

**PROTOCOL OF FRIENDSHIP AND COOPERATION
BETWEEN THE TOWNS OF
Aegina, Greece and Tarpon Springs, USA**

following decisions of their respective Municipal Councils and having decided
on their twinning

- Inspired by the common past and significant common culture that unites the municipalities of the two continents,
- Guided by the longstanding traditional bonds of friendship, solidarity, and cooperation,
- Desiring to develop and broaden cooperation between the two cities in the cultural, social, economic, and local government sectors,
- Considering that, in the contemporary globalized environment, City Diplomacy is a challenge and an opportunity that must be utilized in order to achieve fair and permanent solutions for the benefit of citizens,
- Aiming for further development of the fraternal bonds of friendship between the two municipalities,

Hereby agree

to develop within the spirit of brotherhood, solidarity, and mutual support fruitful relations of cooperation in various areas of common interest with the aim of promoting the principles, values, and goals that govern their twinning. In this context, the two municipalities agree to the following:

Article 1

The two cities will make every effort to promote mutually beneficial cooperation in all areas of current interest to the citizens of Aegina and Tarpon Springs, taking into account the increasing influence of communication and information technology in modern societies.

Article 2

The two cities will make every effort to promote and support the development of contacts and relations between the entities of the two cities engaged in the fields of education and training, the protection and promotion of cultural heritage,

intellectual and artistic creation, business and commerce, tourism, sports, environmental protection, information, and communication.

Article 3

The two cities will exchange information and expertise in the areas of city administration and municipal management, such as public health and social welfare, human resource management, and areas of mutual interest.

Article 4

The two cities will encourage the exchange of delegations on a broad and permanent basis, with the active participation of citizens, through their professional and other organizations and bodies.

Article 5

The two cities express their desire to contribute, through cooperation and friendly municipal relations, to the preservation and strengthening of the various common aspects of the two municipalities and their strong historical connection.

Article 6

The two cities agree to sign a Twinning Protocol in Tarpon Springs, USA, in a second phase.

Article 7

This Protocol enters into force today, the day of its signature, and may be amended with the consent of both parties.

This was signed in Aegina, on May 17, 2024,
as part of the twinning ceremony of the Municipalities of Aegina and Tarpon Springs
held at the Kapodistrian Orphanage in the city of Aegina

Mayor of Aegina

Ioannis P. Zorbas

Mayor of Tarpon Springs

Constantinos S. Vatikiotis