Memorandum on Co-operation

between the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic

The Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Poland and of the Czech Republic,

- Desiring to strengthen Polish-Czech good neighbourly relations and the role of the two countries in the region and in Europe,
- Noting the common history and historical experience of the two countries within the Central European region, as well as their cultural and linguistic affinity,
- Convinced about the contribution of the Central European region to the strengthening of Euro-Atlantic structures,
- Intending to further jointly develop the Central European identity within the enlarged European Union,

confirm their interest in:

- Intensifying the co-operation between the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs by regularly exchanging diplomats in areas of common interest,
- Holding regular consultations and sharing information at the level of department directors and senior officials focused on the bilateral, European and security and defence agendas, as well as on other key fields, such as analyses and strategies, with a special emphasis on the Eastern Partnership project,
- Strengthening co-operation in the field of training and educational programmes, including the potential exchange of interns,
- Upon the recommendation of the chairpersons and Programme Councils of the Polish-Czech Forum, extending the work of the Forum for an indefinite period beyond 2010. The Forum's activities will take into account the evaluation of the results at the end of 2010 and will continue to build on the principles in the Memorandum of Understanding of 14th November

2008. Starting from 2011, each Party will allocate 100.000 EUR per year in support of Polish-Czech projects, emphasising the development of the Polish-Czech relationship, good neighbourly relations and closer co-operation and co-ordination between the Polish and Czech sections of the Programme Council, and the two co-ordinators. There will be regular evaluation of the Forum's work once every two years,

- Holding joint annual meetings with representatives of the Polish-Czech/Czech-Polish analytical platform and discussing with them their recommendations for further development of mutual relations and for co-operation between the two countries in various fields,
- In relation to the optimisation of their network of diplomatic missions and the effort to provide better services to their citizens abroad, intensifying co-operation between the two countries in the field of consular affairs, including by enabling one Party's diplomats to use the diplomatic premises of the other Party when it has no diplomatic mission of its own in that particular area.

At the request of either Party, each of the above forms of co-operation between the two Ministries may be elaborated in more detail between the respective departments or senior officials of the two Ministries of Foreign Affairs. The enhanced co-operation in the above fields will be evaluated on an annual basis and its results will be submitted to the Ministers of Foreign Affairs of the two countries for possible further action.

Signed in Bydgoszcz on May 21, 2010

Radosław Sikorski

Minister of Foreign Affairs

of the Republic of Poland

Jan Kohout

Deputy Prime Minister

and Minister of Foreign Affairs

of the Czech Republic