



MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION

Between

The National Human Rights Commission of the Lebanese Republic, represented by its President, duly authorized for this Memorandum,

and

The High Commissioner for Human Rights in the Russian Federation, represented by the High Commissioner, duly authorized for this Memorandum,

hereinafter collectively referred to as "the Parties" and individually as a "Party".

PREAMBLE

The Parties,

Guided by the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Recalling the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the international human rights treaties to which their respective States are parties,

Recognizing the important role played by national human rights institutions and ombudsperson institutions in the promotion and protection of human rights,

Affirming their commitment to strengthening cooperation in the field of human rights and fundamental freedoms,

Respecting the independence, mandates, and competencies of each institution as established under their respective national legal frameworks,

Considering the interest in cooperation on human rights protection in their states, desiring to contribute to the deepening of friendship, trust, and mutual understanding between the peoples of Russia and the Lebanese Republic, have agreed as follows:

Have reached the following understanding:

Article 1

Purpose

The purpose of this Memorandum is to establish a framework for cooperation between the Parties in order to promote and protect human rights, exchange information and expertise, facilitate communication regarding individual complaints falling within their respective mandates, and strengthen institutional cooperation.

Article 2

Areas of Cooperation

The Parties may cooperate in the following areas:

1. Exchange of information, publications, studies, and good practices relating to the promotion and protection of human rights;
2. Exchange of experience concerning complaint-handling mechanisms and human rights monitoring activities;
3. Organization of joint seminars, conferences, workshops, and training programmes;
4. Cooperation in the fields of human rights education and awareness-raising;
5. Exchange of expertise regarding national implementation of international human rights obligations;
6. Mutual assistance regarding matters falling within the mandates of the Parties;
7. Any other forms of cooperation mutually agreed upon by the Parties.

Article 3

Cooperation Regarding Complaints

1. Where a citizen of one State submits a complaint concerning alleged violations of human rights occurring within the jurisdiction of the other State, the receiving Party may, with the consent of the complainant and in accordance with applicable laws, transmit the complaint to the other Party for consideration.
2. The Party receiving such communication shall examine the matter in accordance with its mandate, procedures, and applicable domestic law.
3. The transmission of a complaint under this Memorandum shall not create any obligation to investigate, adjudicate, or provide a specific remedy.
4. Nothing in this Memorandum shall be construed as granting either Party authority to exercise investigative, administrative, judicial, or enforcement powers within the territory of the other State.

Article 4

Exchange of Information

1. The Parties shall facilitate the exchange of information relevant to the implementation of this Memorandum.
2. Information exchanged under this Memorandum shall be used exclusively for the purposes for which it was provided.
3. Neither Party shall disclose confidential information received from the other Party without prior written consent, except where required by law.

Article 5

Protection of Personal Data

1. The Parties shall ensure the confidentiality and protection of personal data exchanged under this Memorandum.
2. Personal information relating to complainants or other individuals shall only be transmitted where:
 - o the individual concerned has provided informed consent; or
 - o such transmission is otherwise authorized under applicable law.
3. The Parties shall take appropriate measures to prevent unauthorized access, disclosure, alteration, or misuse of personal information exchanged under this Memorandum.

Article 6

Contact Points

1. Each Party shall designate a focal point responsible for communication and coordination under this Memorandum.
2. Communications may be transmitted by official correspondence, electronic mail, or any other mutually agreed means.
3. The Parties shall promptly notify one another of any changes to their designated contact points.

Article 7

Respect for Institutional Independence

Nothing in this Memorandum shall affect:

- a) the independence of either Party;
- b) the exercise of their respective statutory mandates and powers;
- c) their obligations under domestic law or international law;
- d) the principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles).

Article 8

Financial Arrangements

1. This Memorandum does not create any financial obligations between the Parties.
2. Unless otherwise agreed in writing, each Party shall bear its own costs arising from activities undertaken pursuant to this Memorandum.

Article 9

Settlement of Differences

Any difference concerning the interpretation or implementation of this Memorandum shall be resolved amicably through consultations and negotiations between the Parties.

Article 10

Amendments

This Memorandum may be amended at any time by mutual written consent of the Parties. Such amendments shall become effective on the date agreed upon by the Parties.

Article 11

Duration and Termination

1. This Memorandum shall enter into effect on the date of its signature by both Parties.
2. It shall remain in effect for a period of five (5) years and shall be automatically renewed for successive periods of five (5) years unless either Party notifies the other Party in writing of its intention to terminate it.
3. Either Party may terminate this Memorandum by providing three (3) months' written notice to the other Party.
4. Termination shall not affect activities already initiated under this Memorandum unless otherwise agreed by the Parties.

Article 12

Legal Nature of the Memorandum

This Memorandum constitutes a framework for cooperation and reflects the intentions of the Parties. It does not create legally binding obligations under national or international law.

Article 13

Languages

This Memorandum is executed in three originals in Arabic, Russian, and English, each text being equally authentic. In the event of any divergence of interpretation, the English text shall prevail.

SIGNATURES

Signed on _____ 2026, in two copies, each in English, Russian, and Arabic.

**National Human Rights Commission
of the Lebanese Republic**

**High Commissioner for
Human Rights in the Russian
Federation**

Dr. Fadi Gerges

Yana Lantratova