

# Memorandum of Understanding

Entered into by and between

The City of Ghent, with as co-signatory Ghent port authority

and

The City of Gdansk

## 1. PREAMBLE

1.1 Recognising the mutual benefits to be gained through a closer co-operation, the city of Ghent and the city of Gdansk enter into this Memorandum of Understanding and agree to the following:

## 2. PURPOSE

2.1 The purpose of this Memorandum is to facilitate and promote co-operation between the city of Ghent and the city of Gdansk

2.2 Following fields have been identified as very promising for further co-operation:

2.2.1 Both cities are prepared to participate in a European Urbact-project regarding the development of and access to ICT for citizens, especially for less privileged groups that are being afflicted by the effects of the digital gap.

2.2.2 Gdansk is interested in support from Ghent regarding know-how about port-management. Gdansk will investigate which European funds can be used to finance this support.

2.2.3 Both cities will consider the establishment of, and co-operation within, a network of medium-size ports in regard to Short Sea Shipping.

2.2.4 The possibilities for cultural exchange and co-operation will be investigated, specifically in regard to the candidacy of Gdansk as European Capital of Culture in 2016.

2.2.5. The possibilities for knowledge exchange between the city development organisations InvestGDA and AGSOB will be investigated.

2.2.6. Both cities are interested in supporting cooperation between universities with respect to joint research and development projects, analysis and student exchange.

2.2.7. Gdansk is interested in developing the biotechnology sector based on the experience of this sector in Ghent.

2.3 For each of these fields both parties will designate a coordinator, who will be responsible for the further implementation of the co-operation in said fields.

2.4 New fields of co-operation, also involving third parties, can be added to the above list, providing they have been agreed upon by both parties. This could be achieved by an exchange of letters.

### **3. FURTHER AGREEMENTS**

3.1 This document is a Memorandum of Understanding and is not intended to create binding or legal obligations on either party. The specific details of any matter will be set forth in agreements supplemental to this Memorandum.

### **4. FINANCIAL CONSIDERATIONS**

4.1 The parties acknowledge that all or any financial arrangements proposed must be negotiated and will depend upon the availability of funds.

### **5. TERM OF MEMORANDUM**

5.1 This Memorandum shall enter into force upon signature. It shall remain in force for a period of 6 years.

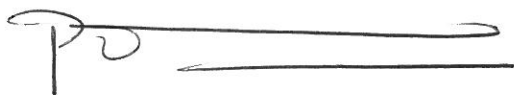
5.2 This Memorandum may be terminated by either party giving the other party three months notice in writing.

5.3 This Memorandum may be amended or varied provided that such amendment or variation is evidenced in writing and signed by the parties.

Done in triplicate on 10<sup>th</sup> November 2009, in Ghent



Mr. Paweł Adamowicz  
Mayor of Gdansk



Mr. Paul Teerlinck  
City Manager of Ghent



Mr. Daniël Termont  
Mayor of Ghent



Mr. Daan Schalck  
Managing director Ghent port authority