

National associations of local authorities in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine strengthen their co-operation

29 June 2017 – Kyiv, Ukraine – “We have gathered today to unite our powers to build better and responsible local authorities. Our three associations are sharing common goals and European values, and only if we work together we can make a real progress”, stated Vitaliy Klitschko, Mayor of Kyiv and President of the Association of Ukrainian Cities, while signing the Memorandum of Understanding with the Presidents of the National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG) and of the Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM).

The signature of the Memorandum “is a crucial step towards strengthened co-operation between the facilitators of dialogue on local self-government in the region” stated Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. “It demonstrates the strong commitment to stand firmly at the forefront of local democracy, voicing for the interests of local authorities at national level”. Davit Jikia, President of NALAG acknowledged this step as key for building opportunities and partnerships. Tatiana Badan, President of CALM emphasised the “openness of the Congress and its support provided to the associations of local governments in pursuing successful reforms, for the benefit of citizens”.

The signing ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding is organised under the patronage of the [Congress of Local and Regional Authorities](#) within the thematic programme “Strengthening institutional frameworks for local governance”, implemented jointly with the Council of Europe Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform, Directorate General of Democracy. This programme is funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe, and implemented by the Council of Europe, through the [Partnership for Good Governance \(PGG\)](#) for 2015-2017 for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus.

Contact:

Marité Moras, Head of Unit, Co-operation and External Relations Department, Secretariat of the Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, + 33 6 50 39 29 07

Ion Beschieru, Programme Manager, Council of Europe programme “Strengthening institutional frameworks for local governance, +373 22 88 88 94

For further information:

<http://eap-pcf-eu.coe.int> and <http://www.coe.int/congress>