


# 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 Dobroslavic**, Prefect of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, rapporteur for the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) opinion on 2020 Enlargement Package

### 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 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:



## Online NALAS General Assembly Statutory Meeting

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 Dobroslavic**, Prefect of the Dubrovnik-Neretva County, rapporteur for the European Committee of the Regions (CoR) opinion on 2020 Enlargement Package
- 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

12:45 - 14:35 (CEST)

- 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**

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 Strasen, CALM Vice-President

10:15 - 11:35

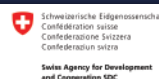
**Panel discussion**

- 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

11:50 - 13:15 (CEST)

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**

In partnership with:



Шведска  
Sverige



13:00 - 13:15

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



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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

