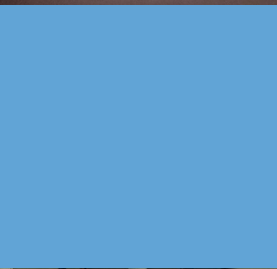


# Council of Europe project “Supporting democratic post-war elections in Ukraine”



Project action and results  
in 2023–2024

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

## PROJECT OVERALL OBJECTIVE

**Post-war national and local elections and referenda in Ukraine are democratic and held in line with international and European electoral standards and good practices.**



The Project is implemented by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe in two phases within the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine “Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction” 2023 – 2026.

**The Project action during its first phase (January 2023 – March 2025) has been framed to support and contribute to:**

- organising and conducting post-war elections at the national and local levels in a secure and competitive environment in accordance with European electoral standards and good practices;
- reintegrating voters from de-occupied Ukrainian territories into the political life of Ukraine by enabling them to exercise their electoral rights within and beyond Ukraine;
- participation of Ukrainian voters in elections in Ukraine and abroad in accordance with established electoral and voting procedures;
- balanced participation of women and men in post-war political and electoral processes.

## OUR PARTNERS



CENTRAL  
ELECTION  
COMMISSION  
OF UKRAINE



Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
of Ukraine



National Council of Television and  
Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine



UA: Ukrainian Radio



Ukrainian academia and  
think tanks



Parliament of Ukraine

Parliamentary Committee on State Building, Local  
Governance, Regional and Urban Development –  
profile Parliamentary Committee



Ministry for Development  
of Communities  
and Territories of Ukraine



Верховний  
Суд

Supreme Court



Profile CSOs

# Baseline studies, analytical overviews and publications



Needs assessment report  
«Organisation and holding of elections in post-war Ukraine. Prerequisites and challenges»



Needs assessment report  
«Political parties in Ukraine: wartime challenges and post-war perspectives»



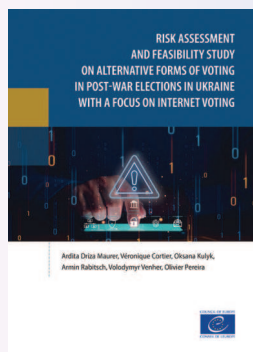
Needs assessment report  
«Gender equality, balanced political participation and representation of women and men in post-war public and political processes in Ukraine: challenges and perspectives»



Analytical overview  
«Organisation and conduct of first post-war elections. Experience of Bosnia and Herzegovina and lessons learned for Ukraine»



Analytical overview  
«Croatian experience in the conduct of elections from post-war challenges to recent crises. Lessons learned and perspectives»



Risk assessment and feasibility study on alternative forms of voting in post-war elections in Ukraine with a focus on internet voting



High-Level Dialogue – I



High-Level Dialogue – II



High-Level Dialogue – III



## Strategic policy and expert advice

### High-Level Dialogue on “Good Democratic Governance in Ukraine: Achievements, Challenges and the Way Forward in Post-War Period”

**Objective:** to discuss perspectives for good democratic governance reforms in Ukraine and reach broad agreement among the key national stakeholders as regards further actions to improve legal framework on multilevel governance and elections in light of European standards, good practice and Ukraine’s status of the EU candidate country.



- post-war challenges for organisation and conduct of elections;
- possible ways for strengthening institutional capacity of election management bodies;
- criteria to assess democratic pre-conditions for post-war elections;
- political rights and challenges to national security in a war and post-war context and implementation of international standards.





### List of criteria to assess democratic pre-conditions for organisation and conduct of post-war elections in Ukraine

- Expert discussion of the draft list of criteria on possibility/impossibility of holding elections/referenda in Ukraine in the post-war period;
- Presentation of the list of criteria to the members and representatives of the profile Parliamentary Committee and the Central Election Commission.



### Draft Communication Strategy of the Central Election Commission for the post-war elections in Ukraine



Expert discussion on criteria of possibility/impossibility to conduct elections/referenda in Ukraine in the post-war period



Strategic session on gender-balanced participation and representation of women and men in public, political and electoral processes in Ukraine



Strategic session on the CEC Communication Strategy for post-war elections



Expert discussion on electoral rights in context of transitional justice



## Experts' discussions, exchanges and debates

- security and eligibility criteria for the post-war elections;
- political rights in context of transitional justice;
- electoral rights of millions of internally displaced Ukrainian voters and forced migrants abroad;
- gender balanced political participation and representation of women and men in war and post-war period.



VII Ukrainian Women's Congress



- ▶ Parliament of Ukraine,
- ▶ Central Election Commission,
- ▶ profile ministries and agencies,
- ▶ law-enforcement and security authorities,
- ▶ national judiciary,
- ▶ political parties,
- ▶ civil society and expert community.

## Strengthening CEC cybersecurity



7 training courses on innovative cybersecurity systems and solutions for the CEC Secretariat IT staff



Training on ITIL for the CEC Secretariat IT staff



## International conferences, peer-to-peer exchanges and onsite visits

### 4 International Conferences



📍 *Switzerland*, 📍 *Georgia*, 📍 *France (2)*

- ▶ elections in times of crises;
- ▶ use of ICT in elections;
- ▶ e-voting;
- ▶ disinformation in elections;
- ▶ enhancing professionalism of election administration;
- ▶ training policies for different electoral stakeholders;
- ▶ voter civic education and awareness raising.



International conference  
“Elections in Times of Crisis”,  
Bern, Switzerland

### 6 Online meetings

### 1 Onsite visit and trilateral exchange



📍 *Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina*



*Election authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina and Republic of Croatia*



*CEC; Profile Parliamentary Committee; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine*

- ▶ preparation to and holding of post-war elections;
- ▶ conduct of elections in times of crisis and natural disasters.



Onsite visit and trilateral exchanges in Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina

### 1 Onsite visit



📍 *Lisbon, Portuguese Republic*



*Portuguese authorities*



*CEC; Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine*

- ▶ out-of-country voting arrangements for Ukrainian voters in Portugal;
- ▶ postal voting.



Onsite visit and bilateral exchanges in Lisbon, Portugal

## Awareness raising and educational activities

A series of 7 radio programs in collaboration with "UA: Ukrainain Radio" on war related challenges for elections in Ukraine covering

legal framework; security threats; cybersecurity risks; war-eneduced demographic shifts and its impact on voters' and citizens' engagement; mechanisms to counter manipulations and propoganda threats.



Over **1,344,000** interactions — audience engagement during 3-month broadcast period

Online training course for political parties and candidates "On Gender Equality in Politics" on the information and educational online platform "CEC: prosvita"

Technical support to the awareness raising and educational online platform "CEC: prosvita"\* <https://www.cvkpro.com> with 4 online training courses



Elections in Simple Terms



Local Elections for Voters



All-Ukrainian Referendum in Simple Terms



Gender Equality in Politics

**12%** increase in registered users in 2024

*\*developed in and maintained since 2020 with the support of the Council of Europe*

### The Project action during its second phase (April 2025 – December 2026) is framed to support and contribute to:

- elaboration and incorporation into the national legal framework of criteria and measurable indicators to assess democratic pre-conditions necessary for the organisation and conduct of post-war elections at national and local levels in Ukraine in line with European electoral standards and good practices;
- development of up-to-date solutions to ensure that first post-war elections in Ukraine are held in line with international electoral standards and good practices;
- CEC's implementation and coordination of efficient, gender-sensitive and inclusive communication during the preparation and all the way to the conduct of the first post-war elections to ensure that Ukrainian voters within and beyond Ukraine are timely informed on election related and voting procedures;
- organisation and conduct of a free and safe election process during the first post-war elections, as well as protection of electoral rights of Ukrainian voters in line with European electoral standards and good practices.



Council of Europe  
Office in Ukraine



<https://www.coe.int/uk/web/kyiv>



[http://x.com/CoE\\_Ukraine](http://x.com/CoE_Ukraine)



<https://www.facebook.com/coe.office.in.ukraine>



Council of Europe  
electoral cooperation  
project



<https://www.coe.int/uk/web/kyiv/reform-of-the-electoral-practice-in-ukraine>



<https://www.facebook.com/CoEElectoralAssistanceUA>



Parliamentary Assembly of  
the Council of Europe



<https://pace.coe.int/en/news?page=14&view=mosaic>