

COOPERATION AGREEMENT
between the European Commission for Democracy through Law
and the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations
of the Commonwealth of Independent States

In view of the common concern for the respect of pluralistic democracy, rule of law and human rights and in order to promote dialogue, the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission of the Council of Europe) on the one hand and the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States on the other (hereinafter referred to as “the Parties”), being represented by their Chairpersons, agree on the following:

1. Each of the Parties or their representatives will be invited to conferences and other events organised by the other Party whenever issues of common interest to both Parties are to be examined there.
2. Both Parties may jointly organise conferences, seminars and other meetings on issues of common interest such as implementation and development of electoral standards and practice.
3. Both Parties will exchange documentation on a regular basis, including reports and adopted texts, to ensure that they are mutually informed of their respective activities.
4. Chairpersons of both Parties will meet for consultations or exchanges of views at suitable occasions to discuss matters of common interest.
5. This Agreement is not intended to create legally binding obligations for both Parties as regards the activities outlined in paragraphs 1 to 4. Nevertheless, both Parties will make every possible effort to cooperate under this Agreement. In doing so, both Parties only commit themselves within the limits of their respective human and financial resources and work programmes.
6. Both Parties agree to settle any disputes arising under or in connection with this Agreement amicably.
7. Any matters not covered by the Agreement shall be separately discussed and agreed by the Parties.
8. This Agreement may be amended upon mutual consent of the Parties in writing.
9. This Agreement shall come into effect upon signature by the Parties. The duration of the Agreement shall be unlimited. Either Party may terminate this Agreement subject to six-months prior written notice.

The Agreement is done in four copies (two copies in Russian language and two copies in English language). Should there be a conflict between the two language versions, the English version shall prevail.

Done on 16 February 2018 in St. Petersburg and on 5 March 2018 in Strasbourg, with the Parties exchanging signed copies. The date of signature by the second Party on 5 March 2018 shall be considered the date of entry into force of the Agreement.

**On behalf of the Interparliamentary
Assembly of Member Nations of the
Commonwealth of Independent States**

Valentina MATVIENKO

Chairperson
of the Council of the Interparliamentary
Assembly of Member Nations of the
Commonwealth of Independent States



**On behalf of the European
Commission for Democracy
through Law**

Gianni BUQUICCHIO

President
of the European Commission for
Democracy through Law

