

## The Bureau of the Congress

**CG-BUR(2022)43-12<sup>1</sup>**

28 January 2022

## Partner of the European Local Democracy Week 2021 – Candidatures

Action required : for decision

---

<sup>1</sup> This document is classified as confidential until it has been examined by the Bureau of the Congress.

## INTRODUCTION

On 6 November 2018, the Congress adopted Resolution 430 (2018) on new modalities of the European Local Democracy Week (ELDW), creating a new momentum for this initiative.

In order to highlight the active commitment of certain municipalities and associations to raising the citizens' awareness of local democracy, the new modalities provide for granting local and regional authorities taking part in the ELDW the title "Partner of the European Local Democracy Week". This new title replaces the "12 Stars" status awarded until 2018.

This title is granted *a posteriori*, based on the criteria established by the Resolution, upon the actual participation and report on activities<sup>2</sup>. To receive the title, municipalities need to:

1. Allocate a specific budget for citizens' participation;
2. Run an ELDW promotion campaign (posters, promotion of activities at school...) using the ELDW visual identity decided upon and provided by the Congress;
3. Carry out a number of specific activities linked to the leading theme of the year;
4. Organise an event with a European or pan-European dimension to illustrate the role of local authorities in the construction of a democratic Europe. A Congress representative may be invited to this main event;
5. Inclusiveness: extend the social scope of the initiative by reaching out to different groups of citizens, especially the groups that can feel excluded (children, elderly, women, Roma and Travellers, people with a disability, minorities...);
6. Promote the engagement of young people and youth organisations, including by involving or creating youth councils;
7. Implement sustainable initiatives thereby creating an environment in which citizens and local authorities share the same long-term goals, namely, to reinforce citizens' awareness and participation in decision making;
8. Implement innovative activities and projects.

In addition, the resolution recommends designating a local person of influence as the Voice of the ELDW, in order to raise awareness of the initiative and improve its outreach.

## PROPOSAL FOR A BUREAU DECISION

In 2021, 25 local and regional authorities and 2 associations (27 applicants in total) requested to be granted the title "Partner of the European Local Democracy Week 2021"<sup>3</sup>. Their requests were submitted through online registration on a dedicated page on the EDLW website. Based on the information provided, 21 of them have fulfilled the required criteria<sup>4</sup>.

The Secretariat of the Congress therefore proposes that the Congress Bureau grant the title of "Partner of the European Local Democracy Week 2021" to the 21 municipalities listed below:

---

<sup>2</sup> See Appendix 2

<sup>3</sup> See Appendix 1

<sup>4</sup> See Appendix 3

1. Municipality of Ahmetbey (Turkey)
2. Municipality of Beşiktaş (Turkey)
3. Municipality of Beykoz (Turkey)
4. Municipality of Buca (Turkey)
5. Municipality of Büyükçekmece (Turkey)
6. Municipality of Cascais (Portugal)
7. Municipality of Çiğli (Turkey)
8. Municipality of Edremit (Turkey)
9. Municipality of Efeler (Turkey)
10. City of Fastiv (Ukraine)
11. City of Kharkiv (Ukraine)
12. Municipality of Konak (Turkey)
13. City of Kyiv (Ukraine)
14. City of Lviv (Ukraine)
15. Municipality of Lüleburgaz (Turkey)
16. Municipality of Muratpaşa (Turkey)
17. City of Nis (Serbia)
18. Municipality of Ramnicu Valcea (Romania)
19. Municipality of Rize (Turkey)
20. Municipality of Tekirdağ (Turkey)
21. Municipality of Valongo (Portugal)

## Appendix 1

### Applications received

#### 1. Ahmetbey Municipality, Turkey

Ahmetbey Municipality has been taking part in the ELDW since 2017. For this year, they allocated a budget of € 4,500. As part of their activities regarding this year's theme, Ahmetbey Municipality organised for example a painting competition in which children and young people participated with the goal of drawing attention to the issue of climate change and the importance of water saving and to raise awareness in general. Successful students selected from a total of 104 paintings were given bicycles and different gifts. Furthermore, Ahmetbey Mayor Mustafa ALTINTAŞ, other elected representatives and teachers held an outdoor meeting with students in a nature setting, to discuss issues such as increasing solidarity and co-operation during the COVID-19 epidemic, providing nature protection and environmental awareness training in schools, raising awareness among adults on climate change, water-saving initiatives, and better ways of recycling with the help of students, youth and children. At the end of the meeting, olive saplings were planted in the European park of Ahmetbey with all participants. In addition, as an example of awareness raising, an environmental engineer who works at Ahmetbey Municipality provided a total of 12 hours of training to 150 students in their classrooms on nature protection, local and national methods of combating climate change, and recycling of household waste.

#### 2. Beşiktaş Municipality, Turkey

The municipality of Beşiktaş has been participating in the ELDW initiative since 2016. In the 2021 Edition, the Municipality has focused on theme-related initiatives such as a saving water campaign, a recycling campaign, aids for those in need of social welfare and aid campaigns for preventing and mitigating forest fires with an allocated budget of € 4.000. To give an example, the Beşiktaş Map of Needs Social Welfare Management System is an initiative that connects those in need with those who are willing to help them. With this initiative, needs such as rentals, bills, scholarships and tablets were covered by benefactors. To do that, a field solution team has visited over 90.000 homes and conducted surveys to determine households in need.

As another example, the municipality has committed itself to fight many wildfires that burst simultaneously on the Aegean and Mediterranean coasts. Beşiktaş sent ambulances (including two animal ambulances), two mobile kiosks, refrigerated trucks and more equipment to Milas, Bodrum, accompanied by support service teams.

#### 3. Beykoz Municipality (Turkey)

Beykoz Municipality took part in the ELDW for the first time and organised many events related to this year's theme. They included collecting biodegradable wastes from the markets and transforming into different farms, fields and nature as soil-improving compost and growers, for a cleaner and more sustainable environment in Beykoz; this project was called "Juniper Table". The Municipality also implemented activities to raise the awareness of citizens for recycling issues. To achieve this aim, they organised a project called "Zero Waste Taxi", under which citizens of Beykoz collected their recycling materials (such as paper, plastic, glass, cardboard, batteries, electronic wastes etc.) in their homes, then called the municipality's lines and informed the officials of their wastes, addresses and phone numbers. Instead of going outside or looking for recycling units, the special minibus ( "Zero Waste Taxi") drove to the registered addresses and collected the wastes.

#### 4. Buca Municipality (Turkey)

Buca took part in the ELDW for the first time and was very active in organising events related to this year's theme. Within the scope of European Mobility Week, İzmir Sustainable Urban Development Network Executive Board Member, Prof. Dr. Canan Madran, held an online conversation event on "Climate Crisis and the City". In the interview attended by university students, municipal staff and the city council, he highlighted the advantages of cities' turning to alternative transportation vehicles and energy sources, providing numerical data and prominent examples. An online interview on "Collaborations for Sustainable Development and Local Administrations" was also held with the Sustainability Steps Association and Buca municipality employees.

Additionally, an online (Participation Certificate) Sustainability and Ecological Literacy Training & Climate Literacy Training Program was organised for University Students with the Yuva Association (Global Literacy Network). Furthermore, the municipality of Buca has become a member of the Global Literacy Network (KOZA), which has 53 members, and organised a “Disaster Awareness Training Program” for the personnel the Municipality of Buca.

## **5. Büyükçekmece Municipality (Turkey)**

The municipality of Büyükçekmece has been participating in the ELDW since 2012. The municipality developed for this year's theme a mobile application named “Mobile Waste Management App”, aimed at making the residential waste management more efficient by establishing an appointment system for collecting recyclable wastes from citizens. A “Localization of Sustainable Development Goals” seminar was organised in co-operation with the Argüden Governance Academy to raise awareness of the municipal administrators regarding SDG implementation at local level.

In addition, the municipality arranged a training for citizens who would like to participate in the environmental process as so called “Environmental Inspectors”. In this training, the citizens learned how to segregate waste correctly with the aim to create environmental sensitivity and to raise awareness, especially for young people. Within the framework of the European Mobility Week, the city council organized a “Zero Waste and Emission Contest” to popularize both recycling and the use of bicycles. To encourage as many citizens as possible, a raffle was created, in which children have participated in a competition by collecting packaging waste, electronic waste and batteries. Bicycles were distributed to 65 children who collected the waste in each category.

## **6. Cascais Municipality (Portugal)**

The Municipality of Cascais participated in the ELDW for the third time. Cascais has, in recent years, invested both in educational activities among the population, especially the younger ones, and in environmental sustainability projects.

Since 2012, around € 7 million were invested in projects in the area of environmental preservation and sustainability (about 11% of the Municipality's Pluriannual Investment Plan), such as:

- Asbestos removal in schools;
- Building biological lakes at schools;
- Ecopoints for paper, plastic and caps inside school spaces;
- Reforestation of forests and areas affected by fire
- Renewable energy in infrastructure of the Volunteer Fire Brigade and Sports Club;
- Cycle Paths and Cycle Routes;
- Green Spaces, Benches for mobile phone chargers and bust stop covers with fi-fi using solar energy;
- Community Gardens to produce organic agricultural products.

In 2021, Cascais launched a program named “Irec” – innovation in recycling – as a pilot project that challenges all consumers to return empty drink packages and insert it once again in the production cycle of new packaging or products. The Municipality also launched a “Youth Volunteer program” with the aim to promote the principles of active citizenship among young people, to provide participants with opportunities to develop skills on a personal, social and professional level and to foster youth community spirit through the involvement in community service projects and events. The program allowed young people from 12 to 30 years to contribute to the general well-being and safety of visitors of the county's beaches, to promote a better use of the beaches and preventing risk situations, sensitize visitors to issues related to environmental improvement, waste sorting and to disclose to the visitors useful information regarding tourism, environment, public health, etc...

In addition, the first hydrogen fuel cell bus produced in Portugal began operating in Cascais in August 2021. The hydrogen that is used will be entirely produced in Cascais through the electrolysis process that will be powered by electricity from renewable sources, allowing the production of at least 350 kg of green hydrogen per day, which will be compressed and stored for later transfer to the vehicles. Cascais has thus taken

another step towards decarbonising society and the economy, ensuring greater safety and social cohesion and reducing its ecological footprint.

## **7. Çiğli Municipality (Turkey)**

Çiğli Municipality has been participating in the ELDW since 2019. Almost all of their activities were related to the theme of this year. In 2021, the municipality established a “Climate Change Directorate” and organised 10 national and international meetings in a series “Çiğli Municipality Climate Action Plan Roundtable Meetings”, to raise awareness of the issue of climate change. They also organised a public debate called “Climate Speeches in Çiğli”, in which a member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Selin Sayek BÖKE, participated as a speaker.

## **8. Edremit Municipality, Turkey**

As an ELDW participant and a Partner city since 2017, the municipality of Edremit has allocated a substantial budget of € 3,000 for this year’s ELDW edition.

The amount was destined to the organisation of annual activities and in particular to support the establishment of the Edremit Local Democracy Agency – the first Local Democracy Agency of Turkey established with the participation and collaboration of several CSOs active at local level and the support of ALDA (European Association for Local Democracy). In the frame of the establishment of the Edremit LDA, a working session was dedicated to the “Green Participatory Budget” principle of supporting the financing of citizens’ projects related to climate change and resilient urban communities, and ways in which this participatory initiative can be applied to the main theme of protecting the environment.

Edremit, in collaboration with YUVA association (a CSO dedicated to holistic sustainable solutions to environmental problems, education, and social issues both in Turkey and in the world) and members of the Citizens’ Council of Edremit Municipality also supported and participated in a series of trainings dedicated to the topic of immigration and its social and climate causes, with specific attention to the policies of Social Inclusion to be implemented by members of local communities and other local actors. A 3-day biking event dedicated to the inclusiveness of barrier-free sport and the environmental sustainability of green sports were among other ELDW activities organised by Edremit.

In the frame of the 2021 edition of the European Local Democracy Week, Edremit Municipality organised two pan-European dimension events: the “Signature Ceremony of the Memorandum of Understanding of Local Democracy Agency” in Edremit and the “Plaque of Honour Awarding Ceremony.” Both ceremonies were organised on 15 October as Flagship events of the European Local Democracy Week 2021.

## **9. Efeler Municipality, Turkey**

The Municipality of Efeler allocated an annual budget of € 4,200 for the improvement and protection of the environment and public health, raising environmental and nature awareness and providing qualitative, accessible and sustainable services that will contribute to ecological life. Examples of those activities were the establishment of environmental councils in over 40 neighbourhoods in the district of Efeler, the installation of dual mobile waste bins and waste collection centers, and the organisation of painting, poetry and music competitions within the scope of a project titled “Choose recycling for a cleaner effect”.

As part of the European Mobility week, bicycles were presented to children living in disadvantaged areas in order to raise awareness in society and to encourage bicycle use in the municipality.

## **10. City of Fastiv (Ukraine)**

The City of Fastiv started to participate in ELDW initiative in 2016. For 2021, the City Council allocated more than € 49,000 to implement ELDW activities and initiatives related to this year’s main theme. Among many activities organised by Fastiv were a meeting of the expert and coordinator of the International Technical Assistance Project “Promotion of Energy Efficiency and the implementation of the EU Directive on Energy Efficiency in Ukraine” with budget managers of the Executive Committee, a training for designated officials on

energy efficiency in public buildings, a day of youth self-government in the executive committee of Fastiv City Council and a round table with young people called «Youth Eco-Initiatives in the Community». As an event with a pan-European dimension, the city council organised an international video conference with the title “Let’s save nature to save lives” at the Youth Center, attended by representatives of youth councils and NGOs, students from Ukraine, Poland, Turkey and Germany and two members of the Council of Europe Congress.

### **11. City of Kharkiv (Ukraine)**

Since 2015 Kharkiv City Council has been an active ELDW participant and was granted several times the 12 stars status as well as the Partner of ELDW title. More than € 50,000 were allocated from the municipal budget for the implementation of all projects and initiatives organised within the frame of the ELDW in 2021, which promoted citizen participation in the community, and brought together local authorities and community residents to engage on issues of common interest for the Kharkiv community development.

The allocated budget was spent on the services for organising events as well as ELDW promotion campaigns. As part of World Clean-Up Day in September (an initiative, uniting 180 countries and more than 50 million participants, aimed at taking care of the environment), more than 10.000 Kharkiv residents, together with the Youth Council and with the support of the Mayor of Kharkiv and the Kharkiv Eco City initiative, organised the most largescale clean-up event on 35 sites in the city. On 6 October, Kharkiv joined EBRD Green Cities, the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development’s flagship urban sustainability programme. The relevant memorandum of understanding was signed, according to which Kharkiv committed to developing a tailor-made Green City Action Plan that will shape the response to its environmental needs and will allow the city to build a better and more sustainable future for its residents. An environmental campaign “Greening of the Planet” was held in April in Kharkiv, involving state and local officials, representatives of foreign diplomatic missions and active citizens. Kharkiv also organised a Project named “We do care”. Within the frames of the project 10 sets of containers were purchased to equip stationary facilities for collecting hazardous waste (luminous lamps, mercury containing thermometers, batteries, etc...) from the locals, and a minibus, which is being used as a relocatable collection point.

### **12. Municipality of Konak (Turkey)**

Konak Municipality took part in the ELDW the second time and carried out 7 activities related to the environmental protection as part of the European Local Democracy Week’s annual theme. These activities included an awareness-raising poster campaign on environment issues, providing training to young people on project preparation with a focus on the environment and the climate crisis, training young people to become climate ambassadors, holding a caricature contest on the climate crisis, preparing posters on the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goals, and carrying out activities during the European Mobility Week to raise awareness on environmental concerns and promote car-free streets.

Regarding pan-European events, on 22 September 2021 the Municipality organised a “Car-Free Day” alongside other European cities as part of the European Mobility Week. Additionally, a “Global Village Festival” was held with the participation of young people from Romania, Ukraine, Tunisia, Russia and Morocco.

### **13. City of Kyiv (Ukraine)**

Kyiv took part for the 3<sup>rd</sup> time in the ELDW and organised a large number of activities and projects related to this year’s main theme.

Kyiv organised clean-up events with the participation of employees of district enterprises and forest parks, which were joined by the public. Trees and shrubs were planted; parks, squares, forest areas were cleaned; and unauthorized landfills were liquidated. Furthermore, many awareness-raising events, training programmes and other initiatives were organized. To mention a few, on the eve of the International Children’s Day, the Municipal Enterprise for the Maintenance of Green Plantations of the Solomianskyi District of Kyiv held a master class on planting bushes and flowers on the territory of Vidradny Park, which was joined by citizens of all ages.

Also, a planting tree event was organized, in which twenty plane trees were planted on Rusanivska Spit in Kyiv.

Additionally, with the support of the Municipal Enterprise of the executive body of the Kyiv City Council (Kyiv City State Administration) an event called "Clean the beaches together!" was organized, designed to bring the beaches of Ukraine to a level consistent with international environmental standards, to form a culture of proper waste management. Especially for the younger citizens of Kyiv, more than 100 city events were organized, including city competitions for children, like "Let's restore cedars", "Christmas tree", "Let's help birds in winter", "Primroses under protection", "Let's save water H<sub>2</sub>O", "How I get to school ecologically", etc... They all had the goal to raise the children's awareness to learn more about the protection of the environment in a playful way.

#### **14. Muratpasa Municipality (Turkey)**

Muratpasa Municipality has participated for the second time in the ELDW. They have carried out numerous activities within the scope of this year's theme, for example cleaning the water resources of beaches next to Antalya, equipping the beaches of the municipality with environmentally friendly energy sources and expanding the scope of their "Environment-Friendly Neighbor Card" project, which the Municipality started as part of the "Zero Waste" project that received dozens of awards. Citizens of Muratpasa Municipality also harvested sesame seeds which they have planted in an area of approximately 5 acres in Güzeloba Mahallesi district in April this year. The project was organized because of studies that have pointed to a food shortage caused by the Covid-19 epidemic and to emphasize the importance of continuity in agricultural production. The harvest was shared with the residents of the district. The Municipality also organized a bicycle workshop for the citizens of Muratpasa in order to popularise the use of the bicycle for people of all ages. Nearly a thousand residents started to enjoy the freedom of two wheels thanks to the free courses and the cycle paths of Muratpasa Municipality.

#### **15. City of Lviv (Ukraine)**

Lviv City Council is a long-term partner of the ELDW and carried out strategy-planning sessions with residents of the Lviv City Territorial Community to involve them in the development of their territory, under this year's theme. The main purpose of those sessions was to establish communication with the residents of the attached communities, to identify the main needs and problems, and to work out ways to solve them together. Among the issues and difficulties discussed were reclamation of the former landfill, waste sorting, delineation of parks and squares, assigning parks the status of a nature reserve fund, cleaning lakes, delimitation and improvement of water bodies, preservation of ecosystems, and the creation of conditions for leisure and recreation such as stadiums, playgrounds, open public spaces.

In collaboration with the public organisation «Association of Alumni of the Ukrainian Catholic University», and with the support of the Konrad Adenauer Foundation in Ukraine, the International Public Forum «Ecumenical Social Week» was held in Lviv in the fall of 2021. The topic of the forum, «Nurturing the common good: together for sustainable society development», covered many environmental issues. The forum drew public attention to the importance of personal responsibility for environmental protection, development of a fairer world, and inclusive environment. It established co-operation and exchange of experiences between the community, businesses, environmentalists, lawyers, religious organisations, educators, media, the public sector and youth. It also conducted an educational campaign in society. This online event united nearly 1000 participants from Ukraine and from abroad.

#### **16. Municipality of Lüleburgaz (Turkey)**

Lüleburgaz has been participating in the ELDW for many years. The European Local Democracy Week was held in line with the objectives and activities included in the 2020-2024 Strategic Plan of the City. The budget allocated for the European Local Democracy Week in 2021 was determined at 50,000 TL (around € 3,000). In addition, Lüleburgaz Municipality also designated the year 2021 as the "Environment Year" and carried out a large number of activities relating to this year's ELDW theme. On the World Environment Day, environmental friends in the city were brought together for the "We Pedal for the Environment" cycling tour, aimed at promoting the use of environmentally friendly bicycles in the city. An "Environmental Run" was also organized with local running groups and puppet-making workshops using waste materials, in order to increase children's environmental awareness. Another event titled "Don't throw!" resulted in thousands of plastic bottles being collected and recycled as part of the waste collection campaign across the city, under the slogan "We Collect Our Waste, We Segregate Our Materials".



The Municipality raised citizens' awareness with a car-free day event as part of the European Mobility Week. During the week, informative videos were published by specialist physicians on social media accounts to increase awareness about the importance of mobility for a healthy life, and for reducing the carbon footprint. Within the scope of the week, events were organised together with sports groups and citizens, such as "Lüleburgaz Public Run", "Balkan Tennis Tournament", "Table Tennis Tournament", "Life Together with Sports" and a Streetball tournament. The Municipality also started Zero Waste Studies within the scope of the "Providing a Sustainable Environment with Climate and Resource Friendly Practices" initiative. In order to reduce the amount of waste going to landfill, textile waste bins were placed at 49 points in various places within the borders of Lüleburgaz district for the purpose of collecting, sorting and transporting used textile products separately.

### **17. City of Nis (Serbia)**

The city of Nis has been participating in the ELDW since 2019 and has carried out several activities in connection with this year's theme, aimed at providing information to citizens and raising their awareness of the importance of environmental protection (promotional activities, campaigns, exhibitions, etc.). The City of Niš youth office joined the European Week of Local Democracy by organizing a podcast in accordance with this year's theme. The podcast is about discussing the issues of environmental protection and what young people can do about it. It was called "Yes, young people can!".

The complete suspension of traffic and the closure of the streets in the city center, which were briefly occupied by cyclists, young football players, volleyball players, cyclists in order to promote a healthy lifestyle and draw attention to increasing air pollution, marked the Car Free Day in Niš which is organized for the 15th time in a row and was this year part the ELDW.

Futhermore, a so called "Plant Your Shade Campaign" was organized by the city with the aim of greening urban areas that are tree impoverished due to hyperurbanization. More than 2,500 white ash seedlings were distributed to citizens at three locations in the city. The citizens were also given instructions for planting, as well as a board for entering their name, date of planting and the partner who provided the seedling.

Another campaign was called "Plant seeds for the future": 100 pedunculate oak trees donated by the Society for the Protection and Study of Birds of Serbia have been planted on the banks of the Nišava River in the outskirts of the city by citizens of all ages. The area chosen for planting new trees is a habitat for rare birds. The aim of the campaign was to send a message that without active work on preserving trees and forests, there is no chance to preserve the habitats of endangered species and to mitigate the negative effects of climate change.

### **18. Municipality of Ramnicu Valcea (Romania)**

Municipality of Ramnicu Valcea is the only participant from Romania in the 2021 Edition. The municipality organised ELDW citizens participation activities, for instance, the European Mobility Week, which is a mobility project for students aged 6-10 who choose to go to school using sustainable means of transport in order to reduce the traffic jam in town. The Municipality also organised a public debate in August 2021 over the city's Zonal Urban Plans, which dealt with the question of how to protect the green spaces while providing new, less polluting houses/buildings for citizens. In addition to the participatory activities, the municipality organised a pan-European event, the "National Anthem Days", which celebrated the first intonation of the Romanian National Anthem on 29 July 1848 and which provides a chance for the local administration to promote intercultural exchanges between local artists and NGOs and artists from twin cities.

### **19. Municipality of Rize (Turkey)**

Municipality of Rize takes part in the ELDW since 2017 and has allocated a € 2,000 budget to implement ELDW activities for the ELDW campaign for this year's edition. As part of the activities for this year's leading theme, they organised on 14 September 2021 a workshop with the participation of experts to discuss problems in the city related to climate change and ways to find solutions, as well as a bicycle tour and a photo contest to raise awareness about climate change involving the citizens of Rize

## **20. Tekirdağ Municipality (Turkey)**

Tekirdağ Municipality participated in the ELDW for the second time. Within the leading theme of year, they created a web site called “Transform Your Waste, Change Your Future”, which involved many activities with citizen participation. Tekirdağ participated in a simultaneous cleaning event held across the country and around the world on 18 September (the World Cleanup Day) and produced special roll-ups, banners and billboards to raise awareness of their activities in 11 districts. In order to draw attention to the “Zero Waste Project”, which has been implemented since 2018 for a better waste management, waste materials were collected and sorted by categories as paper, glass, plastic, metal, organic and non-recyclable domestic waste, with the participation of such NGOs as Contemporary Life Support Association, Tekirdağ Youth Center, Red Crescent, Environmental Volunteers Association, Environment Association.

## **21. Municipality of Valongo (Portugal)**

The Municipality of Valongo has been participating in the ELDW for several years and is strongly committed to improving local democracy. For the 2021 edition, it allocated more than € 17,600 for ELDW activities. The municipality organised many events related to the 2021 theme, such as the International Conference “Pathways to Follow” on “The European Green Capital and European Green Leaf Awards”, which took place on 25 November. The awards recognize good practices and the commitment to generate green growth and identify and encourage cities to actively develop environmental awareness and citizen involvement to achieve better results in terms of sustainability.

From 20 to 22 October, representatives of the municipality participated in the international conference on Participatory Democracy and Sustainable Development, an international gathering of experts in the field of participation and political leaders who advocate for a more participatory local democracy. The “InovaJuntos-Triangular Urban Cooperation for Innovation and Sustainability” project was launched to strengthen integrated urban development through partnerships between Brazilian, Portuguese and Latin American cities, as well as public-private innovation according to four thematic clusters i) development economic; ii) regional development and consortia; iii) green cities and climate change; iv) inclusive spaces for cultural and social innovation.

The Municipality of Valongo participated as a partner in this project and implemented several activities to share best practices during the ELDW. The project “From Garbage to Art – The Way of Participation” ran from 1 October to 30 November for the design and execution of murals using recycled material, with the involvement of students from a school of the 1st cycle. During EDLW 2021, a stage of the BiodiverCities project was implemented for the preservation and promotion of urban biodiversity. The experimental action took place on 6 November 2021 and the programmed activities were developed in a collaborative way by citizens, experts and municipal technicians.

## Appendix 2

### Resolution 430 (2018) adopted on 6 November 2018 during the 35<sup>th</sup> Session of the Congress regarding modalities of the title for “Partner of the ELDW”<sup>5</sup>

[...]

#### 2. Modalities for identifying, rewarding and enhancing visibility of the most remarkable initiatives

a. To highlight the commitment to raising the citizens’ awareness of local democracy and encouraging them to make use of all the opportunities provided through participatory democratic processes, the most active participating local authorities taking part in the ELDW can request the title of “Partner of the European Local Democracy Week [Year]”.

b. This title is granted *a posteriori*, upon the actual participation and report of activities, in order to guarantee that the participants respected the criteria regarding the nature, scale, and possible impact of events/activities, listed as follows:

1. Allocate a specific budget for citizens’ participation
2. Run an ELDW promotion campaign (posters, promotion of activities at school...) using the ELDW visual identity decided upon and provided by the Congress
3. Carry out a number of specific activities linked to the leading theme of the year
4. Organise an event with a European or pan-European dimension to illustrate the role of local authorities in the construction of a democratic Europe. A Congress representative may be invited to this main event
5. Inclusiveness: extend the social scope of the initiative by reaching out to different groups of citizens, especially the groups that can feel excluded (children, elderly, women, Roma and Travellers, people with a disability, minorities...)
6. Promote the engagement of young people and youth organisations, including by involving or creating youth councils
7. Implement sustainable initiatives thereby creating an environment in which citizens and local authorities share the same long-term goals, namely, to reinforce citizens’ awareness and participation in decision making
8. Implement innovative activities and projects

c. Based on the activity reports provided by the participants requesting the title of “Partner of the European Local Democracy Week [Year]”, the Bureau, at its first meeting of the year, will approve the granting of the title.

d. On the annual co-ordination meeting, the Thematic Spokesperson on the ELDW, on behalf of the Congress President, will present the “Partner of the European Local Democracy Week [Year]” certificates to the most active participants of the previous edition.

[...]

---

<sup>5</sup> [Resolution 430\(2018\)](#)

## Appendix 3

## Comparative table of the municipalities and associations' criteria fulfilment for the title of "Partner of the European Local Democracy Week"

	Candidates to the Title of "Partner of the ELDW"								
	Allocate a specific budget	ELDW Communication Campaign	Link with the leading theme	Event with a pan-European Dimension	Inclusiveness	Youth Participation	Permanent Measures	All year-round Activities	Flagship Event
<b>Ahmetbey Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> € 4.500	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Singing of the European charter for equality of woman and man in local life	<b>Yes</b> Migrants, Roma and disabled people	<b>Yes</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Beşiktaş Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> € 4.000	<b>Yes</b> Use of social media, newsletter	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> All events were compiled into a newsletter that was issued to sister cities and consulates	<b>Yes</b> Diverse groups of citizens and minorities/underrepresented groups	<b>Yes</b> Yes, open air activities and social media campaigns	<b>N/A</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Yes</b> Saves water event, Recycle and Win application for recycling waste
<b>Beykoz Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b> <b>Roll up, banners, social media, etc..</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Yes</b> University students, young people	<b>Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Yes</b> Planting tree event
<b>Buca Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> ELDW communication materials; amount not given.	<b>Yes</b> Posters, banners, flags, kites, etc.	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Vintage event with participants from Tunisia, Italy, Portugal, Ukraine, Russia, who came to Buca	<b>Yes</b> Children, youth volunteers	<b>Yes</b> Digital volunteer participation platform	<b>N/A</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Büyükçekmece Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Many events as part of the European Mobility week	<b>Yes</b> Children, migrants, disadvantaged people	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Çiğli Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Climate speech event with a member of the parliamentary assembly	<b>Yes</b> Children	<b>Yes</b> Roundtable meetings	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>

<b>Cascais Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount for 2021	<b>Yes</b> Posters, logo	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> From Cascais to Glasgow competition	<b>Yes</b> Different groups	<b>Yes</b> An awareness rising workshop was organised.	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Edremit Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> € 3.000	<b>Yes</b> No details given.	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Flagship event organised in cooperation with other European projects.	<b>Yes</b> Migrants, eldest, disadvantages, Roma minorities. Women,	<b>Yes</b> Flagship event organised related with youth policies	<b>N/A</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>Yes</b> Two ceremonies were held
<b>Efeler Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> TL 50.000 App 4.270 €	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Bicycles presented to children in disadvantages areas as part of the European mobility week	<b>Yes</b> Children, citizens living in neighbourhoods	<b>Yes</b> Bicycles were organised for children	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>City of Fastiv</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> International video conference	<b>Yes</b> Students, young people	<b>Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	
<b>City of Kharkiv</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Kharkiv joining EBRD Green Cities	<b>Yes</b> Local minorities, internally displaced people	<b>Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Yes</b> Kharkiv joining EBRD Green Cities
<b>Konak Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> No amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Car free day activity, Global village festival	<b>Yes</b> Youth, children, women	<b>Yes</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>City of Kyiv</b>	<b>Yes</b> No amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Different meetings with representatives of local self-government bodies	<b>Yes</b> Youth, children, women	<b>Yes</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Muratpaşa Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b> Online events, banners	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> +0.5 Future of the Mediterranean Climate Change Workshop	<b>Yes</b> Elderly people	<b>Yes</b> Muratpaşa Municipality, Abdullah Sevimçok Civil Society Center financial and	<b>N/A</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b> +0.5 Future of the Mediterranean Climate Change Workshop

						moral support to young people			
<b>City of Lviv</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> forum «Nurturing the common good: TOGETHER FOR SUSTAINABLE SOCIETY DEVELOPMENT»	<b>Yes</b> Youth, elderly people	<b>Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>YES</b> Concert, tournament
<b>Lüleburgaz Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> 50.000 TL Appr. € 3.000	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Concert "Two Woman, Two Languages, Two voices", many more	<b>Yes</b> Woman, children, immigrants, NGOs	<b>Yes</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>YES</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>City of Nis</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> Declaration of launching the clean air Regions initiative (CARI)	<b>Yes</b> Youth, children, women	<b>Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>NO</b>
<b>Municipality of Ramnicu Valcea</b>	<b>Yes</b> No specific amount given	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> National Anthem Days	<b>Yes</b> Children and children with disability	<b>Yes</b> Young students of the city	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Rize Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> 2.000 €	<b>Yes</b> Social media, awards	<b>Yes</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Yes</b> Youth	<b>Yes</b> Social media, internet, SMS, information brochures, etc..	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>N/A</b>
<b>Tekirdag Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> € 550	<b>Yes</b> Roll ups, banners, Homepage	<b>Yes</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Yes, Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Yes</b> Collecting waste on World Clean-up Day
<b>Valongo Municipality</b>	<b>Yes</b> € 17.600	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b>	<b>Yes</b> International Conference "Paths to Follow"	<b>Yes</b> People from rural, non - rural areas; elderly people	<b>Yes</b>	<b>N/A</b>	<b>NO</b>	<b>Yes</b> Many flagship events during the week in October