

Partnership for Good Governance



EUROPEAN UNION

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Ethics and transparency at local level: strategies and tools

Radisson Blu Iveria Hotel, Republic Event hall (1 Rose Revolution Square)

Tbilisi, Georgia, 6 – 7 December 2017

Context

The conference is organised by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (the Congress) within the thematic programme “Strengthening institutional frameworks for local governance”, implemented jointly with the Council of Europe Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform, Directorate General of Democracy. This programme is funded by the European Union and the Council of Europe, and implemented by the Council of Europe, through the Partnership for Good Governance (PGG) 2015-2017 for Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine and Belarus.

This event will serve as a means for peer exchange on good practices and collaborative ways to enhance the quality of local democracy in the region, in the framework of local self-government and territorial reforms. Focusing on the results achieved within the *local initiatives on ethical governance and transparency*, discussions will be carried out on the implementation of practical tools for transparent and citizen-oriented governance with a view to ensuring sustainability and higher impact of local policies.

Interpretation will be provided in English, Russian and Georgian, with working groups in Armenian, Georgian, Romanian, Russian, Ukrainian and English.

Contacts

Council of Europe Headquarters in Strasbourg

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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>

Programme

Wednesday 6 December

9:45 *Registration of participants*

10:00 *Opening, welcome and introduction*

Moderation: Marité Moras, Head of Unit, Co-operation and External Relations Department, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

- Kakha Kaladze, Mayor of Tbilisi
- Zurab Alavidze, Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia
- János Herman, Ambassador of the European Union to Georgia
- Cristian Urse, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi
- Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

→ Coffee break (10:45 – 11:15)

11:15 *Plenary round-table I: Local initiatives on ethical governance and transparency*

Moderation: Aive Pevkur, expert, Estonia and Tetiana Vasylevska, expert, Ukraine

Mayors that have implemented local initiatives on ethics and transparency are invited to reflect on their experience in leading change in their communities, on the challenges they may have faced in the participatory processes, and how their initiative promotes trust in local authorities.

Ethics

- Lela Kitesashvili, former Mayor of Tianeti, Georgia
- Larisa Voloh, Mayor of Palanca, Stefan Voda, Moldova
- Liudmyla Koval, Mayor of Netchyntsi, Ukraine
- Yuri Fomichev, Mayor of Slavutych, Ukraine

Transparency

- Sergey Petrosyan, Mayor of Aygepat, Armenia
- Edgar Arshakyan, Mayor of Tashir, Armenia

Discussions

The floor will be open to questions and feedback from the audience.

→ Lunch (13:15 – 14:15)

14:15 *Plenary round-table II: Local initiatives on ethical governance and transparency*
Moderation: Tim Hughes, expert, United Kingdom and Giorgi Meskhidze, expert, Georgia

Transparency

- Natalia Petrea, Mayor of Costesti, Moldova
- Sergii Zamidra, Mayor of Nemishaeve, Ukraine

Citizen participation

- Vachik Hovhannisyan, former Mayor of Karmir-Aghek, Armenia
- Vazha Chokheli, former Mayor of Dusheti, Georgia
- Gocha Gochitashvili, former Mayor of Kaspi, Georgia
- Nina Costiuc, Mayor of Budesti, Moldova

Discussions

The floor will be open to questions and feedback from the audience.

→ Coffee break (16:15 – 16:45)

16:45 Exhibition: Stories of change

Envisaged as a peer-to-peer exchange, success stories of the local initiatives will be presented and local authorities will be available for in-depth discussions.

→ Joint dinner (19:30)

Thursday 7 December

9:30 *Summary of the previous day and presentation of the agenda for day two*

Moderation: Catherine Currie, expert, United Kingdom and Gheorge Caraseni, expert, Moldova

10:00 *Plenary session I: Measuring the change - evaluation and means for sustainability*

Moderation: Tigran Tshorokhyan, expert, Armenia

Catherine Currie, expert, United Kingdom

This session examines how to effectively evaluate results and outcomes of local projects through a variety of tools and methodologies, considering the expected impact and the necessary steps to be undertaken to ensure long-term and sustainable change.

Discussions

The floor will be open to questions and feedback from the audience.

→ Coffee break (11:00 – 11:15)

11:15 *Plenary session II: Strategies and tools for ethics, transparency and citizen participation*

Moderation: Tetiana Vasylevska, expert, Ukraine

- Ion Beschieru, Programme Manager, Council of Europe Office in Chisinau
- Tim Hughes, international expert, United Kingdom

This session focuses on the handbooks on transparent and citizen-oriented local governance, examining the necessary frameworks and guidelines for successful implementation.

→ Lunch (12:00 – 13:15)

13:15 *Working groups: Strategies and tools for ethics, transparency and citizen participation at local level*

Participants will be divided into five working groups for Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, and Azerbaijan and Belarus, to discuss the practical implementation of strategies and tools for ethics, transparency and citizen participation, and the dissemination through the national associations of local authorities and civil society organisations, and by other means.

Facilitation by:

Armen Grigoryan, expert, Armenia

Saba Buadze, expert, Georgia

Oksana Huss, expert, Ukraine

Aive Pevkur, expert, Estonia

Veronica Cretu, expert, Moldova

With the support of:

Tim Hughes, expert, United Kingdom;

Gheorghe Caraseni, expert, Moldova;

Giorgi Meskhidze, expert, Georgia;

Tetiana Vasylevska, expert, Ukraine;

Tigran Tshorokhyan, expert, Armenia;

15:00 *Feedback from the work in groups in plenary*

Moderation: Tim Hughes, expert, United Kingdom

15:30 *Evaluation and conclusions*

Moderation: Ion Beschieru, Programme Manager, Council of Europe Office in Chisinau

- David Melua, Executive Director, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG), member of the Group of Independent Experts on the European Charter of Local Self-Government of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
- Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

End of conference

List of participants*

1. Representatives of the Government of Georgia

Zurab ALAVIDZE, Minister of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia

Giorgi BERIDZE, Deputy Head of Protocol Department, Ministry of Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia

Inga KUBETSIA, Counselor, Division of the Council of Europe, Department of International Organisations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Georgia

2. Mayors

Armenia

Edgar ARSHAKYAN, Tashir
Vachagan HOVHANNISYAN, former Mayor of
Karmir Aghek
Sasun KHECHUMYAN, Alaverdi

Seryozha PETROSYAN, Aygepat
Arsen TITANYAN, Odzun

Georgia

Kakha KALADZE, Tbilisi

Ramaz BUDAGASHVILI, Gardabani
Vazha CHOKHELI, former Mayor of Dusheti
Nikoloz GETIASHVILI, Vice-Mayor of Gurjaani
Gocha GOCHITASHVILI, former Mayor of Kaspi
Lasha GOGIA, Zugdidi
Giorgi GOGILASHVILI, Signagi
Davit GOGUA, Ckhorotsku
Levan GORGILADZE, Qeda
Zviad GORGODZE, Vice Mayor of
Adigeni
Aleksandre GRIGALAVA, Martvili
Lela KITESASHVILI, former Mayor of Tianeti

Giorgi KORIDZE, Tetrtskaro
Levan KUPREISHVILI, Senaki
Manuchar MEREBASHVILI, Kaspi
Tamaz METCHIAURI, Tianeti
Mamuka PAPASKIRI, Vice Mayor of Poti
Besik PHARTSVANIA, Tsalenjikha
Valerian POTSKHVERIA, Samtredia
Zurab SEKHNIASHVILI, Dusheti
Tamaz SALUKVADZE, Vice-Chair of Batumi
City Council
Irakli TABAGUA, Rustavi
Nino TVALTVADZE, Deputy Mayor of Kutaisi
Jumber VARDMANIDZE, Khelvachauri

Moldova

Nina COSTIUC, Budesti
Veaceslav BONDARI, Anenii Noi
Vitalii GORODINSCHII, Briceni
Nicolae MELNIC, Calarasi

Stela ONUTU, Glodeni
Natalia PETREA, Costesti
Grigorii ROBU, Nisporeni
Larisa VOLOH, Palanca

*Member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Ukraine

Ihor ALYEKSYEYEV, Okhtyrka*
Yuriy FOMICHEV, Slavutych
Oleksandr GERASYMENKO, Drabivtsi
Ludmyla KOVAL, Netchyntsya

Vitaliy MAZUR, Bratzlav
Sergiy SALATUN, Romny
Oleksandra SHEREMETYEVA, Omelnyk
Sergii ZAMIDRA, Nemishaeve

3. Local elected representatives and representatives of associations of local and regional authorities

Armenia

Emin YERITSYAN, Head of the Delegation of Armenia to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, President of the Communities Association of Armenia (CAA)*

Azerbaijan

Aytaj ALIYEVA, Chair of Binagadi Settlement Municipality

Ali AKBARLI, Member of Yasamal Municipality, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Association of Settlement Municipalities of Azerbaijan

Lyudmila KHALILOVA, Deputy Chair of Garachukhur Municipality

Georgia

David MELUA, Executive Director, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG), member of the Group of Independent Experts on the European Charter of Local Self-Government of the Congress

Tatiana BOKUCHAVA, Secretary for International Affairs, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG), Secretary of the delegation of Georgia to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Khatuna MANTSKAVA, Press Officer, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG)

Moldova

Elena NICOLAEV, Mayor of Serpeni, Anenii Noi, Member of the Executive Board of the Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM)

Alexandru PALII, Expert, Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM)

Ukraine

Mykola POIEDYNOK, Executive Director, All-Ukrainian Association of Village and Settlement Councils

Ivan FURSENKO, First Deputy Executive Director, All-Ukrainian Association of Village and Settlement Councils

Taras KOSTIN, Mayor of Pereyaslav Khmelnytskyi, member of the Committee of Reform, representative of the Association of Ukrainian Cities

Belarus

Natalia SUSHKO, Chair of the Zhodino town, Council of Deputies

Alena KAZETSKAYA, Counselor of the Department for Regional Policy and Local Self-Governance, Council of Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus

Tatsiana PRANNIK, Director of the Centre for International Co-operation and Educational Programmes, Academy of Public Administration

4. Local initiatives on ethical governance and transparency: Project co-ordinators

Armenia

Laura HARUTYUNYAN, Aygepat, Armenia
Lilit MELIKSETYAN, Karmir Aghek
Marine VANYAN, Tashir, Armenia

Georgia

Koba MAMULASHVILI, Kaspi, Georgia
Tamta MEGRELISHVILI, Tianeti, Georgia
Tinatin TSOTSKHALASHVILI, Dusheti, Georgia

Moldova

Maria BIVOL, Costesti
Dumitru COZLOVSKI, Palanca, Moldova
Elena ZAGORNII, Budesti, Moldova

Ukraine

Liudmyla KINDRAT, Nemishaeve, Ukraine
Dariia TYKHONOVA, Netchyntsi, Ukraine
Aryna STAROVOITOVA, Slavutych

5. Representatives of Civil Society Organisations

Armenia

Vahan MOVSISYAN, Community Finance Officers Association

Sara PETROSYAN, Investigative Journalists NGO

Georgia

Lela KHATRIDZE, International Society for Fair Elections and Democracy

Moldova

Ana ZNACENI, Institute for Development and Social Initiatives

Galina PRECUP, National Women's Studies and Information Center

Ukraine

Serhiy STARCHENKO, Chernihiv regional NGO 'Centre of political studies and analysis'

Gunel BABAKISHYEVA, Eidos Centre

Belarus

Miroslav KOBASA, Lev Sapieha Foundation

6. Experts involved in the thematic programme

Saba BUADZE, Georgia

Oksana HUSS, Ukraine

Gheorghe CARASENI, Moldova

Giorgi MESKHIDZE, Georgia

Veronica CRETU, Moldova

Aive PEVKUR, Estonia

Catherine CURRIE, United Kingdom

Tigran TSHOROKHYAN, Armenia

Armen GRIGORYAN, Armenia

Tetiana VASYLEVSKA, Ukraine

Tim HUGHES, United Kingdom

7. European Union Delegation to Georgia

János HERMAN, Ambassador of the European Union to Georgia

Sophie HUET-GUERRICHE, Thematic Sector Coordinator - Governance and Human Capital,
Programme Officer – Public Administration Reform

Dominika SKUBIDA, Programme Manager for Civil Society and Democratisation

8. Council of Europe

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Andreas KIEFER, Secretary General

Marité MORAS, Head of Unit, Co-operation and External Relations Department

Saida THEOPHILE, Head of Unit, Institutional Communication,

Svetislav PAUNOVIC, Project Co-ordinator, Co-operation and External Relations Department

Olwen BYRNE, Project Assistant, Co-operation and External Relations Department

Council of Europe Office in Tbilisi

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Eugeniu ZAPOROJAN, Project Assistant