

**Joint Declaration  
on the Strategic Dialogue  
between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Croatia**

The Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Croatia, hereinafter referred to as “the Participants”,

Emphasizing the shared desire and determination of the Participants to expand and deepen their cooperation in the areas of politics, economy, defense, security, justice, culture, education, environment, social affairs, youth, and sports,

Affirming the fundamental values underlying their partnership, including the commitment to uphold freedom, democracy, human rights, the rule of law, the rules-based international order, and a resilient, commonly regulated trading system,

Remaining committed to universally recognized principles and norms of international law, particularly the purposes and principles outlined in the UN Charter and the Helsinki Final Act,

Aiming at contributing to regional and international security, stability, and peace,

Recalling the framework established by the Republic of Armenia - EU Comprehensive and Enhanced Partnership Agreement (CEPA), as well as the priorities set out in the Strategic Agenda for the Republic of Armenia – EU Partnership,

Stressing the importance of the EU's Global Gateway program, as well as Armenia's "Crossroads of Peace" initiative and "TRIPP" project for promotion of regional stability and regional and cross-regional connectivity,

Reaffirming Armenia’s aspiration to strengthen its political, economic, security, and social ties with the European family and the broader community of democratic states,

Striving to elevate their bilateral relations to a qualitatively new level,

The Participants hereby declare the establishment of a strategic dialogue as follows:

**1. Political Dialogue, Regional and International Cooperation**

1.1 The Participants will sustain and intensify high-level contacts between political leaders and representatives of the executive and legislative bodies of both countries.

1.2 The Participants will conduct regular political consultations to exchange views and coordinate positions on bilateral relations, as well as on international and regional issues of mutual interest.

1.3 The Participants will conduct regular bilateral sectoral consultations aligned with the European aspirations of the people of Armenia. These efforts will focus on supporting Armenia's approximation with the EU standards, enhancing sovereignty and resilience, strengthening democratic institutions, safeguarding human rights and freedoms, contributing to the diversification of Armenia's economy, as well as trade, facilitating greater market access to the EU to encourage European investments in Armenia, with a particular emphasis on capacity-building through knowledge transfer as a key element of advancing these objectives.

1.4 The Participants will actively cooperate within international global and regional organizations, including the United Nations, the Council of Europe, NATO, OSCE and other international platforms.

1.5 The Participants will work to promote and strengthen democratic institutions, human rights, fundamental freedoms, the rule of law, effective governance, and anti-corruption efforts.

1.6 The Participants will enhance communication and consultations between their sectoral agencies to develop institutional cooperation and expand the multi-sector cooperation agenda.

1.7 The Republic of Croatia welcomes the agreements reached in Washington DC and the initialing of the Agreement on the Establishment of Peace and Interstate Relations between the Republic of Armenia and the Republic of Azerbaijan on 8 August 2025 and will continue to support the normalization of relations between Armenia and Azerbaijan based on mutual recognition of each other's sovereignty and territorial integrity in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, the Helsinki Final Act (1975) and the Almaty Declaration (1991).

## **2. Security, Defense and Justice**

2.1 The Participants recognize the potential for enhanced security and defense cooperation and agree to explore opportunities to strengthen collaboration in this regard.

2.2 Bilateral defense cooperation will continue to be advanced at both high-level and working-level engagements.

2.3 The Participants will collaborate within relevant international global and regional organizations to address shared security challenges.

2.4 The Participants affirm their commitment to maintaining a free, open, secure, stable, accessible, peaceful and interoperable cyberspace.

2.5 The Participants underscore the importance of developing secure and resilient digital infrastructure, promoting the development and implementation of cybersecurity policies and strengthening international cooperation in addressing cyber threats.

2.6 Joint cooperation will be fostered, especially in relation to combating different dimensions of cybercrime, including through direct bilateral cooperation between respective law enforcement agencies.

2.7 The Participants will explore collaboration in the field of cloud computing and data analytics, focusing on the use of cloud technologies for digital transformation.

2.8 Efforts will be made to develop Armenia's cloud infrastructure with guidance from Croatia, particularly in the areas of data storage and cloud-based solutions.

2.9 The Participants will hold regular sectoral consultations in the fields of public diplomacy, countering hybrid threats and disinformation, and related spheres in order to share experiences and address existing issues in the above-mentioned fields.

2.10 The Participants will develop mutually beneficial cooperation within their competence in countering Foreign Information Manipulation and Interference, strengthening interaction between public and private institutions of both countries.

2.11 The Participants will strengthen the cooperation in the justice sector, including the fields of penitentiary and human rights.

2.12 The Participants will develop cooperation in the areas of care for war veterans, as well as the search for missing persons.

### **3. Economic and Infrastructure Cooperation**

3.1 The Participants reaffirm their commitment to develop and expand economic and trade relations, prioritizing sectors such as manufacturing industry, information technology, healthcare, water and wastewater infrastructure management, waste management, air quality, biodiversity, sustainable land management, smart agriculture and renewable energy.

3.2 The Participants will promote joint ventures and research initiatives in high-tech industries, particularly in semiconductors, artificial intelligence, robotics, and cloud computing.

3.3 Economic cooperation will be further enhanced by facilitating communication between economic stakeholders, startups, and free economic zones, as well as entrepreneurial zones.

3.4 The Participants will encourage promotion of direct investments, by contributing into the establishment of conducive investment environment in their respective countries and protecting each other's investments.

3.5 Recognizing the multifaceted challenges faced by Armenia as a result of being a landlocked country with a limited access to global trade markets, the Participants will enhance cooperation to promote regional and international trade and transport connectivity, including through support to each other's projects, such as Armenia's "Crossroads of Peace" initiative.

3.6 Collaboration will aim to implement Sustainable Development Goals, promote innovation and technological advances, and transition to a green economy. Considering that Armenia as a mountainous country is suffering from extreme weather events and slow on-set climate change impacts by incurring immense loss and damage to its economy, infrastructure and livelihoods, the Participants will cooperate to leverage the existing and prospective loss and damage finance mechanisms for addressing climate-induced loss and damage and building resilience towards natural disasters, through disaster risk reduction projects.

3.7 The Participants will explore possibilities of cooperation in the areas of sustainable food systems, food safety and security, and agriculture by adopting technology-based solutions and modern systems to promote investments in the field of food and agriculture sector and facilitate agri-business trade.

3.8 Cooperation will explore addressing challenges of climate change on Armenia's and Croatia's vulnerable ecosystem.

3.9 The Participants will organize joint business and technology conferences in both Armenia and Croatia, providing a platform for stakeholders to connect, share ideas, and collaborate.

3.10 The Participants will explore participation in international high-tech exhibitions and technology fairs, showcasing their collective capabilities and attracting global investment into both countries' technological sectors.

#### **4. Industry**

4.1 The Participants will strive to strengthen their commitment to develop and expand economic and trade relations, including through enhanced cooperation in the field of

industry, organisation of joint events to foster innovative industrial development, as well as through cooperation in the ICT sector, particularly in the field of security-related technologies, and development and maintenance of own software solutions and services.

4.2 The Participants will enhance cooperation and exchange experience in the field of processing industry, including pharmaceuticals, chemicals and petrochemicals, textile and leather, food production, the electrical and energy sector, machinery, defense, wood and wood processing, pulp and paper, and agriculture.

## **5. Energy**

5.1 The Participants will develop cooperation in the field of energy, particularly in the issues of development of green hydrogen and renewable energy projects.

5.2 The Participants aim to organize joint consultations on green hydrogen and renewable energy projects, particularly on the development of solar and wind projects as well as accumulation and storage capabilities.

## **6. Education, Science, Culture, Tourism and Sports**

6.1 The Participants will promote collaboration between specialized educational and research centers, institutions, universities, and schools through exchange programs, training, and master classes.

6.2 Croatia acknowledges the potential of Armenia's Academic City as a hub for academic collaboration and innovation, furthering shared goals in education and research.

6.3 The Participants will promote academic partnerships between universities in Armenia and Croatia in fields such as artificial intelligence, robotics, renewable energy, quantum technologies, and cybersecurity, with a focus on joint research projects and faculty/student exchanges.

6.4 Cultural dialogue will be strengthened, with a focus on cultural heritage protection and preservation in collaboration with UNESCO and other relevant organizations.

6.5 The Participants will engage in supporting cooperation between the cultural and creative sectors, and will promote cooperation between cultural institutions and organization.

6.6 With the aim of increasing tourism flows and strengthening intercultural ties between their peoples, the Participants will promote closer cooperation between relevant public and private stakeholders, including through digital platforms and joint initiatives.

6.7 The Participants will encourage the promotion of cultural heritage, sustainable tourism, and traditional arts and crafts, with the aim of enhancing mutual awareness of each country's tourism potential and cultural richness, as well as cooperation in tourism education through, where appropriate, institutional partnerships, experience-sharing and other collaborative opportunities.

6.8 The Participants will promote cooperation in the field of physical education and sports, including high-performance sports, sports science, and sports medicine.

6.9 The Participants will promote exchanges of experience between young people, in particular through organizing programs for youth work and youth development, as well as experience-sharing programs among stakeholders in the youth sector.

This Joint Declaration does not create any legally binding obligations under international law or financial commitments unless otherwise agreed in writing by both Participants. This Joint Declaration will come into effect on the date of its signature and will remain in effect, unless terminated by either Participant by giving six (6) months prior written notice to the other Participant.

Signed in \_\_\_\_\_ on \_\_\_\_\_ 2026 in two originals in the Armenian, Croatian and English languages, all the texts being equally valid. In case of divergence of interpretation, the English text will prevail.

**For the Republic of Armenia**

**For the Republic of Croatia**