



Meeting on “local initiatives on ethical governance and transparency”

*Palais de l'Europe, meeting room 10
Strasbourg, France*

1 March 2017

Context

The thematic programme “Strengthening institutional frameworks for local governance” is part of the CoE/EU Eastern Partnership Programmatic Co-operation Framework (PCF) during 2015 – 2017 in the Eastern Partnership countries (Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus). It is implemented by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (the Congress), in close co-operation with the Directorate General for Democracy.

On 10 November 2016, the Congress launched a Call for proposals for ‘Local initiatives on ethical governance and transparency’, for local authorities in Armenia, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine. The Call was supported through information sessions organised in each country, in close co-operation with the national associations of local and regional authorities. As a result, a total of 12 applications were selected by an Evaluation Committee made up of international and national experts in the fields of local governance and ethics, and Congress Secretariat. The initiatives, which reflect the experience acquired throughout the programme, will increase transparency, accountability and integrity in the respective local governments, and will lead to a higher level of citizen participation in local decision-making.

Involving mayors, associations of local and regional authorities and national coaches, this meeting will enable those selected to exchange at a peer-to-peer level on the approaches, methods and processes that they will take when implementing their initiatives. The aim will be to officially sign the grant agreements and to inform mayors about all relevant procedures.

Interpretation will be provided in English and Russian.

Contacts

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*The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation.
It comprises 47 member states, 28 of which are 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 47 member states.
Composed of two chambers – the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions – and three committees, it brings
together 648 elected officials representing more than 200 000 local and regional authorities*

<http://www.coe.int/t/congress>

Agenda

1 March 2017

09:00 – 09:45

Welcome and introduction

Tour de table

09:45 – 12:30

Leading change through local initiatives

Presentations of initiatives by mayors with discussions to follow:

- Ethics
 - Lela Kitesashvili, Tianeti, Georgia
 - Larisa Voloh, Palanca, Moldova
 - Liudmyla Koval, Netchyntsi, Ukraine
 - Yuri Fomichev, Slavutych, Ukraine
- Transparency
 - Sergey Petrosyan, Aygepat, Armenia
 - Edgar Arshakyan, Tashir, Armenia
 - Natalia Petrea, Costesti, Moldova
 - Sergii Zamidra, Nemishaeve, Ukraine
- Citizen participation
 - Vachik Hovhannisyan, Karmir Aghek, Armenia
 - Vazha Chokheli, Dusheti, Georgia
 - Gocha Gochitashvili, Kaspi, Georgia
 - Nina Costiuc, Budesti, Moldova

→ Lunch (12:30 – 14:00)

14:00 – 15:00

Ethics: addressing local government standards as leaders of change

15:00 – 16:00

Transparency: a two-way process for citizen participation

→ Coffee break

16:15 – 17:00

Procurement and reporting procedures

Presentations and discussions will be held on the procedures to be respected regarding procurement and reporting

17:00 – 17:30

Conclusions

17:30 – 19:00

Official ceremony

Signature of the grant agreements, followed by reception

2 March 2017

09:00 – 10:00

Work in groups: implementation of local initiatives

Work per country with the support of national experts. Discussions will focus on specific approaches, methods and processes to be taken in implementation.

10:00 – 12:00

Presentation of the Council of Europe

- Guided visit of the Palais de l'Europe
- Exchange on the role and the work of the European Court of Human Rights

→ Lunch (12:00 – 14:00)

List of participants

Mayors

1. Sergey PETROSYAN, Mayor of Aygepat, Armenia
2. Vachik HOVHANNISYAN, Mayor of Karmir Aghek, Armenia
3. Edgar ARSHAKYAN, Mayor of Tashir, Armenia
4. Vazha CHOKHELI, Gamgebeli of Dusheti, Georgia
5. Gocha GOCHITASHVILI, Gamgebeli of Kaspi, Georgia
6. Lela KITESASHVILI, Gamgebeli of Tianeti, Georgia
7. Natalia PETREA, Mayor of Costesti, Moldova
8. Larisa VOLOH, Mayor of Palanca, Moldova
9. Serhii ZAMIDRA, Mayor of Nemishaeve, Ukraine
10. Liudmyla KOVAL, Mayor of Netchyntsi, Ukraine
11. Yuri FOMICHEV, Mayor of Slavutych, Ukraine

Project co-ordinators (assistants)

12. Laura HARUTYUNYAN, Aygepat, Armenia
13. Marine VANYAN, Tashir, Armenia
14. Tinatin TSOTSKHALASHVILI, Dusehti, Georgia
15. Koba MAMULASHVILI, Kaspi, Georgia
16. Tamta MEGRELISHVILI, Tianeti, Georgia
17. Elena ZAGORNII, Budesti, Moldova
18. Maria BIVOL, Costesti, Moldova
19. Morari NATALIA, Palanca, Moldova
20. Liudmyla KINDRAT, Nemishaeve, Ukraine
21. Dariia TYKHONOVA, Netchyntsi, Ukraine

Associations of local and regional authorities and observers organisations

22. Natalya LAPAURI, Executive Director, Communities Association of Armenia (CAA), Armenia
23. Davit MELUA, Executive Director, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG), Georgia
24. Alexandru OSADCI, Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM), Moldova
25. Mykola POIEDYNOK, Executive Director of the Association of Village and Settlement Councils of Ukraine (VASSR), Ukraine
26. Olena TOMNIUK, Deputy Director of the Association of Ukrainian Cities, Ukraine

Experts

1. Armine TUKHIKYAN, Armenia
2. Giorgi MESKHIDZE, Georgia
3. Gheorghe CARASENI, Moldova
4. Roberto FALANGA, Portugal
5. Sorin IONITA, Romania
6. Paolo CRUGNOLA, Switzerland
7. Tetiana VASYLEVSKA, Ukraine
8. Aive PEVKUR, Estonia
9. Kaela SCOTT, United Kingdom

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

10. María OCHOA-LLIDÓ, Head of Department, Co-operation and External Relations, Congress Secretariat
11. Marité MORAS, Head of the Co-operation Activities Unit, Congress Secretariat
12. Svetislav PAUNOVIC, Project Co-ordinator, Congress Secretariat
13. Olwen BYRNE, Project Assistant, Congress Secretariat

Council of Europe office in Chisinau

14. José-Luis HERRERO, Head of Office
15. Ion BESCHIERU, Programme Manager
16. Violeta FRUNZE, Senior Project Officer
17. Marina TABARNA, Project Assistant