



Strasbourg, 4 November 2021

DG-SP(2021)6

**EUROPEAN STAKEHOLDERS' PLATFORM OF THE
STRATEGY FOR INNOVATION AND GOOD GOVERNANCE
AT LOCAL LEVEL**

6th meeting, Strasbourg, 15 October 2021 (hybrid format)

MEETING REPORT

1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair

Mr Markku Mölläri, Chair of the European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG) and of the Platform, opened the meeting.

- Election of the second Vice-Chairperson

The Platform members welcomed Mr Christoph Spreng, new representative of the INGOs Conference, and elected him for a two-year mandate.

The list of participants appears in Appendix I.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The agenda was adopted as set out in Appendix II.

3. Report of the fifth meeting of the Enlarged Bureau (29 March 2021)

The Secretariat recalled the main decisions that had been taken by the European Stakeholders' Platform at its last meeting, as outlined in the meeting report (DG-SP(2021)3).

4. Information on ELoGE progress and implementation in 2020-2021

The Secretariat presented the ELoGE progress and implementation in 2020-2021, referring to document DG-SP(2021)4.

In the past year, despite the challenges posed by the Covid-19 pandemic, ELoGE had been successfully implemented in a number of member States, with workshops and award ceremonies held mostly online. Feedback from participating local authorities was overwhelmingly positive.

The Secretariat briefed the European Stakeholders' Platform on activities which had been carried out notably in France, Italy, Greece, Lithuania, Malta, Poland, Portugal, the Slovak Republic and Spain. Altogether, ELoGE projects are currently ongoing at different stages in 20 member States. New requests for accreditations are being prepared in Bosnia and Herzegovina, Romania, and Turkey.

5. Renewal and accreditation requests

The Platform examined the new accreditation requests presented by the Secretariat and set out in DG-SP(2021)5:

- the Association for Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA), requesting accreditation to implement ELoGE in Kosovo*
- the Chair of Good Governance and Public Integrity of the University of Murcia, requesting accreditation to implement ELoGE in the region of Murcia, Spain.

The Platform decided, in accordance with Article 10 of the Regulations and in the light of structures and procedures set out in the request, to grant accreditation to the Association for Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA) for implementing ELoGE in Kosovo* until December 2023. In taking this decision, the Platform members underlined the need for the accredited entity to promote balanced participation of municipalities and to ensure that the latter cooperate with their Association in the implementation of ELoGE.

The Platform also examined the request submitted by the Chair of Good Governance and Public Integrity at the University of Murcia for implementing ELoGE in the region of Murcia, Spain. The request, examined at the previous meeting, was accompanied this time by an implementation plan and information on the structures that would be involved in implementing and awarding ELoGE, and an explanation of the expertise of the applicant in the field of good governance as a whole.

The accreditation was granted, with a reminder that all 12 Principles should be given equal weight during the evaluations and that the ELoGE process should not be focused disproportionately on anti-corruption measures.

* All references to Kosovo, whether the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

6. Any other business

- Updating of the ELoGE Benchmark and Regulations

The Centre of Expertise would revise the current ELoGE [Benchmark](#) in cooperation with experts, based on the implementation experience so far. The Secretariat would submit the revised benchmarks, taking into account proposals from the gender equality rapporteurs, for their adoption at the next meeting or via written procedure.

The Platform agreed, following requests from several accredited organisations, to make the following amendments to the current ELoGE [Regulations](#): the name of the Platform itself should change to become the **ELoGE Accreditation Platform**, and a footnote should be added to item "iii.6 - ELoGE can be awarded to municipalities"¹.

7. Next meeting

The next meeting would be held as the need arises.

¹ IMC (inter-municipal cooperation) entities can also apply for the awarding of the ELoGE label, in those member states where they have legal personality and competencies comparable to those of local authorities.

APPENDIX I**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS****CHAIR / PRESIDENT**

Mr Markku MÖLLÄRI, Ministerial adviser, Department for Local Affairs and Regional Administration, Ministry of Finance, HELSINKI

OTHER MEMBERS / AUTRES MEMBRES

Mr Peter ANDRE, Ministry of Interior, Senior Expert for Legal Affairs, Wien, Austria

Mr Francesco GIUSTINO, Presidenza del Consiglio dei Ministri, D.A.R.A. - Ufficio Attività Internazionali, ROMA

Ms Albana KOÇIU, Director of the Department of Public Administration

Mr Edwin LEFEBRE, Deputy Director, Ministry of the Flemish Community, Agency for Home Affairs, BRUSSELS

Mr Paul ROWSELL, Head of Governance Reform and Democracy Unit, Ministry of Housing, Communities and Local Government, LONDON

Ms Stefanía TRAUSTADÓTTIR, Senior Advisor, Local Government, Department of Local Government and Regional Policy, Ministry of Transport and Local Government, REYKJAVÍK

SECRETARIAT

Mr Daniel POPESCU, Head of Democracy and Governance Department / Directorate of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance / Directorate General of Democracy

Ms Alina TATARENKO – Head of the Democratic Governance Division / Secretary of the CDDG / Directorate of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance / Directorate General of Democracy

Mr Christophe SPECKBACHER, Administrator – Democratic Governance Division / Directorate of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance / Directorate General of Democracy

Ms Judith ORLAND, Democratic Governance Division – Directorate of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance - Directorate General of Democracy

Ms Isabelle ETTER - Assistant

OTHER PARTICIPANTS / AUTRES PARTICIPANTS

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE / ASSEMBLEE
PARLEMENTAIRE DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

Ms Sibel ARSLAN, General Rapporteur on local and regional authorities, member of the
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

**CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF THE COUNCIL OF
EUROPE / CONGRES DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET REGIONAUX DU CONSEIL DE
L'EUROPE**

Mr Roman CHLAPAK, Secretariat of the Governance Committee / Secrétariat de la
Commission de la gouvernance

**CONFERENCE OF INGOS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONFERENCE DES OING DU
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

Mr Christoph SPRENG, Representative of the INGOS Conference to the CDDG, Initiatives
of Change-International

Interpreters / Interprètes

Ms Julia TANNER
Mr Didier JUNGLING

APPENDIX II**AGENDA**

- 1. Opening of the meeting by the Chair**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda** [DG-SP(2021)OJ2]
- 3. Report of the fifth meeting of the Enlarged Bureau (29 March 2021)** [\[DG-SP\(2021\)3\]](#)
- 4. Information on [ELoGE](#) progress and implementation in 2020-2021** [DG-SP(2021)4]
- 5. Renewal and new requests of accreditations** [DG-SP(2021)5]
 - Kosovo*
 - Murcia region, Spain
- 6. Any other business**
 - Change of the name of the Platform
 - Revision of the ELoGE rules
- 7. Next meeting**

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