

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 22 November 2023

CDDG(2023)14
Addendum
Item 4 of the agenda

**EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE
(CDDG)**

**OVERVIEW OF THE ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE
EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY AND GOVERNANCE
(CDDG)**

April 2014 (first meeting) – November 2023 (18th meeting)

Secretariat Memorandum
prepared by the
Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity
Democratic Governance Division

Overview of the achievements of the European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG) April 2014 (first meeting) – November 2023 (18th meeting)

Website: [European Committee on Democracy and Governance \(CDDG\) - Good Governance \(coe.int\)](https://www.coe.int/en/web/european-committee-on-democracy-and-governance)

Six legal instruments prepared by the CDDG

[Standards on democratic governance - Good Governance \(coe.int\)](https://www.coe.int/en/web/european-committee-on-democracy-and-governance)

- CM/Rec(2023)5 - Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the **principles of good democratic governance** and its [explanatory memorandum](#)
- CM/Rec(2023)6 – Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member States on **deliberative democracy**
- CM/Rec(2022)2 - Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member States on **democratic accountability** of elected representatives and elected bodies at local and regional level
- CM/Rec(2019)3E - [Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the supervision of local authorities activities](#)
- CM/Rec(2018)4 - Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers to member states on the **participation of citizens** in local public life
- [Revised Appendix](#) to Protocol 3 to the Madrid Outline Convention on **Transfrontier Cooperation** (2015)

Eight reports, guidelines, and policy documents

- Report on Multilevel governance (2023)
- Report on Green Public Administration (2023)
- Report on Deliberative Democracy (2023)
- CM(2022)10 Committee of Ministers Guidelines on the use of information and communication technology (ICT) in electoral processes in Council of Europe member States
- CM(2020)27 Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on public ethics
- [CM\(2017\)83 Guidelines for civil participation in political decision making](#)
- Special Report on Democratic Governance and COVID-19
- Compendium of the most relevant Council of Europe texts in the area of democracy (2016), prepared by the CDDG Secretariat under the supervision of the Committee, at the request of the Committee of Ministers

Participation in, and contribution to the work of other Council of Europe bodies

- Participation in the Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Legal, Operational and Technical Standards for **e-voting** (drafting the Recommendation on e-voting)
- Organisation of regular reviews of the implementation of the Recommendation CM/Rec(2017)5 on standards for **e-voting**, in cooperation with the Division of Elections and Participatory Democracy and the Venice Commission
- Regular participation in the work of the Committee on **Artificial Intelligence** (CAI), contribution to the preparation of the Convention on Artificial intelligence
- Regular comments on the recommendations of the Congress and Parliamentary Assembly, at the request of the Committee of Ministers

Sharing experience and promoting European standards

- Rapid Response Service: 54 requests from member states addressed, on subjects including administrative and territorial reforms, elections, the modernisation of public services;
- Peer reviews: CDDG members from 30 member states participated in 24 peer reviews organised by the Centre of Expertise, on the preparation and implementation of multi-level governance reforms;
- Contributions to the World Forum for Democracy: CDDG sponsored the Forum Talk "Building peace and democracy across borders" (2023), and Forum Talk "Deliberation: a booster for Democracy" (2022); organised an online roundtable "Is Democracy Key to Ensuring Peace?" (March 2023);
- International Conference on Democratic Governance and Deliberative Democracy, co-organised with the Lithuanian Ministry of the Interior and the Centre of Expertise for Good Governance in Vilnius (November 2023);
- Conference on Good Democratic Governance in Grado, Italy, in cooperation with the CEGG, AICCRE, and FVG (November 2023);
- Special Conference on Democracy and Governance and the COVID-19 (June 2020)
- Conferences on Cross-Border Cooperation with the Croatian presidency in Dubrovnik (2018) and with the Hungarian presidency in Budapest (2021)
- Conference on Democratic Governance of Metropolitan Areas (Thessaloniki, October 2017)
- Conference on "Inter-municipal cooperation and good governance: Cyprus and the European experience" (February 2017, Nicosia, Cyprus), in cooperation with the Centre of Expertise and the Cypriot presidency;
- Workshops on e-democracy in Belgium and in Hungary (April-May 2015).
- Regular exchanges of views and with various partners working on governance and democracy: Congress, Parliamentary Assembly, Conference of INGOs; EU; UN; Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR); OECD, SIGMA; the Economist Intelligence unit; International IDEA; Policy Committee at the Regional Studies Association (United Kingdom); University of Applied Sciences (Kehl, Germany);
- Regular exchanges of views with members of government and senior officials: at every CDDG plenary.

Steering ELoGE (The European Label of Governance Excellence)

- The ELoGE Accreditation Platform, composed of the CDDG Bureau members and chaired by the Chair of the CDDG, as well as the representatives of CINGO, the Congress, and Parliamentary Assembly, met regularly once or twice a year and delivered ELoGE accreditations to national platforms in 20 member states.

Cooperation with the Centre of Expertise (CEGG)

- Steering the CEGG activities
- Participation in 24 peer reviews
- Participation in the projects and activities organised by the CEGG in 25 member states
- CEGG toolkits and training materials inspired by the standards produced by the CDDG
- Cooperation on implementation and promotion of ELoGE

CDDG and CEGG News: [Democratic Governance newsroom - Good Governance \(coe.int\)](https://www.coe.int/en/web/democratic-governance/newsroom)

High-Level government officials who addressed CDDG meetings

- Albania: Mr Bledar Çuçi, Minister of State for Local Government
Ms Milena Harito, Minister of State for Innovation and Public Administration
Mr Arbjan Mazniku, Minister of State for Local Government
Ms Romina Kuko, Deputy Minister of Interior
- Armenia: Mr Vache Terteryan, Vice-Minister of Territorial Administration and Emergency Situations
- Croatia: Mr Lovro Kušćević, Minister of Public Administration
Mr Ivan Malenica, Minister of Public Administration
- Finland: Mr Jari Partanen, State Secretary, Ministry of Finance
- Georgia: Ms Mzia Giorgobani, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure
Mr Tengis Shergelashvili, Deputy Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure
- Germany: Mr Markus Richter, State Secretary and Federal Commissioner for Information Technology, Federal Ministry of the Interior, Building and Community

- Greece: Mr Nikos Chardalias, Deputy Minister of Civil Protection and Crisis Management
Mr Panagiotis Skourletis, Minister of Interior
Ms Georgia Valatsou, Permanent Secretary General, Ministry of the Interior
- Ireland: Mr Phil Hogan, Minister for the Environment, Community and Local Government
- Latvia: Agnese Geduševa, Parliamentary Secretary, Ministry of Environmental Protection and Regional Development
- Malta: Ms Hon. Alison Zerafa Civelli, Parliamentary Secretary responsible for Local Government, Malta
- North Macedonia: Ms Slavica Grkovska, Deputy President of the Government in charge of good governance policies of North Macedonia
Mr Damjan Manchevski, Minister for Information Society and Administration
- Norway: Ms Grete Ellingsen, State Secretary, Ministry of Local Government and Modernisation
- Republic of Moldova: Mr Sergiu Ceaus, Deputy State Secretary of the Government
Mr Dumitru UDREA, General Secretary of the Government,
Mr Valentin Guznac, Deputy Secretary General of the Government
- Romania: Ms Alexandra-Luminita Petrescu, State Secretary in the Ministry for Public Consultation and Civil Dialogue
- Slovenia: Mr Nejc Brezovar, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Public Administration
Ms Renata Zatler, State Secretary, Ministry of Public Administration
- Sweden: Mr Oscar Waglund Söderström, State Secretary for EU, Consumer and Democracy Affairs
- Slovak Republic: Mr Ján Lazar, State Secretary, Ministry of the Interior
Mr Vendelín Leitner, State Secretary, Ministry of Interior
- Ukraine: Mr Hennadiy Zubko, Deputy Prime Minister
Ms Oleksandra Azarkhina, Deputy Minister for Communities, Territories and Infrastructure Development of Ukraine
Mr Viacheslav Nehoda, First Deputy Minister of Regional Development
- United Kingdom: Lord Ahmad of Wimbledon, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for the Department for Communities and Local Government