

NETWORK INTERNAL RULES
of the Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean
Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean is a member of the Anna Lindh
Foundation

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INTRODUCTION

The Barcelona Process: Union for the Mediterranean

The Euro-Mediterranean partnership was established in 1995 in Barcelona between the European Union and Mediterranean countries with the purpose of ensuring peace and prosperity in the region. At the Paris Summit for the Mediterranean on 13 July 2008, it was decided to strengthen the partnership known as the Barcelona process: Union for the Mediterranean (hereinafter: BP: UfM). On the same day, the Republic of Croatia became a member of the BP: UfM, having accepted the legacy of the Barcelona process and the content of the Paris Declaration establishing the Union for the Mediterranean.

The Barcelona process: Union for the Mediterranean is a multilateral partnership that promotes the development of political, economic, and social relations in the Euro-Mediterranean region, and works on increasing potentials for regional cooperation. BP: UfM is based on cooperation in projects from areas such as ecology, clean drinking water projects, energy, civil society, solar energy, development of transport and maritime routes, etc. The partnership encompasses all member states of the European Union, the European Commission, and countries of the Southern Mediterranean (Albania, Algeria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Montenegro, Egypt, Croatia, Israel, Jordan, Lebanon, Morocco, Monaco, Palestine, Syria, Tunisia, Turkey, Libya currently in the process of establishing its national network, and Sudan as an observer).

Activities within BP: UfM are marked by a significant civil society component. This component is realized through an institutionalized dialogue of cross-cultural cooperation of the Anna Lindh Foundation, and through thematic non-governmental assemblies organized on the margins of ministerial conferences.

Anna Lindh Foundation

The Anna Lindh Foundation (hereinafter: ALF) promotes dialogue between cultures of the Euro-Mediterranean region. ALF functions as a network of national civil society networks gathering civil society organizations, public institutions and organizations from various fields of activity. With headquarters in Alexandria, Egypt, ALF is active in the following member countries: Albania, Algeria, Austria, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Egypt, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Great Britain, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Jordan, Latvia, Lebanon, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Mauritania, Montenegro, Monaco, Morocco, Netherlands, Palestine, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Syria, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden, Tunisia, and Turkey. ALF's partners are United Nations Alliance of Civilizations; United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), Council of Europe, Arab League Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ALECSO), and Islamic Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization (ISESCO).

CROATIAN NETWORK FOR COOPERATION IN THE EURO-MEDITERRANEAN

Appointment of the representative of the Croatian National ALF Network

In December 2008, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integrations of the Republic of Croatia proposed the National Foundation for Civil Society Development (hereinafter: National Foundation) to be the representative of the Croatian National Network of the Anna Lindh Foundation for the Republic of Croatia. At the first meeting held with the purpose of establishing the Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean (hereinafter: Croatian Network) in January 2009, all present member organizations and institutions confirmed the National Foundation as the national network coordinator that will in its first phase of activities be involved in ALF activities.

Mission and vision

Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean promotes dialogue, knowledge and cultural diversity in the Euro-Mediterranean region by developing tolerance and openness towards new ideas, religions, cultures, and values. The Croatian Network advocates promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms.

ORDINANCE ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE CROATIAN NETWORK

I REPRESENTATIVE OF THE CROATIAN ALF NETWORK

Representative of the Croatian Network:

- 1 Acts as the national coordinator of the Croatian Network;
- 2 Acts as the official national ALF representative in the Republic of Croatia;
- 3 Promotes ALF as a Euro-Mediterranean institution established with the purpose of strengthening the regional dimension of the Euro-Mediterranean partnership –Union for the Mediterranean in social, cultural, and human affairs;
- 4 Coordinates the work of the Croatian Network members; raises awareness with the potential new stakeholders of the Croatian civil society about joining the Croatian Network;
- 5 Contributes to the development of annual and triennial ALF programs. In that context, the Representative takes into consideration the interests and proposals given by the Croatian Network members;
- 6 Supports and supervises training and capacity building within the Croatian Network;
- 7 Acts as a public relations stakeholder, preparing promotional material and actively contributing to the ALF website;
- 8 Informs Croatian Network members on published tenders, co-organization of events, and rules and criteria on how to apply for a certain tender;
- 9 Facilitates the search for project partners for Croatian Network members. The rule for applying for tenders published by ALF is "1+1", meaning that at least one partner needs to be either from the European Union member states or from Albania, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Monaco or Montenegro, and at least one other partner needs to be from the Mediterranean countries. The project applicant needs to be a member of one of the 42 national ALF networks. The rule for submitting a program is "2+2";
- 10 In establishing and developing partnerships with foreign partners, the representative pays special attention to members having organizational or similar kinds of difficulties in taking part in ALF activities;
- 11 Assists Croatian Network members and foreign partners in project development;
- 12 Encourages applications for financing projects from the Croatian Network;
- 13 Participates in the annual meeting of the ALF Heads of Network. Before this meeting, the representative either organizes a meeting with Croatian Network members or ensures other appropriate forms of consultations and discussion on the national level.
- 14 Maintains regular communication with the ALF Secretariat;

- 15 Passes the Ordinance of the Croatian Network;
- 16 Adopts the Triennial Program prepared by the ALF Secretariat;
- 17 Participates in the consultation process on each strategic area the ALF Secretariat prepares. The strategic area is a set framework of activities within which members of the Croatian Network can present their project proposals.
- 18 Services offered to members of the national network by the Representative are:
 - Providing conditions for building partnerships (space),
 - Training and support in the strengthening of capacities,
 - Coordination meetings,
 - Management of the national network,
 - Providing information on ALF activities to network members, and
 - Promotion of activities.

II MEMBERSHIP IN THE CROATIAN NETWORK

- 1 The Croatian Network is independent and autonomous.
- 2 The Croatian Network is a permanent structure, part of the ALF Network acting within the Euro-Mediterranean partnership.
- 3 The Croatian Network is open to all institutions, organizations, and other partners who adhere to the principles and mission of the Croatian Network and ALF as defined in Article 2 (1) of the ALF Statute, and which work on the basis of democratic, pluralistic and multilateral values; first and foremost, the Croatian Network represents civil society stakeholders.
- 4 As a rule, members can belong to the following categories: individual members, CSOs, public institutions, units of local and regional self-government, public and private foundations, and other profit partners promoting corporate social responsibility policies.
- 5 The Croatian Network reflects the diversity of the Croatian civil society and encourages it to associate with partners involved in the following ALF thematic fields: international and cultural relations in the Euro-Mediterranean region, heritage, religion, university and research institutes, human rights, democracy and community development, art, youth, education, gender, environment and sustainable development, and the media.
- 6 The Croatian Network representative maintains the right to refuse an application for membership, and to exclude existing members if the organizations in question do not comply with the mission of the Croatian Network and/or do not participate in the Network's activities.
- 7 Applications for membership are forwarded to the ALF Secretariat.
- 8 The Croatian Network should have at least five members.
- 9 The Croatian Network representative has the right to temporarily decide on the maximum size of the Croatian Network in order to strengthen and improve its performance.
- 10 Network membership does not entail financial obligations.
- 11 Members are obliged to report to the Croatian Network coordinator their activities related to ALF.

III CROATIAN NETWORK STRUCTURE

- 1 Croatian Network members have the right to set up an *ad hoc* thematic group focusing on a certain program or strategic area.
- 2 Croatian Network members meet at least twice a year in order to review all activities, joint initiatives and projects, and discuss possible changes in the structure or in the ordinance.
- 3 During the year, the representative ensures that the necessary communication with members of the Network is maintained through e-mails and telephone conferences.
- 4 The Croatian Network makes decisions in consensus with all members.
- 5 The Croatian Network coordinator can transfer a part of their activities to regional/local

- organizations-members in order to better implement set goals.
- 6 Elections for the Croatian Network coordinator are conducted regularly, depending on the consensus within the Network, but not for a term longer than the duration of ALF strategic plans (three-year period). The manner in which the coordinator is elected is decided by the members of the Network. The coordinator's role may cease before the end of the elected term if: this is the will of the coordinator, or if the coordinator does not fulfil all assumed obligations, in which case the Network can hold a meeting and relieve the coordinator of their duties, based on the dissatisfaction with coordinator's performance expressed by the members of the Network.

IV ACTIVITIES OF THE CROATIAN ALF NETWORK

- 1 The Croatian Network promotes Euro-Mediterranean partnership on the national and international level.
- 2 The Croatian Network contributes to the development of priorities and ALF programs by sharing its vision with other national networks and ALF Secretariat.
- 3 The representative of the Croatian Network, in cooperation with Network members, develops the Network Development and Action Plan.
- 4 The Croatian Network promotes joint activities of members on the national level in line with the goals set in the Network Development and Action Plan prepared in the framework of the ALF Network Support Scheme.
- 5 Projects and Development and Action programs of national networks must be interrelated;
- 6 The Croatian Network uses the Croatian Network for Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean logo for all its activities.
- 7 Croatian Network members can participate in tenders published by ALF.
- 8 Croatian Network members can, with the help of the representative, participate in project preparations, and in trainings organized by the representative, ALF Secretariat, or other national networks.
- 9 Croatian Network members are requested to participate actively in as many Network activities as possible, and to cooperate with the coordinator (filling out surveys, attending meetings, answering e-mails, etc.).

V COFINANCING POSSIBILITIES FOR APPROVED PROJECTS AND PROGRAMS

Croatian Network members who apply with their projects and programs for tenders published by the Anna Lindh Foundation are eligible to compete for co-financing by the institutions of the Republic of Croatia and/or international organizations/institutions.

One of the possibilities is to apply for co-financing through the support of the National Foundation for Civil Society Development within the "Cooperation in the Euro-Mediterranean" co-financing program of approved projects and programs (more information on: <http://zaklada.civilnodrustvo.hr>).