

MEMORANDUM
OF COOPERATION BETWEEN
THE JUDGE ADVOCATE GENERAL'S OFFICE OF THE
SUPREME COURT OF CASSATION OF THE REPUBLIC OF ITALY
AND
THE PROSECUTOR'S OFFICE OF THE REPUBLIC OF BULGARIA

The Judge Advocate General's Office of The Supreme Court of Cassation of The Republic of Italy and the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Bulgaria, called hereinafter 'the Parties'

guided by the common conviction that the successful counteraction, investigation and punishment of military crimes, the crimes committed by persons from the personnel of the military forces and the crimes against military sites or during military of peacekeeping operations, require high specialization and intensive exchange of experiences and good practices,

underscoring the traditionally good interaction between the national legal systems to which they belong,

taking into account the necessity of and the mutual interest in the further development of the bilateral cooperation in combating crime, and particularly the crimes within the competence of the military courts,

aiming at the effective completion of their international obligations,
agreed to the following:

Article 1

The two parties shall collaborate to elaborate proposals in contrast to crime within the jurisdiction of the military courts, including through preparation and maintenance of coordinated and common positions before their respective national and international authorities.

For this purpose, the two parties shall exchange delegations to discuss matters of mutual interest and will maintain constant contact through their central specialized organs.

Article 2

The parties shall deepen their operational cooperation in combating the crimes committed by persons from the personnel of the military forces, the crimes against military sites or committed during military or peacekeeping operations.

For this purpose, they shall encourage and support the direct contacts between the competent prosecutors from both sides, on specific cases, as well as for increasing the professional competence and enriching of the prosecution and judicial practice.

Article 3

The parties shall provide each other upon request information on current issues in the regulatory activity, the structure, competence and exercise of the powers of the bodies of military justice, including in regards to: draft bills and newly adopted laws in their national legal systems; the application of the laws (jurisprudence) in the area of military justice; the defense of human rights.

Article 4

The parties shall exchange experience in the area of international legal assistance with third countries for the investigation of military crimes, crimes concerning or committed by person from the personnel of their military forces, as well as in the area of guaranteeing the rights of their own citizens/participants in military or peacekeeping operations abroad.

Article 5

With this Memorandum the Parties lay the basis for conducting joint training activities for increasing the qualifications and exchanging experience, organizing conferences, seminars and other forums on questions within the scope of Art. 1 and Art. 2, which are of mutual interest. Each party shall cover the expenses of its participants, unless otherwise agreed in connection with the specific activity.

Article 6

For the execution of this Memorandum, the Parties shall communicate through the following units:

a) For the Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Bulgaria:

Military Prosecutor's Office of Appeals, Sofia 1000, 24A Pozitano Str., Bulgaria
+359 2 80 05 701, Fax: +359 2 80-05-757, E-mail: admsec_voap@mil.prb.bg

b) The Judge Advocate General's Office of The Supreme Court of Cassation of The Republic of Italy, Via degli Acquasparta n. 2 00186, Roma, E-mail: pgmcassazione@gm.difesa.it, fax +39 647355063

Article 7

Any ambiguities and disagreements on the application of this Protocol shall be resolved through consultations and negotiations between the Parties, in view of the international obligations they have undertaken and in the spirit of mutual understanding and respect.

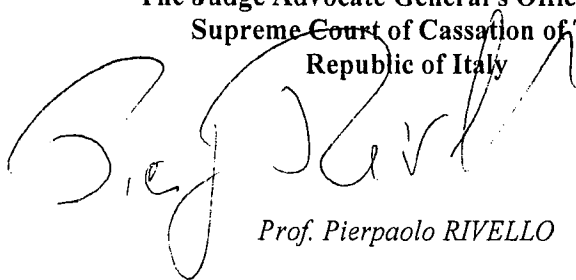
Article 8

This Memorandum is issued in two copies – one in Bulgarian and one in Italian language. All copies shall be equally valid.

Article 9

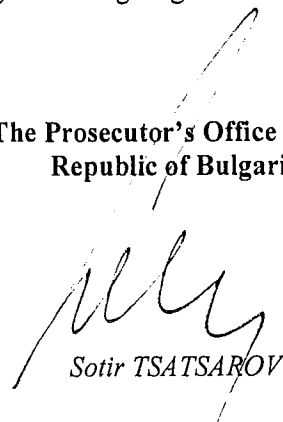
This Memorandum shall come into legal force from the day of its signing. Each of the parties may withdraw its signature upon a three-month notice.

**The Judge Advocate General's Office of The
Supreme Court of Cassation of The
Republic of Italy**



Prof. Pierpaolo RIVELLO

**The Prosecutor's Office of The
Republic of Bulgaria**



Sotir TSATSAROV

Signed in Sofia on 12 July 2017