



INTER-INSTITUTIONAL PARTNERSHIP
FRAMEWORK AGREEMENT

BETWEEN

THE ASSEMBLY OF
EUROPEAN REGIONS (AER)

AND

LES OFFICES JEUNESSE INTERNATIONAUX DU QUÉBEC (LOJIQ)
comprised of
Office Québec-Monde pour la jeunesse (OQMJ)
Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse (OFQJ)
Office Québec Wallonie Bruxelles pour la jeunesse (OQWBJ)
Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse (OQAJ)

BELFORT, FRANCE

NOVEMBER 2009

THE ASSEMBLY OF EUROPEAN REGIONS (AER)

REPRESENTED BY ITS PRESIDENT,
MS. MICHÈLE SABBAN

hereafter called "AER "

AND

LES OFFICES JEUNESSE INTERNATIONAUX DU QUÉBEC

comprised of

Office Québec-Monde pour la jeunesse (OQMJ)
Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse (OFQJ)
Office Québec Wallonie Bruxelles pour la jeunesse (OQWBJ)
Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse (OQAJ)

REPRESENTED BY ITS DIRECTOR
MR. ALFRED PILON

President and Chief Executive Officer of
Office Québec-Monde pour la jeunesse (OQMJ) and
Office Québec-Amériques pour la jeunesse (OQAJ)
Secretary General of
Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse (OFQJ) and
Office Québec Wallonie Bruxelles pour la jeunesse (OQWBJ)

hereafter called "**LOJIQ**"

hereafter collectively called "**The Parties**"

WHEREAS AER is an independent network of the regions of greater Europe whose mission is to promote the principle of subsidiarity and regional democracy, increase the regions' political influence within European institutions, support the regions in the process of European enlargement and globalization, and facilitate interregional cooperation across wider Europe and beyond;

WHEREAS AER has developed organizations and programs and for young people, including the Eurodyssey Programme, the Youth Regional Network, the Summer University, and the Youth Ambassadors Project;

WHEREAS the organizations and programs for young people developed by AER were created to help young Europeans enter the workforce by providing the opportunity to acquire professional experience abroad, to act as an interregional discussion forum, to allow discussion between young people and official representatives, to raise awareness of and encourage discussion on specific issues relating to young people in their respective regions, and to increase the involvement of young people in international organizations;

WHEREAS **LOJIQ** is comprised of four Offices (OQMJ, OFQJ, OQWBJ, and OQAJ) and is the Québec government's only office set up to provide young people with international mobility assistance;

WHEREAS **LOJIQ**'s mission is to make international mobility more accessible to young people in all regions of Québec and encourage reciprocity by hosting young people from other countries;

WHEREAS **LOJIQ** has developed programs to increase the employability of young people by helping them acquire professional experience abroad, particularly through measures to aid in qualification, skills acquisition, entrepreneurship, and socioeconomic reintegration;

WHEREAS **LOJIQ** has also developed programs encouraging intercultural and interregional dialogue, participation in discussion forums, and the involvement of young people in local, regional, national, and international organizations, particularly with regards to citizen involvement and sustainable development;

DESIROUS to create a cooperative framework that helps ensure mutual understanding, particularly on issues like youth policy, and to contribute to the cultural and professional development of young people while building sustainable relations between AER, its member regions, **LOJIQ**, and Québec;

CONVINCED that this partnership will provide experience that will contribute to the professional and personal development of young people in their respective communities;

CONVINCED that it will be beneficial to create closer ties between AER member regions in Europe and the federated North American state of Québec, since these ties will result in a new cross-Atlantic network;

The Parties have agreed as follows:

ARTICLE 1

GENERAL OBJECTIVE

The objectives of this agreement are the following:

- Create a framework for relations between AER and **LOJIQ** with the intention of developing an inter-institutional partnership between The Parties.
- Create, strengthen, and expand tools and activities leading to the implementation of measures that contribute to the personal and professional development of young people.
- Create, strengthen, and expand tools and activities contributing to intercultural dialogue and the involvement of young people at the local, regional, and international levels.

ARTICLE 2

IMPLEMENTATION

The Parties agree to grant AER's General Secretariat and **LOJIQ** senior management the executive and decision-making authority to implement the present framework agreement.

These executive and decision-making authorities will regularly meet to define and discuss the direction and content of the reciprocal exchange activities offered to young people;

The General Secretariat of the Eurodyssey Programme will be authorized to intervene specifically and in accordance with its mandate to establish measures promoting the international mobility of young people from Québec and from regions involved in the Eurodyssey Programme.

ARTICLE 3

THE INTERNATIONAL MOBILITY OF YOUNG PEOPLE

A goal of the present framework agreement is to support the creation of agreements between **LOJIQ** and the **AER** member regions on terms and conditions for the mobility of young people from their respective regions.

These agreements will be made according to the following parameters:

- Within France, **AER** member regions may sign agreements with Office franco-québécois pour la jeunesse (OFQJ) on a trilateral basis involving the region in question, OFQJ's Québec section, and OFQJ's France section;
- Within the French Community of Belgium (CFB), the mobility of young people between Québec and the CFB is handled by Office Québec Wallonie-Bruxelles pour la jeunesse, in association with Bureau International de la Jeunesse (BIJ) and **LOJIQ**;
- All **AER** member regions not covered by the preceding two paragraphs may sign agreements between themselves and Office Québec-Monde pour la jeunesse (OQMJ) in association with **LOJIQ** and supported as needed by **AER** and/or the Eurodyssey Programme.

ARTICLE 4

FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTION

This framework agreement entails no financial commitment.

In the event that implementing the activities stemming from the present partnership agreement requires financial support from **The Parties**, explicit agreements will have to be reached by **The Parties** on a case by case basis.

In all cases, financial contributions will be made according to the financial norms and regulations of each of **The Parties**.

ARTICLE 5

INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY and DISTRIBUTION

Each of The Parties retains the intellectual property rights, including copyright, on material provided for the execution of specific activities and cooperative efforts stemming from this agreement.

In the case of joint activities, the ownership of rights will be established on a case by case basis. For jointly funded work or activities, **The Parties** retain the right to include the logo of their respective institutions as well as the logo(s) of any institution or organization from which it received funds or any other form of contribution.

ARTICLE 6

APPLICATION

This framework agreement is subject to the basic principles of international public law and the laws governing each of **The Parties**;

The Parties agree to take all necessary measures to reach a harmonious settlement of any dispute, litigation, or claim regarding the interpretation or application of this framework agreement;

Changes to this framework agreement must be mutually agreed upon by **The Parties** and documented in writing. Documents certifying these changes are to be annexed to and form an integral part of this framework agreement.

ARTICLE 7

FINAL PROVISIONS

This framework agreement will come into effect for a period of two (2) years starting on the date upon which it is signed by **The Parties**. It can be renewed for a similar period by an exchange of letters between **The Parties** following evaluation of its content and terms of application.

Either of **The Parties** may terminate this agreement by giving at least sixty days' notice to the other party. Should such notice be given, **The Parties** shall take the necessary steps to ensure the completion of any activity or project undertaken jointly under this framework agreement.

Signed in four copies in Belfort this 26th day of November, 2009 by

FOR AER

FOR LOJIQ

Ms. Michèle Sabban
President
Assembly of European Regions

Mr. Alfred Pilon
Director
Les Offices Jeunesse internationaux du
Québec;
President and Chief Executive Officer
OQMJ and OQAJ;
Secretary General
OFQJ and QQWBJ

Witness

Witness

Mr. Rui Bettencourt
Secretary General
Eurodissey Programme

Mr. Christos Sirros
Delegate General of Québec in
Brussels