



CONFERENCE

PUBLIC GOVERNANCE AS THE FOUNDATION OF EUROPEAN INTEGRATION

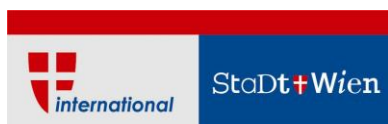
VIENNA CITY HALL, JUNE 23RD & 24TH, 2016

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IN PARTNERSHIP WITH:



Regional Cooperation Council



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ReSPA
Regional School
of Public Administration

Introduction

„Fundamentals first“ is the new approach of the European Commission which ensures a stronger focus on addressing fundamental reforms early in the enlargement process.¹ These include the three pillars „rule of law“, „economic governance“ and „**public administration reform (PAR)**“. PAR is no specific negotiation chapter but nevertheless has to be seen as horizontal priority of a successful accession process. Transparency, accountability, effectiveness and quality of the public administration and services need to be increased also among EU Member States. Manifold institutions and activities in the Danube Region and Western Balkans deal with these key issues and a knowledge exchange on PAR and Good Governance between them should be started.

The conference is embedded in the Austrian activities as host of the Berlin Process 2015 and the role of Vienna as Coordinator of the Priority Area “Stepping up Institutional Capacity and Cooperation” of the EU Strategy for the Danube Region (EUSDR). It has been initiated by the programme „Capacity Building in the Western Balkans and the Republic of Moldova“, funded by the Austrian Development Agency and implemented by the Austrian Association of Cities and Towns and KDZ-Centre for Public Administration Research.

Partners

Austrian Ministry for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs, Regional Cooperation Council, City of Vienna, PAC 10 “Institutional Capacity” (EUSDR), Center for Excellence in Finance, Austrian Association of Cities and Towns, , as well as Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA) and NALAS (Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe).

Objectives

- ☐ Contribute to the current efforts of Public Administration Reform in the Danube Region / Western Balkans
- ☐ Linking efforts towards Good Governance within the “Berlin Process” and EU accession integrating the EUSDR and SEE 2020 Strategy
- ☐ Drawing attention to the importance of the coordination between national and subnational level in PAR-programmes
- ☐ Creating an overview of existing European Governance tools and connecting them to PAR in the Danube Region/Western Balkans
- ☐ Initiating knowledge exchange and achieving synergies between relevant stakeholders dealing with Good Governance topics in the Danube Region/Western Balkans

Target Group

- ☐ Ministries of PA & MFAs Danube-Region/Western Balkan & EU
- ☐ European Commission & Institutions
- ☐ Local & Regional Government Associations, NALAS
- ☐ Universities & Experts related to PAR
- ☐ NGOs related to PAR
- ☐ European Public Administration Network, European Group for Public Administration, EIPA
- ☐ Development Agencies (ADA, SDC, GIZ...)
- ☐ EU programme authorities
- ☐ Stakeholders from macro-regional strategies (EUSDR, EUSAIR)

¹ COM(2015) 611 “EU Enlargement Strategy”:
http://ec.europa.eu/enlargement/pdf/key_documents/2015/20151110_strategy_paper_en.pdf

Draft Agenda June 23rd, 2016**9:00 – 17:00****Welcome**

9:00	Welcome and Opening of the Conference	Renate Brauner , Executive City Councillor of Finance, Economic and International Affairs of the City of Vienna
	The Berlin process as driver for EU accession and Good Governance	Michael Linhart , Austrian Ministry of European Integration and Foreign Affairs
	Public Administration Reform in South-East Europe: Common Challenges, Needs and Opportunities	Goran Svilanovic , Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council

Session: Towards Public Governance – Improving Public Administration in Europe

Moderation: Michael Ralph, Adviser to the Deputy Director General for Implementation in DG REGIO

	The Role of the EU Danube Macro-regional Strategy	Michael Ralph , Adviser to the Deputy Director General for Implementation in European Commission, DG REGIO
	The Role of Public Administration Reform in the EU Accession Process	Bernard Brunet , European Commission, DG Near

10:30 – 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 – 12:30	Government at a Glance – Contributing to Public Administration Reform	Zsuzsanna Lonti , Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)
	Supporting PAR in the Framework of EU-Accession – Lessons learned by SIGMA	Peter Vagi , Support for Improvement in Governance and Management (SIGMA)
	European Public Sector Awards – Learning from the Best	Marga Pröhl , European Institute of Public Administration (EIPA)
	Public Administration Reform in Albania	Milena Harito , Minister for Innovation and Public Administration of Albania

12:30 – 13:30 Lunch

13:30 – 15:00	Quality of Public Administration – A Toolbox for Public Administration Reform	Florian Hauser , European Commission DG Employment
	Local and Regional Governments contributing to Governance and Public Administration Reform	Mairi Evans , Member of the Governance Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe
	The Balkan Barometer 2015 & 2016 Measuring Public Governance	Erhan Turbedar , Regional Cooperation Council (RCC)
	Danube Governance Hub and Common Assessment Framework – The European Guideline for Public Governance	Thomas Prorok , KDZ Center for Public Administration Research, Austrian CAF Center

15:00 – 15:30 Coffee Break

Parallel Practice Sessions

Practice Session 1		hosted by CEF
15:30 – 17:00	Strengthening Public Finance Governance in South Eastern Europe: Complementing National and Sub-National Levels	
	Introduction and moderation	Vladimir Gligorov , Vienna Institute for International Economic Studies
	Successful Public Finance Knowledge Sharing: the Case of Strategic Planning and Budgeting Project	Mojmir Mrak , Center of Excellence in Finance (CEF)
	Financing the Local Public Services and Investments	Natasha Acevska , Network of Associations of Local Authorities in South East Europe (NALAS)
	Moderated Discussion	
Practice Session 2		hosted by NALAS
15:30 – 17:00	Better Services through Strong Cities	
	Moderation	Kelmend Zajazi , Network of Associations of Local Authorities in South East Europe (NALAS)
	NALAS Contribution to Stronger Cities in the Western Balkans	Naim Ismajli , President of NALAS and Mayor of Shtime Municipality, Kosovo
	Municipal finances: How to do Investments	Dragutin Djekovic , Capital City of Podgorica (tbc)
	Municipal Finance Self-Assessment – World Bank Tool for Local Government Assessment	Vladimir Bozinovski , Municipality of Gazi Baba, Macedonia
	The Governance Tools of the Council of Europe	Gennadiy Kosyak , Centre for Expertise for Local Government Reform, CoE
	Modernisation of Human Resource Practices in Budapest after EU Accession	Péter Szegvari , City of Budapest

Draft Agenda June 24th, 2016 8:30 – 13:00

Parallel Practice Sessions

Practice Session 3		hosted by ReSPA
8:30 – 10:00	Modern Human Resource Management for Better Public Governance	
	Moderation	Jan Meyer-Sahling , University of Nottingham, UK (tbc)
	Better Regulation Efforts in Western Balkans	Ivan Radulovic , Ministry of Finance of Montenegro / Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA)
	Managing Public Employment – Towards Merit Based Recruitment in Public Administration in the Western Balkans	Fatos Mustafa , Regional School of Public Administration (ReSPA)
	Modernisation of Civil Service in Bosnia and Herzegovina	Lejla Resic , Minister of Administration and Local Self-Government of the Republic of Srpska, Bosnia and Herzegovina
	Anti-Corruption Measures in Human Resource Management in Public Sector	N.N.
Practice Session 4		hosted by Danube Strategy Priority Area 10
8:30 – 10:00	Civil Society as Partner of Public Governance	
	Moderation	Stefan Lütgenau , Foster Europe – Foundation for strong European Regions
	Monitoring Public Administration Reforms by civil society in the Western Balkans	Milena Lazarevic , European Policy Centre (CEP)
	Digital Austria: from eGovernment to eGovernance	Christian Rupp , Platform Digital Austria, Federal Chancellery
	Good Governance and Civil Society in Macedonia	Emina Nuredinoska , Head of the Civil Society Department at Macedonian Center for International Cooperation
	Anti-corruption and transparency measures in Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina	Aida Soko , Advisor to Prime-Minister, Federation of Bosnia and Herzegovina
10:00 – 10:30	Coffee Break	

Political Session

10:30 – 11:15	Vienna - the Governance Hub of the Danube Region	Michael Häupl , Mayor and Governor of Vienna
	Fundamentals first: Good governance as The Foundation for European Integration	Johannes Hahn , Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations

Panel Discussion

Public Administration Reform as key for the EU enlargement process

Moderation: Rudolf Schicker, Coordinator of PA 10 of the European Union Strategy for the Danube Region

11:15 – 12:45	Goran Svilanovic , Secretary General of the Regional Cooperation Council
	Andrej Plenkovic , Member of the European Parliament, former Secretary of State for European Integration, Croatia (tbc)
	Marta Tomovska , Minister of Information Society and Administration, former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia
	Kori Udovicki , Deputy Prime Minister, Minister of Public Administration and Local Self-Government, Serbia (tbc)
	Klajda Gjosh a, Minister of European Integration, Albania
12:45	Closing of the Conference with Conclusions Werner Almhofer , Austrian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and European Integration Thomas Prorok , KDZ - Centre for Public Administration Research
13:00	Buffet