



*Republic of Croatia*  
*Ministry of Foreign and European Affairs*  
*State Secretary for European Affairs*

Zagreb, 29 November 2019

**Open Government Partnership**  
1110 Vermont Avenue NW Suite 500  
Washington, DC, USA  
**Sanjay Pradhan**  
**Chief Executive Officer**

Dear Mr. Pradhan,

On behalf of the Government of the Republic of Croatia I want to extend our sincere gratitude for the encouragement, understanding and support you have provided during Croatia's two mandates in the OGP Steering Committee, as well as in the OGP Steering subcommittees.

As a member of the global OGP initiative from the beginning, the Republic of Croatia has been committed to supporting the principles of transparency, fight against corruption, empowering citizens, and using the advantages of modern technology in order to make public authority bodies more efficient and accountable at all levels, as well as to creating prerequisites for more efficient and innovative public service provision and public resource management.

We are quite proud of having been a part of the OGP Steering Committee but also of our achievements so far. Significant results with direct benefits for citizens have been achieved as a direct consequence of being a part of the OGP initiative. This primarily includes the *e-Citizens* project, which ensured a growing number of e-services for citizens. At the Open Government Partnership Global Summit 2015 in Mexico City in the "open government to improve public services," area, *e-Citizens* project won the award for best European project and is internationally acknowledged as a successful tool for improving the availability of public services.

Furthermore, as a direct result of the Action plan for the implementation of OGP initiative, Croatia has made a significant progress in the area of consultations with the interested public. Online consultations were further strengthened in 2015 with the development of the online consultation system - a unique solution for public consultations, which allows citizens to comment directly on the proposed text and promotes high transparency of both the comments made by the public (which are immediately visible to all interested actors) and also of the answers to those comments given by the responsible state bodies.

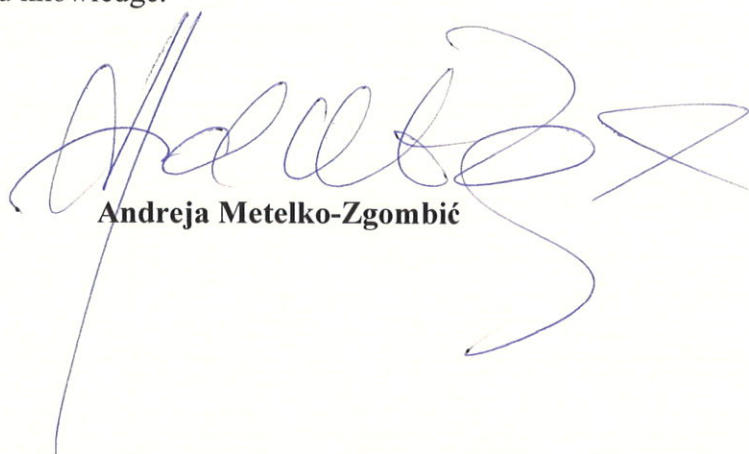
Being a part of the Steering Committee also provided a great opportunity for Croatia to further strengthen its leadership role in its South East neighbourhood region.

We look forward to continuing working together to further advance the open government agenda in Croatia during the next action plan cycle. Croatia will also do its best to continue to lead by example in the OGP.

We would like to also emphasize that Croatia has over the years created a system of support and cooperation with civil society, which is already recognized in the wider region, and which can be used as a good example for other countries to learn from. The Croatian experience and good practices refer to the strategic framework for cooperation between the state and civil society, key documents, funding framework for programmes and projects of civil society organizations, as well as to the standards for consultations in public-policy making. With that in mind, and with the aim of encouraging regional and international cooperation in the area of civil society development, Croatia will continue to participate in and organize study visits and other forms of exchange of experiences and examples of good practice for creating an enabling environment for civil society development with delegations from South East Europe and beyond.

We would like to offer our continued support and expertise in that area to the countries that would like to learn from our experiences and knowledge.

Sincerely,



Andreja Metelko-Zgombić