


PROGRAM



NALAS General Assembly Meeting

Chisinau
12-14 April
2021

Welcome address

- ▶ Ms **Maia Sandu**, President of Moldova
- ▶ Ms **Tatiana Badan**, CALM President, Mayor of Selemet, Moldova
- ▶ Mr **Ion Ceban**, Mayor of Chisinau, CALM Vice-President, Head of Moldovan Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- ▶ Mr **Emanuil Manolov**, NALAS President, Mayor of Pavlikeni, Bulgaria

Keynote address: Local Democracy and European Integration in South and Eastern Europe

- ▶ Mr **Leendert Verbeek**, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- ▶ Ms **Majlinda Bregu**, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council
- ▶ Ms **Sybille Suter Tejada**, Ambassador of Switzerland in North Macedonia
- ▶ Mr **Maciej Popowski**, Director General, Directorate General Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
- ▶ Mr **Nikola Dobroslavić**, President of Dubrovnik-Neretva Region, Committee of the Regions Rapporteur on Draft-Opinion on Enlargement 20200

Online City to City Dialogue: Sharing experiences from the Urban Partnership Program

11.00 - 13.15 (CEST)

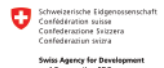
Zoom Access: [Click Here to Join Meeting](#) Meeting ID: 921 0770 4416 Passcode: 644121

Language: English,

Interpretation: Albanian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian/Montenegrin, Macedonian

- 11:00 – 11:10 Opening and introduction
- 11:10 – 11:30 Introduction: 10 years of Urban Partnership Program (UPP); World Bank; Presentation of the NALAS Regional Decentralization Observatory.
- 11:30 – 11:45 MFSA and Capital Investment Planning
- 11:45 – 12:00 Urban Audit experience in North Macedonia
- 12:00 – 12:15 COVID-19 Impact on LSGs - One Year Later
- 12:20 – 12:40 Citizen engagement in the Balkans, Europe and Central Asia
- 12:40 – 12:50 Q&A session
- 12:50 – 13:00 Reflections on Local Government Finance in Western Balkans: challenges and opportunities in the year ahead.
- 13:00 – 13:15 Q&A
- 13:15 h Wrap-up and announcing NALAS General Assembly and Side Events Program

In partnership with:



PLATFORMA Online Peer Exchange: Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova (CALM) & Local Government Associations from South and Eastern Europe

14.00 - 16.00 (CEST)

* Session dedicated for invited Local Government Associations only.

Language: English

Opening remarks

Introduction to PLATFORMA EaP Cluster and the Peer Exchange Process

Working groups:

- **Financial sustainability:** Membership fees collection and formulae
- **Institutional dialogue:** Consultation mechanisms with the government and parliament;
- **Internal Committees:** Expansion of membership and participation in internal committees

Team Reflection and Action Plan

Wrap up, conclusions and next steps

In partnership with:



10:15 - 12:30 (CEST)

- 10:15 - 10:30 Zoom Platform;
Access: [Click Here to Join Meeting](#) Meeting ID: 921 0770 4416 Passcode: 644121
Language English, Romanian, Bulgarian;
Interpretation: Albanian, Bulgarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian/Montenegrin, Slovenian, Turkish
- 10:30 - 11:00 **Opening Session**
Welcome address from the hosts
Ms **Maia Sandu**, President of Moldova
Ms **Tatiana Badan**, CALM President, Mayor of Selemet, Moldova
Mr **Ion Ceban**, Mayor of Chisinau, CALM Vice-President, Head of Moldovan Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
Mr **Emanuil Manolov**, NALAS President, Mayor of Pavlikeni, Bulgaria
- 11:00 - 11:30 **Keynote address: Local Democracy and European Integration in South and Eastern Europe**
Mr **Leendert Verbeek**, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
Ms **Majlinda Bregu**, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council
Ms **Sybille Suter Tejada**, Ambassador of Switzerland in North Macedonia
Mr **Maciej Popowski**, Director General, Directorate General Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations
Mr **Nikola Dobroslavić**, President of Dubrovnik-Neretva Region, Committee of the Regions Rapporteur on Draft-Opinion on Enlargement 2020
- 11:30 - 12:30 **Statutory Meeting Session**
Video Presentation: Highlights - NALAS in 2020
Presentation of the NALAS Online Regional Decentralisation Observatory
Discussion: Financial Report 2020, Workplan 2021, Budget 2021, Mr **Kelmend Zajazi**
Address of incumbent NALAS President, Mr **Emanuil Manolov**
Inauguration and address of new NALAS President, Ms **Tatiana Badan**

12:30 - 12:40
Coffee break

In partnership with:



PLATFORMA Eastern Partnership Coordination Seminar: Reinforcing Dialogue on Local Government Reform in Moldova and in South East Europe

Zoom Access: [Click Here to Join Meeting](#) Meeting ID: 921 0770 4416 Passcode: 644121

Language: English, Romanian; **Interpretation:** Albanian, Bulgarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Serbian/Croatian/Bosnian/Montenegrin, Slovenian, Turkish

- 12:45 - 13:10 **Opening and introduction**
Mr **Constantin Cojocari**, Mayor of Edinet, CALM Vice-President, CALM Network of Cities & Towns
Mr **Frédéric Vallier**, Secretary General, Council of European Municipalities and Regions
Mr **Adrian Ermurachi**, Deputy Secretary General of the Government of Moldova (tbc)
Mr **Peter Michalko**, Ambassador of European Union delegation to Moldova (tbc)
- 13:10 - 13:40 **Policy dialogue:** Next Steps for Decentralisation and Local Government Reform in Moldova and South and Eastern Europe.
- 13:40 - 14:30 **Reflections:** Priorities and opportunities for reform processes in Moldova and SEE
Reflections: Reform priorities supported by development partners, with CALM involvement
- 14:35 **Discussion, Q&A**
Concluding remarks

12:45 - 14:35 (CEST)

In partnership with:



Sustainable Local Economic Development in South-East Europe

09:45 - 11:40 (CEST)

09:45 - 10:00 Platform: Zoom;
Access: [Click Here to Join Meeting](#) Meeting ID: 921 0770 4416 Passcode: 644121

Interpretation: Albanian, Bulgarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Serbian/Croatian/
Bosnian/Montenegrin, Slovenian, Turkish

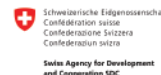
Sustainable Local Economic Development in South-East Europe

10:00 - 10:15 **Opening remarks:**
Austrian Association of Cities and Towns (tbc)
Mayor of Straseni, CALM Vice-President

10:15 - 11:35 **Panel discussion**

- Local Governments as drivers of local economic development
- Citizens' welfare in times of crisis
- Smart City Agenda
- Environmentally sustainable communities
- EU support to sustainable development in the post COVID-19
- Social dimension of sustainability

11:35 - 11:40 Q&A



In partnership with:

11:40 - 11:50
Coffee break

Second Forum of Women Mayors of South-East Europe Inclusive Local Economic Development

Platform: Zoom
Access: [Click Here to Join Meeting](#) Meeting ID: 921 0770 4416 Passcode: 644121

Interpretation: Albanian, Bulgarian, Macedonian, Romanian, Serbian/Croatian/
Bosnian/Montenegrin, Slovenian, Turkish

Second Forum of Women Mayors of South-East Europe - Inclusive Local
Economic Development

11:50 - 12:15 **Introduction**
Keynote address

CALM President, Mayor of Selemet, Moldova

GRB Program Specialist, ECA Regional Office UN Women

12:15 - 13:00 **Panel of Women Mayors on Local Economic Development to provide for inclusiveness:
Challenges and solutions to gender equality**

- Start-up center in Bitola, North Macedonia
- Women's economic empowerment program, Moldova
- Trbovlje case, Slovenia

Conclusions on discussion

11:50 - 13:15 (CEST)

In partnership with:



13:00 - 13:15 **Final remark of NALAS President: Priorities 2021-2022**
Closing of NALAS General Assembly 2021

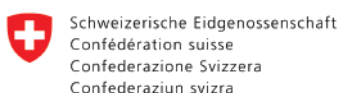
NALAS General Assembly Meeting

Chisinau, 12-14 April 2021

PROGRAM



Network of Associations of Local
Authorities of South-East Europe
Réseau des Associations de Pouvoirs
Locaux de l'Europe du Sud-Est



Swiss Agency for Development
and Cooperation SDC



This project is co-funded by the European Union



The Congress



COUNCIL OF EUROPE



WORLD BANK GROUP

