



AGREEMENT OF COOPERATION

The 'European Stork Villages Network' – ESVN – is the union of Municipalities for having and maintaining their white stork colonies and being active in the stork habitat protection. The representatives of the European Stork Villages believe that conservation of the white stork will be successful only through sustainable management of its habitat, sustainable rural development and with awareness rising. The conservation of the white stork will improve life conditions for the rural communities and therefore ESVN has the following objectives and purposes:

- Protect and foster the natural resources of the European Stork Villages in favour of the tourist promotion and sustainable rural development.
- Carry out specific actions in order to study and to improve the habitat of the stork colonies and minimize the problems the storks cause in certain settlements and for infrastructure.
- Foster traditional economical activities based on the respect to natural resources such as craftsmanship, sustainable agriculture including livestock breeding and sustainable forest management, etc.
- Promote environmental education programmes for schools and adults (formal and non-formal).
- Improve the exchange of knowledge and experiences between members of the Network and partners, also through the use of new technologies.
- Promote the importance of European Stork Villages Network and its natural and cultural heritage.

Founders of this agreement are:

Čigoć (Croatia) Nagybjom (Hungary)

Rühstätt (Germany) Malpartida de Cáceres (Spain)

Andrid (Romania) Mala and Velika Polana (Slovenia)

Tykocin (Poland) Marchegg (Austria)

Belozem (Bulgaria) Altreu (Switzerland)

Češinovo-Obleševo (Macedonia) Eskikaraağaç (Turkey)

Buzica (Slovakia) Taraš (Serbia)