

Latvian – Ukrainian Municipalities’ Solidarity Forum “Before...”

Working languages: Latvian, English, Ukrainian (simultaneous interpretation)

8 May 2023. 11:00 – 16:00 (EEST).
(Live on Facebook at 12:00 – 13:40.)

The European Union House
(Aspazijas bulvāris 28, Rīga)

The Latvian – Ukrainian Municipalities’ Solidarity Forum “Before...”, organized by the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments in cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Latvia, the European Council of Local and Regional Municipalities, the Association of Ukrainian Cities and the program “U-Lead with Europe”, has got its title “Before...”, as it takes place before several important events, for which we can prepare and experience them together. It takes place before 9 May, which is Europe Day in Latvia. It takes place before Ukraine’s accession to the European Union - during the time given to this country to prepare for the accession with the support of the European Union’s Member States. It takes place before the victory in the war, during which so many different crises are experienced and solved in both Ukrainian and also Latvian municipalities, affecting the everyday life, mood, thoughts and future plans of the inhabitants.

The internationally recognized Latvian theatre director Alvis Hermanis has said, that the story of any person's life is a much more powerful drama than all of Shakespeare's plays taken together. If the story of one person can be so appealing and many others can learn and be inspired by it, then let's imagine what the impact of the story of one municipality and the people living in it can be! During the Forum we will have the opportunity to listen to these unique stories of Ukrainian municipalities and reveal their lessons learned during the war managing countless crises. Let it encourage us to learn from each other and inspire joint activities within the framework of European Union programs for the sustainable growth of our municipalities - revealing together opportunities to manage changes with excitement and not with gloom.

Agenda

Moderator: Ms Dainis Turlais, Member of the Latvian delegation to the European Committee of the Regions (CoR), Member of the CoR’s Working group on Ukraine

11:00 – 12:00	Welcome of the participants. Brunch.
	Opening of the Forum (livestreamed).
12:00 – 12:25	<p>Mr Gints Kaminskis, Chairman of the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments, Bureau Member of the CoR’s Conference of the Regional and Local Authorities for the Eastern Partnership (CORLEAP)</p> <p>Mr Anatolii Kutsevol, H.E. Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Republic of Latvia</p> <p>Ms Zane Petre, Head of the European Commission Representation in Latvia</p> <p>Mr Durmish Guri, Director – External Resources and Knowledge Strategy, Council of</p>

	<p>European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) Ms Nataliya Lazarenko, Manager of International Activities, Association of Ukrainian Cities</p>
12:25 – 13:40	<p>Funding opportunities for Latvian and Ukrainian municipal cooperation. European Union programs (livestreamed).</p>
12:25 – 12:40	<p>The story of Chuhuiv. Challenges in providing education and the success story of the "Inclusive Resource Center". Ms Halina Minaeva, Chairperson of Chuhuiv municipality council (Ukraine)</p>
12:40 – 12:55	<p>Erasmus+, <u>partnerships for cooperation</u>: opportunities to involve Ukrainian municipalities. Ms Inese Rimšāne, Senior Expert, Department of Partnerships for cooperation, State Education Development Agency of the Republic of Latvia</p>
12:55 – 13:10	<p>The story of Korop. Circular economy and provision of water management services in the municipality. Ms Yuliia Prohorenko, Head of the Department of Economy, Investments and Innovative Development of the Korop municipality council (Ukraine)</p>
13:10 – 13:25	<p>Green Assist: advisory services to prepare green investment projects. Mr Philipp Troppmann, Deputy Head of Unit, European Climate, Infrastructure and Environment Executive Agency (CINEA)</p>
13:25 – 13:40	<p>The story of Novyi Bilous. Crisis management in municipality during war: life in community and cooperation. Mr Dmytro Fedorov, Chairman of Novyi Bilous municipality council (Ukraine)</p>
13:40 – 14:00	<p>Coffee break</p>
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Crisis management and ability to respond to unforeseen circumstances (in-person participation).</p>
14:00 – 16:00	<p>Ability to respond to unpredictable circumstances, driving change with passion. Ms Aija Iesalniece, professional development coach</p>