

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 **Olivér Várhelyi**, EU Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement, (Video address)
- ▶ Ms **Sybille Suter Tejada**, Ambassador of Switzerland in North Macedonia
- ▶ Mr **Andreas Kieffer**, Secretary General, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (tbc)
- ▶ Ms **Majlinda Bregu**, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council
- ▶ Mr **Nikola Dobroslavić**, President of Dubrovnik-Neretva Region, Committee of the Regions Rapporteur on Draft-Opinion on Enlargement 2020

Online City to City Dialogue:

Sharing experiences from the Urban Partnership Program

11.00 - 13.15 (CET)

Registration [link](#).

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 (CET)

* Session dedicated for invited Local Government Associations only.

Registration [link](#).

Language: English

Opening remarks

Introduction to PLATFORMA EaP Cluster and the Peer Exchange Process

Working groups:

- **Financial sustainability:** Membership fees collection and formulaes
- **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 (CET)

- 10:15 - 10:30 Access to Zoom Platform;
Registration [link](#).
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 **Olivér Várhelyi**, EU Commissioner for Neighbourhood and Enlargement, (Video address)
Ms **Sybille Suter Tejada**, Ambassador of Switzerland in North Macedonia
Mr **Andreas Kieffer**, Secretary General, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (tbc)
Ms **Majlinda Bregu**, Secretary General, Regional Cooperation Council
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:



Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC

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

12:45 - 14:35 (CET)

- Platform: Zoom; Registration [link](#).
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
Ms **Frederic Vallier**, CEMR Secretary General
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

In partnership with:



Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation SDC



Sustainable Local Economic Development in South-East Europe

09:45 - 11:40 (CET)

- 09:45 - 10:00 Platform: Zoom; Registration [link](#).
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**

11:40 - 11:50
Coffee break

In partnership with:

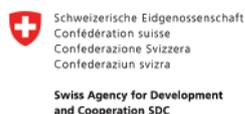


Second Forum of Women Mayors of South-East Europe Inclusive Local Economic Development

11:50 - 13:15 (CET)

- Platform: Zoom; Registration [link](#).
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**

In partnership with:



13:00 - 13:15

Final remark of NALAS President: Priorities 2021-2022
Closing of NALAS General Assembly 2021

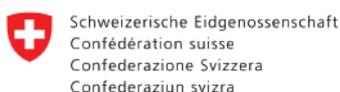
NALAS General Assembly Meeting

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

