



Republic of Albania
Ministry of Defense
National Civil Protection Agency



Republic of North Macedonia
Rescue and Protection Directorate



Republic of Serbia
Ministry of Interior
Sector for Emergency Management

Operational Plan
in the field of Civil Protection
between
the Republic of Albania, the Republic of North Macedonia
and the Republic of Serbia

Within the Open Balkan Initiative and following the Agreement on cooperation in protection against disasters in the Western Balkans, signed in Skopje, Republic of North Macedonia, on July 29, 2021, the signatory parties have agreed to sign the Operational Plan as follows:

1. The National Civil Protection Agency of the Republic of Albania, the Rescue and Protection Directorate of the Republic of North Macedonia, and the Sector for Emergency Management of the Ministry of Interior of the Republic of Serbia (hereinafter the Parties) will coordinate additional stages concerning the implementation of the Open Balkan Initiative.

2. The Parties define as respective points for notification and exchange of information in real-time, the respective Operation Centers.
3. The Parties shall organize joint meetings of experts, seminars, conferences, and exercises in the field of civil protection and rescue protection activities at various levels, for:
 - organizing joint roundtables for discussion and cooperation in the field of civil protection and rescue/protection activities.
 - organization of joint trainings and exercises of the operational structures of the three Parties in the field of protection and rescue in case of a disaster.
 - exchange of experiences and best practices, through the organization of joint activities.
4. The Parties shall plan the development and implementation of joint research projects in the field of disaster prevention, preparedness and response.
5. A cooperation group will be established for the exchange of information in the field of international projects between the relevant structures of international cooperation and will enable joint application in cross-border and international projects.
6. Assistance procedures will be planned, boundary-crossing and rules for the presence of rescue teams and/or experts.
7. Customs and boundary procedures will be expedited, according to the rules of Host National Support (HNS).
8. The Parties shall engage the respective structures, in order to fulfil the objectives mentioned above.

This Operational Plan will be upgraded and improved with other stages in order to fulfil the objectives of the Open Balkan Initiative.

Signed in Belgrade, on September 2nd, 2022, in three original copies in English language.

**REPUBLIC OF ALBANIA
NATIONAL CIVIL PROTECTION AGENCY
OF THE MINISTRY OF DEFENSE
DIRECTOR GENERAL**

Haki ÇAKO



**REPUBLIC OF NORTH MACEDONIA
RESCUE AND PROTECTION DIRECTORATE
DEPUTY DIRECTOR**

Zulfikjar ZEJNULAI



**REPUBLIC OF SERBIA
SECTOR FOR EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT
OF THE MINISTRY OF INTERIOR
ACTING ASSISTANT MINISTER AND HEAD OF SECTOR**

Luka ČAUSIĆ

