

Memorandum of Cooperation (MoC) between Elite Team Special Missions of Greece (EP.OM.E.A. Greece/ ΕΠ.ΟΜ.Ε.Α. Ελλάδας) and National Association of Volunteers in Republic of Bulgaria (NAVRB)

1. Purpose: The objective of the present memorandum is to determine the framework of collaboration between:

1. ELITE TEAM SPECIAL MISSIONS OF Greece – ΕΠ.ΟΜ.Ε.Α. ΕΛΛΑΔΟΣ, an ASSOCIATION with registered teams across Greece as the central management in Civil Protection and
2. The association of Bulgarian volunteer, NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF VOLUNTEERS IN REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA (NAVRB).

The collaboration of the above-mentioned teams consists of the training, co-training and exercises of both team members, in the framework of social contribution between the two Balkan states, Greece and Bulgaria, with the aid of Central Macedonia Prefecture.

2. Roles and Responsibilities: For the realisation of the above purpose, the following have been assigned:

A. Training courses:

Mountain – Urban rescue: The objective of this training course is related to the ropes access rescue training or mountain rescue and USAR (Urban Search And Rescue).

Disaster Management: The purpose of this training course is about extricating victims from collapsed buildings with the use of equipment and shoring, as well as the secure rescue and the organisation of emergency settlements.

Water rescue: Rescuing procedures in rivers, lakes or sea. Diver courses for Search and victim retrieval.

Firefighting and fire safety: Firefighting, fire safety – fire precaution in buildings – forests and fire extinguishing equipment.

First Aid: Basic knowledge regarding first aid (BLS – AED/ ERC, PHTLS), immobilization in stretchers, evacuation from car accidents and use – knowledge of paramedical equipment.

Humanitarian Aid: Collection of goods for damaged regions.

Social services and aid for abused women: Psychological assistance for people in need as well as abused women who need of support.

Telecommunications: Use of wireless mobile and portable, setting up a telecommunication and internet center.

B. Rules governing the cooperation:

a. The time and procedure of the training will be agreed from both sides. The training will include the objectives that are defined in the educational system which will be accepted by both teams.

b. The associations of Greece and Bulgaria will inform via email at least two months before the specified dates for the training – exercises which will be decided accordingly. A list of the participants' details (names, surnames and ID numbers) and the license plates of the vehicles that should enter the corresponding country will be respectively.

c. The maximum number of volunteers in training or exercises is set up to 25 people and this number can be modified according to a decision taken from both responsible persons that will be defined.

d. Before the beginning of the exercise, all volunteers will sign an application form stating that:

1) They have completed their 18th year and they have not exceeded 60th year.

2) They are active team members.

3) As members of the rescue team they are aware of the possible risks training – exercises and although they wish to participate.

4) In case of an injury during an exercise or as a result of it, there will not be any claims or demand from the cooperating teams or from their governments.

5) They agree, in the training context, to fully comply with the orders of the person in charge of the training, whereas the later will have the general coordination.

6) They are aware of the present memorandum and as members of the teams will accept without reservation the defined statements.

Non-compliance of the above-mentioned from the volunteer's side, may lead to an exclusion from the training.

In case a member of the team has an inappropriate behavior to the person in charge or any other member of both teams, the responsible persons of the team where the training is taking place will have the right to stop his/her training, justifying their reasons and persecute him/her. The teams from both countries and the state officials agree and accept the above terms and consequences that come with them and will not provide any claim one against the other.

e. During the training - co-training and exercises, the overall coordination and the responsibility of complying with the safety measures is assigned to a special trainer - team leader – written in a document that will be sent to the person in charge of both teams and countries. Inside the training center, team leaders are required from both countries participating in the training and being responsible for the proper implementation of the orders given by the team leader during the training hours.

f. During the training, the equipment provided by the Disaster Preparedness Training System will be used, based on planning agreed and implemented by both sides.

Regarding young and inexperienced volunteers, there will be initially presented only the use of the equipment under the supervision of the trainers and only on equipment that do not impose any immediate threat or injury (cameras, geophones, low power drills).

g. Emergency health care will be provided on the spot by the assigned doctor of each country.

h. Transportation, food, lodging and any other volunteer's need will be covered by expenditure of the country's association hosting the respective team, unless otherwise provided by the organizers of the training.

i. In case of disaster in any of the cooperating countries, by written permission of the Borough or Prefecture of the respectful country, the volunteers will be able to take part in humanitarian aid missions only as an organized entity and only after communication with the person in charge.

C. Special Conditions:

In addition to the statements above, each party will have to comply with the following:

a. After the end of each training program a certificate of attendance will be delivered to the team members and each team will be obliged to prepare the minutes of each training or exercise, signed by the Prefecture of the respective country, in order to keep files.

β. This cooperation, established by the presented memorandum, can be unilaterally terminated. The decision of termination must be promptly notified to the other part and this does not create any obligation or right for the parts of the terminated cooperation.

Thessaloniki, 7th of February 2017

**Representative of
EP.OM.E.A., Greece**



**Representative of
NAVRB, Bulgaria**



**Representative of the
Prefecture of Central Macedonia**

