MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ON THE ENERGY SECTOR

THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMY OF THE REPUBLIC OF MACEDONIA

AND

BETWEEN
THE MINISTRY OF ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF KOSOVO

The Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Macedonia and the Ministry of Economic Development of the Republic of Kosovo and, hereinafter referred to as the “Parties”,

IN PURSUIT of progress in their friendly bilateral relations,

WITH CONSIDERATION of the countries’ favorable conditions of expanding energy cooperation concerning the geographic location and the traditional relations among both countries,

EMPHASIZING the importance and benefits of bilateral cooperation in the energy sector and energy resources on mutual benefit in line with the principles of the EU Legislation and Treaty establishing Energy Community,

LEADING of their aspirations to enhance the bilateral dialogue at all levels and the importance of such dialogue for implementation of common policies on energy and energy resources, sustainable development and efforts against the climate change, and

FOR ACHIEVING more secure energy supplies and deliveries to the Parties and to Southeast Europe and the European Union in general,

Agreed on the following:

**Article 1**
**Purpose**

1. The Parties shall intensify their bilateral cooperation in the energy sector in compliance with their national policies and strategies.

2. The Parties define their priority areas of cooperation, as are: the electricity sector, coal, natural gas, renewable energy sources, energy efficiency, security of supply, as well as preparation of relevant infrastructure interconnection projects for electricity and gas and other project initiatives. The Parties may, by mutual agreement, negotiate other important matters of mutual interest.
3. The Parties shall exchange information about their energy sectors, including the development of their energy policies, the harmonization of their legal and regulatory frameworks with those of the European Union, as well as the priorities described in paragraph 2 of this article.

4. The Parties shall support the work and efforts of their energy institutions and, to the extent the possibility of their energy companies in order to encourage the development and cooperation in the energy sector and related issues. The terms and the conditions shall be defined by the directly involved institutions and companies in compliance with the national legislation and the European regulation and practices.

Article 2
Scope

For achieving the goals of this Memorandum of Understanding, the Parties, in particular, shall:

1. Share their experience and best practices and create a mechanism for regular exchange of information, and (with relevant) hold consultations.

2. Encourage and support the relations between companies from both countries through stimulating any business activities in different energy areas, including business representations, seminars, fairs and exhibitions, cooperation between sector associations and other organizations.

3. Exchange information of energy programmes and projects that shall be of mutual interest, including the interest towards third countries.

4. Determine measures for further improvement of energy cooperation.

Article 3
Cooperation

1. The Parties shall agree to form a joint operative team of experts from both ministries and representatives of their national companies, including, where is appropriate representatives of other ministries and authorities of both countries, for assistance, consultation on proposals for further steps in the cooperation for implementing the agreed areas under this Memorandum of Understanding.

2. Each Party shall nominate coordinator and representatives of its team, and notify in written to the other Party of it, within one month after signing of this Memorandum of Understanding.

3. The work of the team shall be co-chaired by the coordinators.
4. The team shall meet at least once in every six months, alternatively in each country.

5. The business entities, working on projects for cooperation within the scope this Memorandum, may be invited to participate on the meetings of the expert team.

6. The hosting Party shall prepare the minutes of the course of each meeting, which shall be signed by the coordinators of the team, at the end of the meeting.

**Article 4**

**Integration**

Nothing in this Memorandum of Understanding shall be construed as creating a legal relationship between the Parties. Accordingly neither Party may commit or bind the other Party unless specifically authorized in writing.

**Article 5**

**Entry into force**

1. This Memorandum of Understanding shall enter into force on the date of its signature. The Memorandum shall remain in force for a period of two years after its entry into force and shall be automatically extended for successive two-year periods, unless one of the Parties notify the other Party on withdrawal of the Memorandum of understanding, not later than thirty day prior to expiration of any two-year period.

2. Upon the entry into force of this Memorandum, it ceases to be valid the Memorandum of Cooperation in the field of energy between the Ministry of Economy of the Republic of Macedonia and the Ministry of Energy and Mining of the Republic of Kosovo, concluded on 05 July 2010.

3. This Memorandum can be amended at any time by mutual written agreement of both Parties. The agreed amendments shall enter into force on the date both parties have agreed to do so in written.

4. Any of the parties can denounce this Memorandum by sending written notice 6 months the latest before the date of denouncement.

Done in Skopje, on 11.02.2019, in two original copies, in the official languages of each of the Parties and the English language, all texts being equally authentic. In case of divergence in the interpretation of the provisions, the English text shall prevail.

For the Ministry of Economic Development of the Republic of Kosovo
Minister

For the Ministry of Economy of Republic of Macedonia
Minister