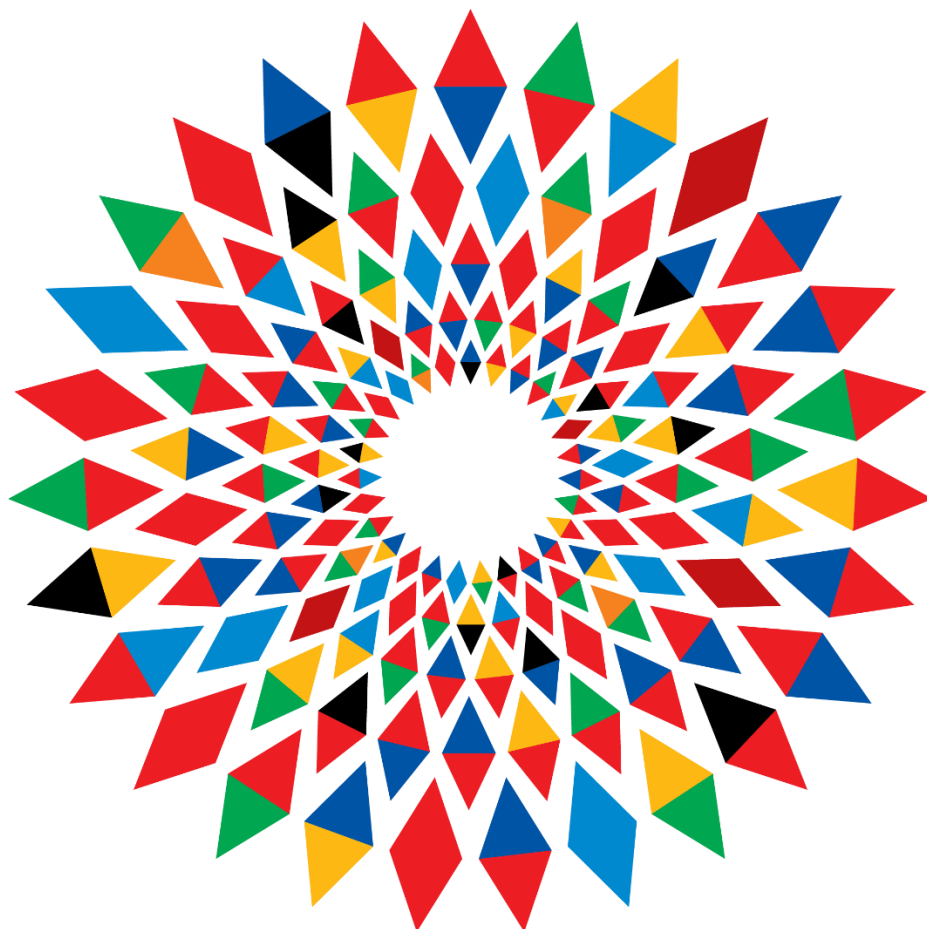


EU2022.CZ

Czech Presidency of the Council
of the European Union



Resilient municipality and public administration in the Eastern Partnership countries

Conference

*Perspectives and transfer of transformation experience in relation to
the resilience of local governments*

4. 11. 2022 Hotel Zlatý lev, Liberec, Czech Republic

The conference **Perspective and transfers of transformation experience in relation to resilience of local governments** will be held on Friday 4 November 2022 in Liberec, Czech Republic.

The conference will take place at the Hotel Zlatý Lev in Liberec, but you can also attend online via a link which will be send to you after registration.

You can register both for offline and online attendance. Please be aware of limited offline capacity.

The speaking languages will be English, Russian and Czech.

Contact:

Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic
Monika Štěpánová / stepanova@smocr.cz
www.smocr.cz



Time	Programme
8:30 – 9:00	Registration, coffee
9:00 – 10:30	<p>Panel I: Crisis management</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Martin Půta, CoR member, president of the Liberec region (CZ) • Radka Vladyková, Managing Director, Union of Towns and Municipalities • TBC, Emergency Response Coordination Centre (E, DG ECHO) T • Luidmila Biriukova, Velyka Pysarivka Settlement Mayor (UA) • TBC <p>Hosted by: Pavel Branda, CoR Member, CORLEAP, Working Group on Ukraine (CZ)</p>
10:30 -10:45	Coffee Break
10:45 – 12:15	<p>Panel II: Reconstruction of Ukraine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vitali Klitschko, Kyiv City Mayor and AUC Chairman / online (UA) • Jaroslav Kurfürst, Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs for European Issues (CZ) • Anatoliy Fedoruk, Bucha City Mayor (UA) • TBC • TBC (DG NEAR) <p>Hosted by: Petr Gandalovič, Director of Department of Development Aid, Ministry of Foreign Affairs (CZ)</p>
12:15 – 13:15	Lunch
13:15 – 14:45	<p>Panel III: Energy self-sufficiency and combating climate to become more resilient</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Andriy Sadovyi, Lviv City Mayor (UA) • Vaida Aleknavičinė, Member of a Local Assembly: Joniškis District Municipal Council (LT) • Sandro Sordia, Zugdidi Municipality (GE) • Vladislav Cociu, City Mayor of Stefan Voda (MD) • Yevgen Groza, EU4Climate Regional Manager (UNDP) <p>Hosted by: Eva Baños de Guisasola, Adviser- Global Agendas, Sustainable Development Goals and Climate (CEMR)</p>
14:45 – 15:00	Coffee break



15:00 – 16:30

Panel IV: **Decentralization**

- Elton Stafa (NALAS, PLATFORMA CEMR) (AL)
- Vitalii Maletskyi, Kremenchuk City Mayor {UA}
- Davit Melua, Executive Director of NALAG (GE)
- Ion Bizu, Mayor of Cirpesti (MD) TBC
- Representative of SMO CR, TBC

Hosted by: Jan Marian, Special Envoy for Eastern Partnership,
Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Draft, 24.10.2022



Details on the panels

Panel I: Crisis management

A very important part of resilience of municipalities is their ability to handle crisis situations which are now increasingly more common. Those can be natural disasters such as floods, fires, earthquakes and more often also droughts. Lately the frequency of extreme weather has increased. Municipalities are on the frontlines of handling pandemic situations, migration waves (such as the current one caused by the war in Ukraine) or problems with securing the supply of water, electricity or gas. Therefore, quality crisis management and preparedness for these situations are crucial.

The panel will focus on presenting the best practices both from the EU and Eastern partnership countries. How should the effective crisis management system be established and working on the municipal level? How can the municipalities cooperate effectively with the regional level and also across borders in case of larger crisis events? How can the EU funding be used in crisis management? What is the role of municipalities and regions in coping with the current migration flow of Ukrainians fleeing from the war?

Panel II - Reconstruction of Ukraine

Reconstruction of Ukraine will be a generational challenge and the costly investment into the future. Its shape and scope will depend upon the outcome of war and the security environment. It also can turn into opportunity - with the focus on building back better. Reconstruction should start with critical needs and prioritize clearly. Along reconstruction of infrastructure, profound transformation of democratic institutions in view of the EU accession process is needed. Global donors will participate but the EU will have lead. The EU towns and cities already contributed their share of solidarity during the migration crisis and reconstruction will be another opportunity to demonstrate continuous support to Ukraine. President of Ukraine has proposed that countries should "adopt" a particular Ukrainian region or at least a city.

The panel will focus on the role the European cities can play in the reconstruction. How can the EU cities contribute to Ukrainian cities? How the distribution of regional or municipal focus to different EU countries could fit into the EU reconstruction pattern? What is needed the most? What can be offered quickly in the field of critical infrastructure? What existing initiatives provide? Where can we do better? Are we up to the scope?



Panel III - Energy self-sufficiency and combating climate to become more resilient

Russian illegal and unjustified war of aggression has an eminent impact on energy sector. Besides the secondary effect of the war, Russia is directly using the energy resources as a weapon. Energy sufficiency becomes a prominent issue. The associated countries (Ukraine, Moldova and Georgia) are vulnerable in various degree. Ukraine learned tough lessons in the past and currently has been directly attacked, very vulnerable Moldova is openly blackmailed and Georgia, which benefits from its strategic location copes with the high prices. This difficult background is a context for a historical energy transformation, which represents mix of challenges and opportunities. How can cities cope with these challenges and what municipalities can do to cover the energy needs for this winter? What are specificities of the role of municipalities? How energy transformation can be exploited? What parts of the EU programs in the field of energy transformation are attractive for the municipal level in the associated countries of the Eastern Partnership? And besides this energy crisis we are keep experiencing increasing worrying levels of climate pollution. What are doing at the local level to combat climate change and adapt to it? Countries signatories to the UNFCCC report on their climate progress through the national determined contributions. What is the support countries need to perform better to comply with the Paris Agreement?

Panel IV - Decentralisation

Ukrainian cities and municipalities of all levels proved an extraordinary resilience over the whole period of Russian aggression. Distribution and accommodation of internally displaced people support of the military, humanitarian aid, protection of civilians and ensuring the functioning during the aggression was among others also the result of successful decentralization where's local authorities can assume the responsibility. What are the lessons learned for the next steps of decentralization? In which fields more centralized approach would be useful? What is the situation in Moldova and Georgia? Are they any lessons learned to increase resilience and efficiency for the local public administration? What is the role of decentralization process for the EU accession? How the EU can be helpful to find the right balance and boost resilience on municipal level?





Ministry of Foreign Affairs
of the Czech Republic



European Committee
of the Regions



EU2022.CZ