comply with the budget expenditure limits approved by the National Diaspora Agency.

Article 10

Amendment of the Memorandum

This Memorandum may only be amended by agreement of the parties through the exchange of written communication.

Article 11

Duration of the Memorandum

This Memorandum is signed for a period of 3 (three) years.



Article 12

Dispute resolution

Any disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation and implementation of this Agreement shall be settled by mutual agreement between the parties.

Article 13

Entry into force

The Memorandum shall enter into force on the day of its signature and shall be published on the official websites of the Parties.

The Memorandum is prepared and signed in 8 (eight) original copies, two of which are deposited with the Minister of State of Diaspora, two with the Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth, two with the Ministry of Tourism and the Environment and two with the Ministry of Culture.

Signed in Tirana, in 2019.

MINISTER OF STATE FOR DIASPORA

PANDELI MAJKO

MINISTER OF EDUCATION, SPORTS AND YOUTH

BESA SHAHINI

MINISTER OF TOURISM AND ENVIRONMENT

BLENDI KLOSI

MINISTER OF CULTURE

ELVA MARGARITA



**AGREEMENT BETWEEN
NATIONAL AGENCY OF DIASPORA THE FACULTY OF HISTORY AND
PHILOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA ON COOPERATION IN PRESERVATION
OF THE LANGUAGE AND NATIONAL IDENTITY IN DIASPORA**

The National Agency for Diaspora and Faculty of History and Philology at the University of Tirana (hereinafter referred to as Parties);

Incentivized by willingness to preserve the national identity and cultural heritage of the Albanian community in Diaspora;

Driven by the desire to promote national heritage; hereby agree as follows:

Article 1

The Parties shall jointly commit, in accordance with their powers, to cooperate with a view to:

- a) promoting the opening of the Albanian language department in Ukraine, through the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Albania in Kharkiv, in cooperation with the Kharkiv Pedagogical University in Ukraine;
- b) carry out activities, but not limited to preserving and reinforcing the national and cultural values of the Albanian community of the Italian Arbëresh, of the Albanian community in Karakurt and Zaporizhia Ukraine, and the Albanian community of Croatia; and the Albanian community in Diaspora;
- c) Language preservation and identity through the study, production and distribution of works in Albanian language;
- d) provision of Albanian language grammar courses and trainings to the Albanian community;
- e) cooperation with institutions of the host countries of the Albanian community for the inclusion of the Albanian language in preschool, primary and secondary education;
- f) organizing excursions and visits to the Albanian community;
- g) donation of textbooks, Alphabet Books, dictionaries, and literary works in Albanian to the Albanian community;
- h) creation of a publicly accessible digital archive for publishing works in Albanian language;
- i) undertaking other initiatives in the field of Diaspora deemed necessary by the Parties in accordance with the purpose of this Agreement.



Article 2

General Principles

1. The Parties to this Agreement are governed by the principle of equality and mutual benefit in accordance with the applicable legislation. The Parties shall contribute to the implementation of this Agreement in accordance with their capabilities and powers under applicable law.
2. The parties acknowledge the common interest in promoting and preserving the national language and identity of the Albanian community in the Diaspora.

Article 3

Cooperation in organizing language preservation activities

1. The Parties shall promote mutual cooperation in organizing joint cultural activities.
2. Collaboration activities in carrying out language activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Making available of the Albanian language teacher for teaching Albanian language at the Albanian language department in Ukraine, which will be opened in the framework of the agreement between the Honorary Consulate of the Republic of Albania in Kharkiv in cooperation with the Kharkiv Pedagogical University in Ukraine.
 - b) making available of 2 (two) Albanian language teachers for teaching Albanian language to the Albanian community of the Italian Arbëresh,
 - c) making available of 2 (two) Albanian language teachers for teaching Albanian language to the Albanian community of Ukraine,
 - d) making available of 2 (two) Albanian language teachers for teaching Albanian language to the Albanian community of Croatia,
 - e) making available of 2 (two) Albanian language teachers for teaching Albanian language to the Albanian community in Diaspora.
 - f) Defining programmes of activities and activities to be organized in accordance with this Agreement;
 - g) production and distribution of works of art and literary works in Albanian language;
 - h) creation of a publicly accessible digital archive for publishing works in Albanian language;
 - i) other forms of cooperation in accordance with the purpose of this Agreement.



Article 4

Cooperation for education and trainings

The Parties are committed to organizing courses in the field of culture and advanced training through various forms of cooperation which include:

- a) provision of Albanian language grammar courses and trainings to the Albanian community in Diaspora;
- b) cooperation with institutions of the host countries of the Albanian community for the inclusion of the Albanian language in preschool, primary and secondary education;
- c) donation of textbooks, Alphabet Books, dictionaries, and literary works in Albanian to the Albanian community in diaspora;
- d) other forms of cooperation not mentioned in this Agreement provided being consistent with its purpose.

Article 5

Confidentiality and Intellectual property.

1. The Parties shall be obliged to preserve the confidentiality of the information, data and know-how to be disclosed during the validity and/or implementation of this Agreement, in compliance with their mutual understanding.
2. The intellectual property rights of a Party shall remain in full ownership of that Party unless otherwise agreed by the Parties therein.
3. Intellectual property rights owned by one Party may be used by the other Party for the activities mentioned herein only through expressed written consent of the Party owning these rights and in accordance with the rules stipulated by the party in question.

Article 6

Personal Data Processing

The Parties shall agree to data processing in accordance with the agreement herein and with the legislation in power on the protection of personal data. The same data may be included in databases, computer files, and telematic systems solely intended for the purposes stipulated in this Agreement.



Article 7

Forms of collaboration

The Parties herein agree that this Agreement shall not exclude the possibility of other forms of cooperation with entities which are not parties to this Agreement.

Article 8

Liability

The parties shall not be liable for any disputes that may arise with any third parties.

Article 9

Term, Renewal and Waiver

1. This agreement shall enter into force immediately upon its signature by the Parties.
2. This Agreement is of definite term. A contract annex will be drafted on a case-by-case basis for activities by both parties.
3. The Parties may waive from this Agreement by written communication. This Agreement shall terminate one (1) month after the date when the other Party receives the notice to withdraw from this Agreement. The waiver of the parties from this Agreement shall not have any effect on the relations that have begun to exist during the period of this Agreement.

Article 10

Dispute Resolution

Any disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation and implementation of the provisions herein shall be settled by mutual understanding between the parties.

Article 11

Language of the Agreement

This Agreement is drafted in Albanian language, in three copies.

**FOR THE NATIONAL AGENCY
OF DIASPORA
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
ETLEVA KONDI**

**FOR THE FACULTY OF HISTORY AND
PHILOLOGY UNIVERSITY OF TIRANA
DEAN
SABRI LAÇI**



COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN NATIONAL AGENCY OF DIASPORA AND NATIONAL THEATRE OF
OPERA AND BALLET OF ALBANIA AND THE NATIONAL SONGS AND DANCE
ENSEMBLE ON COOPERATION IN THE PRESERVATION AND PROMOTION OF
NATIONAL CULTURAL IDENTITY IN DIASPORA

The National Agency for Diaspora and National Theatre of Opera and Ballet of Albania and the National Songs and Dance Ensemble, (hereinafter referred to as “Parties”);
Whereas the object of the activity of the parties provided for in this Cooperation Agreement;

Incentivized by the desire to preserve the national identity and cultural heritage of the Albanian community in Diaspora;

Driven by the desire to promote Albanian art and culture in the Diaspora;

Considering the enhancement of artistic and cultural cooperation between the two institutions;

Recognizing the importance that this cooperation agreement generates in the framework of cooperation between the parties, to convey culture and folklore identity to the Diaspora;

Hereby agree as follows:

Article 1

Object

The Parties shall jointly commit, in accordance with their powers, to cooperate with a view to:

- a) carry out activities, but not limited to preserving and developing the national and cultural values of the Albanian community of the Italian Arbëresh, the Albanian community of Ukraine, and the Albanian community of Croatia;
- b) preserve national and cultural identity by providing courses and trainings in Albanian folk dance and folk songs for Albanian communities in the Diaspora;
- c) organise excursions and conducting study visits of the Albanian community in Albania;
- d) establishment of a publicly accessible digital archive for the teaching of folk dance;
- e) undertake other initiatives to preserve and promote national cultural identity in the Diaspora, deemed necessary by the Parties, in accordance with the purpose of this Agreement.



Article 2

Cooperation for courses and training

The Parties are committed to organizing courses in the field of culture and advanced training through various forms of cooperation which include:

making available a Songs and Dance Ensemble Group for teaching traditional Albanian dances to the Albanian community of the Italian Arbëresh, the Albanian community of Ukraine and the Albanian community of Croatia, but not limited to them;

- a) cooperation with institutions of the Albanian Diaspora host countries for inclusion of folk-dance lessons and folk songs in these countries;
- b) creation of special classes for learning Albanian folk dance and folk songs;
- c) other forms of cooperation not mentioned in this Agreement provided being consistent with its purpose.

Article 3

Cooperation in organizing cultural activities

1. The Parties shall promote mutual cooperation in organizing joint cultural activities.
2. Collaboration activities in carrying out cultural activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) Organization of a joint concert between the Songs and Dance Ensemble Group and members of the community who have participated in Albanian dance and folk-dance courses;
 - b) Defining programmes of activities and activities to be organized in accordance with this Agreement;
 - c) organizing excursions and conducting study visits to Albania for community members who have participated in Albanian dance and folk song courses;
 - d) the creation of a publicly accessible digital archive for the publication of Albanian artworks;
 - e) other forms of cooperation in accordance with the purpose of this Agreement.

Article 4

Forms of collaboration

The parties have agreed that this Agreement does not exclude other forms of cooperation of any of them with third parties, for the same scope and objective of this Agreement.



Article 5

Responsibility

The parties are not liable for any disputes that may arise with any third parties arising from the implementation of this Agreement.

Article 6

Amendment of the Agreement

The provisions of this Agreement may be amended by mutual written consent of the parties.

Article 7

Dispute resolution

Any disputes that may arise from the interpretation or application of the terms of the Agreement between the parties, shall be resolved by negotiation and mutual understanding between the parties.

Article 8

Duration and right to waive

1. The Agreement is binding for an indefinite duration and enters into force upon signature by the Parties.
2. The Parties may waive from this Agreement by written communication. The Agreement shall terminate six (6) months after the date on which the other Party has received the notice to withdraw from this Agreement. The withdrawal of the parties from this Agreement shall not have any effect on the relations that have begun to exist during the time this Agreement was in force.

Article 9

Language of the Agreement

This Agreement is drafted in Albanian language, in three original copies.

**FOR THE NATIONAL AGENCY
FOR DIASPORA**

**DREJTOR EKZEKUTIV
ETLEVA KONDI**

**FOR THE NATIONAL THEATRE OF OPERA
AND BALLET OF ALBANIA AND THE
NATIONAL SONGS AND DANCE
ENSEMBLE
GENERAL DIRECTOR
ZANA ÇELA**



AGREEMENT
BETWEEN “MAGNA GRECIA” FOUNDATION AND ALBANIAN FUND FOR
DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT

The AGREEMENT herein dated on April 18th, 2019 (“FA”), is signed between, Magna Grecia Foundation, (hereinafter referred to as MGF), registered in Rome, Italy, May 18, 1986, headquartered in Rome, at Largo Fontanella di Borghese 84, Italy, Tax Code 97546360583 and NUIS. 11060011001 chaired by President Hon. Antonino Foti, And Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development, headquartered in Tirana - Albania, at: Boulevard “Dëshmorët e Kombit”, Nr. 1.1000, with NUIS. L82224452L, (hereinafter ADDF) chaired by the Executive Director Mrs. Soana Jaupllari. (hereinafter referred to as “Parties”)

INTRODUCTION

- MGF is an international think tank, based in Rome, established since 1986, which promotes the growth and development of Italy, and in particular the southern regions, through projects, and initiatives in the social, economic and innovative fields. Also, in cooperation with Universities, Research Centres, Institutions, and public and private companies;
- MGF represents a non-profit organization, in the status of a Legal Person, decreed on February 10, 2000, No. 361;
- In addition to its institutional objectives, MGF promotes relations between Italy and communities of Italian origin in the world, through cultural and tourism projects;
- On December 19, 2018, a 3-year agreement has been signed between MGF and the eCampus Telematic University, an Italian University authorized by M.D. 30.01.2006 which can activate and provide diploma and remote learning courses utilizing information and telematics technologies in order to support MGF research, innovation and training;
- ADDF represents an Albanian public institution that manages projects funded by the Council of Ministers or other donors, in accordance with the scope of its activity in accordance with the provisions of the relevant agreement;
- that, in line with its mission, ADDF has the following objectives: to support the members of the Albanian Diaspora in ensuring their full integration into the host country and to promote the exchange of programs on educational and cultural issues; strengthening cooperation with other active in socio-economic and



- cultural development of non-profit and philanthropic organizations;
- The parties are interested in starting a new cooperation and improving existing ones with public and private, national or international institutions which are operational in the areas of Diaspora projects, expertise, research and studies, promoting leadership education and career practice opportunities, opportunities exchange in employment, culture, science and technological knowledge;
 - ADDF, considering the links and common experiences of the historic course of Italian and Albanian migration and taking into account the institutional activities promoted over time by the Magna Grecia Foundation, acknowledges MGF as a proper partner to support its targeted programmes for the Albanian Diaspora in Italy;
 - Fully convinced that the exchange of mutual experiences and activities and based on traditional relationship between Albania and Italy,

The parties have agreed as follows:

Article 1

Preamble

1. Introductions are an integral and essential part of this act;
2. The provisions of this Private Agreement shall be construed in accordance with the scope of the Parties, as set forth above;

Article 2

Scope

The Parties agree that initiatives may be undertaken for the following purposes:

1. Scientific cooperation

- a) carry out studies and research in order to develop the knowledge and possibilities of applying innovative practices of social interest;
- b) establish, in partnership, an Observatory entity in charge of monitoring the Albanian community in Italy to provide useful information on the ADDF's decision-making processes, by making use of international best practices;
- c) promote the creation of an network for the implementation of programs and projects, also with the use of European funds;
- d) Raise awareness and establish a good reputation through support campaigns and promotional activities;



- e) promote training activities, employee education and/or retraining courses, already engaged or that can be reintegrated in to productive activities, interventions to facilitate integration and inclusion in the labour market, with a particular focus on members of the Albanian Diaspora;
- f) incentivize joint participation in spin-offs, with the aim of encouraging entrepreneurship of young graduates /PhD students, in particular towards members of the Albanian Diaspora;

2. Cultural Cooperation

- a) Organization of conferences or trainings on issues related to the Diaspora and beyond;
- b) Organization of joint educational visits and internships for students in their respective countries;
- c) Planning activities to promote publications in the field of Diaspora;
- d) Cooperation in the development and promotion of cultural activities of common interest in national and international networks to which the parties are affiliated;

Article 3

Operational Committee (differently denominated Technical Secretariat)

1. For the implementation of the activities referred to in Article 2, the Parties shall designate the persons in charge of defining the lines of common action, periodically verifying their implementation.

For the coordination of the cooperative activities referred to in this Agreement, the Parties agree to establish a Joint Technical Secretariat consisting of 2 (two) representatives for each Party. It performs the following tasks:

- a) Coordinates joint activities;
- b) Plans annual activities;
- c) Monitors joint initiatives carried out in co-operation and drafts regular reports on their progress to the executive representatives of the Parties;

Members of the Technical Secretariat shall be notified by one Party to the other, with dedicated formal communication within 15 days upon the signature of this Agreement.

2. Referring to the document “National Strategy for Diaspora and Migration 2018 - 2024 and the Action Plan”, published by the State Minister of Diaspora, the Parties agree as follows:

- MGF expresses its willingness to make operational proposals to ADDF under the measures outlined above, identified under these numbers: 26, 29, 32, 33,



34, 36, 41, 42, 46, 53, 54, 68 and undertakes to formally submit these proposals by August 31, 2019;

- ADDF on the other hand guarantees MGF priority over project proposals referred to in the aforementioned, that undertakes not to evaluate third party proposals until the date of termination of this priority.

Article 4

Conventions and Operational Agreements

1. The Parties agree to implement the initiatives identified from time to time and within the scope of the objectives set out in Article 2, between the Parties, specific conventions and operational agreements shall be drawn up with specific implementation methodologies proposed by the Operational Committee and in accordance with the current framework agreement and applicable regulations;
2. Operational Agreements and Conventions shall regulate the ways in which cooperation between the Parties shall be carried out, specifying in particular the technical, scientific, organizational, managerial and financial aspects of the use and ownership of the results of the cooperation, as well as specific security aspects;

Article 5

Costs

1. This agreement does not entail any specific costs to the parties. Each expenditure shall be specified in the individual conventions and operational agreements referred to in Article 4 herein, which shall identify the organizational structure of each party to which such expenditure will be charged, subject to verification of the existence and availability of the relevant funds;

Article 6

Intellectual Property Rights

1. The Parties undertake, pursuant their relevant field of competence, to ensure that all the entities involved in collaborative scientific projects in accordance with this Agreement specifically express their mutual cooperation in scientific publications, making them public in all communications to the public: in particular through joint scientific publications, participation in conferences, educational and training activities resulting from such activities;



2. The Parties shall jointly consider, on the basis of current contributions, the possibility to proceed with the presentation of patents regarding the results of scientific findings resulting from collaborative projects, in accordance with the legal rights of the inventors;
3. In any event, unless otherwise agreed in the Conventions and Operational Agreements referred to in Article 4, intellectual property relating to methodologies and studies resulting from collaborative projects shall be estimated on the basis of the contribution of each Party. With regard to product ownership, as a result of collaborative projects, the definition of ownership will be the subject of a separate agreement within the aforementioned operational agreements;

Article 7

Duration and Renewal

1. This Agreement has a duration of 5 (five) years from the date of entry into force and may be renewed following a subsequent written agreement between the parties, by decision of the competent authority, unless when annulled by letter registered 3 (three) months before the validity period;
2. This agreement provides for the obligation to complete all the activities in progress at the time of termination of this Agreement, as well as the costs in the expenditures undertaken at the date of termination, referred to in Articles 4 and 5;
3. Upon termination of this agreement, the cooperating parties will draw up an evaluation report on the activities carried out and the results achieved; in case of renewal, this will be added to the programme for future objectives to be achieved.

Article 8

Withdrawal or Termination

1. The Parties are entitled to withdraw unilaterally from this Agreement or by consensual agreement; withdrawal must be performed by written communication notified through PEC (certified electronic email) and/or registered receipt letter, 3 (three) months prior to the waiver date;
2. The withdrawal shall take effect three months after the date of its notification;
3. Unilateral withdrawal or dissolution of the memorandum will have an impact on future activities, projects, etc., and shall not affect any part of the agreement on those carried out;
4. In the event of a unilateral withdrawal or resolution of the Memorandum, the



Parties agree to terminate the activities in progress and the Individual and Operational Agreements already set at the date of termination of the Agreement, unless otherwise provided herein.

Article 9

Confidentiality

The Parties undertake, through appropriate procedures, not to disclose; confidential data, news and information obtained as a result of and in connection with the activities covered by the agreement.

Article 10

Personal Data Processing

The Parties are mutually committed to the processing and storage of data and information, such as paper and electronic data, related to the performance of activities related to this Agreement and to the Operational Agreements and Convention under the Article 4, in accordance with the measures and obligations imposed by the EU Directives on the General Data Protection Regulation, Legislation dated 30.6.2003, no. 196, "Code regarding the protection of personal data" and ss.mm.ii.

Article 11

Dispute Resolution

Any dispute arising from the interpretation or application of this agreement, shall be resolved by negotiation and mutual understanding between the parties.

Article 12

Signing of Agreement

This Act, consisting of 7 (seven) sheets has been drafted in two copies and shall be signed at the event specified, in accordance with Presidential Decree no. 131, dated 26.04.1986, in accordance with the respective legislation of the party which will require registration.



The Parties to this Agreement, consisting of 7 (seven) sheets, hereby, expressly and unconditionally confirm their compliance, with all the provisions contained herein, by the following signatures:

Magna Grecia Foundation
President of MGF
Antonino Foti

Albanian Diaspora Development Fund
State Minister of Diaspora
Pandeli Majko

Albanian Diaspora Development Fund
Executive Director
Soana Jaupllari



**COOPERATION AGREEMENT
BETWEEN THE ALBANIAN FUND FOR DIASPORA DEVELOPMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA AND UNIVERSITY FOR BUSINESS AND
TECHNOLOGY, KOSOVO**

Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development (AFDD) and Higher Education Institution - University for Business and Technology (UBT) in Kosovo, hereinafter referred to as the "Parties" With the wish to collaborate in the field of research, teaching, technological development and innovation, and having in consideration that:

UBT is an institution founded on several core values such as promotion of teaching, research and innovation, promotion of international values, and best quality standards and practices, creation of a dynamic environment that fosters growth at the individual and professional level;

The Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development will have the mission of ensuring and distributing financial resources in the framework of encouraging socio-economic and cultural development, based on the national strategy for Diaspora, through promoting, encouraging and directing philanthropic trends and investments in support of development of the Diaspora in the Republic of Albania and abroad;

Given the interest of both bodies in creating the means to promote concrete cooperation in scientific and educational research between institutions, based on the opportunity to conduct research and training activities, as well as in promoting any scientific cooperation which is useful to better achieve the relevant institutional goals, also by involving other public and private entities, national and international, for the purposes of innovation and exploitation of results;

The parties agree on the following:

Article 1

Scope

1. UBT and AFDD shall agree to establish and implement projects, programmes and activities in various fields in accordance with their mission;
2. UBT shall assist AFDD in providing professional expertise in order to achieve a successful scale in institutional and development capacity building, especially in ideas, projects, pilot projects, specific programmes, which are important segments of the engagement in this memorandum;



Article 2

General principles

The provisions of this Agreement shall be interpreted in accordance with the principle of institutional and academic cooperation;

1. In order to better achieve their institutional goals, the parties recognize their common interest in maintaining and developing forms of cooperation in research, teaching, technological development and innovation, in teaching and training activities, and in the provision of services to support research activities.
2. The parties aim to identify new models and strategies to strengthen connectivity with the territory, including the social and cultural aspect, experimenting with new forms of communication and sharing high-tech knowledge and experience within the local community.
3. The Parties undertake to assess the feasibility of the forms of student mobility, teaching and research staff, and university orientation activities;
4. Any proposal for joint activities must be approved in advance by both institutions. Upon acceptance of the proposal, both institutions designate the persons responsible for implementing the activity.

Article 3

Object

1. The Parties shall jointly commit, in accordance with their respective legislations and within their powers, to cooperate with a view to:
 - a) Identify priorities for drafting and developing teaching, orientation, research and development projects, identified also through careful analysis of the demand expressed by the various components of the social, economic and industrial aspects, and in cooperation with other universities and research institutions;
 - b) Achieve student, teaching and research mobility;
 - c) Plan joint training courses or ensure recognition of educational activities in accordance with the regulations in force in both countries;
 - d) Design, implement and make available international doctoral courses;
 - e) Utilize research results, technological mobility and innovation, favouring interactions with the industrial and territorial system;
 - f) Carry out educational activities, research and to share the results of research activities by professors.



2. Such actions shall be undertaken by favouring appropriate cooperation and synergies with National Bodies and Agencies, with the industrial system and with any other body that shows an interest in participating.
3. The cooperation between the Parties shall be governed by the provisions set out:
 - a) in this Agreement;
 - b) in the individual Engagement Deeds as follows;
 - c) in all the applicable provisions.

Article 4

Cooperation for research, development and innovation activities

1. The Parties shall promote mutual cooperation in research, development and innovation. During the validity period of this Agreement, the parties may agree on specific research topics.
2. These forms of cooperation can be achieved by determining the operational acts provided below, identifying the scientific structures of each body involved in the project. Each Act shall be adopted by the Parties pursuant to their respective domestic legislation.
3. Collaboration activities in carrying out specific project partnerships may include the following:
 - a) determination of mid-term programmes in research and performing research, development and innovation projects, for joint participation in European Framework Programs, in addition to drafting proposals at national and international level;
 - b) cooperation in the development and promotion of activities of common interest through international networks in which the parties participate;
 - c) study and experimentation of innovative services to leverage search results, technology mobility and innovation start-up financing;
 - d) promotion, establishment, enhancement and development of new business activities and new products that support the dynamism of innovation in the territories involved and experimentation with an innovative model;
 - e) encouragement of activities for the dissemination of scientific and technological culture in the territory;
 - f) exchange of expertise between respective institutions;



Article 5

Cooperation in the field of education, culture and advanced training

1. In the context of cooperation in didactic and training activities, the parties declare their availability to carry out joint activities as follows, including but not limited to:
 - a) Informing, assisting and supporting potential candidates to study at UBT;
 - b) supporting the writing of theses and projects for obtaining the bachelor, master, doctorate degree, and internships;
 - c) organizing educational visits and student internships;
 - d) organizing conferences, debates, seminars, round tables and other activities of common interest;
 - e) organizing joint academic activities;
 - f) cooperation in the development and promotion of cultural activities of common interest in national and international networks to which the parties are affiliated;
 - g) organizing events in synergy with other bodies;
 - h) favouring practical work activities regulated by a specific agreement defined under current legislation;
 - i) UBT shall provide scholarships for all excellent students from the Diaspora which will be assigned by a special decision, in order to contribute to the quality education of youth;
 - j) Support of young people in building professional competencies, in employment, entrepreneurship and other innovative, cultural and artistic activities. The same applies to other community groups with a particular interest in the development of society, specifically women, etc.;
 - k) Supporting AFDD in capacity building and performance in line with current requirements, best practices of European and international standards, providing training, consulting, certification, research, analysis and in general feasibility studies;
 - l) Organizing events of common interest;
 - m) Joint preparation and participation in development projects in the local, regional, European and international context, cross-border projects, and other projects of interest to Diaspora development;
 - n) Support with expertise in preparing the necessary documents and reports;
 - o) Implementation of Standards and Technical Rules, etc.



Article 6

Joint Steering Committee

1. For the coordination of the cooperative activities referred to in this Agreement, the Parties agree to establish a Joint Steering Committee consisting of two representatives for each Party. The Committee appoints its Chairman; in the event of an equitable vote, the oldest member who has obtained the majority of the votes shall be appointed Chairman.
2. The Committee also meets, by means of telematics, with one of the Parties and draws up a regulation on its functioning.
3. The Committee remains in office for the duration of the Agreement and is reappointed in the event of a renewal of the Agreement.
4. Committee members are not remunerated for their membership. Any expenses for the members' mission will be covered by the respective membership entity.
5. The Committee has the following tasks:
 - a) coordinates collaborative activities;
 - b) plans interventions on a three-year basis;
 - c) monitors joint initiatives carried out in cooperation and draws up regular reports on their progress with the competent bodies of the Parties;
 - d) identifies individuals who will attend these activities, trainings, etc.

Article 7

Operational Acts

The Parties agree on the implementation of research projects, training activities, study orientation, professional and career orientation, initiatives aimed at enhancing the results of scientific research and any other activities of common interest, through the definition of operational acts, identification of the scientific structures of each Party involved in a joint project or initiative. Each Act shall be adopted by the Parties pursuant to their respective domestic legislation.

Article 8

Confidentiality and Intellectual property

1. The Parties shall be obliged to preserve the secrecy and confidentiality of the information, data and know-how to be disclosed during the validity and/or implementation of this Agreement, except for the information, data, news and decisions for which the law constitutes an administrative or judicial order,



therefore imposing an obligation to disclose and/or obtain the consent of the Party from which such data originate.

2. Any intellectual property rights owned by a Party shall remain its full ownership and its use permitted by the other Parties under this Agreement shall not imply the recognition of any license or right in respect of this right, except where the transfer of this license or right is expressly provided for in the operational acts.
3. Any intellectual property rights owned by one Party may be used by the other Party for the activities mentioned herein only through expressed written consent of the Party owning these rights and in accordance with the rules stipulated by the party in question and/or by the Parties to the engagement deeds.

Article 9

Personal data

The parties allow the processing of their personal data in accordance with current legislation on protection of personal data; the same data may be included in databases, computer files, and telematic systems solely intended for the purposes stipulated in this Agreement.

Article 10

Forms of collaboration

The Parties have agreed that this Agreement shall not exclude the possibility of other forms of cooperation with entities which are not parties to this Agreement.

Article 11

Duration

1. This Agreement shall enter into force upon its signing by the authorized representatives of the two Institutions.
2. This agreement is valid for an indefinite period.
3. The Parties may unilaterally and at any time terminate this Agreement for legitimate reasons. In order to terminate the Agreement, the parties shall make a written request that they wish to terminate the collaboration, six months in advance.
4. In case of cancellation or non-extension of the agreement, the started activities should be completed.



Article 12

Disputes

1. Any disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation and implementation of this Agreement shall be settled by mutual agreement by consultation and negotiation between the competent representatives of the parties.
2. The Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development and UBT are not liable for any disputes that may arise with any third parties.

Article 13

Signature

This Agreement is drafted in 2 (two) copies, one copy for each of the Parties and is signed today on ____ at ____

For UBT
PRESIDENT
Prof. Dr. Edmond HAJRIZI

For AFDD
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR
Prof. Assoc. Dr. Soana JAUPLLARI



AGREEMENT
BETWEEN ALBANIAN FUND FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF DIASPORA AND
“ALB-SHKENCA” INSTITUTE ON COOPERATION IN THE AREA OF
OF RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT WITH THE ALBANIAN SCIENTIFIC
DIASPORA

The Albanian Fund for Diaspora Development (AFDD) and the Albanian Institute of Researchers (IASh), based on the willingness and desire to achieve sustainable socio-economic development of Albania and Albanian-speaking lands, hereby agree to cooperate in accordance with this agreement.

The AFDD represents a legal public entity under the dependency of the State Minister of Diaspora, and IASh represents a non-profit, non-governmental scientific structure that brings together researchers of all disciplines from the Diaspora and from all over the Albanian areas in the Balkans, with head offices in Tirana, Pristina and Skopje. The AFDD and the IASh, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”, based on the willingness and desire to cooperate in the area of scientific research, organization of scientific conferences, publications and studies for the benefit of the common interest, hereby agree as follows:

Article 1

Object

1. The Parties shall jointly commit, in accordance with the applicable legislation, to cooperate with a view to:
 - a) Issue of joint publications in the field of Diaspora for study and educational purposes;
 - b) Organise conferences or trainings on research-related issues in collaboration with the Diaspora;
 - c) Implement of publications schedule that help deepen the knowledge of the Albanian Diaspora. Publish scientific contributions and papers in thematic conferences;
 - d) Undertake other initiatives in the field of diaspora deemed necessary by the Parties, in accordance with the scope of this Agreement.

Article 2

General principles

1. The Parties to this Agreement are governed by the principle of equality and mutual benefit in accordance with the applicable legislation.



2. The Parties shall act in compliance with the common interest in maintaining and developing forms of cooperation to promote, publish and conduct scientific and cultural research in cooperation with the Diaspora.

Article 3

Cooperation for scientific works and activities

1. The Parties shall promote mutual cooperation in the field of publications, scientific research and cultural heritage.
2. Collaborative research activities include, but are not limited to:
 - a) cooperation in the development and promotion of activities of common interest through international networks in which the parties participate;
 - b) Organization of conferences or trainings on issues related to the Diaspora and beyond;
 - c) Publication or publishing studies on the history of the Albanian Diaspora and cultural heritage;
 - d) Promotion and publication of studies or publications in e-book format;
 - e) Promoting activities in countries where parties to the agreement have head offices of their activity;
 - f) Organizing activities in cooperation with other parties;

Article 4

Confidentiality and Intellectual property

1. The Parties shall be obliged to preserve the confidentiality of the information, data and know-how to be disclosed during the validity and/or implementation of this Agreement, in compliance with their mutual understanding.
2. The intellectual property rights of a Party shall remain in full ownership of that Party unless otherwise agreed by the Parties therein.
3. Intellectual property rights owned by one Party may be used by the other Party for the activities mentioned herein only through expressed written consent of the Party owning these rights and in accordance with the rules provided for by the party in question.

Article 5

Personal Data Processing

The Parties shall agree to data processing in accordance with the agreement herein and with the legislation in power on the protection of personal data. The same data



may be included in databases, computer files, and telematic systems solely intended for the purposes stipulated in this Agreement.

Article 6

Forms of collaboration

The Parties have agreed that this Agreement shall not exclude the possibility of other forms of cooperation with entities which are not parties to this Agreement, if cooperation with third parties shall be in accordance with the purpose of this Agreement.

Article 7

Responsibility

The parties are not liable for any disputes that may arise with any third parties.

Article 8

Term, Renewal and Waiver

1. This agreement shall enter into force immediately upon its signature by the Parties.
2. This Agreement has a duration of 3 years from the date of its entry into force and may be renewed for the same period based on a written agreement between the parties.
3. The Parties may make eventual changes or waive from this Agreement by giving written notice to the other Party six months in advance. The waiver of the parties from this Agreement shall not have any effect on the relations that have begun to exist during the period of this Agreement.

Article 9

Communication between the parties

1. The Parties engage to maintain continuous communication between them and to exchange any information necessary for the performance of their duties. Communication shall be conducted in paper form or electronically. In each case of submitting a request, the parties shall engage to respond within 10 calendar days.



2. The Parties shall always undertake availability for communication and collaboration with one another with a view to coordinating the actions to be carried out on a case-by-case basis.

Article 10

Amendments

The Parties shall make amendments to this Agreement based on mutual written consent.

Article 11

Dispute Resolution

Any disputes that may arise regarding the interpretation and implementation of this Agreement shall be settled by mutual agreement between the parties.

Article 12

Language of the Agreement

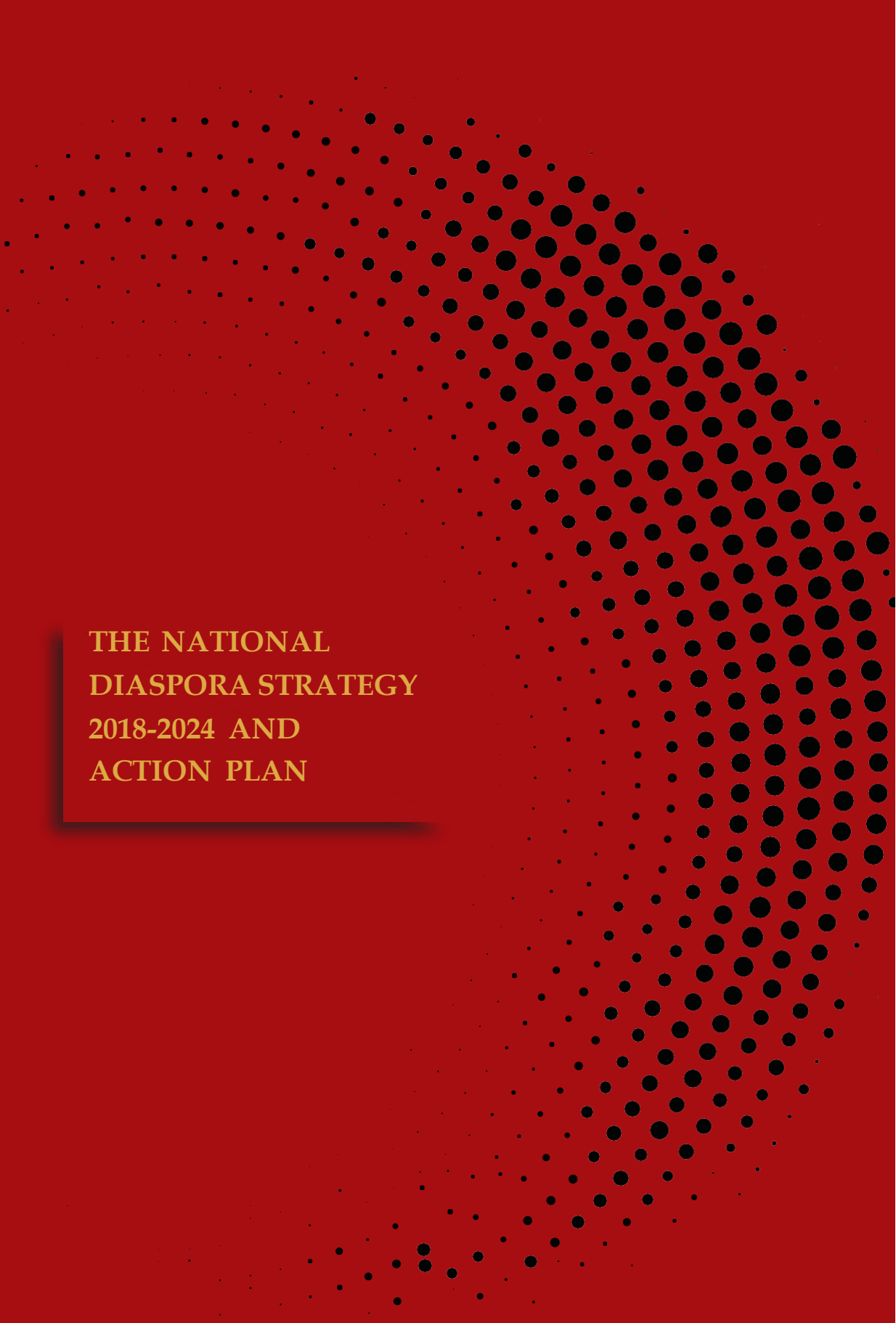
This Agreement is drafted in Albanian language in two copies for each Party.

**FOR ALB-SHKENCA INSTITUTE
GENERAL SECRETARY,**

**FOR ALBANIAN FUND FOR THE IASH
DEVELOPMENT OF DIASPORA**

PROFESSOR DR. FATOSYLLI

**EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR, SOANA
JAUPLLARI**



**THE NATIONAL
DIASPORA STRATEGY
2018-2024 AND
ACTION PLAN**



THE NATIONAL STRATEGY OF DIASPORA

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INTRODUCTION

DIASPORA AS NATIONAL QUALITY

Diaspora is a term known more than 2500 years ago. Today, this word can be defined as “a community of migrants whom maintain material or sentimental ties with their homeland, by adopting themselves in the environment and institutions of the host society”. The diaspora should not be understood as something immutable and rigid, neither as a unitary or rigid social moment. On the contrary, the diaspora should be referred to as migrant communities, whose identities and qualities are changing over time.

Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia (the Valley) are spaces, which include the sending states from which Albanians migrate.

Albanian diaspora is traditional. About 200 000 people migrated when Ottomans invaded Albanian lands in the 15th century. Later, Albanians moved within the Ottoman territory, and also held important positions in Ottoman structures in various parts of the Empire.

One of the oldest Albanian Diasporas is the Arbëresh community in Italy, which still maintains its own cultural and linguistic roots. This population is the descendant of those Albanian families who led Albania in the 15th century when the Ottomans invaded the area and they became refugees mainly in the Kingdom of Naples.

Diaspora of Albanian origin is found in Turkey. For a long time it was dangerous to declare Albanian ancestry, but in today's Turkey, the Albanian diaspora is respected and Turkish historiography appreciates the important role played by Albanians in the Ottoman hierarchy, but also later in the time of the founding of the modern state of Turkey.

Migration to the United States is consolidated in time and in 2012, the oldest Albanian cultural association “Vatra” celebrated its 100th anniversary.

In Romania, Croatia, Bulgaria, Ukraine, Egypt, and Argentina there is a Diaspora, which, though old, maintains language links and is looking for its proper identity.

Today, Albanian diaspora is present in European countries, Canada, Australia and Africa. In most host countries, Albanians have established their own organizations.

In dealing with the Albanian Diaspora, international organizations focus mainly on the current one. It is about those who left Albania and Kosovo after the collapse of communism in the 1990s and later. This definition is partial and does not represent the reality of the Albanian Diaspora. Many of those who left the 1990s joined their relatives or friends who were already living abroad. They have joined the Albanian associations, which have long existed in many host countries.

Migration remains a difficult challenge for Albanian state institutions and society.



The aim of the National Strategy is to provide Albania with a comprehensive diaspora policy and its placement in alignment with the EU integration policy orientations and its treatment with the best international standards.

The National Strategy supports migrants who live outside the territory of the Republic of Albania in a lawful manner. It aims to produce a synthesis of the collective commitment of the Albanian society towards its compatriots living abroad.

The strategy promotes the development of state policies for the inclusion and contribution of Albanian communities abroad in the socio-economic and political development of Albania.

It does not cover issues related to foreign nationals who live or want to live in Albania.

The strategy aims to strengthen and facilitate Albania's relations with their host countries through cooperation policies with the Diaspora and migrants.

The strategy considers Diaspora an added value of the Albanian society and envisions increasing the Government's ability to policy-making towards it. It supports the organization of Albanian communities in the world, in a structured diaspora, in order to factorize them in the interaction for the acceleration to the development of the country.

The document seeks to reassess the diaspora as a factor that will exert its impact on the homeland and vice versa, adapting the nation to the new conditions of the time we live.

The document is divided into two parts: the National Strategy of Diaspora and Action Plan, which contains the objectives and activities planned to be implemented in 2018-2024.

The National Strategy of Diaspora and Action Plan 2018-2024 of the Republic of Albania are drafted with the contribution provided by the Inter-ministerial Working Group chaired by the State Minister for Diaspora. Experts coming from different ministries and institutions are involved in this process. This document includes contributions and proposals made by the civil society.



I. CURRENT CONDITIONS

1.1 CURRENT SITUATION AND SITUATION'S ASSESSMENT

The National Diaspora Strategy 2018-2024 is an instrument that deals with the state of migratory phenomenon and diaspora of Albania. It gives a number of recommendations, which could clarify the future work of state structures.

The complexity of the Diaspora phenomenon requires the coordination of many institutions and state bodies and sets out the nature of the strategic document as a complex interdisciplinary strategy. The same work nature was followed by the preparation and elaboration of the National Action Plan. This last one through its own Measures will enable the implementation of the Albanian National Strategy of Diaspora 2018-2024.

The National Strategy is a dynamic document that needs tracking, adaptation and continuous monitoring. The strategy will be a valuable tool for the interested citizens and will encourage state structures to fulfill the obligations set out in it.

In Albania, public policies towards diaspora have so far been influenced by the donor community and NGOs. In 2004, Albania adopted the "National Migration Strategy 2005-2010" for migration management as entirely as possible. It was the first document that tried to involve the interests of Albanians both at home and abroad in the profile of a state policy. The first Albanian migration strategy of 2004 required Albania to be considered a country capable of managing migration flows. It was prepared with EU funding and supported by IOM. Despite the wish, the goal had little to do with the economic development of the country. The National Strategy of Diaspora 2018-2024 is also based on the critical assessment of the implementation of the Albanian Government policies in the field of migration through:

- study of former strategies in the area of migration and their action plans,
- verification of undertaken measures and their impact on state action,
- verification of the reasons for the delays and measures to be taken in progress,
- analyzing the existing conditions for achieving goals,
- drafting of conclusions and recommendations for the development of the state policy on this issue.

The National Strategy Document addresses:

- causes of migration,
- mechanisms of social and political factorization of diaspora in Albanian society,



- protection of Albanian Diaspora communities abroad,
- organization of Albanian communities abroad,
- improvement of consular services by consulates and Albanian embassies.

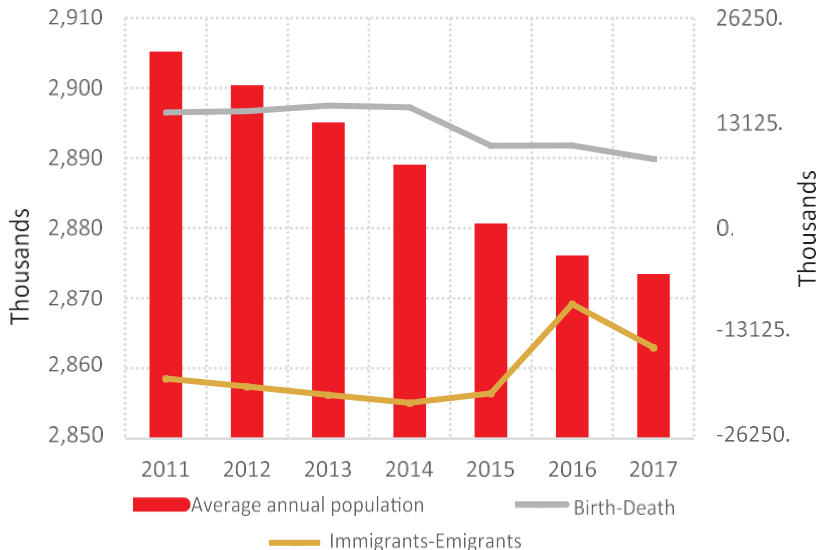
1.2 ALBANIAN MIGRATION STAGES AND DIASPORA

Diaspora is related to the “maturity” of migration. In relation to it, for the recent and late time of Albania, we can identify three stages of migration:

- the wave of migrants before 1944,
- the later diaspora of those who left during 1945-1990 and which coincides mainly with Albanians in the former Yugoslavia,
- the great wave of migration after the fall of communism, after 1990.

In 1989, around 19.5% of the population belonged to the age group of 15-24 years. The political isolation of the communist regime and the idea of freedom in the West were personified as ideas of freedom of movement and migration to neighboring states, mainly in Italy and Greece. Moving abroad was seen as an investment for the future and for a better life.

Fig.1 Annual average population and two main components (Natural Supplements and Net Migration), 2017



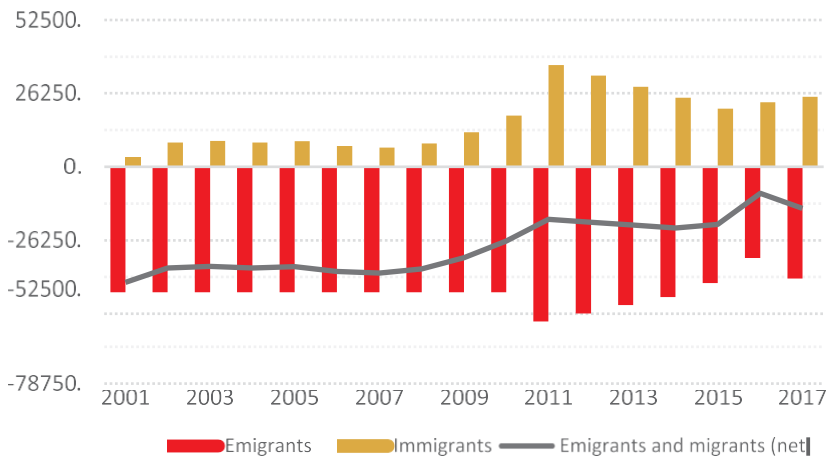
Source: INSTAT



Albania became the country with the largest influx of migration in Europe, according to the measurement of the relationship between migrants and the population. This phase of migration can be divided into several periods:

- the period 1991-1992, which was completely uncontrolled, when approximately 300 000 Albanians abandoned the country,
- the period 1992-1996, when they migrated, mainly illegally, despite temporary improvements to the economy and better border control,
- the period 1996-1997, shortly after the crisis of the collapse of the pyramid schemes of savings of a considerable number of people. Albania plunged into anarchy and many others were displaced for fear of violence,
- the period after the establishment of the free movement of people where they could only move freely with the Albanian passport.

Fig. 2 Number of immigrants, emigrants and migrants (net)



Source: INSTAT

During the first decade of transition, there was a lack of government control over migration. In the early 2000s, approximately 25% of the total population, or over 35% of the workforce, had emigrated.

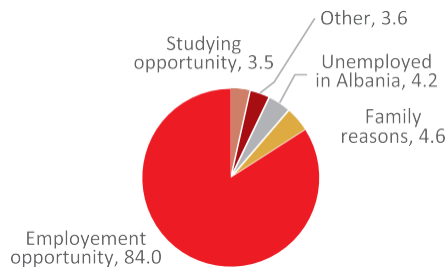


1.3 ALBANIAN DISPLACEMENT FACTORS

People migrate when they lack resources and opportunities to meet their needs and aspirations. The term “for a better life” includes some factors that force Albanians to leave the country, which is reflected in the lack of uniformity among Albanian migrants. The main factors are principally:

- Economic factor: Albanians have largely left for economic reasons such as: lack of employment opportunities, poor living conditions, especially in some areas where basic conditions such as electricity, water and shelter are lacking.
- Public safety: Albania has faced massive emigration flows as a result of the low level of public security or rioting in the country. A large number of qualified people, with good economic conditions, have left the country for a safer future for themselves and their family. This phenomenon occurred particularly after the 1997 riots and was accompanied by another departure wave.
- Weak institutions: lead to a lack of trust in citizens to improve the situation in the country where corruption and organized crime paralyze the normal functioning of state institutions. Poor institutions and difficulties in law enforcement also affect immigrants’ efforts and perspectives to return and settle in the country, especially when they face difficulties in building private activities or in dealing with public administration.
- A special case is the departure due to the tradition of “blood feuds”, which have a special social and cultural burden in the northern areas of the country.
- The reasons for the departure have changed their weight over time. In a study showing the reasons for leaving Albania in 2017, according to INSTAT, five factors are estimated to be the country’s departure factors.
- The reasons for the departure have changed their weight over time. In a study showing the reasons for leaving Albania in 2017, according to INSTAT, five factors are estimated to be the country’s departure factors.

Fig. 3 Factors of leaving Albania, 2017



Source: Labor Force Survey, by INSTAT, 2017



Among the main factors in free movement in the European Union, the opportunity to work abroad is in the first place (in the case of individuals who have been employed in Albania, 84%), then the family factor (4.6%), which is followed by the unemployment factor as inability (4.2%), study opportunities (3.5%) and other factors (3.6%). In previous government documents, leaving the country to go abroad was mainly dealt within the framework of the measures against trafficking and border management. By its very nature, it cannot be fought with repressive measures, but also preventive measures are required. The phenomenon requires reflection in dealing with long-term methods focused on the causes of migration from a practical point of view. This approach should consider compliance with the Common European Migration Policies.

1.4 “BRAIN DRAIN” PHENOMENON

The high level of the leaving the country of qualified people is a migration characteristic of the Albanians from Albania, compared to those Albanians from Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia.

In 1990, 40% of teachers and scholars left Albania. In the early 2000s, about 60 percent of the graduates in Western countries had either left the country or had not returned after graduation.

It is to be concerned the fact that the majority of qualified professionals have found jobs in sectors that differ from their qualifications.

The brain “drain” includes academics, qualified persons in various fields, as well as a significant number of Albanian students studying at foreign universities. From Italy and Greece, the country’s “brain” goes to Canada, USA, Germany, Great Britain and other EU countries.

The “Brain Drain” phenomenon has been symbolically labeled as the “Canada” phenomenon, since Canada’s emigration policies favor emigration of qualified people. The “loss” of qualified and educated people is considered to be a detriment to a country’s socio-economic development as they are the driving force of any country. Taking measures to avoid the permanent departure of qualified and educated individuals requires the encouragement and promotion of temporary migration, in particular the circulating migration of qualified individuals.

The Government of Albania intends to promote the voluntary return of qualified, permanent or temporary migrants through short-term positions for consultation, teaching or training purposes. This will also serve to identify all the intellectual capacities that are located abroad.

The National Strategy of Diaspora will foster representatives of the talented young generation abroad to retreat to a professional career in the country. An opportunity will be the provision of scholarships for further study abroad and the creation of



opportunities for participation in programs for exchanging experiences with third countries, subject to the obligation to return. This will be considered an investment for the future by increasing the level of young academics. In order to ensure their return, the (sending) institutions will maintain close relations with migrants and representatives of the qualified diaspora and will offer them employment opportunities at home.

1.5 MIGRATION AND NEIGHBOURING

In the selection of the host country, the main factor for the new Albanian migration was geographical, cultural and linguistic proximity. Neighbors like Greece and Italy were the main destinations during the 1992-1995 period. The above mentioned countries are also preferred due to the scarcity to implement a costly migration project. The preference of Albanian migrants to other Western European countries or the United States was limited due to the economic situation and migration policies in these countries.

Migration statistics are clear in their ambiguity. Twenty years after the collapse of communism, it was estimated that approximately 1.44 million Albanians, or 45% of the 3.2 million people currently living in Albania, had migrated and lived abroad, mainly in Greece and Italy. The Albanian government estimated that 600 000 Albanians lived in Greece in 2005, while 250 000 in Italy (although Italian sources claimed that there were about 400 000 Albanians).

If we take into account the “peoplemovin” data, which refers to the state of migration, we can discuss this data on Albania (fig.4).

Fig. 4 Albanian migrants by main destination countries

Migrants	
Greece	676 846
Italy	522 647
Macedonia	91 128
America	83 018
Germany	15 964
Canada	11 985
Turkey	3 712
England	3 065
France	3 037
Australia	2 628

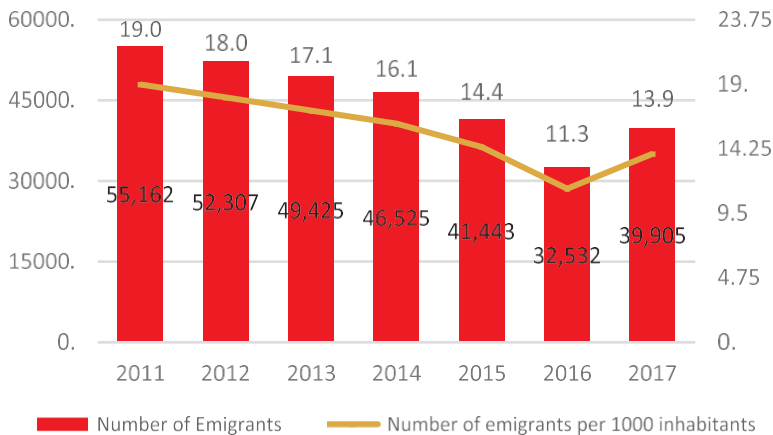
Source: Peoplemovin



Italy for Albanians was a place that combines cultural preferences and geographical proximity. Living under the country's communist regime had led Italy to be seen as a symbol of freedom and as the West. Broadcasting on radio and television was the most important route through which Albanians in communism maintained ties with the West. Italian was the most spoken foreign language in Albania, Italian art and culture constituted special attraction. All of these factors help to understand why Italy was the most sought-after country by Albanian emigrants. In Italy, the number of Albanians in mid-2005 was highest compared with other immigrants in that country, or 13.7% more than Romanians and Moroccans.

Referring to the data of the Italian Institute of Statistics, in 2005 Albanian emigrants in Italy were in the first place with 348 813, with Romanians with 297 570 in second place. Greece is the other country that is geographically close to the Albanians. Illegal crossing of the Greek-Albanian border did not require large financial expenses. Citizens of both countries also share certain cultural and historical similarities. Although Greek is not spoken in Albania but only in some southern regions where the Greek community resides, massive migration towards this country has included an increasing number of Albanians. This led to the high growth of those who could speak Greek, shortening the cultural and linguistic distance between the two neighboring countries. Researchers describe migration from Albania as economical one and with a high level of irregularity, with undocumented immigrant flows, and quickly and dynamically developed. A particular migration quality appeared (with plenty of going and forth) especially with Greece.

Fig. 5 Number of emigrants, and emigrants per 1000 inhabitants



Source: INSTAT



Mobility of migrants traveling frequently between their homeland and host countries has been normalized due to the regulatory process (of legal status) in Italy and Greece and free movement of visas. This process has created the Albanian Diaspora in these countries, which focuses on stabilizing the social and legal status in the host countries for the next generation.

1.6 SOCIAL AND POLITICAL FACTORIZATION

A distinctive feature of the Albanian migration especially in Greece and Italy is the creation of organizations based on the interests of political parties in Albania. They have played and play an important role in encouraging compatriots to participate in electoral voting (traveling to Albania). In some political parties, representatives of these organizations are part of the governing structures, thus increasing the political influence of migration in Albanian politics.

By regulating the legal status of host societies, particularly in Italy and Greece, Albanian migrants are moving towards taking a natural role. Their votes are being considered important in local electoral processes. This is creating opportunities for the representation of candidates of Albanian nationality in the political and representative structures of the host countries.

The organized engagement of migration in Italy and Greece has significantly influenced the relations of Albania with these two countries. They have been raised at the level of strategic partnership by being an example of how migration and diaspora affect bilateral relations between the two states.

1.7 CURRENT SITUATION OF DIASPORA

The analysis of the current situation shows that Albanian diaspora is very dynamic. It is found in many leading states of the world such as the United States, the United Kingdom, Germany, Greece, Italy, Turkey, Switzerland, Norway, Sweden, Finland and France, but also in new economic powers such as Canada and Australia.

The Albanian Diaspora is increasingly organized, educated and willing to keep in touch with the countries of origin. The current level of remittances is debatable, but the main interest is related to the future of these revenues.

The assessment of Albanian diaspora organizations and migration policies indicate the growing role that diaspora plays as a mediator between host countries and the country of origin.



Albanian Diaspora organizations in the West are focusing more on their better organization in their host countries and their domestic priorities. They are addressing the situation of Diaspora members, their needs and demands related to political participation and the rights of foreign workers, citizenship and the rights of religious communities.

The main quality of the Albanian diaspora is the mobilization through indirect lobbying to persuade the receiving government to act in favor and support the country of origin. Such an engagement has been showed from the Albanian diaspora in its efforts for the independence, firstly of Albania and later of Kosovo. Reactive abilities have been better than those with created by a better self-organization.

Migration remains a difficult challenge for Albanian state institutions and society. The aim of the National Strategy is to provide Albania with a comprehensive diaspora policy and its placement in alignment with the EU integration policy orientations and its treatment with the best international standards.

The National Strategy supports migrants who live outside the territory of the Republic of Albania in a lawful manner. It aims to produce a synthesis of the collective commitment of the Albanian society towards its compatriots living abroad.

The Strategy promotes the development of state policies for the inclusion and contribution of Albanian communities abroad in the socio-economic and political development of Albania. It does not cover issues related to foreign nationals who live or want to live in Albania.

The Strategy aims to strengthen and facilitate Albania's relations with their host countries through cooperation policies with the Diaspora and migrants.

The Strategy considers the Diaspora an added value of the Albanian society and envisions the enforcement of the Government's ability to policy-making. It supports the organization of Albanian communities in the world, in a structured diaspora, in order to factorize them in the interaction to acceleration of the development of the country.

1.8 DIASPORA AND INTEGRATION IN THE EU

Diaspora and migration are two communicating "pots" in the process. Migration has been an important topic of European Union policy reflection in recent years.



European 2020 Strategy and Stockholm Program recognize the high potential and large contribution of migrants to the EU as well as for building a competitive and sustainable economy.

1.9 ALBANIA AND KOSOVO

Albania and Kosovo are supposed to be among the poorest countries in Europe. But this assessment only occurs if viewed in the values of Gross Domestic Product (GDP). These values do not give a complete picture of the economic power of the Albanian nation. Among the hidden asset of these two countries, a large diaspora is also to be considered, spread across many parts of the world, which regularly sends remittances, thus bearing important responsibilities for the well-being of its homeland and its population.

The National Strategy foresees a close co-operation with Kosovo's state institutions for a re-evaluation of the relationship with the common diaspora. Diaspora agreements between the two countries have served as a qualitative step in this regard. Building a Joint Action Plan would be important as well as mandatory.

Both countries will assess the common level of cooperation with Macedonia, Montenegro and Serbia in order to coordinate with the responsible institutions, on a case-by-case basis, the rights of the Albanian diaspora in their homeland.

II. VISION, MISSION AND STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

2.1 VISION AND MISSION

The Albanian National Strategy of Diaspora is a reflection of the work that the institutions have to carry out to create a new state policy for the diaspora.

The **vision** of the National Strategy supports the re-evaluation of the situation and the qualitative structure of Albanian state relations with the Diaspora.

Diaspora and Albanian communities are linked to Albania and each other by the way of understanding the development interests and preserving national identity in the new conditions of society and international relations.

The **mission** of the National Strategy aims to include and strengthen the participation of Diaspora and migrants as a factor of Albania's development through the assets of knowledge and values they possess.



The **fundamental values** that this document seeks to achieve is the creation of trust and involvement of the Albanian Diaspora contribution through mutual benefit, facilitation with a supportive policy that changes the quality of the relationship and strengthens the ties of Albanians wherever they are with each other and their homeland.

2.2 STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES

In implementing diaspora policies, strategic forecasting and planning it shall lead to an understanding of the main risks of the future both for the country of origin and the diaspora, which currently face political, economic and social challenges.

The main objectives of the strategy are:

- Establishing a comprehensive policy making framework on Diaspora.
- Creating a useful instrument to assist the Government and other stakeholders to improve and strengthen cooperation with the Diaspora and lawful migration.
- Preparing the administration for the new level of state policy relationship with the Diaspora.

III. SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES AND MEASURES

3.1 ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE POLICY MAKING FRAMEWORK ON DIASPORA

1. STATE AND DIASPORA

- NATIONAL AGENCY OF DIASPORA

The National Agency of Diaspora was created by a special law. It is responsible for the development and consolidation of institutional cooperation with the Diaspora, throughout the improvement of the diaspora's position and the protection of its rights and interests, wherever it is situated; offering assistance for the preservation of national language and cultural heritage; promoting economic cooperation between the country of origin and the diaspora; cooperating for prosperity, peace, well-being, culture and social solidarity of the whole nation.



The Steering Council is the decision-making body of the Agency. The chairman and members of the Steering Council are appointed and dismissed by order of the minister responsible for the diaspora.

The Steering Council of the Agency consists of representatives of various institutions related to the implementation of policies for the Albanian Diaspora.

The National Agency of Diaspora has as purpose:

- the establishment of a single diaspora database based on the free will of the person, in accordance with the applicable legislation on personal data protection,
- the implementation of the policies and projects related to the Diaspora,
- the coordination of the Diaspora with their country of origin,
- the co-operation and coordination of activities with state institutions, civil society and organizations at home and abroad to improve the position of the diaspora in the world,
- the preservation and development of the diaspora's language, national and cultural values,
- the information released to Diaspora on political processes in the country of origin,
- the preparation of periodic reports on its activity.

- ALBANIAN DEVELOPMENT FUND OF DIASPORA

The Albanian Development Fund of Diaspora (ADFD) aims to provide and distribute financial means for concrete projects that will be assessed as a priority and have an impact on improving the living conditions. It will promote co-operation and interaction through promotion, encouragement of philanthropic trends and diaspora investments to support development in the country.

The Albanian Development Fund of Diaspora (ADFD) will cooperate with communities and Albanian associations / organizations abroad that may be willing to channel their savings towards any investments, development of projects for Diaspora investments, based on the best experiences.

ADFD serves as a mechanism recognized by law where the main objectives are:

1. to support Diaspora members to assist for their contribution to educational, cultural, health and rural development issues;
2. to cooperate with non-profit organizations, organizations and individuals for philanthropic purposes that operate in areas related to the socio-economic, cultural and educational development of the diaspora.



- PUBLISHING CENTER OF DIASPORA

The Publishing Center of Diaspora is responsible for publishing and distributing the approved educational textbooks and supplementary literature that will serve to teach and preserve the national identity in the Albanian Diaspora communities. The establishment, organization and functioning of the Publishing Center of Diaspora will be regulated by a Decision of the Council of Ministers.

- STATE COMMITTEE FOR DIASPORA

The State Committee for Diaspora is a consultative body of the Council of Ministers for the coordination of policies and state activities in the diaspora field. The Committee is chaired by the Prime Minister and is composed by the Minister of Foreign Affairs, the Minister of the Interior, the Minister of Finance and Economy, the Minister of Justice, the Minister of Education, Sports and Youth, the Minister of Culture, the Minister of Environment and Tourism, The State of Diaspora, the Governor of the Bank of Albania, the Chairman of the Academy of Sciences, the Director of INSTAT.

The field of the activity of the Committee includes:

- a) Preparing orientation lines for drafting new active policies and defining strategic priorities in the diaspora field;
- b) Proposing legal and institutional mechanisms for issues related to improving the position of Diaspora members and protecting their rights and interests in their countries of residence;
- c) Encouraging and developing a dialogue on the implementation of the strategy, policies and legislation in the field of development of Diaspora communities;
- d) Coordination and implementation of the National Diaspora Strategy;
- e) Supporting and monitoring the activities of the National Agency of Diaspora.

- SUMMIT OF DIASPORA

The summit of Diaspora will return to a nationwide event addressing and it will be a joint event of the most successful and representative members of the Diaspora. Creating this tradition will strengthen the sense of national identity and unity. It will increase the sense of respect for the Diaspora and will foster practical conclusions in its coordination and engagement at home and abroad.

The summit will gather prominent figures of business, science, art, culture, sports



and successful students living abroad. They will evaluate achievements and exchange experiences in discussing national challenges and overcoming them.

- COORDINATION COUNCIL OF DIASPORA

The new relationship of the state with the Diaspora will be formalized and institutionalized with the establishment of the Coordination Council of Albanian Diaspora, which will be established as a central organization of co-representation. The Council will guide the process of cooperation of state institutions with Albanian communities abroad.

The Council will be an inter-institutional structure for the engagement of the Diaspora and emigrants and will be composed of the main institutional partners of the Albanian state and of the Diaspora.

The Diaspora Council will support the creation of an organized network of Albanian communities in host countries and countries of origin.

Diaspora organizations will determine their goals, strategies, functions and areas of action, in accordance with the available resources and legal options and institutional arrangements in host countries.

The importance of diaspora organizations has been recognized by national and international political institutions in recent years, such as the European Commission, the Council of Europe and the governments of the host countries. In the United States, the Albanian-American organizations are publicly thanked for their work by high-level institutions and politicians.

- DIASPORA AND STATE MANAGEMENT

Migration management includes a number of practices for the advancement and positive impact of the Albanian diaspora in the region of origin. These practices are based on models that will encourage the administrations of sending countries of origin to create migration strategies and capacity building for its application.

The National Strategy of Diaspora 2018-2024 targets a future where Albania will be considered a country capable of managing migration flows. This strategic goal is related to the economic and social development of society and the image of the country.



In this context, evaluating the organizational level of the Albanian communities in the diaspora and preparing a special action plan to promote the organization at the regional and state level in the host countries is a priority. To this purpose, it will be encouraged the idea of holding activities that promote this level of organization through informing the Albanian community and identifying human resources.

The National Strategy values the creation of a joint Action Plan with the State of Kosovo in the field of Diaspora relations directed to the enrichment of the existing agreements between the two countries in this regard. The preparation and implementation of necessary agreements in the field of diaspora with all the countries that are considered important and “productive” of the Albanian diaspora in the world.

The National Strategy considers establishing cooperation with national and international institutions for the implementation of programs for this purpose (for example with UNDP to implement TOKTEN in Albania).

The National Strategy considers the reassessment of existing legal acts in the field of migration and as well as expanding the sphere of protection of Albanian communities abroad in accordance with international standards and aiming at adjustment with the *Acquis Communautaire*.

- CONSULAR SERVICES AND DIPLOMACY

The Strategy will support the enhancement of the equality of services in the countries where the largest communities of Albanians in the Diaspora have been established. The establishment of a consular network in accordance with financial and human resources is necessary and natural.

The Albanian Embassies will prepare periodic reports related to the situation and organization of the Albanian community in host countries. Albanian diplomats should have the necessary knowledge in the field of human rights and migration policies, in particular with regard to international and bilateral conventions on migration and migrant rights.

In order to properly protect the rights of Albanian citizens, Albanian embassies and consulates will have at their disposal legal experts specialized in migrants and human rights with high competency level of the immigration regulations and practices of the host countries.

Embassies, consulates and central Albanian diplomacy services will have at their disposal and make available list of lawyers specialized in rule of law and migration issues.

Basic information for the Albanian community in the host country will be made available through the website for each embassy and consular service. It will contain



information on the contact of embassies and consulates, the types of services they provide to Albanian citizens, and how to complain about poor quality or lack of services.

The National Strategy will raise awareness and orientation of Albanian citizens abroad for the use of consular and diplomatic services provided by Albanian representations through the online consular platform. Provide information about non-governmental organizations accredited by the host country, which provide legal assistance and protection to foreign communities.

- STATE RELATIONS WITH DIASPORA

The National Strategy is based on a new qualitative report by the state institutions for the diaspora according to the best European practices. It will promote the transparency of the institutions in each aspect of the decision-making process and the effectiveness of policies that will ensure coherence in the areas to be applied.

Diaspora is the “hidden” treasure of the Albanians, which must be shown and marked. Despite the documents produced by the state policy, little concrete action has been taken to make the Diaspora feel welcome in the development of the country of origin. When they even try to invest in it, often face bureaucracy and corruption. The strategy estimates that the role of the Albanian diaspora in the future will be stronger than in the past. This is also due to its structure, which is changing with a qualitative dynamics. If in the past, the Albanian diaspora was less educated and has done ordinary work, today the diaspora possesses skills that are missing in the homeland.

Diaspora has been educated and enriched over the years and is ready to help their families in the country of origin.

Evaluate the approach of other national strategies existing or to be adopted with the National Strategy and Action Plan for Diaspora. This process will lead to the organization of existing state policies or to be adopted in the future in relation to policies for Albanian communities abroad.

- ESTABLISHMENT OF A DATABASE ON DIASPORA ORGANIZATIONS

The diaspora organization’s database will be an important information, which will create a database for the present and the future state memory. It will have multiple roles which are:

- to support of the right of voting;
- the establishment of networks of professional organizations abroad;



- the functioning as a repository for information gathering on the diaspora potentials and capacities by profession.

The National Diaspora Strategy aims at re-evaluating and expanding the National Civil Register with data on migrants and periodically reviewing the legal basis for migrant's registration. Particular importance takes the determination of the responsibilities and data to be collected as well as the identification and planning of the establishment of the appropriate network and infrastructure

The National Strategy of Diaspora aims at the organization of public activities and civil society having as purpose the system of registration and voting of nationals abroad. It will evaluate the identification of cultural, sports, educational, social, scientific associations operating in host countries as well as talented and successful individuals working in the diaspora. Creating a separate register for this purpose will have a particular importance.

- ESTABLISHMENT OF ALBANIAN CULTURAL CENTERS

The establishment of the Albanian Cultural Centers in Diaspora's host countries will be realized in cooperation with the state of Kosovo with the intention to preserve national identity, to promote the image of the hometown and the Albanians abroad and to provide services and information to the communities of Albanians in Diaspora. The respect of the principle of "a diaspora" will be enriched by the cooperation with other states that are the producers of the Albanian diaspora.

- PROMOTION OF DIASPORA RIGHTS

The promotion of the Albanian diaspora rights start with the fundamental issue: self-reorganization. It will be based on the Albanian ethnic and national unity and the needs of the nation in the new international conditions.

The National Strategy will promote a coordinated action of the government and state institutions with Albanian diaspora organizations. It will promote clear dialogue policies with host countries on important issues, including integration, language learning, citizenship policies, etc.

In host countries, Diaspora organizations will be assisted to support Albanians working and living abroad, needs and requests for information and services for young migrants, political participation, labor rights, naturalization process, religious rights or other issues.



Diaspora has capacities that can turn it into a factor for the development of civil society in Albania through mediation, conveying of ideas, practices, values and attitudes, norms of behavior and social capital. Old and young migrants can play an important role in this regard by providing assistance to the development and financing local partners.

The National Strategy will be focused in enabling information about the Albanian Diaspora and the development of communities abroad. In this framework, will be conducted an annual report where will be reflected the data and the assessment of the countries where priority should be given to Albanian Diaspora policies.

The accomplishment of general and specific training in the field of migration and their inclusion in the Albanian university program will be a priority. Periodic training will be organized in the area of domestic and international legislation for officials covering migration issues.

This will be accompanied by a periodic identification assessment to needs and experts in need of legal training. The respective drafting training modules in the current field and the inclusion of such a module in the training of civil servants will receive a special importance.

The National Strategy of Diaspora will encourage state cooperation with the host country institutions which are profiled and deal with migrant issues, women's rights and children's rights. It will promote the establishment of bilateral high-level consultative committees between the host countries for the protection of the rights of the Albanian diaspora communities and their periodically functioning on this purpose. A particular attention will be devoted to public information on the performance and the development of this activity for the interested public.

- STATE POLICY AND DIASPORA

The National Diaspora Strategy will structure the public mechanisms of state's policy for the Albanian communities in the country. This will start with the development of practical manuals related to diaspora and migration issues and making them available to officials dealing with the practical implementation of Diaspora legislation.

The National Strategy will identify the law / by-law acts that are implemented in practice by any institution that covers specified issues of diaspora and migration. A particular importance will be given to the training and certification of Albania's diplomatic corps in relation to the migration legislation and in particular with the rights of Albanian communities in the Diaspora.



The responsible public structures will establish regular contacts with the European Group of Regional and Local Authorities in the field of Immigration (ERLAI), based in Brussels, to assess the possibilities of supporting the policy of protecting the Albanian communities of the diaspora in the EU host countries.

In this framework, the intensification of close contacts between Albanian organizations in Diaspora and local migration protection associations will be encouraged. The identification of the organizations in host countries dealing with the protection of human rights and migrants in these countries will be assessed as a functional mechanism in the interest of the Albanian communities.

The National Diaspora Strategy will conduct a periodic reassessment of their services policy, procedures and tariffs towards the diaspora. Based on the information received, an annual report on the concrete situation of Albanian communities will be carried out, with proposals for respective measures to improve their assistance.

The National Strategy aims to create a register for Albanian citizens who find themselves deprived of their freedom as detained in prison abroad and organize an annual meeting organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, the Ombudsman's Office and the Albanian Red Cross organization on this issue. The evaluation of periodic information and conclusions on this issue will also be discussed at the State Diaspora Committee.

The National Strategy will consider revising the framework of existing migration agreements with the host countries of Albanian communities in the Diaspora. Negotiating the framework of employment agreements with host countries will also be assessed with the aim of incorporating into the latter ones the vocational training agreements, or discussing in particular on them.

The National Diaspora Strategy assesses and encourages circular migration between Albania and the host countries of the Albanian communities in the Diaspora through preferential measures or the negotiation of bilateral agreements (giving priority to Greece and Italy). A special reassessment will occur in co-operation with the EU countries as well as special projects to facilitate the implementation of employment agreements, benefiting from the temporary and special legislation of host countries, that lack workforce.

- ORGANIZATION OF THE ALBANIAN COMMUNITIES OF DIASPORA

The organization of Albanian communities in the diaspora aims at:

- establishing a coordinated state structure for the registration of citizens abroad,



- recording of the organizations and repository of special skills in Diaspora by profession,
- establishing the Diaspora Women Network,
- establishing the networks of “Nation Ambassadors” in Diaspora,
- functioning of a coordinated international media structure for the Diaspora.

- THE RIGHT OF VOTING

The National Strategy foresees undertaking a series of steps for significant changes in Albania’s legal framework, which will guarantee the welcome and respect of the diaspora role with Albanian citizenship and lawful migration.

The right to vote and involvement in national decision-making will create a new space for a protagonist Diaspora in the Albanian society.

Diaspora’s involvement in the political and electoral system is important as it enables its involvement and expertise in state administration. New Diaspora generations have admirable educational levels for state administration. Diaspora expertise will also be required in other fields of science, technology and development in Albania.

- PARLIAMENTARY SUBCOMMISSION FOR DIASPORA AND MIGRATION

The Sub-Commission on Diaspora and Migration acts within the established composition of the Permanent Parliamentary Committee on Foreign Policy and is responsible for proposing, examining and monitoring the implementation of public legislation and policies on diaspora and migration. It will also serve as a builder of political cohesion in the Assembly in matters concerning to the Diaspora.

- PUBLIC DIPLOMACY OF DIASPORA

Assessing Diaspora’s achievements will encourage its most renowned members to work as state’s “public diplomats” abroad. Public diplomacy has to do with the influence of attitudes and opinions on the development and implementation of the policies of the host countries. It contains dimensions of international relations beyond traditional diplomacy and nurtures public opinion in other states.

The protagonists of the societies in which diaspora members live, actors, singers, athletes and businessmen who have influence, direct acquaintance with the media,



friends on social networks and create public influence will naturally become the best “ambassadors” in fostering the positive image of the Albanian nation.

The National Strategy will require the engagement of public institutions, which also includes support for diaspora activity when it addresses a given situation in the hosting state. This will include the activation of political institutions in the country of origin to act in favor of migrants towards the authorities in the host country.

Inclusive migrant organizations will have culture and information centers that will be funded by state authorities or in cooperation with the host country and interested donors. Cultural centers will be engaged in disseminating information and organizing various activities to preserve and strengthen the national identity in the Diaspora.

3.2 ESTABLISHING A GOOD INSTRUMENT IN THE SUPPORT OF THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER ACTORS TO IMPROVE AND STRENGTHEN COOPERATION WITH DIASPORA AND LEGAL MIGRATION

1. INCLUSION OF DIASPORA IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

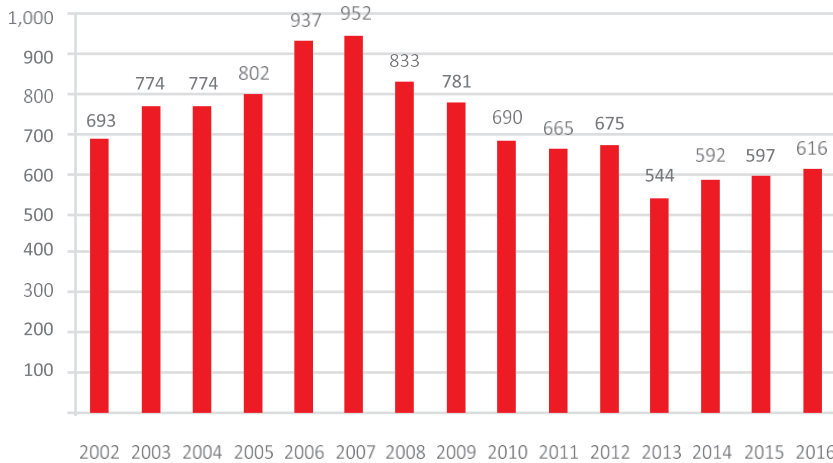
- REMITTANCES - FROM CONSUMPTION TO DEVELOPMENT

Migrants’ remittances have mainly contributed to the daily consumption and economic survival of Albanian families. They have met basic living needs for food, clothing, healthcare, childcare or housing construction and furnishing. Studies show that a year of emigration of a family member brings a 5 percent increase in consumption to his family. But these deliveries have not had a good impact on the economic development of the country and the opening up of new jobs.

The dependence of the Albanian economy on remittances is significant. They consist in 9-15 percent of GDP and about 15 percent of family income. (At a time that India, as the world’s largest remittance provider, benefits around Euro 20 per capita and less than 1 percent of GDP.) Albania ranks among countries with a high dependence on remittances.



Fig. 6 The dynamics of remittances of Albanian migrants, 2002-2016



Source: Open Data Albania, 2016 & Bank of Albania, 2016

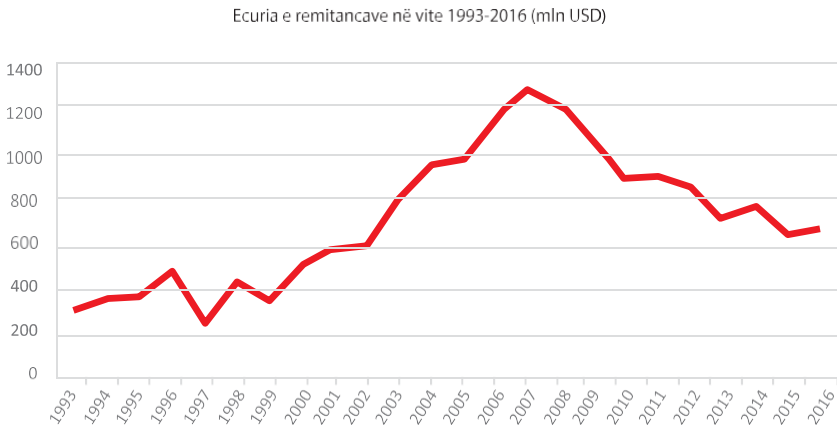
The dynamics of remittances in the country has developed in three stages:

- 1- growth stage, 1991-2007;
- 2- fall stage, 2008-2013;
- 3- revival stage, since 2014.

Remittances continued to rise from 1991 to 2007 when they reached their maximum. In the latter year, in Albania, remittances amounted to Euro 952million and it was the country with the highest dependence on remittances in the region, with over 300 EURO per capita. After this year, remittances declined, reaching the lowest point in 2013, under the level of Euro 500 million. The reduction of remittances caused a rise in poverty. Remittances began to increase in 2014, reaching Euro 592 million and in 2016 amounted to 616 million Euro.



Fig. 7 The performance of remittances in the years 1993-2016



Source: Bank of Albania (the figures are converted to USD and consequently have an impact on the USD exchange rate with other currencies)

The decline of remittances to Albania occurred mainly due to the economic crisis in the main host countries such as Greece and Italy. However, it's worth to be mentioned other causes such as the maturity of the migration process, the aging of the first generation of migrants, the expenditures' increase towards the second and third generation of migrants, the crystallization of migratory projects, the cost's increase of public services and living in the host countries, modification of behavior as well as individual and family projects due to uncertainty and anxiety that cause financial crisis.

The National Strategy estimates that high dependence on remittances requires necessarily their strategic management. Avoiding this process increases the risk consequences towards a poor management. The latter is particularly evident in the lack of interaction in the economy between remittances and other development resources such as foreign direct investment and trade.

The main channel of money transfer from Albanian emigrants to their families were initially informal. They have been brought close to the family by the interested ones or sending them through relatives and friends. At a later stage, their formalization began through paid couriers and non-bank institutions. In the third phase, they have also started sending them through the banking system.



The banking system was initially scarcely used for remittances. This has happened for historical, psychological and practical reasons.

Among the main reasons to be mentioned are limited banking culture, scarce banking products, high transfer costs and low confidence in banks, idea especially developed among rural residents in the country. Non-banking institutions, such as the Western Union, which had about 80% of the remittances' market in 2005, prevailed because of the reliability, speed, lack of bureaucracy and the flexibility of the extended hours they worked with.

The channeling of remittances towards formal mechanisms increases transparency, and promotes the domestic banking system by increasing the power of the remittance market. The National Strategy foresees, in cooperation with international organizations and governments of remittances host countries, the promotion of lower cost transfers through formal channels.

Migrants' remittances will be considered as one of the country's development instruments. The National Diaspora Strategy foresees a national co-ordination of responsible state institutions to interact and to establish an action plan for remittances, which will:

- identify good practices for remittances,
- expand banking services in Albania and improve co-operation between Albanian and foreign banks regarding remittances,
- expand the capacity of other financial institutions and the Albanian Post to improve the remittances' transfer service,
- increase state capacities and diaspora organizations in host countries to cooperate together on the development of joint initiatives between these countries.
- encourage channeling of bank remittances and undertaking practical steps in using remittances for the country's development.

The National Strategy will encourage the training of migrants' families as recipients of remittances for a more efficient use of them as well as the management of small businesses. Generating examples that will show the diaspora how their relatives will return the money they receive would be an incentive to increase remittances to families in Albania.



- DIASPORA - CONTRIBUTOR OF ALBANIA'S DEVELOPMENT

The National Strategy will encourage diaspora participation in the country's economic development. It encourages the absorption of diaspora investments, the establishment of small and medium-sized enterprises, including those in the field of agriculture, the food industry and the development of rural areas.

The National Strategy will create a favorable home country environment for the diaspora such as fiscal incentives, information dissemination, avoidance of corruption, risk reduction, avoidance of import taxation for machinery, equipment and raw materials for investment, abolishment of tax corporation, and reduce the number of procedures for obtaining a construction permit.

The National Strategy encourages the promotion of specific banking products for the diaspora and supports the establishment of special banking policies (or the establishment of the Diaspora Bank). It encourages the banking system to undertake a reform of interest rates that will encourage the diaspora to go a step further than transferring payments to the country of origin. Funds deposited by migrants can be used for local lending. Diaspora savings may return to cheaper loans, which will support local businesses.

The National Strategy promotes the establishment of a platform that will provide micro-credit funds to the diaspora and migrants. This can also be performed through existing micro-financial institutions. Credit delivery models generating small income activities for individuals and for business development on behalf of organized groups will also be applied. Local associations can be transformed into economic co-operatives, throughout access to diaspora-funded loans, as well as technical assistance provided by the projects. Micro-development potential lies in its capacity to reduce the cost of loans to the underprivileged micro-creditors. In this case, final target activities that benefit from loans may not have been foreseen for direct diaspora engagement. Within the context, the diaspora may prefer channeling funds towards businesses of an unknown creditor rather than a relative with familiar ties, as this increases the possibility of returning the loan. Payments for family or friend may be exposed to the risk of being seen more as "gifts" rather than as a "borrowing".

Diaspora investments will be geared towards collective businesses, which will be highly appreciated for diaspora communities. In these cases, migrants will have their direct share in the business. This will be done through support to collective initiatives or private businesses, for example, by choosing a particular economic sector of greater importance for local communities. For migrants who want to return to Albania, empowering sustainable businesses makes this option more attractive, or allows the



second or third generation to spend more time in their country of origin. Diaspora will be encouraged to take part in public-private partnership projects and invest in infrastructure projects.

The National Strategy of Diaspora will encourage the coordination and organization of meetings or the “Days of Albania” in the host countries of the Albanian communities in Diaspora on the basis of an annual program as well as other periodic activities for Albanian tourism and the facilitations related to investments in Albania.

- DIASPORA NETWORKS

Establishing functional diaspora business networks will increase the interest of diaspora investors. These venture networks will contribute to development policies and strategic plans for Albania’s economic development. To promote the establishment of business networks, a Diaspora Business Register will be established.

The Strategy provides for the creation of an independent forum of diaspora experts and experts in Albania to promote and orient the Diaspora entrepreneurship and investment in the country’s economy. The possibility of establishing a Diaspora Business Chamber would profile interests and create a co-operation mechanism in the field of investment.

The National Strategy foresees the increase of professional capacities for providing support services related to investment opportunities in Albania (business environment, legal changes, etc.), serving as a link between diaspora investors and the business community in the country of origin.

Withdrawal of diaspora investments will need a mentality change within the public administration. Initial mechanisms of the Strategy’s action are considered crucial to the process that it promotes.

The national Strategy will encourage to this footprint a network organization and administration for foreign and Albanian scholars specializing in the field of migration and public administration officials specializing in institutions dealing with Diaspora and Migration policies.

Establishing and updating a database of newspapers, websites, radios and diaspora TV that operate in countries that are considered as a priority for national policies on the Diaspora.

In this framework, the establishment of the Albanian television and radio networks in Diaspora and implementation of an action plan for training of journalists in Diaspora with incentive projects and annual activities for this purpose.

Another goal of the national Strategy will be the organization of an information network for Albanian and foreign media to appeal and raise awareness on the violations of



Albanian migrants' rights to the respective structures of the host countries as well as those of international organizations.

The national Strategy of Diaspora will assess the quality of the state institutions' website for detailed information regarding Albanian communities abroad by opening a section devoted to this issue (where necessary). In this framework, part of the Action Plan of the National Strategy on Diaspora includes the conduction of periodic meetings (every 6 months) for assessing and coordinating with the "supervisors" of the institution's information pages on the level of information that these pages provide for the Albanian Diaspora.

A very important aim of the national Strategy is the organization and support of networks (even international) of special groups and associations of the Albanian diaspora based on interests, common professions or geographical location.

Mediation in order to establish contacts between "counterpart" groups in different countries to create functional networks of this nature will be of particular priority.

In relation to the diaspora functional network building will also take place planning and implementing information campaigns on:

- Migration and Diaspora issues
- Considerable migrant registration promotion and information on the right of voting (after approval);
- Identity of Albanians, Albanian history and culture in Diaspora
- Existence of information resources on issues affecting migration and diaspora and dealing with recent political, social and economic developments in the country;

The aim of this process will make possible for diaspora and migration to be an integral part of Albania's political and economic development.

In this regard, it is important to create media projects that promote the establishment of information networks for students and the coordination of responsible educational institutions for the promotion of exchange and internship programs of Albanian universities with host countries universities where there exists a high presence of Albanian students.

It is of particular importance the realization of a media action plan for the promotion, attraction and motivation of the Albanian Diaspora to ensure exploration of all its potential and exploitation of all advantages in Albania for tourism and investment purposes.

The preparation by the responsible tourism institutions of a promotional campaign will be assessed in order to attract the attention of that diaspora segment in search of the roots, culture and traditions of the ancestors. In collaboration with the private sector,



a package will be prepared that provides the above expectations and in exceptional cases provides the introduction of Albanian language bases. As icons of this campaign may be included well-known diaspora figures in each market.

One of the highlighted purposes of the National Strategy of the Diaspora is the encouragement of Diaspora's Women Networking Organizations and the development of specific policies in this regard. In the function of this aim will be the organization in Albania or abroad of the Women's Diaspora Summit.

Establishing a sustainable cooperation network with organizations and institutions covering this issue in the host countries and with civil society in Albania which for this purpose is part of the Strategic Action Plan.

Promotion of cases of successful personalities either in Diaspora or in Albania as well as the awarding of the title of "Ambassador of the Nation". The establishment of the Ambassadors of the Nation's Network (formulation of legal acts necessary for this issue) is a quality of diaspora networking. Protagonism and success will be intertwined to the Albanian diaspora organization.

- EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENTS

The National Diaspora Strategy aims to support the Albanian Diaspora organizations to establish local advisory structures for foreign nationals in cities where Albanian migrants are concentrated on the basis of a guide prepared by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe and the Council of Europe.

The National Strategy will appreciate the negotiations related to signing bilateral agreements on the social protection of migrants with host countries so that they can transfer their social insurances in Albania. There will also be the reassessment of the accumulating arrangements of voluntary contributions for social insurance and whether necessary, the signed agreements between the Social Insurance Institute and the banks.

In this framework, an assessment of a specific action plan on the issue of Albanian migrants' pensions will be carried out.

The National Diaspora Strategy will carry out awareness-raising campaigns on the various opportunities to appeal against violations of migrants' rights, in host and international countries' structures dealing with the protection and respect of human rights as well as the protection of migrants' rights, through activities such as:

- Publication of this information on the migration website dedicated to this issue,
- Publication in Albanian newspapers abroad,
- Publishing and distributing leaflets related to this information,
- Publication of these rights through websites created by the Albanian community



operating abroad.

- Periodic reporting by the Albanian government of cases of violations of Albanian migrant rights.

Some of the international structures that deal with these rights are as follows:

- Special Rapporteur for Migrant's Rights of the United Nations
- Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe
- European Court in Human Rights
- European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) of the Council of Europe
- Commission for Petitions of the European Parliament for the EU
- Ombudsman of the EU

1.2 PREPARATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NEW LEVEL OF STATE POLICY RELATIONS WITH DIASPORA

1.1.1 ALBANIAN COMMUNITIES ABROAD AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

Involvement of the Albanian communities in Diaspora in the country's economic development, which will focus on:

- Establishing a Diaspora Professional Networking Coordination Scheme,
- Establishing of a Business Diaspora Chamber,
- Organizing motivating legal proposals for diaspora investments,

The Action Plan will also focus on the implementation of Albania's bilateral agreements with Kosovo on co-ordination between the two countries in co-operation with the Albanian Diaspora. An important step is also the realization of a joint institutional action plan with the IOM office in Tirana.

1.1.2 PROTECTION OF IDENTITY AND CULTURAL HERITAGE

- HUMAN, SOCIAL AND CULTURAL CAPITAL

Albanian Diaspora has accumulated considerable non-monetary capital, in the form of human, social and cultural capital.

Human capital is linked to the knowledge and professional skills and work culture that migrants have acquired while working, studying and living in host countries.

Social capital has to do with the social values that migrants acquire when they stay



in the host country.

Cultural capital appreciates the cultural values that migrants acquire, which serve to strengthen cultural coexistence between host and sending countries. These values are in co-operation with the promotion of Albanian culture in host countries, through cultural diplomacy.

Diaspora can contribute not only through physical returns to Albania or the transfer of financial capital, but also through the aforementioned capitals as well as technical knowledge and skills, “technological remittances” etc.

Albania, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro and the Valley have considerable potential Albanian intellectuals living in the diaspora. Creating a state-owned repository will provide more information on professional diaspora profiles in different fields, such as business, science, technology, health, tourism, etc.

The National Strategy will promote the practice of “open invitations” for projects to be promoted within the diaspora. For this purpose, the Development Fund of Diaspora will encourage diaspora professionals to apply in different projects, enabling the transfer of knowledge and best practices.

The strategy re-evaluates the cooperation with donors and in this regard in “Brain Gain” model programs in order to create institutional structures that enable the return of talented professionals and prevent from moving the persons who have graduated abroad.

For this purpose, the program established in 2008, which provided financial support for the qualified person invited to make return to work in Albania, will be re-evaluated. It built a database with students and academics abroad, and has driven over 150 professionals to return to their homeland. It also planned to establish contact networks with those whom are still abroad. This program supports universities and public administration in hiring managerial and academic positions of qualified individuals coming from abroad, selected on a competitive and transparent basis.

The return of highly qualified individuals is part of the National Strategy in order to include the Albanian diaspora in the country’s economic, scientific and administrative development. This includes a critical analysis of existing public administration laws and practices that promote the attractiveness of those who have graduated abroad.

- PRESERVATION OF NATIONAL IDENTITY

The identity of the diaspora is a social structure that develops over time. In the case of the Albanian diaspora, this process of identity construction is based on a common understanding of history, remembrances and reminders, injustices related to the division of Albanian inhabited territories, victimization and violent migration



waves etc. Even if all Albanian migrants will not abandon their hometowns for the aforementioned reasons, these common historical traumas unite them when they are in the host countries and thus grow the feeling that together they constitute a “Diaspora”.

The main axis of the Albanian nation has been and remains the family. Most of its activities are defined by this concept. The Albanian diaspora and its organization have a lot to do with the “family”, family relationships and ties with the homeland. It is an ethno-national diaspora. Common history and language, myth and legends, food, heritages and folklore create and preserve the identity of the Albanian ethno-social Diasporas.

The culture of close ties of Albanian families is considered to be one of the main advantages of the Albanian Diaspora.

In the early years of Albania’s independence, the role of well-educated Diaspora members was important either in state’s administration or in the international negotiations on its status.

Various associations in the world like “Vatra” printed textbooks, which were then sent to Albania. American Albanians were also protagonists in establishing special political and trade relations between the United States and Albania. Diaspora communities had been lobbying host countries’ governments in support of their homeland, and many of their figures later became political authorities and representatives of the Albanian state.

The Strategy foresees the increase of the contribution of the Diaspora and the cooperation of the government and institutions of the Albanian state with regard to the preservation and strengthening of the national identity of the Albanians.

Diaspora Cultural Centers as a product of the state-owned agreement between Albania and Kosovo will be the “infrastructures” with the aim of preserving the national identity in Diaspora.

- LITERACY, EDUCATION AND MEDIA

The Albanian Diaspora, with its common cultural characteristics and traditions, encourages younger generations to preserve national identity and remain as members of the diaspora, even though they live in host societies and have dual identity or dual citizenship.



The National Strategy dedicates particular importance to the preservation of the cultural, linguistic and national identity of the Diaspora. This shall only be achieved through close cooperation and co-ordination between the Diaspora and Albania as a country of origin. Engaging with specific projects of educational and cultural programs will prevent the further linguistic assimilation, especially for the second and third generations in the Diaspora.

This will include Albanian language courses and teachers working in supplementary classes. In this regard, the Strategy provides special agreements with the state institutions of Kosovo. The responsible administrations of Albania and Kosovo will cooperate to create educational policies and programs that will be welcomed by the new generations. Establishing a tradition like that of the “summer school” model will be a tool that will turn into an educative tradition for diaspora children.

The National Strategy assesses the role of audiovisual media and social media in preserving language. Public broadcasters will be legally obliged to devote 10 to 15 percent of their programs (terrestrial and satellite) to the diaspora and migration issue. The national Strategy pays attention to social media. They are turning into a revolution of interaction tools among people, throughout which they are creating, exchanging and sharing information and ideas in communities and virtual networks.

Social media in Diaspora have created a sort of new reality in terms of a “public” opinion of Albanian communities abroad.

IV. COSTS AND BUDGETING

THE NATIONAL DIASPORA STRATEGY WILL BE IMPLEMENTED IN THE PERIOD 2018-2024.

Taking into account the fact of establishing for the first time in a governmental structure of the State Minister for Diaspora, only preliminary costs for 2018 are initially foreseen in order to enable the implementation of the strategy.

In the Action Plan for the period 2018-2024, there have been identified the relevant measures and costs to be implemented during 2018.

The financing of these multidisciplinary measures will be mainly covered by budget programs of the implementing institutions of this Strategy. The initial estimated costs for 2018 will amount to 130,000,000 lekë:

- | | |
|---|-----------------|
| - The National Agency of Diaspora | 60 milion lekë; |
| - The Albanian Development Fund of Diaspora | 50 milion lekë; |
| - The publishing center of Diaspora | 20 milion lekë. |

They refer mainly to the administratively functional and operative establishment of



these new state structures. This calculation is in accordance with Law no. 115, dated 28.12.2017, as well as other laws and by-laws in force. Other costs will be borne by the state budget of the responsible institutions as well as donors.

A special working group under the direction of the office of the State Minister for Diaspora will be set up to determine and detail the costs of the Action Plan for the period 2019-2024. It will consist of representatives from all the responsible institutions for the implementation of this strategy and action plan, which are involved in the implementation of the action plan. The deadline for finalizing the action plan for the period 2019-2024 will be within one year from the adoption of this strategy. The working group will be established following the entry into force of the decision for the approval of the National Strategy for Diaspora 2018-2024 and the Action Plan.

For the initial calculation of the expenditures for the main activities that will be borne by the state budget and donors is acted as follows:

- The calculation of human resources expenditure is based on the estimated time spent on carrying out the activities and a daily average salary of a certain category of civil servants.
- The calculation of expenditures for services is done taking into account the costs of the services of the respective institutions, based on the approved standards.
- The calculation of expenditures for activities related to drafting and revision of legislation, monitoring and functioning of permanent structures, etc. It is done taking into account the ongoing costs that will take place, for example on wages, social insurance contributions, foreign expertise (when provided in the plan) and consumption tools.
- The calculation of costs for "specific activities" or similar specific initiatives was based mainly on the nature of the activities and the costs the market provides for such services.

In calculating training expenditures has been taken in consideration the training cost per person. As unit costs, have been used the costs of ASPAs and / or the costs associated with similar training in the past.

For that part of the activities where the information is not complete, the analytical assessment method has been followed or the costs incurred for similar activities that have been included in the 2011-2015 strategy or similar products in the PBA have been considered.



Conclusions in the field of budgeting for the National Strategy 2018-2024 and the Action Plan will be an outcome of the State Committee for Diaspora, which was set up by Decision No. 690, dated on 27.11.2017 of the Council of Ministers “On the Establishment and Functioning of the State Committee for Diaspora”.

V. MONITORING AND IMPLEMENTATION

VI. MONITORING

The National Strategy is a foreseeable political document. So far, the public should be aware of the uncertainties and the risks of its implementation. The provision may play a role in accomplishing the challenges of the current world by providing the National Strategy and Action Plan as an opportunity for “change”.

Members of the Albanian diaspora are interested in the political and economic situation of their country and will certainly continue to do so in the future.

A negative scenario would be for the diaspora to feel neglected and left apart from the developments in the country of origin and would thus be less interested in the situation and less willing to do something about it. This would open the way to its slow assimilation.

A positive and desirable scenario would involve diaspora members to be closer to the political and economic developments of the countries of origin, where they would feel respected, welcomed and would perceive clear priorities from their engagement in the developing of their country of origin while living abroad.

The monitoring structure for the implementation of the National Diaspora Strategy will be coordinated by the Minister of State for Diaspora.

A working group will be set up for the annual report, which will be chaired by the representative of the Minister of State for Diaspora and will be composed of representatives of the Ministry of European Affairs and Foreign Affairs and representatives of the National Diaspora Agency. The report will be submitted for approval to the State Department for Diaspora.

Following the monitoring and implementation of the National Diaspora Strategy, the Minister of State for Diaspora and the Ministry of European and Foreign Affairs will report to the:



- Sub-Commission on Diaspora and Migration, which will function under the composition of the Foreign Policy Committee in the Albanian Parliament,
- State Committee for Diaspora, which will be chaired by the Prime Minister.

Monitoring the implementation of the National Strategy document also applies to the avoidance of a negative scenario. This process will re-emphasize the simple truth that may Albanians everywhere be, are part of the nation.

A nation that elevates its peculiarity to the level of virtue makes peace with itself and the future. Time works for the nation that acts.



ACTION PLAN OF THE NATIONAL STRATEGY OF DIASPORA 2018 – 2024

The Action Plan of the National Strategy of Diaspora will promote the aims of Albania's state policy towards Albanian communities abroad.

The institutional development and governing of the responsible state structure for the diaspora is represented by:

- The Sub-Committee on Diaspora and Migration in the Parliament of Albania
- The State Committee for Diaspora.
- The State Minister for Diaspora.
- The Coordination Council of the Diaspora.
- The National Agency of Diaspora
- The Albanian Diaspora Development Fund.
- The Publishing Center for Diaspora.

The National Strategy of Diaspora is complex and multi-sectoral, which will have the key to the success in its intervention in coordination between the institutions of the Albanian state and the latter with the organizational structures of the Diaspora and civil society.

The Action Plan of the National Strategy of Diaspora foresees concrete measures, which should be implemented mainly by the Albanian Government but also by other actors involved in this process.

Most of the measures provided for in the Action Plan foresee activities and actions that will need to be implemented within the established deadlines. Most of them require co-ordinated intervention of more than one public institution.

The Action Plan of the National Strategy will be part of the activity of Albanian state institutions in order to guarantee its implementation. The document will be accompanied by detailed measures and the necessary elements for their implementation. It will be the fruit of the cooperation of a large number of ministries and institutions, who will be involved in the elaboration of a new policy in this area of public action.

Diaspora and the policy towards it have a future where the assessment relates to action.



ESTABLISHING A COMPREHENSIVE FRAMEWORK POLICY MAKING ON DIASPORA

STATE AND DIASPORA

Measure 1

Making functional all the institutions that the new legislation entails in the field of state's relations with the Diaspora, such as the National Agency for Diaspora, the Diaspora Development Fund and the Diaspora Publishing Center. Drafting a detailed plan for absorbing the funds needed to finance the policies and measures provided for in the National Strategy. A clear division of competencies between structures that will deal with diaspora treatment. Establishing a specialized unit for reviewing Diaspora legislation to undertake the necessary changes.

INDICATORS: *Establishing a National Agency of Diaspora, Albanian Development Fund of Diaspora, Publishing Center of Diaspora*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Measure 2

Approval from the State Committee for Diaspora of the diaspora's annual program (activities involving books, education, culture and business) and in cooperation with the Parliament of Albania the assessment of participation and representation in them. Prepare estimating information for the State Committee for Diaspora and the Parliamentary Subcommittee on Diaspora and Migration.

INDICATORS: *Approval from the State Committee for Diaspora of the Diaspora Annual Program.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Culture

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise



Measure 3

The follow up of the necessary coordinating procedures to be discussed each year at the State Committee for Diaspora and to provide in the annual (successive) budget the funds needed to implement the National Strategy of Diaspora and Action Plan by 2024.

INDICATORS: *The necessary coordinating procedures to discuss and forecast in the annual budget (successive).*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry of Culture

State Minister for Diaspora

Measure 4

The establishment of the Working Group for the preparation and organization of the Summit of Diaspora as the most important event for the Albanian communities abroad. The periodically organization of the Albanian Summit of Diaspora, in order to review the current policies for the mobilization of the Albanian diaspora, where issues such as language and culture preservation, brain drain phenomenon and investments in Albania will be considered.

INDICATORS: *Establishing a Working Group for the preparation and organization of the Second Summit of Diaspora. Periodic organization of the Albanian Summit of Diaspora.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Education, Sport and Youth

Measure 5

Establishment of the Coordination Council of Diaspora as a coordinating structure to work for the organizational strengthening of the Albanian communities with the purpose of engagement and partnership in the development of Albania.

INDICATORS: *Establishing the Diaspora Coordination Council as a coordinating structure.*



DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Measure 6

Assessing the organizational level of the Albanian communities in the diaspora and preparing a special action plan to promote the organization at the regional and state level in the host countries. Promoting the idea of holding activities that promote this level of organization throughout informing the Albanian community and identifying human resources.

INDICATORS: *Assessment of the organizational level of Albanian communities in Diaspora. Promoting the idea.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry of Culture

Measure 7

Establishing a joint Action Plan with the State of Kosovo in the field of Diaspora relations and put in place for the enhancement of the existing agreements between the two countries in this regard. Preparation and implementation of necessary agreements in the field of Diaspora with all countries that are considered important and "productive" of Albanian diaspora in the world.

INDICATORS: *Establishing a Joint Action Plan with the State of Kosovo.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

State Minister for Diaspora

Measure 8

Establishing cooperation with national and international institutions for the implementation of programs for this purpose (for example with UNDP to implement



TOKTEN in Albania).

INDICATORS: Cooperation with national and international institutions.

DEADLINE: First semester of 2019

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Measure 9

Reassessment of existing legal acts in the field of migration expanding the sphere of protection of the Albanian communities abroad in compliance with international standards and aiming at adjustment with the Acquis Communautaire.

Conduct procedures for concluding ratification of international instruments (if not yet implemented) as follows:

- *International Labor Organization Convention Nr. 143 "On migrant workers".*
- *Ratification of the Council of Europe Convention "On the legal status of migrant workers".*
- *Ratification of the United Nations Convention "On the protection of the rights of all migrant workers and members of their families".*

INDICATORS: *Reassessment of existing legal acts in the field of migration. Implementation of procedures for ratification of international instruments.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2019*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Interior

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Justice

Measure 10

Assessing a new presence of diplomatic or consular representation in countries with a substantial presence of Albanian communities which are of particular importance for further strengthening the diplomatic and economic relations of the host country with the country of origin. Orientation of the working plan of the diplomatic and consular body with a special focus on relations with the Albanian communities abroad.

INDICATORS: *Assessment of a new presence of diplomatic or consular representation.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora



Measure 11

Promoting awareness and orientation of Albanian citizens abroad for the use of consular and diplomatic services provided by Albanian diplomatic missions through the online consular platform. Provide information about non-governmental organizations accredited by the host country, which provide legal assistance and protection to foreign communities.

INDICATORS: *Orientation of Albanian citizens abroad for services through the online consular platform.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Measure 12

Assessing the approach of other national strategies existing or to be adopted with the National Strategy and Action Plan for Diaspora. This process will lead to the organization of existing public policies or to be adopted in the future in relation to policies for Albanian communities abroad.

INDICATORS: *Approach of other existing national strategies or to be adopted.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry of Finance and Economy

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

Measure 13

Assessment and extension of the National Civil Register with data on migrants and periodically revision of the legal basis for migrant registration. Defining the responsibilities and data to be collected as well as identifying and planning the establishment of the appropriate network and infrastructure.

Organization of public activities and civil society on the purpose of the system of registration and voting of nationals abroad.

INDICATORS: *Expanding the National Civil Status Register with data on migrants. Determining responsibilities and organizing activities abroad.*



DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister

Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs

Minister of Interior

State Minister for Diaspora

Measure 14

The establishment of the Albanian Cultural Centers in Diaspora's host countries in cooperation with the state of Kosovo in order to preserve national identity, to promote the image of the homeland and Albanians abroad and to provide services and information to the communities of Albanians in the Diaspora.

INDICATORS: *Establishment of the Albanian Cultural Centers in host countries in cooperation with the state of Kosovo*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2019*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Minister of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Culture

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Measure 15

Enabling information about the Albanian Diaspora as well as the development of communities abroad. Carry out an annual report to reflect the data and assess countries where priority should be given on Diaspora policies.

INDICATORS: *Enable information and carry out an annual report about the Albanian Diaspora.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Institute of Statistics INSTAT

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.



Measure 16

Implementation of general and specific training in the field of migration and their inclusion in the programs of Albanian universities. Organization of periodic trainings in the field of domestic and international legislation for officials covering migration issues. Identification of needs and experts that may need legal training. Development of training modules in this area and incorporating such modules into civil servants training.

INDICATORS: *General and special training. Organization of periodic training. Identification of needs and experts. Development of training modules.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry of Justice

Measure 17

Encourage state co-operation with host countries profiled institutions and address migrants' issues, women's rights and children's rights. Establishment of high level bilateral consultative committees with host countries for the protection of the rights of Albanian diaspora communities and their periodic functioning for this purpose. Sharing public information on the performance and development of this activity for the interested public.

INDICATORS: *State co-operation with the institutions of the host countries. Establish bilateral consultative committees. Public information on its performance.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Justice

Measure 18

Prepare and distribute information (brochures, leaflets, websites, etc.) to Albanian communities in the Diaspora, where information about their status and rights is provided, as well as the services provided by diplomatic and consular missions as well as from migrant associations with the support of international organizations.

INDICATORS: *Distributing information about status rights as well as the services you provide.*



DEADLINE: First semester of 2019 (periodically)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Interior

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Institute of Statistics INSTAT

Ministry of Justice

Measure 19

Develop practical manuals related to migration issues and make them available to officials dealing with the practical implementation of legislation on migration. Identify the law / by-laws acts that are implemented in practice by any institution that covers certain issues of diaspora and migration. Training and certification of Albania's diplomatic corps on migration's legislation and in particular on the rights of Albanian communities in the Diaspora.

INDICATORS: *Develop practical manuals. Identification of the law / by-laws acts. Training and certification of Albanian diplomatic corps.*

DEADLINE: Second semester of 2018 (periodically)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Interior

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Justice

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 20

Establish regular contacts with the European Group of Regional and Local Authorities in the Field of Immigration (ERLAI) centered in Brussels in order to assess the opportunities for supporting the protection policy of the communities of the diaspora in the EU host countries.

INDICATORS: *Regular contacts with the European Group of Regional and Local Authorities in the field of Immigration.*

DEADLINE: Second semester of 2018



THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora - The National Agency of Diaspora.

Ministry of Justice

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 21

Encourage and intensify close contacts between Albanian organizations in Diaspora and local migration protection associations. Identify organizations in host countries for the protection of human rights and migrants in these countries.

Awareness through online information, roundtables and meetings on social and health protection in host and home countries.

INDICATORS: *Close contacts between Albanian diaspora organizations and local associations, awareness of social and health protection.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora - The National Agency of Diaspora

Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Ministry of Justice

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 22

Periodic reassessment of services' policy, procedures and respective tariffs. Based on the information provided by missions, the ministry responsible for the Diaspora shall draft an annual report on the current situation of Albanian emigrants with proposals for respective measures in order to improve assistance for them.

INDICATORS: *Periodic reassessment of services' policy. The ministry responsible for the Diaspora shall draft an annual report.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry of Justice



Measure 23

There will be negotiations related to signing bilateral agreements on the social protection of migrants with host countries so that they can transfer their social insurances in Albania. There will also be the reassessment of the accumulating arrangements of voluntary contributions for social insurance and whether necessary, the signed agreements between the Social Insurance Institute and the banks. (Reassessment of a specific action plan on the issue of Albanian migrants' pensions)

INDICATORS: *Negotiating bilateral agreements with host countries. Reassessment of the accumulating arrangements of voluntary contributions for social insurances.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Ministry of Justice

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 24

Establishment of a register for Albanian citizens who find themselves deprived of their freedom as detained in prison abroad and organize an annual meeting organized in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, the Ombudsman's Office and the Albanian Red Cross organization on this issue. The evaluation of periodic information and conclusions on this issue will also be discussed at the State Committee for Diaspora.

INDICATORS: *Establishment of a register for Albanian citizens who find themselves deprived of their freedom as detained in prison abroad. Evaluation of periodic information.*

DEADLINE: *Second Semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Justice

Measure 25

Review of the framework of existing migration agreements with the host countries of Albanian communities in the Diaspora. Negotiate the framework of employment agreements with host countries with the purpose of incorporating into the latter vocational training agreements, or to discuss on them separately.

Reassessment will occur in co-operation with the EU countries as well as special projects to



facilitate the implementation of employment agreements, benefiting from the temporary and special legislation of host countries that lack workforce.

INDICATORS: Review of the framework of existing migration agreements. Negotiate the framework of employment agreements. Cooperation with EU countries for specific projects.

DEADLINE: First semester of 2019 (periodically)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Measure 26

Assessing and encouraging circular migration between Albania and the host countries of the Albanian communities in the Diaspora through preferential measures or the negotiation of bilateral agreements (giving priority to Greece and Italy).

Establishing a contact and coordination office for evaluating and monitoring the situation of foreign labor markets and then passing this information to the responsible institutions.

INDICATORS: Favorable Measures or Negotiation of Bilateral Agreements; Realizing a contact office and coordination for foreign labor markets.

DEADLINE: Second semester 2019 (periodically)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Measure 27

Organization of a special annual program for the promotion of Albanian agricultural and food products by organizing periodic activities in the function of organized networks of Albanian producers and the network of Albanian businesses in diaspora that trade products of such nature.

INDICATORS: Annual program for the promotion of Albanian agricultural and food products

DEADLINE: First semester of 2019 (periodically)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs



*State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development
Ministry of Tourism and Environment*

Measure 28

The preparation of the Diaspora Certificate, for which can be applied on-line and along with the registration of the interested person, it provides him with a printable document ("I am Albanian") which can be placed in open spaces to assert the Albanian national identity.

INDICATORS: *Preparation of the Diaspora Certificate.*

DEADLINE: *First semester 2020*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

*State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs*



ESTABLISHING AN EFFECTIVE INSTRUMENT TO AID THE GOVERNMENT AND OTHER ACTORS TO IMPROVE AND EMPOWER COOPERATION WITH LEGAL DIASPORA AND MIGRATION

ENGAGEMENT OF DIASPORA IN THE NATIONAL ECONOMY

Measure 29

Aid for microcredit institutions to implement policies aimed at channeling remittances through agreements with financial institutions in host countries.

Encourage migrant associations to promote local development through volunteer gathering of donations from members so as to grant different projects in their city or village.

INDICATORS: *Aid to microcredit institutions; volunteer gathering of donations from members of migrant associations.*

DEADLINE: *First semester 2019 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Finance and Economy

State Minister for Diaspora

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

Measure 30

Organize and administer a network for foreign and Albanian scholars specialized in the field of migration as well as administration officials specialized in institutions dealing with Diaspora and Migration policies. (Filling the network with names and details of scholars and civil servants from administrative agencies that will deal with diaspora policies).

INDICATORS: *Organize and administer a network for foreign and Albanian scholars specialized in the field of migration.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs



Measure 31

Promotion of cases of successful personalities either in diaspora or in Albania and award the title "Ambassador of the Nation". Establishment of Nation's Ambassadors' Network (formulation of necessary legal acts on this issue).

INDICATORS: *Promotion of personalities. Establishment of Ambassadors' Network*

DEADLINE: *First semester 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Measure 32

Establishment of a Repository of a qualified Diaspora and implementation of national and joint programs with international institutions in order to attract qualified diaspora members to serve Albania's economy. Assessment of the programs that encourage investors to hire skilled staff from diaspora abroad. Based on these programs, the coordination and creation of opportunities for Albanian students in order to be welcomed and assisted by members of the Albanian diaspora to facilitate their studies at foreign universities through a network set up for this purpose in the Diaspora.

INDICATORS: *Repository of a qualified Diaspora; National programs; Assessment of programs; Coordination and creation of opportunities for Albanian students.*

DEADLINE: *First semester 2020 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Economy and Finance

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

The National Agency of Diaspora

Measure 33

Creation of a Diaspora Business Room in cooperation with the diaspora business network. Creating a Diaspora Business Register as the basis for creating a Business Diaspora Chamber as an organizer and facilitator in business relations with the state administration.

INDICATORS: *Creation of Diaspora Business Room; Creating a Diaspora Business Register.*



DEADLINE: First semester 2019

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Finance and Economy

State Minister for Diaspora

State Minister for Protection of Enterprise

Measure 34

Development of annual activities in the field of domestic products in coordination with diaspora buying businesses (creating a map of restaurants and diaspora food businesses) to connect vending and purchasing businesses in and out of the country

INDICATORS: *Development of annual activities; creating a map of restaurants and businesses.*

DEADLINE: First semester 2019 (periodically every year)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

Measure 35

The re-evaluation of national, religious holidays through attentive planning of activities, in collaboration with the private sector, non-profit organizations, sports federations and promotion by relevant tourism institutions in important markets so as to significantly increase tourist flows.

INDICATORS: *Activity planning and promotion to increase tourist flows.*

DEADLINE: Second semester 2019

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Culture

Ministry of Tourism and Environment

Measure 36

An annual assessment of remittances and incentive banking policies for the Albanian Diaspora. Developing and implementing a coherent and comprehensive policy on the management of Diaspora remittances. Reassessment of the measures to be taken in



order to increase the remittances' flows by motivating migrants that bring their savings to Albania (such as through favorable exchange rates as well as the ability to keep them in foreign currency).

INDICATORS: Annual assessment of remittances; A coherent and comprehensive policy on remittances; Reassessment to increase delivery flows.

DEADLINE: First semester 2019 (periodically every year)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Finance and Economy

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Bank of Albania

Measure 37

Reassessment of the measures to be taken for the transfer of migrant's remittances from informal to formal transfer ways and less costly ones. Establish a periodic dialog ue with representatives of the country's banking system on this issue.

Encourage private companies to attract remittances through financial products (such as securities).

INDICATORS: Measures for formal transfers; Dialogue with representatives of the banking system; Withdrawal of remittances through financial products.

DEADLINE: The first 6 months 2019 (periodically every year)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Finance and Economy

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Bank of Albania

Measure 38

Establishment of special administrative offices within the responsible economic institutions to deal with the Albanian diaspora, especially in implementing migration remittances policies and facilitating the attraction of diaspora investments

INDICATORS: Establishment of administrative offices.

DEADLINE: First semester 2019

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister



Ministry of Finance and Economy
Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy
State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

Measure 39

Reassessment for the improvement and expansion of banking services in Diaspora host countries as well as for their relatives in Albania (mainly in rural areas). Encourage banks in host countries to provide "ad hoc" services to emigrants (within the degree of opportunity and negotiation) with the help of Albanian migrant associations.

INDICATORS: *Reassessment for the improvement and expansion of banking services in Diaspora host countries; Determining "ad hoc" services for immigrants.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester 2018 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

*Ministry of Finance and Economy
State Minister for Diaspora
State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise*

Measure 40

Identification of cultural, sports, educational, social, scientific associations operating in host countries as well as talented and successful individuals working in the diaspora. Establishing a separate register for this purpose.

INDICATORS: *Identification of Associations. Establishing a register.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

*Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth
Ministry of Culture
State Minister for Diaspora
Academy of Sciences*

Measure 41

Promote the organization of a Women's Network in Diaspora and build specific policies in this regard. Organize in Albania or abroad the Women's Diaspora Summit. Establish a sustainable cooperation network with organizations and institutions that cover this issue in host countries and with the civil society in Albania for this purpose.



INDICATORS: *Organization of a Women's Network in Diaspora; Organization of Women's Summit of Diaspora; Establishment of a network of cooperation with organizations, institutions and civil society.*

DEADLINE: *Second Semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Health and Social Protection

Measure 42

Organization and support of networks (even international) of special groups and associations of the Albanian diaspora based on interests, common professions or geographical location.

Mediation in order to establish contacts between "counterpart" groups in different countries to create functional networks of this nature will be of particular priority.

INDICATORS: *Organization and support of networks of special groups and associations; Create facilities; Establish contacts between "counterpart" groups.*

DEADLINE: *The first 6 months 2019*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Measure 43

Support the Albanian Diaspora organizations to establish local advisory structures for foreign nationals in cities where Albanian migrants are concentrated on the basis of a guide prepared by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe and the Council of Europe.

INDICATORS: *Support the Albanian Diaspora organizations to establish local advisory structures.*

DEADLINE: *The first 6 months 2019*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora - The National Agency of Diaspora.

Ministry of Justice

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.



Measure 44

Carry out awareness-raising campaigns on the various opportunities to appeal against violations of migrants' rights, in host and international countries' structures dealing with the protection and respect of human rights as well as the protection of migrants' rights, through activities such as:

- *Publication of this information on the migration website dedicated to this issue,*
- *Publication in Albanian newspapers abroad,*
- *Publishing and distributing leaflets related to this information,*
- *Publication of these rights through websites created by the Albanian community operating abroad.*

Periodic reporting by the Albanian government of cases of violations of Albanian migrant rights. Some of the international structures that deal with these rights are as follows:

- *Special Rapporteur for Migrant's Rights of the United Nations*
- *Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe*
- *European Court in Human Rights*
- *European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) of the Council of Europe*
- *Commission for Petitions of the European Parliament for the EU*
- *Ombudsman of the EU*

INDICATORS: *Carry out awareness-raising campaigns on violations of migrant rights. Periodic reporting of cases of violations of the rights of Albanian migrants.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION:

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora - The National Agency of Diaspora.

Ministry of Justice

Measure 45

Coordination and organization of meetings or the "Days of Albania" in the host countries of the Albanian communities in Diaspora on the basis of an annual program as well as other periodic activities for Albanian tourism and the facilitations related to investments in Albania.

INDICATORS: *Coordination and organization of meetings of the Albanian communities in Diaspora on the basis of an annual program*



DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Culture

Ministry of Tourism and Environment

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 46

Coordination with public and private Health Institutions concerning the preparation of a campaign to promote health tourism, mainly related to some services for which Albania has provided advantages (dental, neurosurgery, cardio surgery, etc.).

INDICATORS: *Coordination with public and private Health Institutions for the promotion of health tourism.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministria e Shëndetësisë dhe Mbrojtjes Sociale

Ministry of Tourism and Environment

PREPARATION OF THE ADMINISTRATION FOR THE NEW LEVEL OF STATE POLICY RELATIONS WITH DIASPORA.

Measure 47

Periodic organization of meetings with diaspora business networks and exchange of functional information to them from any institution covering the field of interest to invest in the home country.

INDICATORS: *Meetings with business networks and information exchange.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester 2018 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy



State Minister for Diaspora

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Ministry of Tourism and Environment

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 48

MEFA through its economic diplomacy structures will pay special attention to relations with the Albanian diaspora in the world for the exploitation of the economic potential this diaspora carries in itself, serving the country's economic and social development. Cooperation with the private business sector and line institutions for the dissemination of information of an economic character and the development of periodic annual activities' programs that foster the business relations between the Albanian communities in the diaspora with each other and the hometown.

INDICATORS: *Cooperation with the private business sector and line institutions; Development of periodic annual activities' programs.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester 2018 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

State Minister for Diaspora

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 49

Establishing and updating a database of newspapers, websites, radios and diaspora TVs that operate in countries that are considered as a priority for national policies on the Diaspora. In this framework, the establishment of the Albanian television and radio networks in Diaspora and implementation of an action plan for training of journalists in Diaspora with incentive projects and annual activities for this purpose.

INDICATORS: *Database of newspapers, websites, radio and television of diaspora; the establishment of the Albanian television and radio networks in Diaspora, training journalists in Diaspora.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION



State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Albanian Radio Television (RTSH)

Measure 50

Organization of an information network for Albanian and foreign media to appeal and raise awareness on the violations of Albanian migrants' rights to the respective structures of the host countries as well as those of international organizations.

INDICATORS: *The information network to appeal and sensitize violations of migrant rights.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Measure 51

Assess the quality of the state institutions' website for detailed information regarding Albanian communities abroad by opening a section devoted to this issue (where necessary). Conduct periodic meetings (every 6 months) for assessing and coordinating with the "supervisors" of the institution's information pages on the level of information that these pages provide for the Albanian Diaspora.

INDICATORS: *Quality of the state institutions' websites. Periodic meetings with the information pages "supervisors".*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
National Agency of the Society of Information (AKSHI)
The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 52

Planning and implementation of an information campaign on:

- *Migration and Diaspora issues*
- *Considerable migrant registration promotion and information on the right of voting (after approval);*
- *Identity of Albanians, Albanian history and culture in Diaspora*



- *Existence of information resources on issues affecting migration and diaspora and dealing with recent political, social and economic developments in the country; Expression in this campaign of the process that diaspora and migration will be an integral part of Albania's political and economic development.*

INDICATORS: *Migration and Diaspora issues; registration of migrants and information about the right of voting; The existence of information resources;*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2020*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Interior

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Measure 53

Review and evaluation of the broadcasting area by national televisions and radios in all countries where there are diaspora communities and Albanian migrants. Generate and promote TV programs in the country on the diaspora issue and its role in the Albanian society. Realizing and structuring a public television channel (and radio) on the diaspora theme.

Encourage media agreements with host countries to broadcast programs for the Albanian communities.

INDICATORS: *Areas of broadcasting from Albanian televisions and radios; Diaspora TV programs; Public television channel (and radio) for diaspora; Media agreement with host countries.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Albanian Radio Television

Measure 54

Generate media projects that promote the establishment of information networks for students and the coordination of responsible educational institutions for the promotion of exchange and internship programs of Albanian universities with host countries universities where there exists a high presence of Albanian students.



INDICATORS: *Generate media projects, promotion of exchange programs and internships.*

DEADLINE: *First Semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

*State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth
Radio Televizioni Shqiptar (RTSH)
Academy of Sciences*

Measure 55

Arrange a media action plan for the promotion, attraction and motivation of the Albanian Diaspora to ensure exploration of all its potential and exploitation of all advantages in Albania for tourism and investment purposes.

The preparation by the responsible tourism institutions of a promotional campaign will be assessed in order to attract the attention of that diaspora segment in search of the roots, culture and traditions of the ancestors. In cooperation with the private sector, a package will be prepared that provides the above expectations and in exceptional cases provides the introduction of Albanian language bases. As icons of this campaign may be included well-known diaspora figures in each market.

INDICATORS: *Media Action Plan; Prepare a promotional campaign; Prepare a package that provides the above expectations and in exceptional cases provides the introduction of Albanian language bases.*

DEADLINE: *Second Semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

*State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Culture
Ministry of Tourism and Environment
Albanian Radio Television (RTSH)*

Measure 56

Involvement of Albanian Diaspora community in the cultural life of the host country and in Albania with a view to promoting them (signing and / or amending bilateral agreements with the diaspora host countries including the latter's interests) and promoting the establishment of annual activities for this purpose.



INDICATORS: Albanian Diaspora communities in the cultural life of the host country, in order to promote them in Albania.

DEADLINE: Second Semester of 2018

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Culture

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 57

Establish administrative tools at central and local level for assistance and transparency, to support investments and the needs of the interested diaspora stakeholders. Diaspora shall be informed on the investment opportunities in Albania through media, banks (internet, brochures), etc. and promote motivation of Albanian migrants to invest their earnings in particular sectors of the economy.

INDICATORS: Administrative tools at central and local level; Diaspora's information on investments through media, banks (internet, brochures), etc. and motivate it to invest.

DEADLINE: Second Semester of 2018 (periodically)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Ministry of Finance and Economy

State Minister for Diaspora

State Minister for the Protection of Enterprise

Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development

Ministry of Tourism and Environment

Measure 58

Reviewing of the practices and conditions for the education of young generations of diaspora in their mother tongue. Identify the needs of Albanian language courses in host countries. Re-evaluate the drafting of standard curricula for teaching in Albanian. Continuous identification of learning needs in Albanian language and knowledge of Albanian cultural heritage for children in Diaspora.

INDICATORS: Reviewing the practices and conditions for education; identify the needs for courses; Reassessment of draft curricula for teaching; identify the needs of children.

DEADLINE: Second Semester of 2019 (periodically)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION



*State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth
Academy of Sciences*

Measure 59

Annual assessment of the needs for the learning of Albanian language and acknowledgment of Albanian cultural heritage for children in Diaspora. Periodic improvement of common curricula with Kosovo on the teaching of the Albanian language. Support on the implementation of common curricula.

INDICATORS: *Annual needs assessment; Improvement and implementation of curricula with Kosovo.*

DEADLINE: *Second Semester of 2019 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

*State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs*

Measure 60

Produce a Register of Diaspora teachers and generate support programs for the implementation of standards for diaspora teachers. Constant teachers' identification and drafting a pension scheme for teachers in the Diaspora. Promotion of educational activities with Albanian teachers and students in Diaspora.

INDICATORS: *Register of Diaspora teachers and generate support programs; Identification of teachers and drafting of the pension scheme; Promotion of educational activities.*

DEADLINE: *The first 6 months 2019 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

*State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Academy of Sciences*

Measure 61

Establishment of a permanent structure that will follow the assessment and provision of necessary textbooks. It will follow the training of teachers who will teach in the courses that will be created for this purpose.



Continuous provision of school textbooks to the diaspora and teacher's training on common curricula with Kosovo.

INDICATORS: *Establishment of a permanent structure for textbooks and teacher's training; Provide textbooks and teacher's training.*

DEADLINE: *First semester 2019 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Measure 62

Development of the e-book project (on-line download of textbooks set up in the diaspora education program) with the aim of distributing books all over the world and creating the facilities to supply everyone with the necessary materials for learning the Albanian language and culture.

INDICATORS: *E-book project for distributing books*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

Academy of Sciences

Measure 63

Reviewing and signing cooperation agreements with educational institutions in host countries for the opening of Albanian language courses in existing schools and educational establishments in these countries. (Generation and promotion of Albanian language teaching programs for children of Albanian emigrants in cooperation with relevant structures of host countries).

Signing of cooperation agreements with educational institutions in the host countries for the opening of courses in Albanian language in the schools and educational establishments existing in these countries.

INDICATORS: *Cooperation agreement for the opening of courses in Albanian language;*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION



State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Measure 64

Reviewing and guiding of programs / donors, which provide study scholarships abroad to the areas of expertise needed by Albania. Evaluating the performance of a profound study on the number of the Albanian students in the universities abroad and on the areas where they are specialized.

Reassessment for the inclusion of a return requirement in Albania (for a period of not less than one year) for all the students receiving study scholarships abroad in the framework of different donor study programs for Albania.

INDICATORS: *Guiding of programs / donors needed by Albania; Study on the number of Albanian students and areas of specialization; Reassessment of a return requirement in Albania.*

DEADLINE: *Second 6 months 2018 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Measure 65

Drafting and approving necessary shared agreements with Kosovo and specific ones to support the teaching of Albanian language and culture in Diaspora.

Reassessment of the legal framework regarding the responsibility of the Albanian state to enable Albanian language learning for the new generations of Albanian communities in the Diaspora.

INDICATORS: *Agreements with Kosovo; Reassessment of the legal framework.*

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora
Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs
Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Measure 66

Promoting programs or donors who offer scholarships for studies abroad, for Albania. Running information activities for high schools and Universities aiming to raise



awareness of professors, students and pupils on these programmes and application procedures.

INDICATORS: Scholarship programs; running information activities.

DEADLINE: second half of 2018 (periodically run – every year)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION:

Minister of State for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

Financial costs shall be covered by the forecasted budget approved by implementing institutions.

Measure 67

Conducting an assessment report on the difficulties of the Albanian students studying abroad and on the factors influencing this situation. Getting organized in the host countries on taking measures so as to enable communication and functional networks to assist Albanian students.

INDICATORS: Scholarship programs; Organizing information activities.

DEADLINE: Second semester of 2018 (periodically every year)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

The financial cost will be met, within the budget approved by the implementing institutions.

Measure 68

Reassessment of policies aimed at promoting the return of skilled migrants. Evaluating the supply and demand for qualified personnel in the Albanian labor market and establishing contacts between migrants and large and medium-sized enterprises in Albania by creating an electronic database with CVs of highly qualified migrants.

INDICATORS: Encouraging the return of skilled migrants; Creating an electronic CV database.

DEADLINE: Second semester of 2018 (periodically every year)

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs



Ministry of Interior

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Ministry of Infrastructure and Energy

Ministry of Education, Sports and Youth

The financial cost will be borne by the PBA approved for implementing institutions.

Measure 69

Monitoring of the National Action Plan on 6 months assessment and reporting to the State Committee for Diaspora. Reporting to the Subcommittee on Migration and Diaspora in the Albanian Parliament on the progress of the National Strategy and Action Plan. The Subcommittee will propose that on the issue of migration and diaspora treatment shall be adopted by the Assembly every year to adopt a resolution on this matter.

DEADLINE: *The first 6 months 2019 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Measure 70

Evaluation by the Sub-Commission on Migration and Diaspora and the State Committee for Diaspora in special meetings of the below produced documents:

- *A written reporting by the National Agency of Diaspora;*
- *Bank of Albania for remittances in the Republic of Albania;*
- *INSTAT for annual data on migration and diaspora;*
- *State Insurance Institute for annual information on the status of pensions and status of citizens abroad;*
- *By the Ministry of Interior on the state of registration of Albanian nationals abroad.*

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2019 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Interior

Ministry of Finance and Economy

Bank of Albania



Measure 71

Assessment, discussion and proposals for changes to the National Strategy document and Action Plan at the Albanian Summit of Diaspora. These proposals will be seen as initiators to make the possible changes.

DEADLINE: *Second semester of 2018 (periodically)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs

Measure 72

Determining the indicators that will denote the level of implementation of the measures set by this strategy. Obligation of the institutions responsible for implementing the strategy for drafting the annual reports of the measures taken, including quantitative and qualitative monitoring data, based on the defined indicators.

DEADLINE: *First semester of 2019 (periodically every year)*

THE RESPONSIBLE INSTITUTION

Vice Prime Minister

State Minister for Diaspora

Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs



WORKING GROUP:

1. Pandeli Majko,
State Minister for Diaspora - Chair
2. Sonila Qato,
State Minister for Protection of Enterprise - Member
3. Etjen Xhafaj,
Vice Minister for Europe and Foreign Affairs - Member
4. Elton Haxhi,
Vice Minister of Finance and Economy - Member
5. Besa Shahini,
Vice Minister of Education, Sports and Youth - Member
6. Valbona Shujaku,
Vice Minister of Culture - Member
7. Hajrulla Çeku,
Vice Minister of Tourism and Environment - Member
8. Rovená Voda,
Vice Minister of Interior - Member
9. Teuta Vodo,
Vice Minister of Justice - Member
10. Ardiana Jaku,
Vice Minister of Health and Social Protection - Member
11. Ermira Gjerci Ruci,
Vice Minister of Agriculture and Rural Development - Member

