

IMPROVING ELECTORAL PROCESSES & ELECTIONS:

THE ROLE OF ELECTORAL TRAINING CENTRES

Conference

PROGRAMME



Council of Europe, Strasbourg, France



28 NOV 2023 - 9.30-17.30

Palais de l'Europe, Room 11



29 NOV - 9.00-12.30

Agora Building, Room G04

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Draft agenda

Tuesday 28 November 2023

Morning session 9:30-13:00

Palais de l'Europe - Room11

Moderator: **Daniel POPESCU**, Head of Department of Democracy and Governance,
Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity

9:00 – 9:30	Welcoming of participants – Agora Building
9:30 – 9:45	Opening remarks <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Claudia LUCIANI, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, Council of Europe- Ambassador Svetlana GELEVA, Permanent Representative of North Macedonia, Chair of the Rapporteur Group on Democracy (GR-DEM) of the Committee of Ministers
9:45 – 10:30	Enhancing professionalism and training of election administration: Recommendations from the Venice Commission, the Parliamentary Assembly, Congress and OSCE/ODIHR s' election observation missions Panellists: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (Switzerland/SOC)- Stewart DICKSON, Spokesperson on elections Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe – President of the Council for Democratic Elections- Pierre GARRONE, Secretary of the Council for Democratic Elections, Head of Division, Venice Commission- Kakha INAISHVILI, Election Adviser, Election department OSCE/ODIHR <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions & Answers</i></p>
10:30 - 11:00	Introduction to Electoral Training Centres: Mandate (incl. legal framework), mission, role, structure and resources Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Natia ZAALISHVILI, Director, Centre for Electoral Systems Development, Reforms and Trainings – Georgia- Doina BORDEIANU, Director Centre for Electoral Continuous Training, Republic of Moldova <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions & Answers</i></p>
11:00- 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>

<p>11:15 - 13:00</p>	<p>Case studies presenting current work and experience from different Electoral training centres or Election Management Bodies (EMBs) from different Council of Europe Member States</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Erik ASPLUND, Senior Programme Officer, International IDEA - Doina BORDEIANU, Director Centre for Electoral Continuous Training, Republic of Moldova - Suad ARNAUTOVIC, Chair, Central Election Commission of Bosnia and Herzegovina - Natia ZAALISHVILI, Director, Centre for Electoral Systems Development, Reforms and Trainings – Georgia - Yevheniia PAVLOVSKA, Senior Project Manager at IFES Ukraine, Director of the Joint IFES-CEC Training Center, Ukraine - Ljupka GUGUCHEVSKA, Head of Continuous training department, State Election Commission, North Macedonia - Paul DOCKER, Head of Election Administration Department for Levelling Up, Housing and Communities, United Kingdom <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions & Answers</i></p>
<p>13:00 - 14:30</p>	<p><i>Lunch break – Blue Restaurant Gallery</i></p>

Afternoon session 14:30-17:30

Palais de l'Europe - Room11

Moderator: **Daniel POPESCU**, Head of Department of Democracy and Governance, Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity

<p>14:30 - 15:45</p>	<p>Overview of training policies for different electoral stakeholders:</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Yana ZOLOTAROVA, Head of communications of Civil Network, "OPORA", Ukraine - Natia ZAALISHVILI, Director, Centre for Electoral Systems Development, Reforms and Trainings – Georgia - Cezara-Elena POLISCA, Head of Didactics, Methodology and Training of Trainers Unit, National Institute of Justice, Moldova - John AULT, Director, Democracy Volunteers, United Kingdom <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions & Answers</i></p>
<p>15:45 - 16:00</p>	<p><i>Coffee break</i></p>

16:00 - 17:30	<p>Voter and civic education programmes & awareness raising campaigns General population and specific groups (first-time voters, youth, minority groups, person with disabilities...)</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Rui GOMES, Head of Education and training division, Youth Department, Council of Europe - Albina ROSANDIĆ, Secretary General, Central Election Commission, Croatia - Robert SINNOTT, Voice of Vision Impairment, Ireland - Dana MUNTEANU, member of the Central Election Commission, Republic of Moldova - Andriy HEVKO, member of the Central Election Commission, Ukraine - Dumitru STOICA, Member, National Youth Council, Republic of Moldova <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions & Answers</i></p>
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Wednesday 29 November 2023

Morning session 9:00-12:30

Agora – Room G04

Moderator: **Franck DAESCHLER**, Deputy Head of Elections and Participatory Division, Department of Democracy and Governance, Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity

9:00 – 10:00	<p>Digitalization of electoral processes – Training needs, means and perspectives</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Tamar TSERTSVADZE, Head of Human Resources Management and Labor Safety Department and Member of Gender Equality Council, CEC of Georgia - Cristina CUCURUDZA, Deputy Director Centre for Electoral Continuous Training, Republic of Moldova - Jordi BARRAT, Council of Europe expert <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions & Answers</i></p>
10:00 – 11:00	<p>Monitoring impact of trainings on electoral environment</p> <p>Panellists:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Sylvie AFFHOLDER, Head of Election Observation and support Division, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe - Stewart DICKSON, Spokesperson on elections Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe – President of the Council for Democratic Elections - Kakha INAISHVILI, Election Adviser, Election department, OSCE/ODIHR - Harry BUSZ, Deputy Director Policy & Communications, Democracy Volunteers, United Kingdom <p style="text-align: center;"><i>Questions & Answers</i></p>
11:00 - 11:15	<i>Coffee break</i>

**11.15 -
12.30**

Conclusions & Ways forward

Strengthening cooperation between electoral training centres as well as electoral management bodies in the field of training and capacity building of election administration and other electoral stakeholders

Speakers:

- **Natia ZAALISHVILI**, Director, Centre for Electoral Systems Development, Reforms and Trainings - Georgia
- **Albina ROSANDIĆ**, Secretary General, Central Election Commission, Croatia
- **Claudia LUCIANI**, Director of Human Dignity, Equality and Governance, Council of Europe