

EU - Eastern Partnership Local Leaders Forum

4th edition

DISCUSSION	How to advance decentralisation reform & localise the EU-EaP agenda?
DATE / TIME	2 December 2022 / 9.30-15.00 (CET)
VENUE	CEMR, 1st Floor, room Meeus / Hybrid registration link here!
LANGUAGE	English, Romanian
OBJECTIVE	Multilevel discussion on advancing decentralisation reform as a cornerstone of local democracy, stability, development, and a fundamental pillar to localising the EU-EaP agenda.
PARTICIPANTS	Local elected representatives and officials from Georgia, Moldova, Ukraine, and EU countries: Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, etc. representatives of the EU institutions
OUTCOME	Declaration of EU-EaP Local Leaders - One-page-recommendations

Time	Session Description
09.00 - 09.30	Registration, access meeting, technical set-up
09.30 - 10.30	<p><i>First panel: to assess the implementation of the EU-EaP agenda, in the context of the Russian war in Ukraine and the current rapidly developing situation in the EaP region</i></p> <p>Moderated by Fabrizio Rossi, CEMR Secretary General Opening remarks by Fabrizio Rossi, CEMR Secretary General</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms Nataliya Lazarenko, International Cooperation manager, Association of Ukrainian Cities ● Mr Mindaugas Sinkevičius, President of the Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania, Mayor of Jonava District Municipality ● Ms Nino Rukhadze, Member of Tbilisi city assembly, Vice-President of the CEMR ● Mr Emil Drăghici, President of the Association of Communes of Romania, Mayor of Vulcana-Băi commune, Dâmbovița County, Former NALAS President. ● Andreas Magnusson Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, Counsellor at the Swedish Permanent Representation to the EU
10.30 - 10.45	<i>Networking coffee break</i>
10.45 - 12.30	<p><i>Second panel: Decentralisation as a cornerstone of local democracy and resilience</i></p> <p>Moderated by Mr Joachim Roth and Mr Elton Stafa, decentralisation and EU affairs experts, NALAS</p> <p>Ukraine: decentralisation reforms as cornerstones to be resilient and to face crises</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms Marité Moras, Head of the Cooperation Activities Unit, Secretariat of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities (tbc) ● Ms Nataliya Lazarenko, International Cooperation manager, Association of Ukrainian Cities ● Ms Elīna Cērpa, Ogre municipality council, Latvia, and Mr Vladislav Atroshenko, Mayor, Chernihiv city municipality (Online) <p>Georgia and Moldova: Decentralisation as a response to the political polarisation and instability?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mr David Melua, Executive Director, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia ● Mr Viorel Furdui, Executive Director, Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova
<p>12.30-13.30</p>	<p>Lunch break</p>
<p>13.30-14.45</p>	<p>Third-panel discussion - <i>Localising the green agenda in the Eastern Partnership: improving our lives through local activities and right choices</i></p> <p>Moderated by Mr Mindaugas Sinkevičius President of the Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania, Mayor of Jonava District Municipality</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Ms Michaela Hauf, the Team Leader in charge of connectivity, energy efficiency, environment, and climate change, EaP, DG NEAR ● Mr Dainis Turlais, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Latvia ● Mr Levan Zhorzholiani, Member of Tbilisi city assembly, Deputy - Head of the Georgian delegation to the CoE Congress ● Ms Violeta Crudu, Mayor of Cruzesti, Moldova ● Mr Tadej Beočanin, Mayor of Ajdovščina, Slovenia (Online)
<p>14.45-15.00</p>	<p>Closing remarks and main takeaways by Ms Nino Rukhadze, Member of Tbilisi city assembly, Vice-President of the CEMR, Mr Viorel Furdui, Executive Director, Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova, Mr Dainis Turlais, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, Latvia</p>