

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN
THE GOVERNMENT OF THE UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
AND
THE GOVERNMENT OF ROMANIA
CONCERNING STRATEGIC CIVIL NUCLEAR COOPERATION

The Government of the United States of America and the Government of Romania (hereinafter the “Participants”),

ACKNOWLEDGING their strategic partnership, strengthened since Romania joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in 2004 and the European Union in 2007, and the long-standing cooperation between the Participants in the fields of security, energy, and commerce;

ACKNOWLEDGING previous collaboration in the field of peaceful nuclear energy dating from 1966, in which the Participants engaged bilaterally or multilaterally through the International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA), the European Atomic Energy Community, and most recently the Nuclear Energy Agency;

ACKNOWLEDGING the Agreement for Cooperation in the Peaceful Uses of Nuclear Energy between the United States of America and the European Atomic Energy Community, signed at Brussels on November 7, 1995 and March 29, 1996 (96/314/Euratom);

WELCOMING the shared interest among companies and industries of the United States of America and Romania, regarding the further development of the civil nuclear sector in Romania;

RECALLING that the Participants are parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons, done at London, Moscow, and Washington on July 1, 1968 (NPT), and that each of the Participants has in force with the IAEA a safeguards agreement and an Additional Protocol consistent with their respective obligations under the NPT;

OBSERVING the Participants’ jointly held view that all civil nuclear cooperation must occur in accordance with the highest possible standards of nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and nonproliferation;

RECOGNIZING the role that nuclear energy can play in meeting the Participants' growing clean energy needs; and

NOTING the Participants' desire to enhance existing relationships among government and private sector officials of the two countries for the purpose of increasing nuclear cooperation,

- HAVE REACHED THE FOLLOWING UNDERSTANDINGS:

Subject to their respective national laws and regulations and to the availability of appropriated funds, the Participants express their:

- (1) desire for a deeper bilateral strategic relationship that would enhance their respective security and prosperity and joint political and economic ties;
- (2) shared view that civil nuclear cooperation is an important component of their overall bilateral strategic relationship and can serve as a catalyst for additional cooperation on other matters of national importance including national security and energy security issues;
- (3) shared recognition that U.S.-Romania civil nuclear cooperation can play a vital role in promoting the security of Romania's and NATO's energy supply and meeting its clean energy needs, while also providing substantial ancillary benefits to the energy security of the United States of America and the Participants' European and NATO allies;
- (4) commitment to work together to develop solutions to Romania's nuclear energy needs consistent with their shared security interests;
- (5) interest in pursuing civil nuclear cooperation in nuclear power, and furthering cooperation in other areas including nuclear waste management, nuclear medicine, nutrition, agriculture, mining, and associated research and development (such as generation IV reactor technologies);

- (6) mutual intention to work to increase civil nuclear cooperative activities in order to strengthen their strategic, political, and commercial relationships;
- (7) intention to enhance relationships among their government experts, regulators, nuclear industries, national laboratories, and scientific, academic, and research and development communities in order to identify how to best tailor future cooperation to meet their specific future needs;
- (8) desire to collaborate together and to facilitate cooperation between their respective commercial sectors to
 - a. further expand Romania's infrastructure for the responsible use of nuclear energy and technology;
 - b. maintain the highest standards and practices in nuclear safety, security, safeguards, and nonproliferation, including independent regulatory oversight; and
 - c. improve communications, outreach, and community support for the peaceful uses of nuclear energy;
- (9) shared view that countries engaging in peaceful uses of nuclear energy are expected to have in force a comprehensive safeguards agreement and Additional Protocol with the IAEA, which represents the *de facto* safeguards standard that enables the IAEA to provide assurances of the absence of undeclared nuclear activities;
- (10) desire to cooperate in information sharing, including data or information of a scientific, commercial, technical, or other nature within mutually determined fields of cooperation that may include, but are not limited to:
 - a. research, development, design, construction, operation, maintenance and use of reactors, reactor experiments, and decommissioning;
 - b. the use of material in physical and biological research, medicine, agriculture, and industry;

- c. studies of ways to meet future world-wide civil nuclear needs, including multilateral approaches to guaranteeing nuclear fuel supply and appropriate techniques for management of nuclear wastes;
 - d. safeguards and nuclear security of material, equipment, and components;
 - e. health, safety and environmental considerations related to the foregoing subparagraphs; and
 - f. assessing the role nuclear power may play in national energy plans;
- (11) commitment to ensure that both nuclear suppliers and recipients adopt the highest export control standards, including the adoption of an Additional Protocol as a standard for nuclear supply, in order to strengthen the nuclear nonproliferation regime and improve international security;
- (12) intention to enhance cooperation under this Memorandum of Understanding and other collaborative arrangements and associated efforts between departments, ministries, and agencies of the Participants, for the purpose of deepening bilateral strategic ties and the civil nuclear relationship;
- (13) willingness to explore cooperation across the breadth of existing and future U.S. and Romanian civil nuclear reactor technologies, fuel, equipment, and services;
- (14) desire to support the further deployment of civil nuclear power, in coordination with bilateral and NATO interests, in Romania with regard to the Cernavodă site, as well as other future developments, including new technologies such as Small Modular Reactors (SMRs), developing a nuclear safety center of excellence, and providing U.S. commercial actors access and information to bid on projects, and to address commercial challenges such as financing, localization, and nuclear liability;
- (15) intention to support deeper relationships among their respective nuclear industries for the purpose of advancing civil nuclear cooperation

with particular focus on human capital and workforce development, education, training, public acceptance, and assistance programs; and

- (16) desire to engage in other forms of civil nuclear cooperation that may be mutually determined by the Participants.


This Memorandum of Understanding does not create rights or obligations under domestic or international law.

This Memorandum of Understanding may be modified by mutual consent of the Participants expressed in writing.

This Memorandum of Understanding becomes effective upon signature. Either Participant may discontinue this Memorandum of Understanding at any time by giving written notice to the other Participant, and is expected to do so at least six months in advance of the effective date of discontinuation.

Signed at New York, the 24 day of September 2019, in duplicate, in the English and Romanian languages.

FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
THE UNITED STATES OF
AMERICA:



FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF
ROMANIA:

