

**MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING
BETWEEN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA, THE
MINISTRY OF SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE REPUBLIC OF ESTONIA AND THE
MINISTRY OF HEALTH OF THE REPUBLIC OF LITHUANIA
ON THE COOPERATION IN THE SUPPLY OF BLOOD AND BLOOD
COMPONENTS, EQUIPMENT, AND MATERIALS**

The Ministry of Health of the Republic of Latvia, the Ministry of Social Affairs of the Republic of Estonia and the Ministry of Health of the Republic of Lithuania (hereinafter referred to as “the Participants”),

recognising that unprovoked aggression (invasion) by the Russian Federation against Ukraine demonstrates the Russian Federation’s expansionist ambitions, that pose direct threat to the States of the Participants and therefore require mutual effective contingency planning and cooperation in the healthcare field,

seeking to promote aid in the provision of blood, its components, equipment and materials for the use of blood and blood components (hereinafter equipment and materials) for humanitarian purposes between the Republic of Latvia, the Republic of Estonia and the Republic of Lithuania and to meet the needs of the Participants,

considering this Memorandum of Understanding as a framework agreement on cooperation in the temporary provision of blood, blood components, equipment and materials for humanitarian purposes in case of shortages in emergency situations and

committing themselves to further cooperation in this field, while

respecting the laws and regulations applicable within their territories and international obligations assumed by the States of the Participants,

noting that the provisions of the European Union (EU) regulations on coordination of social security systems remain intact,

have decided on the following:

**Section 1
Scope of the Memorandum of Understanding**

This Memorandum of Understanding covers the principles and issues related to the mutual cooperation in the provision of blood, blood components, equipment and materials in case of emergency, and specifically temporary shortages that could lead to healthcare crises.

**Section 2
Definitions**

The terms used in this Memorandum of Understanding will mean the following:

“**competent authority**” will mean the institution which, in accordance with this Memorandum of Understanding, is authorised by the respective Participants to make direct contacts and enter into the Sub-agreements;

“emergency” will mean an event that requires an immediate provision of blood and (or) blood components, and (or) equipment and materials for person/persons in life-threatening situation;

“donor blood (hereinafter referred to as “blood”)” will mean blood collected from a donor and consisting of plasma and cellular components (erythrocytes, platelets, leukocytes, stem cells) and prepared for transfusion or further processing;

“blood components” will mean components of blood intended for therapeutic use (erythrocytes, platelets, plasma), which can be prepared in various ways.

Section 3 Competent Authorities

1. The competent authority of the Republic of Lithuania is the National Blood Center which is authorised to establish direct contacts and conclude the Sub-agreements in accordance with the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding, as well as to implement and supervise them.

2. The competent authority of the Republic of Latvia is the State Blood Donor Centre which is authorised to establish direct contacts and conclude the Sub-agreements in accordance with the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding, as well as to implement and supervise them.

3. The competent authority of the Republic of Estonia is the Health Board of the Republic of Estonia which is authorised to establish direct contacts and conclude the Sub-agreements in accordance with the terms of this Memorandum of Understanding, as well as to implement and supervise them.

4. The competent authorities will conclude the Sub-agreement which specifies exact procedures of requesting and providing blood, blood components, equipment and materials.

Section 4 Obligation to Exchange Information

The Participants will immediately inform each other of all organisational and legal changes that may influence the implementation of this Memorandum of Understanding.

Section 5 Relationship with Other Agreements

This Memorandum of Understanding does not prejudice rights and obligations of the Participants assumed in accordance with other international agreements.

Section 6 Final Provisions

1. This Memorandum of Understanding is not legally binding and is not intended to supersede the laws and regulations applicable in the territories of the Participants' States or international obligations, which the Participants are bound up with.

2. Other participants may be invited to accede to this Memorandum of Understanding by mutual consent of all the Participants.

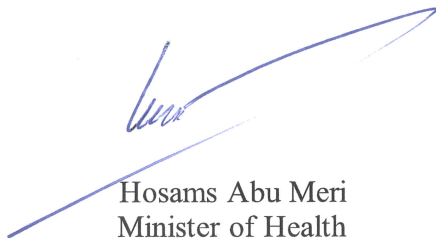
3. This Memorandum of Understanding will come into effect on the day after the date of its last signature of the Participants.

4. This Memorandum of Understanding will remain in force for undefined time unless one of the Participants has notified the other Participants in writing of its intention to terminate this Memorandum of Understanding at least six months prior to the termination. The Participants will consult to determine how any outstanding matters should be dealt with.

5. This Memorandum of Understanding may be supplemented and amended by mutual written Protocol of the Participants. The Protocol will come into effect according to the procedure specified in the paragraph 3 of Section 6 and is an integral part of this Memorandum of Understanding.

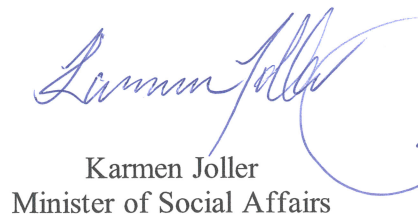
This Memorandum of Understanding is signed in Riga on 12 December 2025 in three originals in English.

On behalf of the Ministry of
Health of the Republic of
Latvia



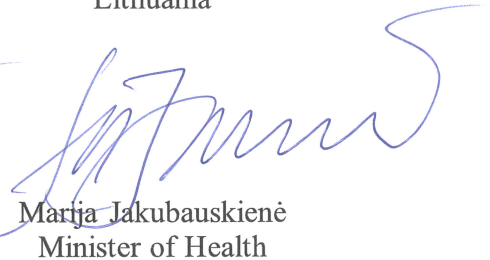
Hosams Abu Meri
Minister of Health

On behalf of the Ministry of
Social Affairs of the Republic
of Estonia



Karmen Joller
Minister of Social Affairs

On behalf of the Ministry of
Health of the Republic of
Lithuania



Marija Jakubauskienė
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