



Eastern Neighbourhood Programme final Conference
Innovative Decentralised Cooperation for the Eastern Partnership
Radisson Blu Daugava Hotel, Kuģu iela 24, Rīga (Latvia)

Following the organisation of three coordination seminars in Ukraine, Georgia and Moldova, PLATFORMA and the Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (LALRG) organise an Eastern Neighbourhood conference: Innovative Decentralised Cooperation for the Eastern Partnership. The aim of the conference is to present the conclusion of PLATFORMA Eastern Neighbourhood programme, including a report on decentralisation and administrative reforms in Eastern Partnership countries as well as to exchange on innovative decentralised cooperation activities and funding opportunities.

It will also be an opportunity to prepare for the next CORLEAP annual assembly in Kiev on 24 September 2018 and the Eastern Partnership Civil Society Forum Annual assembly in Tbilisi on 6-7 December 2018. The meeting takes place during the negotiations on the Multiannual Financial Framework post 2020, thus giving the opportunity to discuss the changes planned regarding the external action instruments.

Interpretation: Latvian, English and Russian

Meeting room: "Daugava"

Draft agenda

Tuesday 26 June

9:30-10:00 *Registration and welcome coffee*

10:00-10:30: Opening

- **Mr Gints KAMINSKIS**, LALRG Chairman and Councillor of Auce
- **Ms Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA**, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Parliamentary Secretary

10:30-12:00 I. Decentralisation and good governance: the basis of sustainable economic environment

This session aims at presenting trends and challenges in public administration reforms and decentralisation in Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine since 2015 and define recommendation for the next 3 years.

Moderated by **Frédéric VALLIER**, Secretary General, Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)

- **Mr Viorel FURDUI**, Executive Director, Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM)
- **Mr Davit MELUA**, Executive Director, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia (NALAG)
- **Ms Natalia Lazarenko**, PULSE Deputy Director, Association of Ukrainian Cities (AUC)

Conclusion and way forward: **Mr Nils JANSONS**, Deputy Head of Division, European External Action Service (TBC)

12:00-13:30 Family picture and lunch

13:30-15:00 II. Planning future activities of decentralised cooperation: examples for inspiration

This session aims at exchanging on the Multiannual Financial Framework post 2020, thus exploring the opportunities of the external action instruments for local and regional governments in the continuity of bringing tangible results for citizens.

Moderated by **Thomas PROROK**, Deputy Managing Director, KDZ - Centre for Public Administration Research (Austria)

- **Mrs Armelle Lidou**, Head of Unit, DG NEAR, European Commission (TBC)
- **Mr Jean-Pierre HALKIN**, Head of Unit, DG REGIO (TBC)
- **Mr Andris JAUNSLEINIS**, Member of the European Committee of the Regions, CORLEAP Bureau Member, Councillor of Ventspils (Latvia)
- **Ms Hilde PIJNENBURG**, Project Manager, VNG International (the Netherlands)
- **Ms Valérie LOIRAT**, Policy Officer on Equality, French Association the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (AFCCRE)

Conclusions and way forward: **Mrs Mudīte PRIEDE**, Secretary General, LALRG