





## **COMPACT**

## on Joint Rule of Law Objectives for the period until June 2014

The Kosovo Rule of Law Institutions, the Head of the EU Office in Kosovo/EUSR and EULEX Kosovo,

Acknowledging the commitment of the Kosovo rule of law institutions to make further progress towards sustainability and accountability and to develop and strengthen an independent multi-ethnic justice system and a multi-ethnic police and customs service that are free from political interference, respect human rights and adhere to internationally recognized standards and European best practices;

Reaffirming their determination to fight serious and organised crime and corruption;

Affirming their joint commitment to work within the overall EU policy framework as defined in the Stabilisation and Association Process with Kosovo, including follow-up to the Feasibility Study on a Stabilisation and Association Agreement and the Structured Dialogue on the Rule of Law;

Committed to advancing Kosovo's EU perspective by strengthening the ability of Kosovo to align its legislation with the Acquis Communautaire;

Recognising the need for the Kosovo authorities to effectively cooperate with EULEX Kosovo in order to achieve progress, including on issues covered in the visa liberalisation dialogue;

Acknowledging the commitment of the Kosovo rule of law institutions to implement their existing strategies and plans for advancing the rule of law, including the phasing out of EULEX executive mandate to the Kosovo authorities;

Affirming the willingness to contribute to a normalization of relations between Pristina and Belgrade and move forward with the implementation of agreements reached so far in the EU facilitated dialogue as well as any other agreement in the rule of law area reached in the future;

Taking due note of the full complementarity of the European Union assistance programmes for Kosovo with the overall objectives, concrete goals and specific activities foreseen under this Compact;

## have agreed as follows:

- 1. The Kosovo institutions, assisted by EULEX Kosovo through the implementation of its mandate of monitoring, mentoring and advising, commit themselves to the following overall **Joint Rule of Law Objectives**:
- Strengthening police, customs, correctional and judicial institutions across the entire territory of Kosovo, including in the north of Kosovo, for the benefit of all communities;
- Increasing the ability of Kosovo's rule of law institutions to deal with inter-ethnic crime, serious and organized crime and corruption;
- Enhancing the anti-corruption capabilities of Kosovo's institutions, particularly through the criminal justice system;
- Enhancing the accountability of all rule of law institutions by allowing institutions such as the Kosovo Judicial Council, the Kosovo Prosecutorial Council and the

Police Inspectorate of Kosovo as well as relevant internal structures to fully assume their roles in accordance with the law;

- Consolidating the strategic, operational and organizational management capacity
  of Kosovo's rule of law institutions to advance implementation of relevant
  legislation, strategies and action plans;
- Fostering a higher degree of ethnic inclusion and gender balance in the Kosovo rule of law institutions;
- Improving the responsiveness of Kosovo's rule of law institutions to concerns frequently raised by minorities in relation to public safety, accessibility and openness;
- Strengthening inter-institutional cooperation between prosecutorial bodies and law enforcement by facilitating a higher degree of communication between these institutions;
- Enhancing the ability of the relevant institutions in addressing outstanding property-related claims;
- Further developing of the Kosovo witness protection system;
- Further strengthening mutual legal assistance, including through the use of EULEX Kosovo to facilitate the processing of requests to and from States that have not recognized Kosovo in line with agreed procedures;
- Implementing the agreements reached in the framework of the EU facilitated dialogue, specifically the agreements on Civil Registry Books, Cadastral Records, Freedom of Movement, and Integrated Management of Crossing Points (IBM), and any other agreement in the rule of law area that might be reached in the future.
- 2. The Head of the EU Office in Kosovo/EUSR, EULEX Kosovo and the Kosovo institutions hereby endorse jointly developed *Compact* Actions which set specific activities and concrete goals with measurable benchmarks in line with the stated overall Joint Rule of Law Objectives.
- 3. The Joint Rule of Law Coordination Board will regularly review and take stock of progress achieved in the implementation of the *Compact* Actions. The Board will also

assess whether measures in addition to the annexed *Compact* Actions should be adopted to help achieve the stated overall Joint Rule of Law Objectives.

- 4. This *Compact* will help guide continued rule of law reform efforts in Kosovo and contribute to a strengthened partnership based on common goals and mutual respect.
- 5. The Kosovo institutions and EULEX Kosovo commit themselves to allocating the necessary resources and focusing their work so as to achieve the goals set out in the *Compact* Actions by June 2014.

Pristina, the 9 November 2012

Deputy Prime Minister

Minister of Justice

Head of the EU

Office in Kosovo/EUSR

Head of Mission EULEX Kosovo