

COOPERATION AGREEMENT

on Strategic Cooperation for Hydrogen-Based Cross-Border Maritime Transport Investments

Article 1

Parties

This Cooperation Agreement (hereinafter: the *Agreement*) is concluded between the undersigned organisations (hereinafter jointly referred to as the *Parties*), including **project partners and associated partners** participating in the **Interreg VI-A Italy–Croatia project “TransH2 – Transition to Hydrogen Fuelled Cross-Border Sea-Mobility”**.

Each Party acts within the scope of its **statutory competences, public mandate, and applicable national and EU legislation**.

Article 2

Legal Nature of the Agreement

This Agreement constitutes a **memorandum of understanding / protocol of cooperation** (*protokol suradnje / protocollo d'intesa*).

It is **non-binding in financial and legal terms** and does not create:

- joint or several liability,
- partnership or consortium status,
- exclusive rights or obligations,
- state aid, procurement obligations, or financial commitments.

Article 3

Background and Objectives

The Parties acknowledge that the TransH2 project aims to promote **sustainable, zero-emission cross-border maritime mobility** in the Italy–Croatia programme area through the **development and demonstration of hydrogen-fuelled vessels and port refuelling infrastructure**.

The objective of this Agreement is to establish a **structured framework for long-term strategic cooperation** among the Parties as **potential future promoters and holders of cross-border investments**, enabling the **continuation, replication, and scaling-up** of TransH2 results after project completion.

Article 7

Duration

This Agreement enters into force on the date of the last signature and remains valid for a period of **five (5) years**, unless terminated earlier by written notice of any Party. The Agreement may be extended by mutual written consent.

Article 8

Visibility and Publication

The Parties agree that this Agreement may be **published and disseminated** as an official output of the TransH2 project, including on the **project website and Interreg VI-A Italy–Croatia communication channels**, in line with programme visibility rules.

Article 9

Final Provisions

This Agreement expresses the **shared strategic intent** of the Parties to cooperate in good faith for the advancement of hydrogen-based cross-border maritime transport in the programme area. Any future binding commitments shall require **separate formal agreements**.

Signatures

Signed in **Monfalcone**, on **May 28th 2026**
in **two originals** in the English language.

For: Maritime Innovation Cluster MARINN	For: Maritime Aerospace Renewable Energies Technology Cluster - M.A.R.E. TC FVG
[Signature] 	[Signature] 
Ms. Ana Odak, President	Mr. Massimiliano Ciarrocchi, President