## Programmatic Cooperation Framework for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus







## PRESS RELEASE

## Regional Seminar "Citizen participation: an essential tool in local democracy" in Chisinau, Moldova

Strasbourg, 14 November 2016 – The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities is organising a regional seminar on "Citizen participation: an essential tool in local democracy" from 16 – 17 November 2016 in Chisinau (Moldova).

This seminar will aim to reinforce the accountability of local authorities, and to provide a platform for exchange on the challenges and solutions when engaging citizens in local decision-making, and discuss its importance, as one of the key pillars of local democracy.

The event will gather together mayors, representatives of associations of local and regional authorities, members of the Congress and experts from across the region and other European countries to build on the previous exchanges held, between October 2015 and June 2016, during "Mayors, leaders for change" workshops and the regional seminar on "Local public ethics: from vision to action".

The local elected representatives involved in this seminar reflect balanced gender, territorial and political representation in each country, highlighting the inclusive approach taken within the programme for strengthening frameworks for local governance in Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus.

The seminar is organised by the <u>Congress of Local and Regional Authorities</u> 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 <u>Programmatic Co-operation Framework</u> for 2015-2017 for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus.

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