

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

ROAD AUTHORITIES/PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

ON COOPERATION FOR
SAFE, SMART AND SUSTAINABLE
DEVELOPMENT OF THE INDICATIVE
EXTENSION OF TEN-T ROAD NETWORK
TO WESTERN BALKANS

LET US BUILD TOGETHER THE ROADS OF THE FUTURE



7 June 2022, Tirana

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING BETWEEN ROAD AUTHORITIES/PUBLIC ENTERPRISES

Tirana 2022

The Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) is made between General Directors of the Road Authorities/Public Enterprises of the Transport Community Treaty South East European Parties (Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia):

“Albanian Road Authority” – “Autoriteti Rrugor Shqiptar”,

“Public Company Motorways of RS” – “J.P Autoputevi RS”,

“Public Company Roads of RS” – “J.P Putevi RS”,

“Public Company Motorways of FBiH”- “J.P Autoceste FBiH”,

“Public Company Roads of FBiH”- “J.P Ceste FBiH”,

“Ministry of Environment, Spatial Planning and Infrastructure of Kosovo” – “Ministria e Mjedisit, Planifikimit Hapësinor dhe Infrastrukturës e Kosovës”

“Road Infrastructure of Montenegro” - “Monteput” d.o.o,

“Road Administration of Montenegro”

“Public Enterprise for State Roads” – “ЈАВНО ПРЕТПРИЈАТИЈЕ ЗА ДРЖАВНИ ПАТИШТА”,

“Public Enterprise Roads of Serbia” - “Јавно Произведе Пutevi Srbije” ,

(Hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”, or individually “the Party”).

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence

PREAMBLE

Building upon, Transport Community Treaty signed on 9 October 2017 by all partners (Council Decision (EU) 2019/392);

Whereas, the Transport Community is based on the progressive integration of transport markets of the South East European Parties into the EU transport market on the basis of the relevant acquis, including the areas of technical standards, interoperability, safety, security, traffic management, social policy, public procurement and environment, for all modes of transport excluding air transport, aiming to create a Transport Community in the field of road, rail, inland waterway and maritime transport as well as the development of the transport network between the European Union and South East European Parties;

Reconfirming, Road and Road Safety Action Plans endorsed by Transport Community Ministerial Council on 26 October 2020, as guiding documents for the development of climate resilient, intelligent, and resource-efficient of the indicative TEN-T extension of road network to Western Balkans by incorporating green and smart elements in road investments and at the same time promoting safety management, safer infrastructure, and protection of road users;

Taking into account, the commitments taken by Western Balkans 6 (WB6) under the Connectivity Agenda agreed in Vienna in 2015, monitored earlier through the Connectivity Reform Measures Management Plan.

Taking into consideration, European Commission Economic and Investment Plan for the Western Balkans published in October 2020.

Acknowledging, Sofia Leaders Declaration on the Green Agenda for the Western Balkans, European Commission Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy and Western Balkans' response to EU Sustainable and Smart Mobility Strategy that the transport system of the future needs to be green, smart, sustainable, inclusive and social.

Considering that, the Parties are willing to sign this Memorandum of Understanding to foster enhanced cooperation in the field of road safety, road maintenance, e-tolling, ITS deployment and network resilience.

THE PARTIES HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDING:

Article 1

Objective

The main objective of this MoU is to establish a Network of Road Authorities/Public Enterprises General Directors (hereinafter referred to as the “RID Network”), of each Transport Community Treaty South East European Party, for regular consultation, coordination, and experience sharing of all road related activities at the regional level.

RID Network will cooperate at the highest management level to ensure better planning of the indicative TEN-T extension of Road Core/Comprehensive Network to Western Balkans, road safety, road network maintenance, deployment of Intelligent Transport Systems (ITS) and tolling to ensure interoperability, deployment of alternative fuels with a specific focus on building a network of electric vehicles charging points, improve climate resilience and exchange of best practices.

Its goal is to contribute to safe, smart and sustainable development of the road infrastructure in the region, in a coordinated manner at the regional level.

Article 2

Scope

RID Network is intended to facilitate continued, deepened, and strengthened cooperation between the Parties to support safe, smart and sustainable development of the indicative TEN-T extension of Road Core/Comprehensive Network to Western Balkans. Furthermore, it shall cooperate closely with the Transport Community Road and Road Safety Technical Committees in respect of the objectives of the Transport Community Treaty.

Article 3

Areas of cooperation

The main priorities of the RID Network are:

- Development of road infrastructure to TEN-T standards;
- Improvement of the infrastructure bottlenecks of the road network;
- Identify the most dangerous sections of the road network and increase the safety of Level Crossings where most fatal and serious accidents happen;
- Ensure full support for the timely and efficient implementation of the Road and Road Safety Action Plan in cooperation with the Transport Community Road Technical Committees;
- Deployment of ITS as per EU standards to ensure interoperability;
- Decarbonisation of road operations by promoting and investing in alternative fuels infrastructure along the main road corridors;

- Collaborate to tackle the impact of natural hazards to the road network, natural hazards regional contingency planning
- Monitor and benchmark road performance both in terms of infrastructure and operation, including identification of common principles, practices, and timelines to better manage the infrastructure in the region;
- Identify potential cooperation mechanisms as Twinning, and joint applications for regional projects;
- Work together to provide high social standards (healthy and safe working environment), tackle the challenges of the sector (lack of attractiveness, competition with other modes) and provide learning experiences for the young professionals (such as secondments, trainings).
- Exchange best practices on the above-mentioned topics).

The above-mentioned list of cooperation activities is non-exhaustive and may evolve as per the needs of the road transport.

Article 4 Membership

RID Network shall be composed of Road Authorities/Public Enterprises from each Transport Community Treaty South East European Party.

Stakeholders outside the region, the European Commission, relevant EU agencies and Road Federations/Associations and International Financing Institutions (IFIs) can participate as observers.

RID Network may decide to grant observer status to other experts, organisations, or public entities, where relevant, for participation in its structure.

Article 5 Modus Operandi of the Network

RID Network is chaired by a representative of Road Authorities/Public Enterprises. Each General Director of each Transport Community Treaty South East European Party shall hold the Chairmanship of the Network for one calendar year.

RID Network will meet at least once a year and Transport Community Permanent Secretariat will report on its behalf to the Road Technical Committee and Regional Steering Committee.

RID Network will establish a rolling calendar of activities, based on the relevant strategic and specific objectives.

The cooperation between the Parties shall be guided by the common interest to implement the cooperation in the most efficient and successful way. Mutual trust, frequent communication and comprehensive information sharing, while respecting the

confidentiality requirements, on all matters concerning the common interest will guide this cooperation.

Information on the following activities of each signatory Party will be shared with the RID Network:

- Strategies and plans for the development of the indicative TEN-T extension of Road Core/Comprehensive Network to Western Balkans as per TEN-T standards;
- Plans to work towards building a resource-efficient indicative TEN-T extension of Road Core/Comprehensive Network to Western Balkans by incorporating green and smart elements in road investments;
- Maintenance plans with a specific focus on border crossing sections;
- ITS deployment plans to ensure interoperability;
- Deployment of e-tolling plans to ensure interoperability;
- Activities to undertake risk-based vulnerability assessment and interventions for the most vulnerable sections of the indicative TEN-T extension of Road Core/Comprehensive Network to Western Balkans;
- Prepare joint applications to projects related to greening and digitalising road activities;
- Identify and prepare areas for possible twinning and secondments.

Article 6

Role of Transport Community Permanent Secretariat

Transport Community Permanent Secretariat will facilitate the organisation of the meetings of the Network.

The Conclusions of each meeting shall be prepared by the Transport Community Permanent Secretariat and distributed to members and observers.

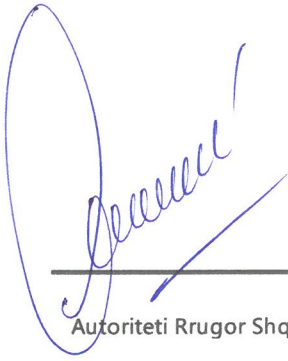
Article 7

Enter into force and termination

This MoU should come into force on the date it has been signed by all the Parties and should continue to be applicable until termination by either of them.

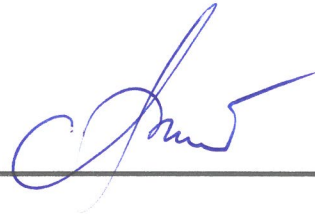
Each Party may terminate this MoU by giving six months prior written notice to other Parties.

Signed at Tirana on 7 June 2022 in ten original copies in English language and by the signatory Parties:

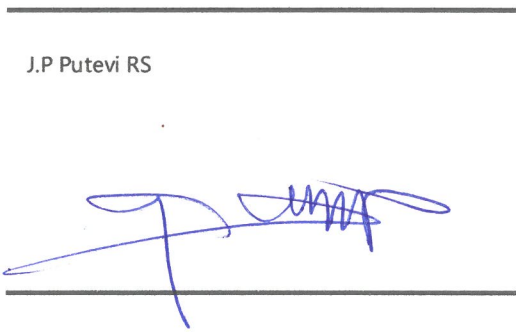


Autoriteti Rrugor Shqiptar

J.P Autoputevi RS

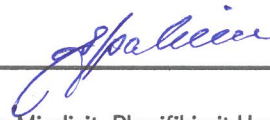


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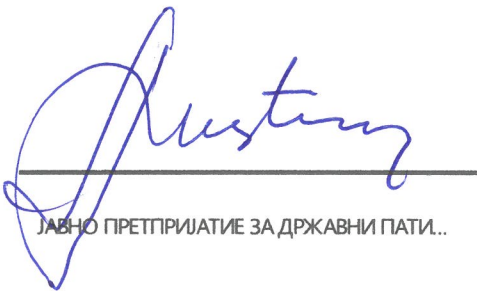


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J.P Ceste FBiH



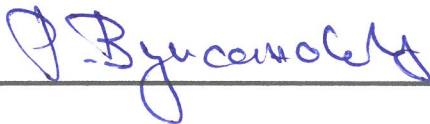
Ministria e Mjedisit, Planifikimit Hapësinor dhe
Infrastrukturës e Kosoves



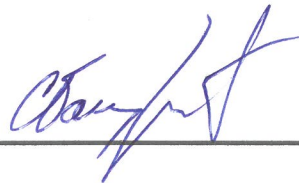
ЈАВНО ПРЕТПРИЈАТИЈЕ ЗА ДРЖАВНИ ПАТИ...



Monteput d.o.o



Road Administration of Montenegro



Javno Produzece Putevi Srbije