

MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION BETWEEN THE INVESTIGATIVE COMMITTEE OF THE
REPUBLIC OF ARMENIA AND THE FEDERAL BUREAU OF INVESTIGATION OF THE
DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

The Investigative Committee of the Republic of Armenia and the Federal Bureau of Investigation of the Department of Justice of the United States of America, hereinafter referred to as the Participants;

realizing that transnational criminal activities may pose a very real danger to the stability and security of the peoples and interests of the two countries;

recognizing the need to strengthen international law enforcement cooperation at all levels in combating transnational crime in a comprehensive manner;

recognizing the sovereignty of both countries;

acting in the spirit of partnership and cooperation:

have reached the following understandings:

Article 1
Objective

The Participants recognize that preventing the increased threat of complex transnational crime requires international cooperation. The Participants intend to strengthen and consolidate cooperation in the areas of information exchange, the conduct of coordinated operations, and cooperative assistance. This Memorandum builds upon the existing cooperative relationship between the Participants so as to encourage cooperative activities under Article 3 for the purpose of addressing the priority criminal issues set out in Article 2.

This non-binding Memorandum regulating sectoral cooperation is not intended to contradict mutual legal assistance provisions of multilateral treaties with mutual legal assistance provisions to which both the United States of America and the Republic of Armenia are parties.

Article 2

Cooperation

For the purpose of implementing this Memorandum, the Participants intend to cooperate in the following areas:

1. All forms of illegal migration, including human trafficking.
2. Cyber Crime.
3. Kidnappings.
4. Criminal Enterprises.
5. Illegal international economic, financial and banking activity, including money laundering.
6. Other criminal issues, as mutually determined by both Participants.

Participants also intend to promote cooperative activities which may include the following areas:

1. Coordinated operations;
2. Information sharing in the area of law enforcement
3. Strengthening and consolidating existing cooperative networks between the Participants; and
4. Cooperative assistance in the field of capacity building and professional development.

Article 3

Development of cooperation

The Participants expect that this Memorandum will not prevent them from engaging in other mutually acceptable activities and ways of cooperating consistent with Article 1 of this Memorandum.

Article 4

Modes of Cooperation

Information exchange under this Memorandum includes, but is not limited to, information about the following:

- 1) fulfillment of mutual requests;
- 2) exchange of intelligence, information and analysis;

- 3) mutual consultations;
- 4) formation of joint operational teams;
- 5) exchange of experience on new methods in combating criminal activity;
- 6) exchange of information on recent achievements in technology and equipment;
- 7) exchange of professional experience, national legislation acts, open scientific and methodical literature relevant to the areas of cooperation;
- 8) conducting joint training programs and exchange of experience in order to enhance the professional capacity of staff.

Article 5

Request for assistance

The Participants intend to implement cooperation in connection with this Memorandum based either on a request for assistance from a Participant, or upon initiative of a Participant that assumes that such assistance is of interest to the other Participant.

Requests for assistance ordinarily will be submitted in writing. In urgent cases requests may be transmitted orally, but are expected to be confirmed in writing, which may include via email or similar electronic means.

A request for assistance is expected to contain:

- 1) Title of the official, designation of the Participant, requesting the assistance;
- 2) Presentation of the merits of the request;
- 3) Indication of the purpose and a justification for the request;
- 4) Description of contents of the requested assistance;
- 5) Any other information which may be useful for proper execution of the request.

The Participants intend to timely fulfill the requests of the other Participant. The reasonable time to respond to a request is expected not to exceed 30 days, unless the

request specifies a different period.

If it is not possible to execute or timely execute a request for assistance, the Participant receiving the request will endeavor to inform the other Participant promptly about the reasons for the declination or for the delay and the anticipated time to fulfill the request.

Either Party may partially or completely decline to execute a request consistent with Article 6 of this Memorandum.

This Memorandum is not intended to cover or address the issues of extradition of individuals or the formal provision of mutual legal assistance in criminal cases, including pursuant to authorities expressly authorizing the provision of such assistance.

Article 6

Refusal in assistance

The Participants acknowledge that either Participant may partially or completely refuse to execute the activities discussed in this Memorandum, or restrict execution to certain conditions, if, in its opinion, cooperation may negatively affect the security or interests of its state, contradict national legislation or international commitments, violates human rights or for any other reason it deems appropriate.

Article 7

Limited use of the received information and documents

The Participants intend to maintain the confidentiality of information received under this Memorandum.

The Participants undertake not to use information, data, and documents received pursuant to this Memorandum for purposes other than those stated in the original request, and also undertake not to transfer such information, data, and documents to a third-party without the prior written consent of the Participant that provided the information, data, or documents. The Participants shall treat all information and data

provided under this Memorandum with a level of confidentiality as regulated by the applicable laws of each country. The Participants acknowledge that the information involved in this MOU may identify U.S. persons, whose information is protected by the Privacy Act of 1974 and/or Executive Order 12333 (or any successor executive order). All such information will be handled lawfully pursuant to the provisions thereof. Each Participant will report to the other Participant each instance in which data received from the other Participant is used, disclosed, or accessed in an unauthorized manner (including any data losses or breaches).

As appropriate, the Participants may further mutually decide on specific conditions and rules for the use of information or materials related to operational and investigative information activities carried out bilaterally.

Article 8

Coordination of cooperation and language

For the purposes of implementing this Memorandum, the Participants are expected to provide each other with information on the units or persons responsible for coordination of cooperation and immediately notify each other of any changes in their names, competences and contact details.

Within the framework of cooperation under this Memorandum, English and Armenian languages may be used, unless the Participants indicate otherwise, on a case-by-case basis.

Article 9

Additional Provisions

Each Participant is expected to be responsible for its own expenses related to implementation of this Memorandum within the framework of the budget allocated by the national legislations of the country for the Participant, unless the Participants determine otherwise, on a case by case basis in specific matters. This Memorandum is not an

obligation or a commitment of funds, nor a basis for transfer of funds, but rather is a basic statement of the understanding between the participants of the matters described herein. Expenditures by each Participants will be subject to its budgetary processes and to the availability of funds and resources pursuant to applicable laws, regulations, and policies. The Participants expressly acknowledge that the language in this Memorandum in no way implies that funds will be made available for such expenditures.

This Memorandum does not constitute an agreement for any Participant to assume or waive any liability or claim under any applicable law.

This agreement is not intended to be enforceable in any court or administrative forum. This Memorandum is not intended, and should not be construed, to create any right or benefit, substantive or procedural, enforceable at law or otherwise by any third party against the FBI or Investigative Committee of the Republic of Armenia, the United States, or the officers, employees, agents, or other associated personnel thereof.

Both parties agree to adhere to all the laws, policies and regulations that otherwise govern its operations in all respects under this agreement. This agreement is not intended to, and does not, augment or limit any otherwise existing legal authorities enjoyed by either party.

Article 10

Resolution of disputes

The Participants expect to resolve any disputes between them that occur in connection to interpretation or application of the provisions of this Memorandum through consultation and discussion.

Article 11

Modifications

Modifications may be made to this Memorandum by written mutual consent of the Participants.

Article 12

Relation to international agreements

This Memorandum, regulating sectoral cooperation, is not an international treaty and is not legally binding, and is not intended to affect the rights or obligations of the Participants derived from other international agreements to which the Participants or their countries are parties.

Article 13

Inception and Discontinuation of this Memorandum


This Memorandum should become effective upon signature by the authorized representative of both Participants and will remain in effect for three years. After each period of three years, the Participants may, by mutual consent, renew this Memorandum for an additional three year period.

A Participant that wishes to discontinue its participation under this Memorandum is expected to provide 30 days' written notice to the other Participant of its intent.

Signed, in duplicate, this 16 day of 2023, may in English and Armenian languages.

**For the Investigative Committee of
the Republic of Armenia**

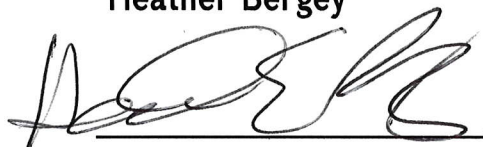
**Chairman of the RA Investigative
Committee Of Deputy Chairman
of the RA
Investigative Committee
Arsen Ayvazyan**

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Arsen Ayvazyan', written over a horizontal line.

**For the Federal Bureau of Investigation
of the Department of Justice of the
United States of America**

**DoJ/FBI Legal Attaché in
Georgia Armenia and**

Heather Bergey

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'Heather Bergey', written over a horizontal line.