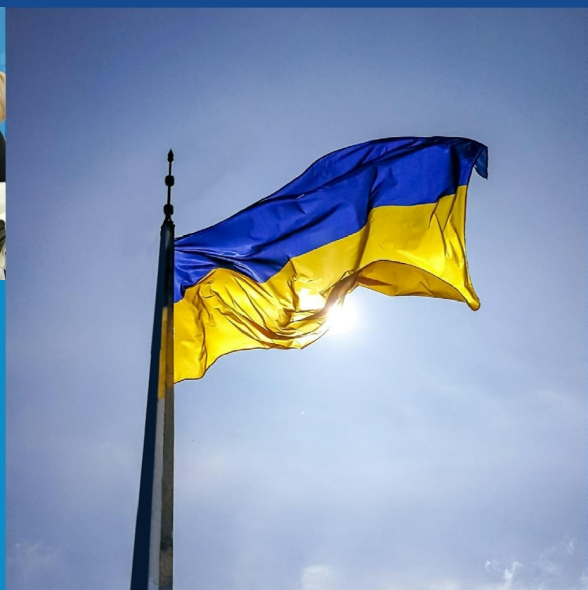
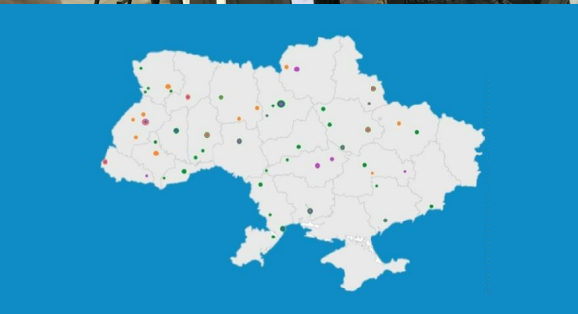


STRENGTHENING MULTILEVEL GOVERNANCE AND LOCAL DEMOCRACY TO SUPPORT UKRAINE'S RECOVERY



Implemented by
the Centre of Expertise for Multilevel Governance
at the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

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ABOUT THE PROJECT

The project seeks to strengthen Ukraine's multilevel governance and local democracy during the war and post-war period by improving legal frameworks, enhancing the quality of local and regional governance, and promoting democratic innovations based on human rights and open government principles.

Through enhanced co-operation with civil society, state and local authorities and their associations and international partners, this initiative will also contribute to Ukraine's recovery and EU integration process by promoting participatory democracy and building public trust in democratic institutions.

The project focuses on areas where the Council of Europe has a clearly identifiable and widely recognised added value among other international players, as developer and guardian of the European Charter of Local Self-Government – the first benchmark international treaty in this area, which is ratified by all member states – and a range of standards on good democratic governance and citizen participation.

KEY COMPONENTS

- 1. Improving legal and institutional frameworks on multilevel governance** in line with the European Charter of Local Self-Government, European standards and good practices.
- 2. Improving the quality of local and regional governance** through strengthened institutional capacities and collaborative approaches adopted by local and regional authorities and their associations, as well as other public (state) authorities.
- 3. Boosting democratic innovations and participatory governance** to foster public participation and strengthen collaboration with civil society organisations (CSOs).

PARTNERS AND BENEFICIARIES

- Local and regional authorities and their associations
- Parliament of Ukraine
- Government of Ukraine
- Civil society organisations

EXPECTED ACHIEVEMENTS

- A more resilient, transparent, and democratic governance system that meets citizens' needs during and after the war and contributes to long-term stability and democratic resilience across communities in Ukraine
- Improved legal frameworks and institutional structures enabling a more decentralised and efficient public administration.
- Greater participation of citizens and CSOs in decision making through the implementation of open government principles and participatory democracy, including deliberative processes.
- Enhanced collaboration between public authorities, international partners, and communities.

HOW THE PROJECT WORKS

- Provides support to improve the advocacy role of national associations of local and regional authorities on local self-government reform and transition from military to civilian administration, thus strengthening local democracy and contributing to Ukraine's EU integration process.
- Encourages peer exchanges between Ukrainian and other European associations of local and regional authorities to strengthen local self-government and the resilience of local communities in times of war and during the recovery and reconstruction.
- Facilitates multistakeholder negotiations and dialogue platforms on multilevel governance reforms and fosters central–local co-operation.
- Provides policy advice, legal opinions and expertise on draft and existing legislation at the request of national partners.
- Promotes integration of European standards for local democracy and human rights in the strategies and practices.
- Supports intermunicipal, metropolitan and cross-border co-operation through expert and financial support.
- Promotes participatory and deliberative democracy in line with European standards and best practice.

With a duration of 21 months (April 2025 – December 2026), the project is implemented as part of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine **“Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction”** for 2023–2026 by the Centre of Expertise for Multilevel Governance at the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.

The Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” 2023-2026 is a strategic programming instrument that focuses on accompanying the reconstruction process and economic recovery in Ukraine, strengthening the resilience of Ukrainian public institutions. The document is one element of a broader range of assistance provided to Ukraine in the context of its institutional relations with the Council of Europe.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

www.coe.int/congress-cemg

Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2023–2026

www.coe.int/en/web/programmes/ukraine

Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

www.coe.int/kyiv

CONTACTS

Albert FLORES-HERRERA

Project Co-ordinator

Secretariat of the Congress

albert.flores-herrera@coe.int

Svitlana GRyshCHENKO

Project Manager

Council of Europe Office in Ukraine

svitlana.gryshchenko@coe.int

ENG

www.coe.int/congress

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities is an institution of the Council of Europe, responsible for strengthening local and regional democracy in its 46 member states. Composed of two chambers – the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions – and three committees, it brings together 612 elected officials representing more than 130 000 local and regional authorities.

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