
COUNCIL OF ALBANIAN AMBASSADORS

ONE YEAR OF INTENSE ACTIVITY

2018-2019

CAA is an non-profit, non-political independent organization founded by a group of former Ambassadors, aiming to promote the highest standards in international and Albanian diplomatic practice.



ANNUAL REPORT

History
and
Members



Statements
and
Meetings



Programs
and
Statute



Table of Contents

Welcome to the Council
of Albanian

Ambassadors	1
History	3
Mission	4
Your frequently asked questions	5
Members	8
General Assembly	9
Albanian Senior Diplomats	
1912-1944	12
Albanian Ambassadors after 1991	14
Albanian Ambassadors 1912-1991	15
A brief history of the Albanian diplomatic service until 1945	16
Statements and news	20
By-Laws of the CAA ...	34

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Welcome

to the Council of Albanian Ambassadors



The Council of Albanian Ambassadors is an independent and non-profit organization founded by a group of former Ambassadors following the similar models in democratic countries. In compliance with the Albanian law, this Council is an association open for membership to all those who are willing for

and who satisfy the conditions specified in its Statute.

Members of the Council of Ambassadors may be all those who have served at least a term as Ambassador of the Republic of Albania or who have been senior diplomats with leading functions for over five years in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. The former Foreign Ministers are also

eligible for membership to this Council.

It is almost 28 years that Albania broke up with its legacy as a communist regime, which kept it isolated from the world of freedom and democracy. This is the period of rectifying the major mistakes in our recent history.

Finally, our country joined the western values. Interna-



tional relations started from an entirely new level and embarked on the path of cooperation, solidarity and Euro-Atlantic integration. Albania is member of the Council of Europe, member of NATO and EU candidate member. Albanian citizens enjoy the right of the free movement without visas in Schengen space.

All surveys indicate that compared to other former communist countries, the Albanian society remains deeply pro-European with over 90% in support of the EU integration of the country. Despite political rotation, this strategic goal has always been the uniting point between the ruling majority and the opposition.

This period of time does also mark the affirmation of the Albanian diplomatic service, with an entirely new vision, open-minded, showing a firm commitment to the vital country's interests and very capable of meeting the dynamic challenges of integration. Within this service Ambassadors have played a major role.

Because of age reasons, and, unfortunately frequently due to political decisions by the govern-

ments in office, many of these personalities who have served with honor as high representatives of the Republic of Albania now find themselves outside the system of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. Nonetheless, this fact does not devalue at all their rich and outstanding experience in the area of foreign policy and international relations; neither does it belittle their commitment to the country's vital interests.

CAA was established in order to place the valuable experience of these personalities to the service of the country and its EU integration. We, former Ambassadors want just to be useful to our country, nothing more, and nothing less.

Certainly, each member of our Association has his/her own political preferences, which they have expressed and will continue to express as they wish on individual basis. However, the Council of Ambassadors will firmly stand over these personal preferences.

Both in its public and confidential stances, the Council will be guided only by national interests of the Albanian state, specifically related to foreign policy and international relations

and on a wider scale to significant domestic developments.

The Council will maintain an appreciative attitude regarding achievements but it will be also critical when it comes to faults; it will be always cautious and consultative, suggesting the best solutions for the issues concerned.

The Council will have a wide-ranging field of activities. They will include analyses on Albania's history in the field of international relations, with a view to re-assess the good traditions as well as insights on the daily developments, aimed at assisting the improvement of diplomatic practices and strategies of the Albanian state.

We express our readiness to build up a very good cooperation with all state institutions and with the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, in particular.

We would also like to use our expertise at the full disposal of the Diplomatic Academy attached to this Ministry in its course of diplomatic training.

Likewise, as a specific part of Albania's civil society, this Council will support a sincere and lasting dialogue with diplomatic representa-



The Council of Albanian Ambassadors was founded in April 2018 by a group of five Albanian Ambassadors who convened a meeting to explore ways in which persons who had served in positions of major responsibility could cooperate to promote the highest standards in International and Albanian diplomatic practice.

They were encouraged in this effort by a group of over 30 Ambassadors

History



Logo of CAA

and high ranking career diplomats who compose the General Assembly of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors.

CAA will be committed to its mission and is dedicated to protect, promote and support Albanian diplomats and its national foreign policy. CAA promotes an understanding of the importance of diplomacy to serving our nation and improving the practice of Albanian foreign policy.

tions of friendly states and with delegations of international organizations accredited in Tirana. This dialogue could help our diplomatic guests and friends to know even better Albania and Albanians, their history, culture and aspirations.

The Council will establish its contact with similar organizations in friendly states and will be engaged with all its capacities in joint events with them, to the

benefit of our common goal of stepping up cooperation among our countries.

Likewise, while attaching the priority to the EU, we shall take an active part in projects and programs of international organizations, destined both for Albania and the region, being confident that our contribution will be useful.

This occasion offers the opportunity to extend the most heartfelt thanks to the

Council of US Ambassadors in Washington DC, for having accompanied us from the very beginning of preparations to set up our organization.

We are deeply convinced that the foundations of a closer and sustainable cooperation among similar organization global wide are immense. Therefore, we are looking forward to make many valuable things together.



The mission of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) is to set up the moral tones of the Albanian National Foreign Policy as well as to provide professional support to the Albanian Foreign Policy, on behalf of the nation's interests in the field of international relations.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall provide its assistance to achieve a more efficient and professional performance of the Albanian diplomacy, in compliance with the highest international standards and the Albanian nation needs.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall promote the image of the Albanian

Mission

diplomacy, state and nation in the international arena.

CAA shall monitor and analyse the issues, events and developments, of a permanent interest for Albania, by giving the relevant recommendations, either in confidence or publicly.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors is a voluntary union of the off-duty highest-ranking diplomats that have served as career and non-career Ambassadors of the Republic of Albania in the Foreign Service for at least one term as well as government officials who have served with distinction in

international fora and missions abroad.

The members of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors may be senior career diplomats, who have held major responsibilities and worked in key positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for at least five (5) years, and former Foreign Ministers.

They are elected by their peers based on criteria of professionalism and achievement, and reflecting the CAA's commitment to diversity.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors is an independent, non-political social organization, detached from all political parties.



Frequently asked questions

What was the goal in founding the Council of Albanian Ambassadors?

The goal of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) is to provide support in a new and professional form to the foreign policy of the Albanian state, solely on behalf of the interests of the Albanian nation.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors will promote the image of Albania, its diplomacy and the Albanian nation in the international arena.

CAA will follow up and analyze the most pressing issues, events and developments which are of interest for Albania in the region, in Europe and beyond, so that it could offer its assistance to the major institutions of Albanian state in upholding Albania's interests and its nation by providing relevant recommendations in a confidential and, depending on the case, in a public way as well.

Can CAA represent diplomats and offer legal protection in their legal cases?

CAA will represent and protect the moral and legal rights of former career diplomats in compliance with Albanian legislation and the relevant international conventions, in cooperation with the institution of the Presidency, Prime Minister and the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Albania.

Will CAA have its own publications in official portals?

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors will have its own publications and it will

take part with its member contributions in other publications, in keeping with Organization goals.

CAA will have regular cooperation with its counterpart associations abroad, with political and diplomatic organizations where Albania is a party as well as with research or study institutions which have the similar goals of promoting the interests of Albania and Albanian nation.

CAA will also host discussion panels on the most pressing issues on foreign policy and international relations. During these panels, senior governmental and state officials or foreign ambassadors accredited in Albania maybe also invited to speak and exchange views and ideas.

Could CAA offer training courses on foreign policy for junior diplomats or consultancy for junior state officials?

CAA is willing to offer expertise on voluntary basis as a consulting mechanism for the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs, the Foreign Parliamentary Committee, the Office of Prime Minister and the President of the Republic.

CAA intends to organize training courses and sessions for Albania's newly appointed ambassadors and for professional diplomats appointed in senior diplomatic posts abroad.

What is CAA ?

CAA - the Council of Albanian Ambassadors is a voluntary union of Albanian Ambassadors (not in office) who have served at least one term as Ambassador



of the Republic of Albania. The members of CAA may be also former career diplomats, who have been directors for at least 5 years in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, as well as former foreign ministers. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors is a cross-party, non-political, independent and social organization.

What does CAA intend to do?

CAA is also a non-profit organization which enables an all-inclusive approach for cooperation at the level of career diplomats who intend to support a more active and professional performance of Albanian diplomacy, in harmony with the highest international standards and requirements of the Albanian state.

Who may become CAA member?

CAA members may become Albanian ambassadors (not in office) who during their career in foreign service have served at least one term as Ambassador of the Republic of Albania.

Members of CAA maybe also former senior career diplomats with the grade Minister Counselor, who have been directors in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs at least 5 consecutive years and former Foreign Ministers.

How can one may become member of CAA?

The membership application is submitted to the President of the Council or its Executive Director with the relevant documentation attached.

The application will be reviewed in the Meeting of the General Assembly and it will be adopted with the majority of votes

of the members present. After the admission, the new member is registered in the Organization register; he will benefit all the rights and undertake all obligations as a member of the Council.

What are the funding sources for CAA?

The financing of CAA activity will be effected largely through membership fees and possible CAA assets.

Other CAA funding sources are:

Proceeds from economic activity of the Organization through services offered to third parties;

Provision of donations, funds and grants by domestic and foreign private entities in line with the Organization's goal as defined in its Statute and the Albanian legislation in force. Donations and projects provided by local and central foreign governments, in compliance with Albanian legislation in force and the CAA Statute;

Donations and projects proposed by foreign counterparts and non-governmental organizations in compliance with Albanian legislation.

Which are the CAA steering bodies?

1. General Assembly
2. Board of Directors
3. President
4. Executive Director

How often does the General Assembly meet?

The General Assembly holds its meetings not less than twice a year, but even more often if it required by 1/5th of its mem-



bers or by the General Assembly.

What is the “conflict of interests” and which relations are prohibited?

It is prohibited the conflict of interests between the non-profit organization and a member of the decision-making/executive body and its employee.

Arrangements between the Organization and a member of the steering bodies maybe permitted only if they relate to the attainment of a goal or target of the Organization’s activity and, in each case, following a decision by the Executive Council. In cases of conflicts of interest, prohibited or already made arrangements and in the cases of failure to observe the above-mentioned procedures, the Executive Council may nullify the said arrangement and demand relevant compensation.

What about employment procedures in CAA?

CAA employs for its own needs domestic and foreign individuals in accordance with the labor legislation in the Republic of Albania. The employed personnel cannot take part in the Organization’s decision making bodies. The employer’s role is played by the Executive Director; he makes the contract based on the Organization’s criteria and the provisions of the Labor Code.

What is the CAA General Assembly?

The General Assembly is the highest Organization’s body which meets in its ordinary session not less than once a year.

The Assembly can also meet on its own when the annual deadline (1 year) from its last meeting is over. This meeting is not valid if the very small number of participants does not allow decision making

under the required majority as defined in its Statute.

What are the powers of the General Assembly?

The General Assembly elects the Board of Directors and the President.

Decisions are taken through open voting.

It adopts the program and the Organization’s development plan as well as Statute amendments.

It adopts the Organization’s Internal Regulation and verifies the mandates of the members.

It makes analyses and adopts the financial statements and the budget for the next financial period. It defines the strategic actions, the Action Plan and the priority steps.

What are the duties of the Board of Directors?

The Board of Directors is the highest collective steering body which overviews the CAA daily activity. It takes its decisions by consensus or through voting. Voting is open.

The Board of Directors sets out the whole CAA strategy and its overall financial policy.

The meetings of the Board of Directors are considered as valid when they are attended by over half of its members. In case of an equal number of votes, the President vote is decisive.

The Board meetings can be summoned by the President or by one Board members notifying the others at least a week prior to the meeting.

More on the term of CAA president, its Executive Director, the rights and obligations of its members, see pages 34-40



Members

President

Besnik Mustafaj



Agim Fagu

Board of Directors



Marko Bello



Arben Çejku



Genci Muçaj



General Assembly



Admirim Banaj



Arben Cici



Arta Dade



Bashkim Rama



Behar Bejko



Besnik Konçi



Faruk Borova



Fatos Kërçiku



Flamur Gashi





Gëzim Podgorica



Gilbert Galanxhi



Hajdar Muneka



Jorgji Kote



Ksenofon Krisafi



Leonard Demi



Leonidha Mërtiri



Lisien Bashkurti



Maxhun Peka





Neritan Ceka



Paskal Milo



Petraq Pojani



Qirjako Kureta



Saimir Repishti



Sandër Kovaçi



Spiro Koçi



Shaqir Vukaj



Shpëtim Çaushi





Sulejman Tomçini



Tonin Gjuraj



Valter Ibrahim



Vangjel Mita



Ylljet Aliçka



Honorary Member
Theodore Roosevelt Britton, Jr.
Former USA Ambassador

List of Albanian senior diplomats from 1912-1944

1. Jani Armodhi, Consul in Egypt, 1922
2. Ali Asllani, Consul in Italy, 1922-1925; ambassador in Bulgaria, 1925-1926 and Greece 1930-1932
3. Fuad Asllani, ambassador in England, 1934-1935
4. Reshad Asllani, Consul in Italy, 1923-1924; Consul in Manastir 1938-1939
5. Rexha Bega, Consul in Turkey, 1938
6. Xhaferr Belegu, General Consul in Bari, Consul in Italy 1938-1939
7. Dhimitër Berati, General Consul in Bulgaria, 1924; ambassador in France 1924-1925
8. Haki Blloshmi, Consul in Boston, USA 1925-1929
9. Selaudin Blloshmi, ambassador in Romania, 1926-1928
10. Kostandin Boshnjaku, ambassador in Turkey, 1922
11. Kostandin Çekrezi, ambassador in USA, 1921-1922
12. Remzi Çelo, Consul in Thessaloniki, Greece, 1934-1939
13. Lazër Çeta, Consul in Yugoslavia, 1925
14. Sofokli Çomora, Consul in Corfu, Greece, 1928-1933



15. Ferid Dervishi, General Consul in Bari, Italy, 1925-1926; Consul in Thessaloniki, Greece, 1932-1933; General Consul in Turkey, 1934-1936
16. Xhemil Dino, ambassador in Italy, 1926-1931 and ambassador in England, 1932-1933
17. Vasil Dogani, General Consul in Romania, 1922-1936
18. Asdreni, Consul in Romania, 1921-1926
19. Dervish Duma, Consul in London, 1936-1939
20. Rauf Fico, ambassador in Turkey, 1926-1928; ambassador in Yugoslavia, 1928-1929 and 1932-1937, ambassador in Greece, 1937-1938; ambassador in Germany, 1938 -1939
21. Mehdi Frashëri, ambassador to the League of Nations, 1926-1929
22. Mit'hat Frashëri, ambassador in France, 1922-1923; Greece, 1923- 1926
23. Qemal Frashëri, Consul in Corfu, Greece, 1925-1926
24. Xhemal Frashëri, Consul in London, 1925-1927; General Consul in Manastir, 1935-1938 and General Consul in Istanbul, 1938-1939
25. Shemzi Gabrani, Consul in Bari, Italy, 1925
26. Gjergj Geco, General Consul in Egypt, 1934-1935; General Consul in Ioannina, Greece, 1935-1936
27. Rrok Gera, ambassador in Germany, 1944
28. Fahredin Gjata, ambassador in Greece, 1926-1927
29. Shaqir Hajrullahu, Consul in Istanbul, Turkey, 1936-1938
30. Sabri Hamzaj, Consul in Istanbul, Turkey, 1926
31. Maksud Hulusi, General Consul in Ioannina, Greece, 1937-1939
32. Remzi Janina, General Consul in Ioannina, Greece, 1926-1931
33. Qemal Jusfuti, General Consul in Thessaloniki, Greece, 1934-1935
34. Angjelin Kakariqi, Consul in Corfu, Greece, 1938-1939
35. Vasil Kalluci, Consul in Corfu, Greece, 1926
36. Hamdi Karazi, Consul in Italy, 1927-1928, General Consul in Corfu, Greece, 1933-1934
37. Nikollë Kasneci, Consul in Italy, 1920-1921
38. Ndrio Katundi, Consul in Yugoslavia, 1922-1924
39. Stavri Katundi, Consul in Manastir, 1938-1939
40. Atlante Koçi, Consul in Bulgaria, 1936-1939
41. Mark Kodheli, General Consul in Bari, Consul in Italy, 1927-1933
42. Xhahid Koka, General Consul in Thessaloniki, Greece, 1938
43. Faik Konica, ambassador in USA, 1926-1939
44. Mehmed Konica, ambassador in England, 1920-1925
45. Skënder Konica, Consul in Bulgaria, 1932-1934
46. Stelio Kostandini, Consul in Egypt, 1923-1925
47. Dhimitër Kosturi, Consul in France, 1928-1932; Consul in Ioannina, Greece, 1932-1935; General Consul in Egypt, 1935
48. Kostandin Kote, Consul in Italy, 1922-1923
49. Ceno Kryeziu, ambassador in Yugoslavia, 1926-1927, Ambassador in Czechoslovakia, 1927-1934
50. Lec Kurti, Consul in Bari, Italy, 1921-1922; ambassador in Greece, 1925-1926; ambassador to the League of Nations, 1930-1935
51. Sotir Laci, Consul in Greece, 1936-1937
52. Nezir Leskoviku, Consul in Istanbul, 1922-1925; General Consul in Bulgaria, 1932-1933; Consul in Greece, 1936-1938
53. Xhavid Leskoviku, ambassador in Yugoslavia, 1925-1926; ambassador in Turkey, 1933-1934, ambassador in Greece 1934-1936
54. Asaf Libohova, Consul in Bari, Italy, 1939
55. Eqerem Libohova, am-



bassador in Italy, 1925-1927, ambassador in France, 1933-1936

56. Maliq Libohova, Consul in London, 1926-1927; General Consul in Bari, Italy, 1939

57. Tefik Mborja, ambassador in Italy, 1923-1925

58. Kosta Meksi, Consul in Manastir, 1933-1934; General Consul in Istanbul, 1937

59. Qemal Mesarea, ambassador in Greece, 1933-1934

60. Kostandin Mima, Consul in Trieste, Italy, 1925-1927

61. Gjergj Naçi, Consul in Turkey, 1937

62. Pandeli Nase, General Consul in Egypt, 1927-1934

63. Fan Noli, ambassador to the League of Nations, 1921-1922

64. Gjergj Pekmezi, Consul in Austria, 1921-1925; Consul in Yugoslavia, 1925-1926

65. Nik Pema, Consul in Hungary, 1923-1925

66. Dhimitër Popa, ambassador in Bulgaria, 1932-1934

67. Nikollë Rrota, General Consul in Austria, 1921-1926

68. Çatin Saraçi, General Consul in Bari, Italy, 1925; Consul in Austria, 1926-1929

69. Xhemal Sojli, Consul in Costanca, Romania, 1921-1923

70. Rrok Stani, Consul in Romania, 1926-1927; General Consul in Corfu, Greece, 1937-1939

71. Stavro Stavri, ambassador in Yugoslavia, 1925; ambassador in Greece, 1926-1928

72. Avdyl Sula, Consul in New York, USA, 1923-1925; General Consul in Thessaloniki, Greece, 1926-1927; ambassador in

Egypt, 1938-1939

73. Xhelal Shaska, Consul in Bari, Italy, 1938

74. Tahir Shtylla, ambassador in Yugoslavia, 1927-1929

75. Koço Tashko, Consul in New York, 1922-1924

76. Xhaferr Vila, Consul in France and England simultaneously, 1925; ambassador in Yugoslavia 1929-1932, ambassador in Greece, 1932-1933, ambassador in Italy 1936-1938

77. Eqerem Vlora, ambassador in England, 1927-1929, ambassador in Greece, 1929

78. Iljaz Vrioni, ambassador in France, 1925-1927

79. Asaf Xhaxhuli, General Consul in Skopje, 1933-1936; ambassador in Turkey, 1938-1939

80. Zaharia Zamifresku, Honorary Consul in Romania, 1921-1929.

Albanian Ambassadors after 1991

1. Admirim Banaj

2. Agim Fagu

3. Agim Isaku

4. Agim Nesho

5. Aleksandër Sallabanda

6. Altin Kodra

7. Arben Çejku

8. Arben Cici

9. Bashkim Rama

10. Bashkim Zeneli

11. Behar Bejko

12. Besnik Konçi

13. Besnik Mustafaj

14. Bujar Bejko

15. Bujar Dida

16. Bujar Skëndo

17. Dashnor Dervishi

18. Fatmir Çela

19. Fatos Kërçiku

20. Fatos Tarifa

21. Flamur Gashi

22. Genci Muçaj

23. Gilbert Galanxhi

24. Hajdar Muneka



Ambassadors of Albania for the period 1912-1991

1. Koço Tashko, Soviet Union, 1945-1948
2. Hysni Kapo, Yugoslavia, 1945-1946
3. Tuk Jakova, Yugoslavia, 1946-1947
4. Ramadan Çitaku, Yugoslavia, 1947-1948
5. Frederik Nosi, France, 1945-1948
6. Zenel Hamiti, Italy, 1949-1952
7. Kahreman Ylli, France, 1948-1950
8. Behar Shtylla, France, 1950-1952 and Italy 1952-1954
9. Edip Çuçi, Italy, 1954-1958
10. Koço Prifti, Italy, 1958-1961
11. Delo Balili, Vietnam 1960s
12. Dhimitër Lamani, France, 1958-1965
13. Kristaq Misha, France, 1960s
14. Javer Malo, France, 1970-1977
15. Mihal Prifti, Soviet Union, 1948-1954
16. Jordan Pani, Italy, 1961-1967
17. Ksenofon Nushi, Italy, 1967-1972, France 1986-1989
18. Vasil Nathanaili, Soviet Union, 1954-1957
19. Nesti Nase, Soviet Union 1958-1961, China 1970s
20. Spiro Rusha, China, 1960s
21. Misto Treska, France, 1978-1984
22. Pirro Koçi, Italy, 1972-1977
23. Pertef Hasamataj, Cuba, 1978-1986, Russia, 1991-1992
24. Musin Kroj, Egypt and Algeria in 1950s
25. Nesip Kaçi, Egypt and Algeria 1960s
26. Pirro Bitaj, Italy, 1980-1982
27. Bashkim Dino, Italy, 1982-1988
28. Kujtim Myzyri, Italy, 1977-1980 and in Czechoslovakia 1980s
29. Riza Paushani, Algeria, 1965-1968
30. Idriz Bano, Czechoslovakia during the communist regime
31. Dhimitër Spano, Algeria, 1972-1976
32. Sulejman Tomçini, Egypt and Arab countries, 1977-1980, Algeria, 1991-1992, Saudi Arabia, 2001-2004
33. Syrja Laze, Algeria, 1976-1980, and Vietnam 1983-1989
34. Kujtim Hysenaj, Yugoslavia, 1986-1992
35. Latif Shehu, Hungary, during the communist regime
36. Petraq Pojani, France, 1970s
37. Sokrat Plaka, Yugoslavia, 1982-1988
38. Dashnor Dervishi, Italy, 1988-1992, Romania
39. Arqile Semini, France, 1989-1991

25. Ilir Boçka
26. Islam Lauka
27. Jonuz Bega
28. Ksenofon Krisafi
29. Kujtimi Morina
30. Leonidha Mërtiri
31. Lisien Bashkurti
32. Mal Berisha
33. Margarita Gega
34. Marko Bello

35. Maxhun Peka
36. Mehmet Elezi
37. Mimoza Kondo
38. Neritan Ceka
39. Nuri Domi
40. Petrit Karabina
41. Rrok Logu
42. Sandër Kovaçi
43. Sejdi Qerimaj
44. Shaban Murati

45. Shkëlqim Çepani
46. Shpëtim Çausi
47. Skënder Shkupi
48. Spiro Koçi
49. Sulejman Tomçini
50. Tatjana Gjonaj
51. Tonin Gjura
52. Valter Ibrahim
53. Vili Minarolli
54. Ylljet Aliçka
55. Zef Mazi





A brief history of the Albanian diplomatic service until 1945

Albanians have demonstrated their diplomatic skills and capacities much earlier than the proclamation of independence in 1912. During the epoch under our National Hero, Gjergj Kastriot Skanderbeg, in the XV Century, Albania had diplomatic relations with the Republic of Venice, Republic of Ragusa, the Kingdom of Naples and Vatican.



There have been quite a few Albanians, well-known for their outstanding diplomatic skills during the Ottoman Empire.

Mehmet Ali Pasha of Kavalla, the founder of modern Egypt who ruled there during 1805-1849, is famous for his diplomacy, in particular for the relations and deals with France and England.

It should also be highlighted that the new Albanian state was founded by one of the most prominent diplomats of the Ottoman Empire, Ismail bej Vlora. His whole life prior to independence on 28 November 1912 was closely connected with diplomacy.

The proclamation of independence by him was the outcome of the ardent patriotic feelings combined with high diplomatic skills in the historical specific circumstances of that time.

One of the first and most important activities of the Albanian Government led by Ismail Bej Vlora was intensive diplomacy, at a time when half of the territory was left out.

In December 1918, Albania succeeded to establish what is known as the Government of Durres with Turhan



Pasha as Premier and Mr. Myfit Libohova as Foreign Minister. Its diplomacy reached the culminating point with the participation of the Albanian delegation at the Paris Peace Conference in 1919. Part of the delegation was also a prominent US diplomat Charles Telford Erickson, as a representative of the Albanian Association VATRA in USA. His correspondence with US President Wilson has played a very great role in preserving Alba-



nia. Members of the Albanian delegation were also Luigj Bumçi, Michael Turtulli, Mehmet Konica and Prime Minister Turhan Pasha himself.

The year 1920 became historic with the "National Congress of Lushnja" and the emergence of the new government of Sulejman Delvina with Mehmet Konica as Foreign Minister. One of the most important achievements of this Government was Albania's admission as the 43rd member state of the League of Nations and the presentation by Fan Noli of the Albanian issue at its Conference in Geneva.

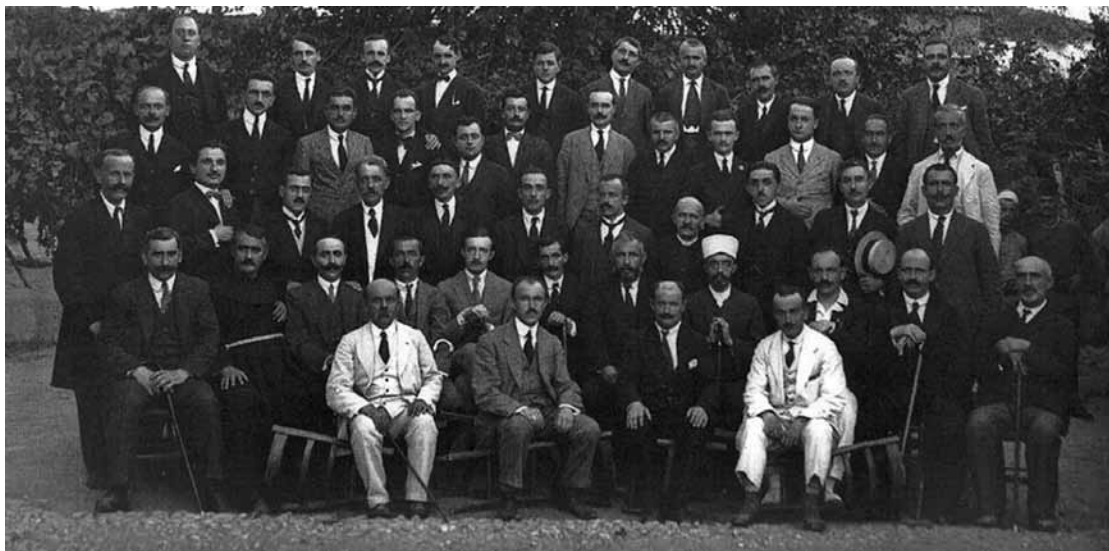
Albanian diplomacy at that time was supported by great friends of the Albanian nation, namely the British politician Aubrey Herbert and the British Lord, Robert Cecil. In 1921, Great Britain sent to Tirana as Minister Plenipotentiary Harry Charles Augustus Eyres, the first accredited high ranking diplomat, marking in

this way the establishment of diplomatic relations between Albania and Great Britain. Two months later, Albania sent in London its Ambassador, Mehmet Konica, again, the first Albanian senior diplomat posted there.

Of special significance was the opening of the first US diplomatic Mission in Tirana on 28 July 1922 with Mr. Maxwell Black as its representative, replaced later by Minister Plenipotentiary Grant Smith. A prominent name of Italian diplomacy, Marquis Carlo Durrazo, was sent to Albania in 1922.

At that time, Foreign Minister Pandeli Evangjeli opened up a series of diplomatic offices, in Washington, Istanbul, Vienna, Bucharest, Paris, Alexandria, Geneva, etc.

After Zog's return and Albania's proclamation as Republic with him as President, the prominent intellectual Myfit Libohova was appointed Foreign Minister. During this period, the diplomatic corps was almost



completely replaced by high-ranking diplomats loyal to President Zog. They came mainly from those who had studied abroad in Italian schools and especially in military academies; however, reputable names from former Albanian government remained at the head of diplomatic missions abroad.

A prominent name shone in the Albanian diplomatic service at the end of 20s, Eqrem Bej Vlora. He was appointed in London to follow up the British support for Albania in the course of endless troubles with Belgrade.

The proclamation of the Kingdom of Albania in 1928 found its diplomacy in an entirely new situation, but with Iljaz Vrioni remaining Foreign Minister. Within a short period of time, the new Kingdom was recognized by over 25 states. However, there were some countries, like Turkey that not only did not recognize it, but also suspended diplomatic ties and severed relations with Albania. Relations with Turkey were re-established in 1932.

During this time, the modern organic Law on the Diplomatic Service was enacted and as a result Albania set up a relatively admirable diplomatic corps, very well distributed all over the world.

The profound economic crisis that broke out in 1932-1933 forced the government to cut by 50 per cent the budget for the diplomatic service. The Foreign Ministry remained with only 14 officials, including the For-

eign Minister and its Secretary General. The same drastic cuts affected also the diplomatic representations abroad. However, the best diplomats were sent to the most important capitals.

A great deal of attention was devoted to the patriotic education.

Text printed on each Albanian passport:



“You should know and be certain that your luck and happiness are in Albania which gives you honour and grants you the name “Albanian”; uphold with pride the national character and the Albanian pride; obey to the country’s’ laws and orders, wherever you are; each and every single Albanian is your brother: respect him whenever and help him in need. Don’t humiliate your mother tongue



by speaking a foreign language when it is not necessary. Honour the banner of your Fatherland for he who does not honour the sign of nationality, dishonours himself”.

Text of the decrees for Ambassadors and Ministers Plenipotentiary:

“...I expect from him zeal and loyalty in office, fair services with a pure national consciousness for our Albania”.



In the 30s, the US diplomatic service in Tirana was reinforced with a great name of acknowledged international reputation: Minister Plenipotentiary Herman Bernstein, poet, writer, investigative journalist, explorer, historian, and friend of three USA presidents, Theodor Roosevelt, Woodrow Wilson and Herbert Hoover, and a great well-wisher of Albanian people.

Bernstein helped American schools in Albania as the Agricultural School in Kavaja and the Technical College

in Tirana. He did also provide assistance to the Foundation “Rockefeller”, helping to face malaria. Bernstein wrote brilliant books on Albania.

During the 30s, Mussolini increased the pressure against Albanian Kingdom to renew “Tirana Pact” with new terms and conditions designed to turn it into a full protectorate of Italy. The Italian Foreign Minister - Mussolini’s son-in-law - was also ex-

erting growing pressure over Albanian diplomacy. Albanian diplomats found themselves under difficult circumstances everywhere.

On 7 April 1939, Albania was occupied by

fascist Italy and the activity of the Albanian diplomatic service was disrupted. The diplomats usually remained in the countries where they were accredited, but as migrants now. Some of them returned to Albania. Others immigrated to democratic countries, like in the USA, UK, France and elsewhere. The majority of those who returned to Albania after 1944 were condemned by the communist regime with death penalty, imprisonment, and internal exile.



Introductory meeting of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors with the President of the Republic, Mr. Ilir META

On 18 June 2018, the President of the Republic, H.E.Mr. Ilir Meta invited for a formal meeting the Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) to extend his congratulations for the success of the initiative to establish CAA and seek



Mr. Besnik Mustafaj, Agim Fagu, Arben Çejku, Fatos Kërçiku, Genci Mucaj, Gilbert Galanxhi, Hajdar Muneka, Leonidha Mërtiri, Lisen Bashkurti, Neritan

to the Council of Albanian Ambassadors.

He stated that CAA is a non-governmental organization, which exists in all democratic countries. After briefing the President of the Republic on its composition, statute and activities to date, Mr. Mustafaj emphasized that the support by the President of the Republic is an added value for CAA.

In addition, Mr. Mustafaj said that the Council intends to avoid political individuality. Its stances will be apolitical and designed to serve at best Albania's foreign policy.

In this regard, Mr. Mustafaj considered



their support and cooperation on issues of international and diplomatic relations, on which the President of the Republic has an important constitutional role.

Attending this meeting were representatives of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors, its President,

Ceka, Petraq Pojani, Shqipër Vukaj, Shpëtim Çausi, Spiro Koçi, Vangjel Mita and Ms. Lorisa Ylli, the CAA Coordinator.

The CAA President, Mr. Besnik Mustafaj extended his thanks to the President of the Republic for his Invitation and time devoted

as "very productive" a meeting held in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, where Foreign Minister Bushati asked them for assessments/opinions related to the lobbying activity for Albania's candidacy in the UN Security Council for the two year period 2022-





2023, whose elections are due to take place in June 2021.

During this meeting, many ambassadors present took the floor; after thanking the President of the Republic for this opportunity, they said that thanks to its experience, the CAA can offer a qualitative contribution to Albanian diplomacy.

The President of the Republic of Albania Mr. Ilir Meta commended the Council of Albanian Ambassadors as a forum that the Albanian diplomacy had been lacking. He noted that in terms of its composition, it is all-inclusive and he is certain that others will soon join the CAA.

Then, he underlined that the Albanian diplomacy needs realism, seriousness and reliability, since we are

a small country and we have to think over well with the stances we maintain. President Meta said that the Council of Albanian Ambassadors will have the full-fledged support of the Presidency of the Republic and he would be honoured to take part in its events.

President Meta encouraged CAA to be proactive

mentioning that it should have its own weight in the decision making process and it should define it with its own commitment. While asking for the close cooperation of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors, President Meta requested from them to consider him as its advisor.

On his part, Mr. Mustafaj said that continuity is very important for the Council. While briefing the President of the Republic on the CAA upcoming events, he mentioned that on 12 July he would be in Washington for bilateral encounters with the Council of American Ambassadors and high representatives of the US State Department.

Likewise, there are other projects scheduled with the Council of American Ambassadors this November.



Statement by the Council of Albanian Ambassadors on the “Decision of the EU Council of Foreign Ministers on the Opening of the EU Membership negotiations”

06/28/2018

In the Meeting of the Foreign Ministers of the EU Member States held in Luxembourg on 26 June 2018 they found a middle way to respond to the proposal by the EU Commission on the opening of the membership negotiations with Albania. The relevant document forwarded to the European Council due to meet on 28-29 June states as follows:

“The Council agrees to respond positively to Albania’s progress and define the road towards the opening of the membership negotiations in June 2019”.

This is undoubtedly good news for all Albanians who see their country a step closer to the opening of the negotiations for its full EU integra-

tion. However, no automatic opening of these negotiations was decided for next year.

CAA calls on our entire political establishment and to the Government, in particular, to read seriously this document of the Foreign-Ministers of the EU Member States and to inform the public properly.

The good news is that there would not be necessarily a new recommendation by the EU Commission next year. And this is the first step toward this process, a small but an important one to be taken in to consideration.

Yet, the final decision is to be taken by the European Council.

It is also true that Albania has no new conditions to comply with during the next 12 months. Nevertheless, the conditions imposed during the recent years assume a new vigour and emphasis. In our opinion, this makes our problematics even sharper, for it shows that the EU Member

States have arrived at the conclusion that Albania has not yet done the previous tasks. It is evident that without meeting these tasks there can be no opening of negotiations.

The contents of these tasks is not an issue of diplomacy but of domestic developments. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors calls on our entire political establishment and to the Government, in particular, to refrain from empty polemizing rhetoric and to focus in concrete terms on the necessary reforms, the fight against corruption and organized crime.

Missing the chance for a positive decision on the opening of these negotiations next year would be a very severe blow to our European aspiration.

As the President of the Republic reminded us on this occasion, “a year goes by very quickly”.

There is no more time to lose!



Bilateral meeting in Washington, with the Council of American Ambassadors

07/11/2018

Warm reception in Washington of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors by the Council of American Ambassadors. The President of Council of American Ambassador Timothy A. Chorba and the President of the Council of Albanian Ambassador Besnik Mustafaj, talked about building a long-term cooperation between the two organizations, in order to develop joint common activities both



in Tirana and in our region and in Washington, in support of foreign policy.

It was agreed to organize in Tirana a joint conference about security in the region.

The Council of US Ambassadors will hold a visit to Albania next year to meet with other members of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors and officials of the Albanian state.

Introduction meeting of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors with the World Political Institute in Washington DC

07/13/2018

Following the introductory meetings in the US of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors, Ambassador Besnik Mustafaj and Ambassador Genci Mucaj held a meeting with Dr. John Lenczowski President and founder of the Institute of World Politics in Washington DC with whom they talked for a close collaboration between the two organizations in order to deliver master level programs and brief training for diplomats and young politicians in relation to world policy topics, strategic analysis, international and public relations



that will prepare the leaders of the young generation to have a new global vision.

IWP and CAA will also have exchange programs of their events for the participation and organization of joint conferences.

The Institute of World Politics is one of the world-

renowned US-based institutes founded by Dr John Lenczowski, one of the strategic thinking authorities in the field of security and international relations, author of many elite publications in these areas. For several years he has been one of the US National Security Advisers.



Council of Albanian Ambassadors visits the US State Department

07/16/2018

The last introductory meeting in Washington of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors was held at the US Department of State with Ms. Susan K. Falatko, the Director for Central and Southern Europe Affairs office.

Ms. Falatko was acquainted with the purpose and objectives of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors, with its specific role as an important part of albanian diplomacy.

The main purpose of the Council is to influence in the best and balanced way in Albania's foreign national policy, in fulfilling its strategic objectives, by using and providing the great experience and expertise that its members have gained through decades of their



service in the diplomatic field.

Ms. Falatko asked for the opinion of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors on recent developments in Albania and especially on the progress of justice reform and the fight against corruption.

Ambassador Mustafaj used the opportunity to express to Ms. Falatko the Council's firm believe that

the US presence in Albania and the region is of a vital importance for peace and democracy.

He expressed the view that this support takes priority in Kosovo also in the meaning of the creation of the army according to NATO's policy and standards.

Expressing satisfaction with the meeting, Mrs. Falatko assured that the US support for Albania will not change.

Statement by Council of Albanian Ambassadors on the "rectification of borders"

08/07/2018

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) has been following attentively the statements issued in the recent days on the

process of the dialogue between Pristina and Belgrade.

While encouraging each and every effort of the parties and the international factor on the normalization of relations between Kosovo and Serbia, the CAA voices its concern on attitudes which are actually overtaken

by time, the so-called option of "rectifying the borders" which has produced inclinations in the public opinion and amidst the all-Albanian factor.

CAA supports the permanent official and public attitudes by the government of the Republic of Albania which have excluded the op-



Statement by the Council of Albanian Ambassadors on the establishment of Kosovo Armed Forces

12/08/2018

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) considers the voting of 14 December 2018 by the Kosovo Assembly in support of establishing the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kosovo as a development in

the appropriate time.

Kosovo should be capable of protecting its own territorial integrity and sovereignty from any foreign threat and it will not be a danger for any neighbouring country.

The transformation of KSF will also strengthen the Euro-Atlantic perspective for Kosovo and it will serve regional peace and stability.

The CAA salutes the Kosovo

goal desire to turn from a consumer into a contributor of security in the region and beyond.

In this context, CAA welcomes the initiative by the Government of Kosovo to draft laws and set up the necessary legal framework for the gradual transformation of the Kosovo Security Force into the Armed Forces of the Republic of Kosovo.

Statement by the Council of Albanian Ambassadors on the Referendum in Macedonia.

09/12/2018

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) has extended its support to the Agreement between Greece and Macedonia on the name issue and on setting up a new framework of cooperation between them. In view of fostering the spirit of reconciliation, cooperation and integration, CAA encourages all voters in Macedonia to say 'YES' to this Agreement and to the prospect of NATO and EU integration. In this context, CAA commends

the Albanian political factor which has lined up with the coalition of the plebiscite in order to ensure a safe future for Macedonia in NATO and the EU.

At the same time, CAA encourages all parties involved to carry on forward the agenda of domestic integration after the Referendum of 30 September 2018 based on the Ohrid Agreement and on the best models provided by states with multiethnic democracy. The 'YES' vote at this Referendum will be not only a contribution for Macedonia and its perspective; it will be also equally supportive for our region and its own future.

Accordingly, CAA urges all eligible citizens in Macedonia to go to the polls on 30 September and to express their will for their country's safe Euro-Atlantic future.

CAA holds that any effort and interference by external factors designed to incite the opposite of consensus, the opposite of reconciliation and above all the opposite of Macedonia's integration prospect would trigger crises and conflicts.

Therefore, today, more than ever, Macedonia should be united and encouraged by the support of its neighbours and friends – the USA, the EU and NATO.

tion of border rectification for the resolve of the national interest.

The spirit of dialogue with Serbia and the results of the relevant negotiations should be necessarily in compliance with the Constitution of the Republic of Kosovo, its national interests and the inter-

ests of its strategic partners – the USA and the EU.

CAA does also support the institutions representing Kosovo in the dialogue between Pristina and Belgrade urging them to continue this process with responsibility, since it is very important for stability in our region.

The task of the political leadership and its inalienable obligation towards the citizens of Kosovo and international friends is to meet the domestic challenges of reform implementation, fight against corruption, consolidation of democracy and upgrade of welfare in Kosovo.



Statement of CAA on the Constitutional Amendments in Macedonia.

01/16/2019

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) congratulates the Parliament of Macedonia on for the adoption of the new package of constitutional amendments which ensure the implementation of the Agreement with Greece.

The Republic of Macedonia has gone through a difficult transition from its independence in the early '90 to date for building up democracy and its Euro-Atlantic integration.

Its good relations with neighbors, as well as its NATO and EU integration will be an added guarantee for the future of Macedonia and its own citizens.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors does also show its appreciation for placing Albanian with the official language status.

The CAA commends specifically the essential role played by Albanian factor in the Parliament and beyond to ensure the democratic and western orientation and in overcoming the domestic difficulties that are a legacy of e problems faced in the full implementation of the Ohrid Agreement.

Macedonia is a reality of the multi-ethnic democracy within which Albanians represent a state building factor.

The decision taken by the Parliament of Macedonia is an example and encouragement also for other factors in the region which face the need to reach reconciliatory, cooperation and integration accords.

Statement on the occasion of the 10th Anniversary of Albania's Membership to NATO

03/29/2019

Ten years ago Albania became member of the largest Alliance ever known in world history, which was established to protect the most essential Euro- Atlantic values of liberty, democracy and the rule of law.

On 7 April 2009, the Albanian national flag fluttered proudly aside the flags of our NATO allies. Today, just as ten years ago, this grand achievement is a motif of pride for Albania and all Albanians wherever they are.

The NATO membership promoted exceptional democratic transformations also in the field of defense; without them Albania could



not be part of the free and democratic countries of the North Atlantic Alliance. By acceding to NATO, the Albanian nation joined irreversibly the Euro-Atlantic values it incarnates and ensured its own future security.

During this decade Albania has proved with deeds to be a dignified member of this Alliance, capable of contributing to the joint security of the Euro-Atlantic space and meeting the political and military obligations emanating from this membership.

Albania is deeply committed to firmly maintain the transatlantic bonds between Europe and the USA. The latter play an essential role in preserving Western values and guarantee the security of the European Continent

threatened again by various actors.

On this Anniversary, Albania remembers with gratitude and thanks its numerous friends for their staunch support to the long process of NATO membership, primarily the USA and President George Bush, who turned into reality the promise made during his visit in Tirana in June 2007.

Special thanks and appreciation go to the Albanian diplomatic corps, the military and experts in Brussels and in Tirana by virtue of their commitment and professionalism for the fulfilment of all membership obligations.

Accordingly, the evaluation of the performance of diplomats, their experience and the integration of all contributions in the foreign activity of the Republic of Albania has become more imperative than ever.

We take this opportunity to declare our support for the latest initiative of the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs (MEFA) to build up a professional diplomatic corps, free from practices of cronyism, corruption and even from the unprecedented absurd approach that “experience hinders progress”.

We encourage the MEFA leaders to deliver this promise with transparency and in full coherence with the stated goals.



Statement by the CAA on the reform of the Albanian Diplomatic Service

04/08/2019

Following the recent public statement by the Acting Minister of Europe and Foreign Affairs on the reform of the Albanian Diplomatic Service and its Public Call for Expression of Interest “for the employment of “excellent experts” in the Diplomatic Representations and Consular posts of the Republic of Albania abroad “the Council of Albanian Ambassadors issues the following statement:

The Albanian Diplomatic Service needs to be consolidated with career diplomats, who should be protected and promoted under the law and not through outside inflows and without observing the law. “Excellent students” cannot and should not make

an exemption from this law.

A student with top results or “excellent” as considered by MEFA is only one who has finished studies and who should be motivated to make an application to start a sectorial or academic career.

Accordingly, the only fundamental criteria that should be taken into consideration are experience, the assessed work performance and career in Foreign Service.

Despite the damages it has inflicted to the basic concept of diplomatic career, the Law No. 23/2015 as well as the Regulation on Foreign Service in the Republic of Albania Foreign Service” passed with the Decision of the Council of Ministers No. 816, dated 7.10.2015 should be applied together with the Law on Public Administration and the relevant principles of employment and

recruitment.

The Law on Foreign Service and the relevant Regulation are very explicit on the mode of recruiting young diplomats.

Articles 36, 39 and 41 of the afore-mentioned Law do also clearly define the mode of admission in the Foreign Service and the promotion of the diplomatic career.

As to special and exceptional cases specified in the said Law, Article 31, Point 3 they cannot and should in no way become a general rule (In special cases, the Minister of Foreign Affairs may appoint in the Diplomatic and Consular Representations abroad experts outside Foreign Service, who dispose knowledge and expertise in compliance with the specifications of the position of appointment).

The application of this principle would produce further negative effects for the Albanian Foreign Service and demotivate the whole staff of career diplomats, who have entered the foreign service in accordance with the legal framework.

The law and



only the law should be the basic criteria for diplomatic recruitment and career. The subjective criteria on individual skills or esthetic considerations are at least an abuse with office by the whole recruitment chain and in the worst case they show a lack of respect for the current diplomatic corps, which from the '90 until hitherto has helped make Albania be considered a significant actor of stability in the region, join all important regional & international organizations, be a NATO Member, a EU Candidate, rendering also a significant contribution to the liberalization of visas for Albanians.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors expresses its concern and appeals to the MEFA to implement the law in force and start the procedures for the revision of this law and put a final end to all appointments that not only do not improve it but have also detrimental effects for our diplomatic corps.

CAA suggests to draft a platform with experts of the field with a wide political consensus, aiming that Albanian Diplomatic Service have a proper representation and needed flexibility in the Ministry apparatus and in the diplomatic missions abroad, in the best national interest and the priorities of our foreign policy.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors met with the Ambassadors of the Federal Republic of Germany and Great Britain

04/15/2019

Following its monthly luncheon with the Diplomatic Corps accredited in Tirana, recently the Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) held two separate working meetings with the Ambassador of the Federal Republic of Germany, H.E. Susanne Schütz and the Ambassador of Great Britain, H.E. Duncan Norman MBE.

These meetings are part of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors activities with the presence of Ambassadors accredited in Tirana, in view of exchanging their assessments on regional and interna-

tional developments, Albania's foreign policy, challenges of EU integration, the commitments in the framework of international organisations and on the domestic political situation.

Both Ambassadors got to know the opinions of our members, with appreciation for the very precious information on issues of major significance for Albania. In this respect, they commended the irreplaceable role of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors and expressed their willingness to cooperate on a constant basis to better comprehend the dynamics of the developments, both in Albania and in the region.

Their Excellencies, Ambassador Schütz and Ambassador Norman briefed the CAA members with the priorities of their countries



in the relations with Albania, as a valuable partner and expressed their commitment to support it in its path towards European integration.

Within a brief period of time, the Council of Albanian Ambassadors, which is made of former Foreign Ministers, former Ambassadors and senior members of our diplomatic corps



has become a significant and influential voice for various

diplomatic circles.

All Council of Albanian Ambassadors statements are made public. They have been welcomed by all chancelleries of our European and US partners, by virtue of their accurate references to different important political and diplomatic developments for our country and nation.

Letter of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors to Chancellor Merkel and President Macron

04/28/2019

Her Excellency, Madame Angela Merkel, Chancellor of the Federal Republic of Germany

His Excellency, Mr. Emanuel Macron, President of the French Republic,

Our public opinion was informed about the Summit that Your Excellences will host in Berlin on 29 April 2019 with the Heads of State/Governments of the Western Balkan countries.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors expresses its deepest appreciation for this Initiative, which comes in the proper time to give a fresh impetus to the slow-moving process of making democracy and the rule of law, which

are taking place with many convulsions in the countries of our region.

We do profoundly believe, Excellences, that on behalf of the powerful and generous states You lead, with a planetary impact for freedom and democracy and in the name of the European Union You will convey to the leaders of the Western Balkan States clear messages for durable peace and stability, without impairing the standards of democracy, the rule of law and economic development, observing the dynamics of free market and fair competition.

This Summit is a fortunate opportunity, particularly for the highest representatives of Serbia and Kosovo, both very important states in our region, which have been involved for nearly a decade in a very hard process of nego-

tiations designed to normalize the relations between them. Serbia and Kosovo are two sovereign states which have in common their near past, filled with hatred and bloody inter-ethnic wars. However, today they have also in common their aspiration for EU integration.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors holds that this aspiration is the most powerful and inspiring engine for the societies and institutions of these two countries; it would drive them towards final reconciliation, leaving behind the bitter past, for the sake of building a healthy and friendly neighborhood, as a vital interest, for their own folks but also for other peoples in the region.

Excellences, we do also hope that thanks to Your supreme vision and authority,



You will definitively delete from the agenda of negotiations between these two countries any plan for changing borders or exchange territories. Delimitation of borders between them alongside ethnic division lines would mark a return backwards; it would also be full of threats, not only for these two states but for all the countries of the region.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors thinks that genuine Serb-Albanian reconciliation can be achieved only on the basis of the French-German experience and model which You incarnate.

While hoping on your understanding, we would also like Your kind attention to some problematic issues related to Albania.

During the last 28 years following the overthrow of the Stalinist dictatorship, Albania has undoubtedly made substantial progress in its path to democracy and economic development. It is a member state of NATO and EU Candidate, making in this way its pro-western orientation irreversible. Over 90% of the Albanian public opinion remains firmly in support of its European prospects.

Currently, our whole society is looking forward to the decision by the European Council this June on

the possible opening of EU membership negotiations; it would mark a significant step forward in the process of Albania's European integration.

Accordingly, the Council of Albanian Ambassadors hopes that You, Excellences and your governments will continue to support the European dream of Albanians. For, it was this sacred dream which has inspired them to rise up against the most repressive regime of that time.



Unfortunately, Albania is going through a difficult and protracted transition while its society is faced with an endemic corruption system. Organized crime, especially the one active in the area of illicit drug trafficking has forged strong ties with politics.

For over a year now the country has no Constitutional Court, whereas the Supreme Court is practically out of function, plunging our judicial system to its collapse.

Over two months ago the parliamentary opposition abandoned this Parliament definitively; it is taking to the streets demanding a transi-

tion government, which they think is the only way to ensure free and fair elections, intact by crime connections with politics.

The country is going through an unprecedented representation and recycled political crises. This crisis has shaken the hopes of the Albanian society and, according to statistical figures-, nearly 1/5th of Albanians left the country during the last five years, both in legal and illegal ways.

CAA believes that also thanks to Your support, the Albanian political forces will find the common tongue of dialogue to overcome this crisis with the firm confidence that the European dream cannot

come true by leaving but by promoting the European values inside Albania.

We do also hope that Your Excellences, as irreplaceable friends for Albanians will take the opportunity offered by this Summit to convey clear messages and encourage all Albanian political factors and the society to embark on the track of dialogue.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors wishes full success to the Summit and extends the most heartfelt gratitude to its initiators and hosts.

Respectfully Yours,

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors



**Statement by the CAA
on the decision of the Par-
liament of the Kingdom
of the Netherlands on the
return to the visa regime
for Albanians**

04/17/2019

This Decision does seriously harm the interests of Albanian citizens, the image of Albania and Albanians in Europa and worldwide. It could also serve as an additional argument for all those

fects for the image and free movement for Albanians should be associated with a serious and high institutional responsibility, defining also concrete measures to address, reduce and minimise all the problems and their impact in reaching up to this decision.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors requests the Ministry of Europe and Foreign Affairs that, given the priorities of the foreign policy and the protection of the interests of Albanians wherever they are, it should immediately make the necessary demarshes with the Netherlands, its law-enforcement agencies and with the other EU member states, so that this decision would have no further effects and will not be followed by other similar decisions.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors does also express its confidence that the EU Commission, as the final decision making instance will reject this proposal and will abide by the Conclusions of its Report of December 2018, which affirms that Albania complies with the criteria and conditions so that the visa liberalisation for Albanian citizens in the Schengen area be continued.

CAA underlines that in view of receiving a positive signal this June, the opening of the EU membership negotiations has been and remains the major priority, both to the benefit of the country and the EU itself.



The Council of Albanian Ambassadors learned about the Decision of the Low House of the Dutch Parliament of 16 April, where 108 out of 150 MPs from five major political parties voted in favour of the proposal to start the procedures of imposing back the visa regime for the Albanian citizens travelling in the Schengen Area.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shares the concern expressed by the whole public opinion for this negative development, a setback for one of the greatest achievements of Albanians after the fall of communist dictatorship - the free movement without visas in the Schengen zone.

European political forces that on different accounts and motives are opposed to the opening of the EU membership negotiations.

This decision should sound a note of alarm for all Albanian official structures and make them rapidly address the great damages it has produced.

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors notes with great concern the lack of an in-depth analysis regarding this decision of the Dutch Parliament by the responsible Albanian structures. The interpretation of this decision as an hypothetical issue, which allegedly would not occur is equally superfluous and unprofessional. Such a decision, with its serious ef-



Council of Albanian Ambassadors meets Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey in Tirana, HE Mr. Murat Ahmet Yörük
05/14/2019

We were delighted to have amidst us the Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey in Tirana, HE Mr. Murat Ahmet Yörük in the monthly Working Luncheon of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors on 9th of May 2019.

On this occasion, we exchanged valuable ideas on the state of play of bilateral relations between Turkey and Albania, as relations of a strategic partnership.

Ambassador Yörük showed his appreciation for the useful views of the Council in the fields and directions where this cooperation could be even more

efficient.

The Ambassadors shared their assessments on the developments in their respective countries, their cooperation in multilateral organizations and on the

the areas of international relations, the Turkish Ambassador promised to promote the cooperation of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors with similar organizations in Turkey.



international developments of concern for both our states.

While highlighting the experience and expertise of the Council and its role in

Finally, Ambassador Yörük received with pleasure the Invitation by the Council for the reception on the occasion of its First Anniversary on 29 May .



BY – LAWS OF THE COUNCIL OF ALBANIAN AMBASSADORS

The Council of Albanian Ambassadors is a voluntary union of the off-duty highest-ranking diplomats that have served as Ambassadors of the Republic of Albania in the Foreign Service for at least one term throughout their career. The members of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors may be senior career diplomats, who have held major responsibilities and worked in key positions at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs for at least five (5) years and served as foreign ministers. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall be founded as a non-profit organization. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors is an independent, non-political social organization, detached from all political parties.

ARTICLE 1

NAME

The official name is "Council of Albanian Ambassadors" (Albanian version KËSHILLI I AMBASADORËVE SHQIPTARË), hereinafter referred to as CAA. CAA – is founded as an association (form of organization).

ARTICLE 2

DISTINCTIVE LOGO AND SYMBOL

CAA shall have its name, logo, seal and coat of arms, which shall accompany all its documentations and publications. The acronym CAA, which is the abbreviation of the full name, shall be the organization's logo. The CAA coat of arms shall be designed in the shape of a globe, coloured in red and containing the CAA acronym in the centre and its full name along side in both languages: "Këshilli i Ambasadorëve Shqiptarë" in Albanian and "Council of Albanian Ambassadors" in English. The CAA stamp seal shall be round, inscribed with the name: "Council of Albanian Ambassadors" and the CAA abbreviation in the centre.

ARTICLE 3

FOUNDERS

The CAA founding members are: Mr. Besnik Mustafaj, Mr. Agim Fagu, Mr. Genci Muçaj,

Mr. Arben Çejku, and Mr. Marko Bello.

ARTICLE 4

OBJECT, PURPOSE AND SCOPE OF ACTIVITY

a. The purpose of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors (CAA) is to provide novel and professional support to the Albanian State and its foreign policy, on behalf of the nation's interests in the field of international relations.

b. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall provide its assistance to achieve a more efficient and professional performance of the Albanian diplomacy, in compliance with the highest international standards and the needs of Albanian State.

c. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall promote the image of the Albanian diplomacy, state and nation in the international arena.

d. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall monitor and analyse the sharpest issues, events and developments, representing Albania's highest degree of interest in the region, Europe and beyond, aiming at assisting the main state institutions in protecting the interests of the Albanian State and nation, by providing the relevant recommendations, either off the record or publicly, as the cases may arise.

e. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall represent and protect the legal and moral interests of former career diplomats, in compliance with the Albanian legislation and the relevant international conventions in cooperation with the following institutions: President of the Republic of Albania, National Assembly, Prime Minister's Office, and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

f. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall further the cooperation with the diplomatic corps accredited in Albania, aiming at enhancing the understanding and the friendly relations between them and the Albanian state and society.



g. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall cooperate on an ongoing basis with counterpart career ambassadors or Foreign Service organizations around the world, political and diplomatic international organizations to which Albania is an active member, as well as with research and study institutes sharing similar purposes regarding the promotion of Albanian State and Albania's national interests.

h. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall conduct several activities within the country, in cooperation with educational, research and study institutes, focusing on: international relations, in the field of diplomacy, economic diplomacy, regional economic policies, trade partnerships, culture, and public relations.

i. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall organize diplomatic, scientific and academic activities in the form of publications, conferences, roundtables, and open or closed professional debates, forums, in line with the importance of the topic, matters and ongoing discussions.

j. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall issue its own publications or may participate in other organizations' publications with the works of its individual members, in line with the purposes of the organization.

k. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall organize panel discussions beyond its annual programmes on the relevant, sharpest problems affecting national and regional foreign policies and international relations. Besides the members of the organization, senior government or state officials and foreign ambassadors accredited in Tirana may be invited to participate in such panels from time to time for presenting papers or participating in discussions.

l. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall voluntarily provide its own expertise as a consultation mechanism for the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Policy Committee in the Parliament, and the President of the Republic of Albania.

m. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall voluntarily organize courses and vocational training sessions for novice Albanian ambassa-

dors and for professional diplomats appointed to high diplomatic positions overseas.

n. The Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall have its own website: (www.albanianambassadors.al) e-mail: info@albanianambassadors.al in order to enhance cooperation with counterpart organizations, to provide assistance to institutions and to raise the awareness of the national and international public on its activities.

ARTICLE 5

PROHIBITION ON PROFIT DISTRIBUTION

Profit distribution by the Council of Albanian Ambassadors shall be prohibited.

The CAA revenues shall be utilized solely for the purposes provided for in this Statute, as per the decisions approved by the Organization's steering bodies.

The CAA shall not accept neither donations nor inheritances imposing conditions incompatible with the purposes of the organization.

The CAA shall be the owner and possessor of its property. Its movable and immovable properties shall be made available for the expansion of services, which are in compliance with the provisions of this Statute. They may be allocated or transferred solely upon a Board of Directors decision.

The CAA may financially remunerate the members of steering bodies and external collaborators, as well as provide financial assistance to its employees, external individuals, or other subjects from its funds, or may cover the expenses made upon CAA authorization to its interest. The amount of remuneration or financial assistance, cases, manner of provision etc. shall be determined by the Board of Directors.

The CAA shall open a current bank account, via which shall perform all economic and financial transactions with local/national or foreign partners, by using the Albanian or foreign currency for its liquidation procedure, in accordance with the legal provisions into force.

Revenues generated by the CAA instruments or activities shall be used solely for the pur-



poses set forth by this Statute.

All revenues generated by the CAA activity shall be used solely for the application and expansion of the Association's scope of activity, in line with the purpose of its foundation.

Any other action in contradiction with the above-mentioned shall be deemed void and shall bring about legal consequences as per the legislation into force.

ARTICLE 6

DURATION

The CAA shall be established for an indefinite period of time. Its lifespan may change solely upon a Board of Directors' decision.

ARTICLE 7

HEADQUARTERS

The CAA (temporary) headquarters shall be located at "Bardhyl" Str., No. 76/1, mailbox 1400, Tirana, Albania.

The CAA shall exercise its activity in the entire territory of the Republic of Albania.

The CAA shall exercise its activity within the territory of the Republic of Albania.

ARTICLE 8

FUNDING RESOURCES

The CAA activity shall be funded by its own properties and resources.

The CAA resources shall derive from: The Organization's economic activity regarding services to third parties; utilization of CAA properties; donations such as funds, grants, transparent donations from national or international bodies, in line with the organization's purpose set forth under this statute and in compliance with the Albanian legislation into force; donations and projects provided by foreign, local or central governing units, in line with the Albanian legislation into force; donations and projects proposed by counterpart nongovernmental organizations, in line with the Albanian legislation into force.

ARTICLE 9

STEERING BODIES

The CAA steering bodies shall be as follows:

1. General Assembly
2. Board of Directors
3. President
4. Chief Executive Officer (CEO)

ARTICLE 10

GENERAL ASSEMBLY

The General Assembly shall be the association's highest decision-making body, which shall meet no less than once a year for an ordinary meeting.

The Assembly shall be called by the Board of Directors, President, Chief Executive Officer, or by 1/5 of Assembly members.

The Assembly may be called automatically, following the one-year period after its last meeting. Should the decision-making be not enabled as per the majority required by Statute due to the low number of participants, this meeting shall be deemed void.

The General Assembly date and assembly shall be notified no less than one month prior to the meeting. Each member shall be entitled to the right to vote. The proxy granted to a member shall be considered valid in all meetings and voting processes, but that member cannot cast more than two votes: his and the persons having issued the proxy. Assembly meetings shall be presided by the President or Chief Executive Officer and in their absence by any member authorized by them with a power of attorney.

The General Assembly competences shall be as follows:

Electing the Board of Directors and the President.

Usually, the decision-making process is based on open ballot system, which may be conducted according to distance voting, video call, or video conference.

Approving the association programme and development plan, as well as the statutory changes.

Approving the association's internal regulations.

Verifying the members' mandates.



Monitoring and overseeing the activity of Board of Directors, President, Secretary-General and Chief Executive Officer.

Reviewing and approving financial reports, as well as the budget for the upcoming financial term.

Determining the strategic actions, action plan, and priorities.

Reviewing and addressing the requests filed by the members regarding activities or commitments to be included in the association's action plan.

Approving decisions and other acts that are fundamental to the association's activity.

Decisions and acts issued by the General Assembly shall be signed by the President and the Chief Executive Officer.

The meeting of the General Assembly shall be deemed valid solely in case 50 % +1 of the organization's membership is present. Should the majority be not present, then the meeting of the General Assembly shall be postponed and within 30 days, another meeting shall be organized and called, which shall be deemed valid regardless of the number of present members.

The General Assembly shall make decisions with 50% + 1 of participants.

The General Assembly may be called prior to the scheduled meeting in extraordinary cases, when cases of special importance are imperative to be reviewed.

This Assembly shall be called when required by ¼ of the members. In such case, notifications shall be given 15 days prior to the meeting, whereby the meeting date and agenda are specified.

ARTICLE 11

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

The Board of Directors shall be the highest decision-making body. It is a collegial body that oversees the CAA daily activity. The Board shall apply consensus-based or voting-based decision-making, according to an open ballot system.

The Board of Directors shall be composed of at least 5 members. For the first term, such

members shall be appointed solely by the founders, whereas for the other terms they shall be elected by the General Assembly with simple majority. The mandate duration for the Board of Directors shall be a five-year term.

The competencies of Board of Directors shall be as follows:

Determining CAA policies.

a) Drafting and presenting the annual budget to the General Assembly with transparency;

b) Appointing the General-Secretary and the Chief Executive Officer from the ranks of its members by a simple majority, according to the number of candidates nominated by the CAA President;

c) Accepting the resignation of Board members;

d) Dismissing a Board member in the presence of all Board members by a simple majority-based decision;

e) Approving the CAA internal regulations and proposing statutory changes, which shall be approved in the forthcoming meeting of the General Assembly.

The Board of Directors shall meet at least quarterly and shall be presided by the President. In the absence of the latter, the Board shall be presided by the Chief Executive Officer. The Board of Directors shall make decisions falling under its competencies, in line with the Statute, by taking into consideration the proposals of each member. Any decision should obtain the approval of the majority of the members.

The meetings of the Board of Directors shall be considered valid for decision-making when more than half of the members are present. Should there be a tie, the casting vote shall rest upon the President. The meeting of the Board shall be called by the President or by one of its members, by notifying the other members at least one week prior to the meeting.

The Board may meet in extraordinary cases and for cases not provided for in the Statute at the request of a Board member. Should



a member of the Board not be able to participate in the meeting, the rules for proxy representation shall apply.

ARTICLE 12

THE PRESIDENT

The President's mandate shall last for a five-year term, but he/she shall enjoy the right to be re-elected. The President shall have the following competencies:

- Being a member of the Board of Directors;
- Presiding the meetings of both the General Assembly and Board of Directors;
- Supervising the organization's activity and reporting to the General Assembly as per the case;
- Presenting the nominations of candidates to the Board of Directors for the Secretary-General and Chief Executive Officer position;
- Representing the organization in relation to third parties;
- Approving and signing all acts issued by the organization;
- Delegating its own competencies to the Secretary-General, or Chief Executive Officer.

ARTICLE 13

THE CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER

The Chief Executive Officer mandate shall last for a five-year term, but he/she shall enjoy the right to re-election. The Chief Executive Officer shall represent the CAA within the country or abroad, upon approval of the President. The Chief Executive Officer shall be entitled to the right to issue public statements on behalf of the CAA.

He/she shall guide and organize the CAA daily activity and shall assign the tasks, by reporting to the President and the Board of Directors.

The Chief Executive Officer shall monitor the CAA financial administration and shall report to the President and the Board of Directors on the CAA financial situation, upon the approval of the President or the Board of Directors.

The Chief Executive Officer shall be elected for a five-year term, but he/she shall enjoy the right to re-election.

The Chief Executive Officer shall propose staff salaries, service fees, and remunerations in line with the approved budget, which shall be applied solely upon approval of the President or Board of Directors.

The CAA Chief Executive Officer shall determine the employment and staffing policies, time frames, and working conditions.

He/she shall monitor the cooperation between CAA and other organizations, sharing same or similar purposes and objectives, both within the country and abroad.

The Chief Executive Officer shall draft and submit to the Board of Directors the Annual Report on the organization's activity.

He/she shall report to the General Assembly on the exercising of competencies granted by this Statute.

ARTICLE 14

MEMBERSHIP OF THE ORGANIZATION

Organization membership shall be open to all individuals, within the territory of the Republic of Albania or abroad, who meet the criteria set forth under this Statute.

The request for membership shall be sent to the President on behalf of the CAA Board, accompanied by the relevant documentation.

Request review shall be performed by the General Meeting of the Organization and shall be approved by a majority of votes of the members present. Following admission, the new member shall be registered in the association's register and shall be entitled to all the rights and obligations of an association member.

Organization members shall be obligated to pay a membership fee of ALL 1.000 (one thousand ALL per month), which shall be deposited in the CAA bank account.

This contribution may change upon activity extension, based on a decision of the General Meeting.

The organization members shall enjoy equal



rights and obligations. Any member shall be entitled to the right to participate in the General Meeting of the Organization, the right to freely express his/her opinions, as well as to elect and to be elected in the steering bodies of the association.

ARTICLE 15

RIGHTS AND OBLIGATIONS OF THE ORGANIZATION MEMBERS

Any member of the organization shall be entitled to the right to:

- Participate in the General Meeting of the Organization, as well as in any other activity;
- Resign on his/her own full will, by addressing a request in writing to the General Assembly.

Any member of the organization shall be obligated to:

- Execute the Organization Statute and the General Meeting decisions;
- Participate on an ongoing basis in the General meeting and to vote during the decisionmaking process;
- Pay regularly the monthly membership fee;
- Execute decisions made by collegial bodies and make efforts to ensure the alignment of joint interests, by observing the principle of timeliness, professional integrity, and social ethics.

ARTICLE 16

MEMBERS DISMISSAL

The General Meeting reserves the right to dismiss a member in case he/she:

- Carries out his/her activity in infringement of the law, Organization's purpose, and ambassadorial ethics;
- Fails to pay the monthly membership fee for three consecutive months;
- Fails to take part in three consecutive General Meetings.

The membership in the organization shall expire at the request of any member for the dismissal. The dismissal request shall be re-

viewed in the forthcoming General Assembly Meeting of the Organization.

The member of the organization shall automatically cease to be in the position of a standing member in case:

- He/she has lost the established reputation.
- He/she passed away, or has lost the legal capacity to act.

ARTICLE 17

CONFLICT OF INTEREST AND PROHIBITED AGREEMENTS

Any situation of conflict of interest between the non-governmental organization and the member of the decision-making body, executive member, and its employee shall be prohibited.

Agreements between the organization and a steering body member shall be entered into solely on the grounds of meeting an aim or objective related to the activity of the organization, and solely upon the decision of the Executive Council. During the review process, such members shall be excluded from discussions and voting process.

Should a conflict of interest situation occurs, a prohibited and executed agreement, or the failure to comply with the above-mentioned procedures be noticed, the Executive Council might declare the agreement null and void, and request compensation.

ARTICLE 18

TRANSFORMATION AND MERGING

The association may be transformed or merged with another organization to ensure the progress of its purposes and activities. In such case, the decision shall be made by the General Assembly of the association's good standing members.

The association shall be considered dissolved upon the registration of the new entity.

ARTICLE 19

DISSOLUTION OF THE ORGANIZATION

The organization shall be dissolved by a decision of the General Assembly, its highest decision-making body, and upon the propos



al of the President and the Board of Directors that shall opt for its dissolution in case:

It becomes inactive and its activity does not justify its existence.

Its activity generates insufficient revenues to cover its self-functioning for a three-year period.

Its activity is in contradiction with the purpose of the organization's foundation.

The purpose of foundation has been met, or in case its purpose cannot be fulfilled.

Its activity is in contradiction with the purposes specified under this Statute; in such case

Tirana District Court shall decide to dissolve the organization.

The decision on the dissolution of the organization shall be made by a simple majority of the members entitled to the right to vote.

ARTICLE 20

LIQUIDATION

In case of closure or dissolution of the organization, the Board of Directors shall appoint anytime and for any reason, one or more liquidators to execute the liquidation process. The liquidation of the organization shall be made pursuant to provisions determined by law.

ARTICLE 21

FINANCIAL STATEMENTS AND AUDIT CONTROL

The organization's accounts shall be closed, audited at the end of a calendared financial year, on December 31.

In the end of the fiscal year, the Chief Executive Officer shall issue the financial statement, which shall be reviewed by the Board of Directors no later than three months from the date of issue and shall be presented to the General Assembly in the forthcoming meeting.

In order to ensure an efficient and transparent economic activity, the Board of Directors shall be entitled to the right to order the exercise of an audit on this activity, anytime and in any case deemed necessary.

The donors shall have the right to verify anytime the use of funds or other grants; in compliance with the purpose their funds have been awarded. Should violations be noticed regarding their use, the Board of Directors shall be referred, by suggesting the relevant measure.

ARTICLE 22

EMPLOYMENT

The CAA shall employ individuals, either native or foreign, aiming at meeting its needs in compliance with the Labour Code and relevant legislation in the Republic of Albania.

Paid staff may not participate in the organization's decision-making bodies. The Chief Executive Officer shall be in the capacity of the organization's employer, who shall enter into agreements based on the organization's criteria and provisions of Labour Code.

The executives and other employees shall be obligated to meet the requirements set forth by this Statute and the organization's agreements while exercising their duties.

ARTICLE 23

DISPUTE RESOLUTION

Any dispute regarding the interpretation or implementation of this Statute, emerging during the organization's lifespan shall be first settled in mutual understanding by the Board of Directors. Should the case fail to be settled amicably, any dispute, objection or complaint regarding or related to the interpretation of this Statute shall be settled by the Tirana District Court.

ARTICLE 24

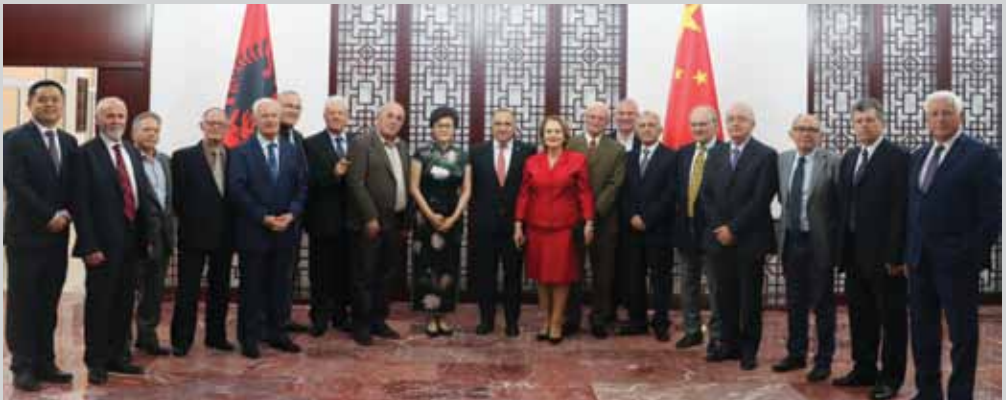
TRANSITIONAL AND MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

The organization shall have its own legal personality starting from the date of registration at the Tirana District Court, as per the legal provisions of the Albanian State.

This Statute and the Foundation Act were signed by the founders.



MEANINGFUL MOMENTS FROM CAA ACTIVITIES



The mission of the Council of Albanian Ambassadors is:

- to set up the moral tones of the Albanian National Foreign Policy;
- to provide professional support to the Albanian Foreign Policy, on behalf of the nation's interests;
- to provide assistance for a more efficient and professional performance of the Albanian diplomacy;
- to promote the image of the Albanian diplomacy, state and nation in the international arena.

The image features a large, stylized representation of the Albanian flag, which is red with a black double-headed eagle in the center. The flag is set against a background of red geometric shapes, including a large triangle on the left and a smaller one on the right. The text 'ANNUAL REPORT' is written in white, bold, uppercase letters on a black horizontal band that cuts across the bottom of the flag image.

ANNUAL REPORT

2018-2019

Tirana
May 2019