The <u>Community of Democracies</u> (CoD) is an international coalition of countries committed to the democratic principles stated in the <u>Warsaw declaration</u>,

which aims to strengthen transparency and public participation around the world. CoD comprises the Governing Council (GC) and the Civil Society Pillar (CSP). The GC is the Community's principal decision-making body, whereas the Civil Society Pillar represents the civil society in the CoD and advice the governments on the actions needed to enable civil society to work freely to strengthen democracy, rule of law, and protection for the fundamental rights enshrined in the Warsaw Declaration.



Established in 2000, the CoD brings together governments, civil society, and the private sector in the pursuit of the common goal of supporting democratic rules and strengthening democratic norms and institutions around the world, principally through the GC and civil society.

The Macedonian Centre for International Cooperation will serve a two-year term as a focal point of contact between the Civil Society Pillar and the Macedonian government as a member state of the Governing Council. In this role, MCIC will establish a relationship with the Government Focal Point for the CoD and regularly meet with the Government counterpart to convey the position of the International Secretariat Committee (ISC) on issues coming before the GC. MCIC will be the main representative of the Macedonian CSOs to the CSP and ISC.

On 19th-20th September 2022, Aleksandar Krzalovski attended the meeting of the Civil Society Pillar of the Community of Democracies (CoD) in New York City on the margins of the 77th UN

General Assembly. Primarily, it discussed the importance of the CSP to the CoD and the need to increase the engagement between the CSP and the GC. Further on, the new Secretariat of the CSF and ISC Chair of the CoD was selected at the meeting.