

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 18 April 2023

CDDG(2023)9  
Item 8 of the agenda

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

**CENTRE OF EXPERTISE FOR GOOD GOVERNANCE**

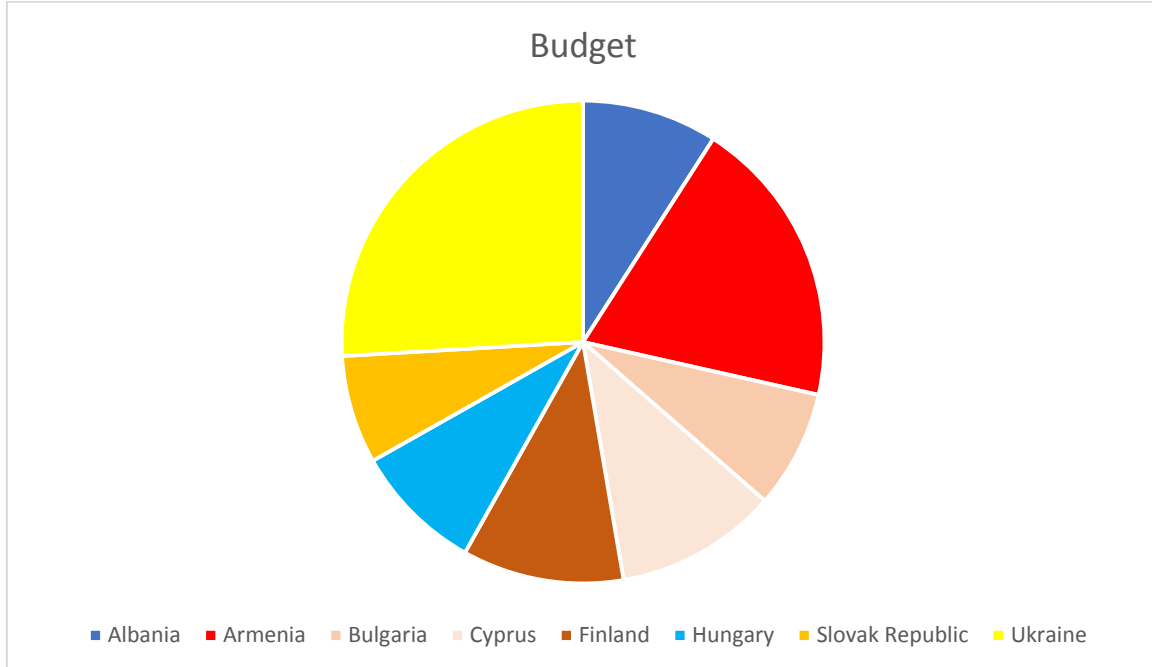
**Cooperation projects – Progress report**

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

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## Key facts and figures

In 2023, the Centre of Expertise is responsible for managing the implementation of projects and activities for a total budget of roughly €7,5 million, in 25 Council of Europe member States. The biggest projects include:



- Albania (total budget: € 700.000)
- Armenia (total budget: € 1.1 M)
- Bulgaria (total budget: € 610.000)
- Cyprus (total budget: € 840.000)
- Finland (total budget: € 835.000)
- Hungary (total budget: € 670.000)
- Slovakia (total budget: € 560.000)
- Ukraine (total budget: € 2 M)

In addition to these large projects, a number of small but high-impact projects and activities will be implemented in other member States, including Bosnia-Herzegovina, Estonia, France, Georgia, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Malta, Republic of Moldova, North Macedonia, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Spain, and Tûrkiye. These are funded or co-funded through the ordinary budget, amounting to about € 300.000.

Peers, experts, and public authorities from some 30 member States are expected to contribute to the implementation of these projects; many CDDG (European Committee on Democracy and Governance) members will be invited to participate in peer reviews and other activities of the CEGG. These activities will contribute to new or improved legislation, better implementation of reforms, and strengthened capacities of public authorities at all levels in our member States.

## Highlights by country

### Albania

The first project Steering Committee took place in March 2023 to launch activities aimed at strengthening human resources management and training and development at local level in the Albanian public administration.

### Armenia

Phase II of Democratic Development, Decentralisation and Good Governance in Armenia was launched in February 2023 and the 3<sup>rd</sup> stage of the Leadership Academy for Cross border cooperation with neighbouring Georgia was held in April 2023.

### Bosnia and Herzegovina

The first ELoGE award ceremony will be held in November 2023.

### Bulgaria

A Peer Review and study visit have contributed to the preparation of a technical report to support revision of the fiscal and financial framework for local self-government in Bulgaria.

### Cyprus

The new project was launched in February 2023 with a significant capacity-building component based on the toolkits of the CEGG.

### Finland

A CDDG Peer Review exercise involving several members of the CDDG will take place in June 2023.

### France

The second ELoGE award Ceremony was held at the Council of Europe in March 2023.

### Hungary

A CDDG Peer Review exercise on questions of local finance will be organised in May 2023.

### Italy

The Friuli Venezia Giulia region is hosting a study visit from Slovak municipalities to share experience and good practice on implementation of ELoGE.

## Latvia

An international roundtable discussion on the topic of ELoGE, mobilising representatives of ELoGE accredited platforms from several member states will be organised *en marge* of a Conference on Democratic Governance organised under the aegis of the Latvian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers in May 2023.

## Lithuania

A second cycle of ELoGE will be implemented culminating in a regional ELoGE conference in Vilnius in November 2023.

## Malta

The CEGG will support a revision and updating of the Training Needs Analysis and National Training Strategy.

## North Macedonia

At the request of the Deputy Prime Minister, a peer review activity was organised in February 2023 to advise on the establishment of a good governance training academy.

## Portugal

A second ELoGE award ceremony will be organised in the second half of the year.

## Serbia

An interim support activity will be organised to bridge the gap in project implementation in anticipation of a new phase of the project to support Human Resource Management in Local Self-Government being launched next year.

## Spain

The Murcia and Basque regions will contribute to revision and possible piloting of the updated ELoGE Benchmark.

## Türkiye

The [Arguden Governance Academy](#) and Marmara Municipalities Union will support implementation of a second cycle of ELoGE beyond the greater Istanbul metropolitan area.