



**MEMORANDUM OF COOPERATION  
BETWEEN  
THE ASSOCIATION OF LOCAL GOVERNMENTS  
"THE GEDIMINIDS' WAY" (UKRAINE)  
AND  
THE LIDA DISTRICT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE  
(THE REPUBLIC OF BELARUS)  
WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF THE PROJECT "THE GEDIMINIDS' WAY"**

The Association of Local Governments "The Gediminids' Way" of Ukraine (hereinafter referred to as "the Association") represented by the Chief Executive Director of the Association Mr. Gennadiy Druzenko on the one hand, and Lida District Executive Committee of the Republic of Belarus (hereinafter referred to as "the Committee") represented by the Chairman of the Committee Mr. Aleksandr Ostrovsky on the other hand (hereafter collectively referred to as the "Parties"),

*Declaring* their adherence to common civilization values of Europe, which constitute the foundations of the Council of Europe and the European Union,

*Realizing* the importance of study and promotion of their common cultural and historical heritage,

*Being aware* of the need to foster the Eastern European identity as an important component of the Pan-European identity,

*Sharing the goals* of the Eastern Partnership of the European Union,

*Considering* that the intensification of the dialogue and cooperation between the EU and the Eastern Partnership's countries at the level of local governments, businesses and NGOs is of the utmost importance,

have signed this Memorandum and agreed to unite their efforts and resources to implement the joint cross-border project "The Gediminids' Way" aimed at promoting the common cultural and historical heritage of their nations, which was created during the Gediminids' dynasty reign over the territory of modern Belarus, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine.

In order to attain the objective declared above, the Parties have agreed as follows:

1. To regard tourism development centred on the theme of the cultural and historical heritage of the Gediminids' dynasty as the main and most optimal tool for pursuing the objective set out above.
2. To establish a cross-border tourist route "The Gediminids' Way" on the territory of modern Belarus, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine.
3. To agree on common symbols (brand) of the project.

4. To develop and administer a common multilingual website of the project.
5. To develop a catalogue of international tourist routes under the umbrella brand of "The Gediminids' Way."
6. To mark the routes on the ground.
7. To assist in the restoration and revitalization of historical sites related to the Gediminids' dynasty.
8. To encourage research into the formation of the Eastern European identity and common cultural and historical heritage developed during the reign of the Gediminids' dynasty over the territory of modern Belarus, Lithuania, Poland and Ukraine by holding conferences, workshops, round tables, public discussions, etc.
9. To jointly present the tourism product "The Gediminids' Way" at major tourism exhibitions and fairs in Belarus, Germany, Lithuania, Poland, Russia, Ukraine and other countries.
10. To develop a network of partner tourism SMEs (hotels, museums, reserves, restaurants, tour operators, carriers, etc.) interested in operating under the brand of "The Gediminids' Way."
11. To draft an application and apply for certification of the cross-border cultural tourist route "The Gediminids' Way" as a cultural route of the Council of Europe.

Any specific activities to be carried out by the Parties within the framework of the project "The Gediminids' Way," organizers of and participants in each of the activities, as well as the sources of funds and cost sharing for carrying out these activities shall be defined by separate agreements of the Parties in pursuance of this Memorandum.


This Memorandum is drawn up in the English, Russian and Ukrainian languages, the texts in each of these languages are equally authentic.

Done at Lida on the fifteenth day of September in the year two thousand thirteen.

For the Association:

  
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Gennadiy Druzenko  
CEO

For the Committee:

  
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Aleksandr Ostrovsky  
Chairman