



**ALDA**

European Association  
for Local Democracy

# Activity Report 2018



[www.alda-europe.eu](http://www.alda-europe.eu)



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All information included is updated to March 2019.

# ALDA at a glance

## ■ ■ COUNTRIES WITH ALDA ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERS / EU MEMBER STATES

### ● ALDA OFFICES

BRUSSELS  
STRASBOURG  
SUBOTICA  
VICENZA  
SKOPJE

### ■ UPCOMING LDA

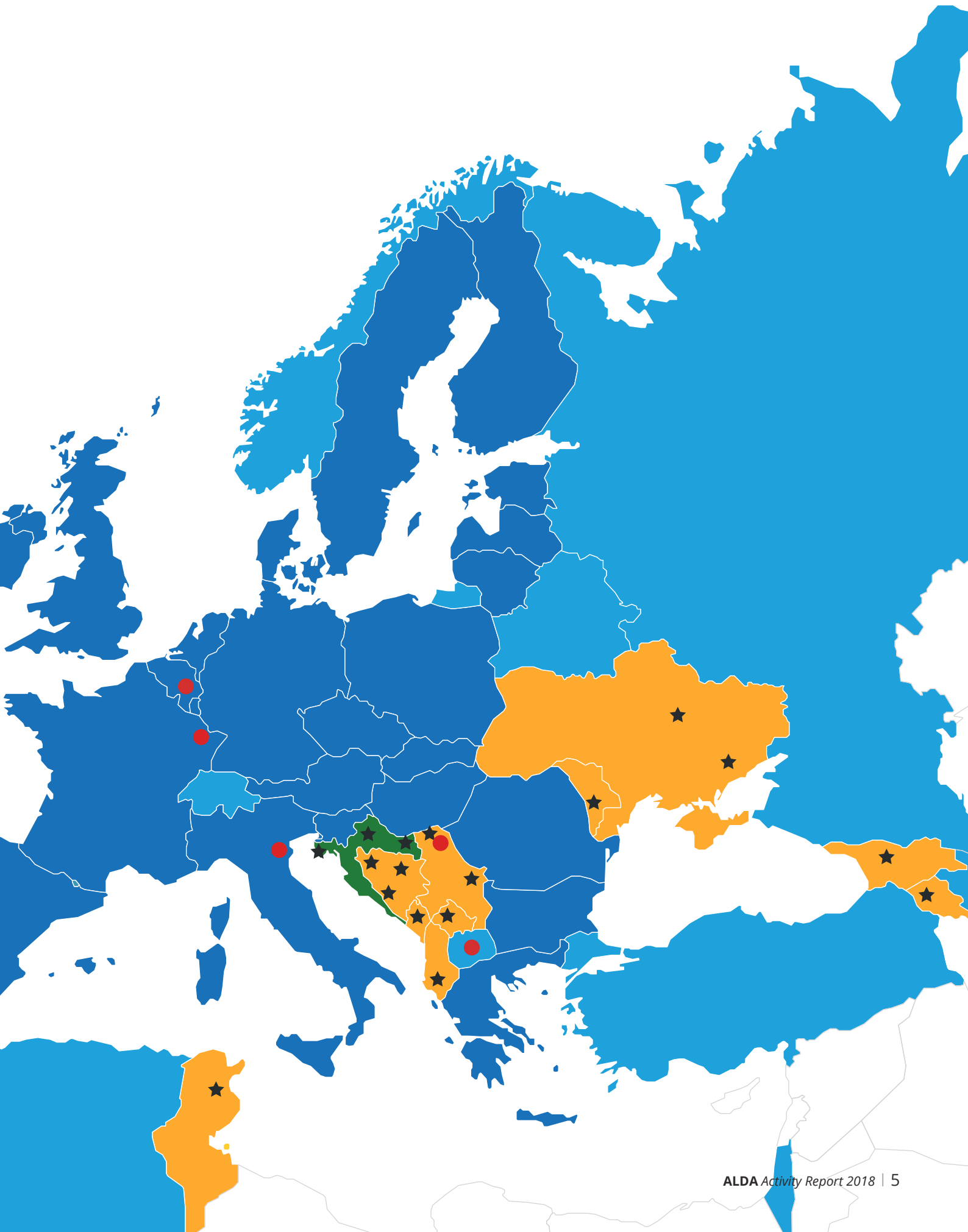
LDA MOROCCO

### ★ ■ OPERATIONAL PARTNERS

SISAK  
OSIJEK  
VERTENEGLIO / BRTONIGLA

### ★ ■ LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES (LDAs)

LDA ALBANIA  
LDA ARMENIA  
LDA GEORGIA  
LDA KOSOVO  
LDA MOLDOVA IN CIMIŞLIA  
LDA MONTENEGRO  
LDA CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SERBIA  
LDA SUBOTICA  
LDA MOSTAR  
LDA PRIJEDOR  
LDA ZAVIDOVIĆI  
LDA OF DNIPROPETROVSK REGION  
LDA MARIUPOL  
LDA TUNISIA



“Over the years ALDA has proved to be so effective in pursuing its objectives and in accomplishing its mission that it has been able progressively to enlarge its scope, now encompassing also some of the Council of Europe’s neighbouring regions”

Andreas Kiefer

Secretary General, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

“Continuous contacts between the citizens across borders are indispensable for a citizens’ Europe. By establishing a network between Local Authorities and Civil Society Organisations all over Europe and by offering a forum for the exchange of best practices, ALDA contributes greatly towards citizens’ involvement and good governance”

Jo Leinen

Former President, European Movement International

# About ALDA

ALDA – The European Association for Local Democracy, is dedicated to the promotion of good governance and citizen participation at the local level. ALDA focuses on activities facilitating cooperation between local authorities and civil society.

ALDA was established in 1999 at the initiative of the Council of Europe to coordinate and support the network of Local Democracy Agencies, which are self-sustainable, locally registered CSOs (civil society organisations) acting as promoters of good governance and local self-government. Today, ALDA is a key stakeholder in the field of local democracy, active citizenship, cooperation between local authorities and civil society.

ALDA is a membership-based organisation gathering more than 300 members (including local authorities, associations of local authorities, and civil society organisations) from over 40 countries in the enlarged Europe. ALDA is funded through membership fees, as well as project funding from the European Commission, the Council of Europe, and other public and private donors.

## What is unique about us

Most of ALDA's work is based on the principle of multilateral decentralised cooperation. This method involves a multi-stakeholder approach which focuses on strong partnerships between local authorities and non-governmental organisations. These partnerships create positive synergies and ensure that common goals are reached in a successful way. It is worth

## What we do

In the framework of the promotion of good governance and citizen participation at the local level, ALDA focuses on various themes, such as European integration, decentralisation, civic initiatives and volunteering, human rights and sustainable economic development.

ALDA conducts its activities through different forms of action and channels:

- Coordinating and supporting the 14 Local Democracy Agencies and 3 Operational Partners in their activities
- Conducting its own projects in the field of good governance and citizen participation at the local level
- Supporting other local stakeholders' initiatives by providing expertise gained through ALDA's knowledge and experience in the regions where ALDA and the Local Democracy Agencies are working

## Where we work

ALDA works throughout the enlarged Europe. Activities in the European Union focus in particular on the promotion of Active European Citizenship. Activities in the Western Balkans and European Neighbourhood focus on good governance, citizen participation, European integration, and decentralisation.

Most of the Local Democracy Agencies (LDAs) are located in the Western Balkans, giving a natural highlight on that area. Therefore, our efforts to gain visibility and expand our sphere of influence are showing their results, with ALDA getting more and more active in the European Neighbourhood. Through the years, 5 LDAs have been established in various Eastern Partnership countries, while in 2017 the first one was founded in the Southern Neighbourhood, in Kairouan (Tunisia), and 2019 will see the opening of an agency in Morocco. ALDA is also leading several other projects and developing partnerships in other European Neighbouring countries, such as Belarus, Morocco, Algeria, and Turkey.

# Our network



**+40**  
**countries**  
where ALDA is present



**19 years**  
of activity



**+300**  
members



**+250**  
projects run

**25 million**  
people indirectly impacted  
in the enlarged Europe



**5**  
Offices



**3**  
Operational  
Partners



**14**  
Local Democracy  
Agencies – LDAs



**1**  
upcoming  
LDA



# Advocacy component

ALDA's core mission is to work in cooperation with the various components of communities, in order to give them theoretical and practical tools to be more involved in decision-making processes and thus cooperate towards a better society. To reach such empowerment of local communities, ALDA advocates through the following channels:

- Observer to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (CoE)
- Partner of the European Commission within the structured dialogue of the Europe for Citizens Programme
- Observer ARLEM and CORLEAP, Committee of the Regions
- Coordinator of the Subgroup on Public Administration Reform of the Civil Society Forum of Eastern Partnership (CSF)
- Member of Hub 1, Hub 2 and Hub 3 of CONCORD
- Member of European Movement France
- Member of the Conference of INGOs of the CoE
- Member of the Community of Practice of EPD – European Partnership for Democracy (and our Secretary General Antonella Valmorbida is President)
- Member of the Central and Eastern European Citizens Network
- Initiator of Civil Society Europe
- Member of the civil society alliance SDG Watch Europe
- Member of CIVICUS
- Member of the Steering Committee of Anna Lindh Foundation réseau France
- Memorandum of Understanding signed with UNDP – ART Programme
- Cross-membership with Energy Cities
- Cross-membership with LIKE
- Cross-membership with Association of Cities and Regions for Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+)
- Supporter of Covenant of Mayors
- Member of ISBEM Community Foundation, dealing with health and environment
- Participation in the Italian Association of Civic Observers
- Member of the Italian Platform of CONCORD
- Member of IOPD

# Letter from the President

Dear members, dear friends,

I am extremely proud to present the activity report 2018, outlining the top accomplishments of ALDA, the European Association for Local Democracy.

Following the establishment of a Local Democracy Agency in Tunisia, the Southern Mediterranean area is looking forward to inaugurate its second LDA, in Tétouan, Morocco, expected for next April 2019. These events mark the achievement of many years of coordinated work in the area, where we will proceed our action for the promotion of decentralization processes.

Our efforts, joint with the commitment of dozens of cities and regions throughout Europe to promote good local governance, ALDA and its network managed to achieve a number of important accomplishments. In addition, in 2018 we proudly witnessed to the reconfirmation of ALDA as strategic partner of the programme Europe for Citizens, and to its affiliation to the International Observatory on Participative Democracy (IOPD): fundamental channels to assure high-level operation to defend and promote democracy in all its forms.

Always projected towards future challenges, the European Parliament elections are surely among the most relevant happenings of 2019. What we care the most as ALDA, is to raise awareness among citizens on the importance of every single vote. The Union is facing various challenges at the present moment, but the European project is the best option for our future, because it is based on democratic values previous generations fought for. So, while many countries of the neighbourhood are struggling to join the EU, the least we can do as European citizens, is to show our appreciation and gratitude for being part of it

ALDA will continue to promote citizens' participation and knowledge in order to reduce the gap between citizens and EU institutions, and to fight against disinformation.

I thank you all for your long-standing cooperation and trust. I also thank the Secretary General and the team of ALDA for their excellent, hard work. Year after year, the concrete results of our activity are the best proof of the need of our joint work.



**Mr Oriano Otočan**  
*President of ALDA*

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# Forward from the Secretary General

Dear members and friends,

I join our president in expressing my satisfaction and admiration for the results achieved by ALDA in 2018 and for the steps taken towards the new, motivating challenges that await us in 2019.

The last 12 months of work have seen the action of ALDA concentrate on multiple fronts. From the expansion of the already wide network of members that has accompanied us, permanently, for many years now. To the presentation and awarding of multiple project proposals with our reference donors, which will translate, over the course of 2019, into more and more actions in favour of an increasingly strong Local Democracy in our targeted areas.

And speaking of the successes of these last few months, if not weeks, I cannot fail to mention the now imminent opening of the Local Democracy Agency of Northern Morocco, which will further strengthen our presence, and penetration in the Mediterranean region, and will once again establish our commitment in the fields of cooperation and development.

2018 was also a year that we dedicated to the citizens of Europe and its neighbourhood. In respect of our vision of an increasingly strong and active civil society, we have done our best to make as many people as possible aware of their role and rights, and through the many projects, events, courses and exchanges we have brought to term, we hope to have given our contribution to the social development of our continent.

And finally, our beloved Europe, which we are honoured to feature in our name. If on the one hand we cannot but rejoice at the progressive politicization of European issues, lived in this year, which has meant that they have entered into the daily conversations of millions of Europeans; on the other hand, we are now all aware that this new profound political meaning, not to say electoral, has unleashed powerful forces that are now pursuing the opportunities created by visions diametrically opposed to our values, by proposing to build a «new» model of Europe that we cannot but abhor. The Europe we want and we are working for is a Europe for citizens, rather than nations, a Europe of peace, Union and inclusion. A Europe that makes diversity and multiculturalism its fuel, and progress the aim to look at.

These intentions and resolutions do not happen by chance.

The next European elections will bring us a huge responsibility, since at the present moment we do not only face Euro-scepticism but also openly anti-European movements. This is why, as ALDA, we have decided, during this year, and even more so in the decisive weeks that we are living in, to do everything in our power to speak to our fellow Europeans, especially to the younger ones, who have everything gained from European integration, without at times recognising its underlying causes and principles. To talk about a new Europe, certainly reformed, but in the wake of those values that have allowed us to move from a continent at war, to a beacon of peace and prosperity, admired by millions of people all over the world. And to ensure that in this May, as many people as possible will be motivated to make that small and enormous gesture of political participation represented by the vote.

A vote we hope will be massive, a vote we hope will be for Europe.



**Antonella Valmorbida**  
*Secretary General of ALDA*

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**Mr Alessandro Perelli**  
Vice President, Bureau member  
Representing Friuli-Venezia  
Giulia Region (Italy)



**Ms Imislawa Gorska**  
Vice President, Bureau member  
Principal at the International  
School of Bydgoszcz (Poland)



**Ms Branka Mračević**  
Vice president, Bureau member  
Herceg Novi Municipality  
(Montenegro)



**Mr Roger Lawrence**  
Treasurer, Bureau member  
Individual member (United  
Kingdom)



**Mr Maurizio Camin**  
Associazione Trentino con i  
Balcani (Italy)



**Mr Lutfi Haziri**  
Gjilan Municipality (Kosovo)



**Mr Dobrica Milovanovic**  
Individual member (Serbia)



**Mr Alexandru Osadci**  
CALM – Congress of Local  
Authorities from Moldova  
(Moldova)



**Ms. Antònia Rosselló**  
Fons Mallorquí de Solidaritat i  
Cooperació (Spain)



**Ms Natalia Sovkopljas**  
UTCS – Union of Towns and  
Cities of Slovakia (Slovakia)



**Mr Francesco Zarzana**  
Cultural Association Progettarte  
(Italy)

### Observing expert



**Mr Mohammed Salhi**  
Espace Marocain de  
l'Economie Sociale, Solidaire et  
Environnementale – EMESSE  
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### Statutory Members



**Ms Alina Tatarenko**  
Head of the Centre of Expertise  
for Local Government Reform,  
Council of Europe  
  
Appointed by the Secretary  
General of the Council of  
Europe



**Mr Anders Knappe**  
President of the Congress of  
Local and Regional Authorities  
of the Council of Europe, or his  
representative



**Ms Anzhelika Pylypenko**  
Delegate of the Local  
Democracy Agency of  
the Dnipropetrovsk Region

### Advisory Board



**Ms Antonella Cagnolati**  
President of the Advisory Board  
  
General Coordinator of the  
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Council of Europe (Consultant),  
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**Mr Hans Martin Tschudi**  
Former Minister of Justice and  
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Local and Regional Authorities,  
Council of Europe



**Ms Maria Antonietta Nuzzo**  
Member of “DNAdonna”  
Governing Board, in charge of  
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# Our objective

## Act locally, think globally for good governance and participation

The whole work of ALDA aims at supporting local governance and citizens' participation in the European Union, in the future enlargement countries of South Eastern Europe, and in the neighboring countries. A set of horizontal features are developed within all the activities and projects designed and implemented by ALDA, including gender issues, minorities issues, youth employability, environment, education, and voluntarism.





# ALDA Europe

The Europe we are living in today is very complex and it is striving with challenges which have global dimension and cannot be tackled by the local communities or even national states alone. With the growing wave of populism, the international mobility from within EU and the outside, the increased urban fragmentation and socio-spatial exclusion, Europe is calling for joined forces to further promote European Union core values. Populist parties and politicians in several European countries have proven Europe in 2018 just part of the damage that can be done by shaping national discourses, framing themes and topics in the political debate and influencing policymaking through their presence in various national parliaments and governments.

In this context, it is crucial to develop tolerant, respectful and multi-faceted European societies with no place for manipulation, discrimination or manifestations of hate. ALDA contributes to the creation of more inclusive and politically engaged communities by working with local authorities, civil society organisation and citizens in a holistic approach.

Promoting participatory citizenship at the local level, including also the participation in the local elections and in the EU elections in 2019 is an instrument to create the necessary conditions for a fair political and social development of the community. Engaging citizens in all aspects of their community's life and making their voices heard through peaceful and legal forms of participation is also an antidote to populism and anti-democratic movements. ALDA confirms its vision that only a bottom-up Europe, with the full involvement of citizens, can develop a sense of shared ownership of the European project. By fostering participatory citizenship, ALDA's programmes have been contributing to meet the objectives of the Europe 2020 strategy.

Within the framework of supporting the European project through a bottom-up approach, ALDA Europe contributes to the following objectives:

- To promote citizenship understanding of the European Union, its history and diversity
- To foster European citizenship and to improve conditions for civic and democratic participation at Union level
- To raise awareness of remembrance, common history and values, and the Union's aim
- That is to promote peace, its values and the well-being of its peoples, by stimulating debate, reaction, and development of networks
- To encourage a democratic and civic participation of citizens at the Union level, by developing citizenship understanding of the Union policy-making process, and promoting opportunities for societal and intercultural engagement, and volunteering at the Union level
- To make citizens participate in the construction of an ever closer Europe, by making people from different countries meet to debate on the future Europe
- To strengthen the sense of ownership of the European Union, by promoting local and international activities where the issue of citizens' participation is tackled at all levels
- To contribute to the intercultural dialogue and enhance mutual understanding
- Every time a grassroots organisation or local authority approached me to ask for help and support in promoting active citizenship at the local level, I think of the important role ALDA has in being a support systems for those who are only at the beginning of their journey.

## ALDA Europe adopts a thematic approach to participatory democracy and citizen participation, with clear objectives to be pursued in each thematic category:

### **Active citizenship**

- A. Empowering citizens to participate in the public life of their communities
- B. Removing the barriers to participation, especially with regard to people who are less involved in social life (youth, elderly, women, minorities)
- C. Mobilising citizens to respond locally to global issues

### **Culture and sport**

- A. Promoting art and culture as forms of participation and active citizenship
- B. Stimulating creativity and innovation
- C. Promoting sport as a tool for social cohesion, tolerance, integration and inclusion

### **Education**

- A. Promoting non-formal education approaches to lifelong learning
- B. Tackling early school leaving
- C. Encouraging youngsters and adults' mobility and exchange of experience
- D. Promoting integration and tolerance

### **Employment, entrepreneurship and economic development**

- A. Stimulating spirit of innovation, creativity, mobility and business-entrepreneurial attitude of unemployed people
- B. Equipping unemployed people with information, resources, advice and networks to promote entrepreneurship and access the job market
- C. Promoting fair and inclusive economic activities that reduce inequalities, such as social and solidarity economy

### **Good local governance**

- A. Promoting the exchange of good practices related to local governance
- B. Promoting the multi-stakeholder approach as evidence-base successful process for community development
- C. Creating and strengthen town networks, in order to develop cooperation between municipalities
- D. Developing local authorities and citizens' capacities

### **Health and environment**

- A. Promoting the adoption and use of ecological and sustainable products and solutions
- B. Promoting circular economy models
- C. Supporting activities to protect the nature capital and local biodiversity
- D. Raising local authorities and citizens' awareness on the environmental impact of their actions

### **Migration**

- A. Promoting tolerance, integration and dialogue between migrants and host communities
- B. Providing migrants with opportunities, tools and useful competences to help them integrate in a new social and economic context
- C. Promoting migrants' participation in public life

### **Equal opportunities, minorities and vulnerable groups**

- A. Promoting social cohesion, equality and equal opportunities
- B. Tackling economic and social barriers to civic participation
- C. Fostering active participation in community life of the most disadvantaged groups and individuals (women, young, elderly, foreigners, minorities, etc.)

## ! Social issues

- A. Tackling inequality, poverty and social exclusion
- B. Building the capacities of excluded sectors of the community to make their voice heard and fully participate in the democratic life
- C. Tackling illegality and corruption in Europe

## 👤 Youth

- A. Providing adequate knowledge, competences and skills to young people to tackle youth unemployment
- B. Empowering youth to respond locally to global issues
- C. Stimulating youth participation and social engagement through the promotion of activism and volunteering

“Every time a grassroots organisation or local authority approached me to ask for help and support in promoting active citizenship at the local level, I think of the important role ALDA has in being a support system for those who are only at the beginning of their journey.”

Mihaela Onofras, EU Project Manager

# Project in the spotlight

 CULTURE AND SPORT

## SWUP – Sport for Women in Urban Places



**Funded by:**  
Erasmus +  
Programme of the European Union



**N. of partners/associates:**  
10 Partners



**Timespan:**  
January 2018 – June 2019



**Countries impacted:**  
Italy, France, The Netherlands, Portugal,  
Spain, Romania, Bulgaria

The project aims first of all at shading light on why and how to design women friendly urban environments for outdoor sports/physical activity through: the drafting of Guidelines on promoting a women friendly urban environment for outdoor sport/physical activity, including also a Roadmap on women friendly urban environment for outdoor sport/physical activity at local level and of and identification of a set of priorities for improving urban places for outdoor sports/physical activity from a gender equality perspective.

### Objectives:

1. Create a “SW-UP” Community of practice and platform for the project partners and other stakeholders sharing knowledge, problems and practices to promoting a women friendly environment for outdoor sports/physical activity in urban spaces;
2. Provide in-depth knowledge on barriers for women to practicing outdoor sports/physical activity, and in

particular on those related to the quality of the urban environment, and on good practices of designing women friendly urban environments for outdoor sports and enhancing their participation in such sports/physical activity;

3. Increase in women’s awareness and participation in outdoor sports/physical activity and in the design of women friendly urban environments for such sports/physical activity through women targeted Pilot Programmes;
4. Define and disseminate Guidelines for promoting women friendly urban environments for outdoor sports/physical activity and for enhancing their participation in outdoor sports/physical activity at European and local level.

### This project contributes to a better world because...

“The role of physical activity in having a qualitative and health life has been largely acknowledged at the international level.

Furthermore, European Union recognizes that sport has a positive impact not only on the micro (individual) and macro (system) health, but also on social inclusion, education and training. Despite the numerous benefits of sport, a consistent number of persons continue to lead a sedentary life, and this trend is going to increase in the future, especially in industrialized countries, and women will be among the most affected. The design of urban places for outdoor physical activity can either favour or block people from engaging in outdoor physical activities. Despite the effort of many cities to pay a special focus on women needs, the interplay between the quality of the urban environment and the sport behaviour of women has not been sufficiently analysed. The SW-UP project aims to provide a better understanding of this link by collecting information on the characteristics, behaviours and perceptions related to physical activity of women in each partner city. Furthermore, the collection of good practices

aims at providing a broad range of patterns of intervention which can be of inspiration for cities to promote sport activities in urban places.

Furthermore, most of the partners (all but for Mulier Institute and ALDA) come from countries where the level of people that practice physical activity is below the EU average. Thus, the "SW-UP" project represents an opportunity to enhance outdoor sports/physical activity among women, through a better understanding of barriers, exchanging ideas and knowledge on possible solutions as well through creating common opportunities on this issue. The project also allows cities to learn from each others' experience and to exchange a series of good practices (different types

of activities and/or focus on different target people, such as young women, working, elderly, etc) that could be transferred in their own contexts. Furthermore,

the project also represents an opportunity to promote actions at EU level on common problems in creating conditions for women to be more physically active.



Partners meeting of the project SWUP in Ramnicu Sarat, Romania. November 2018

## Key Projects in 2018

### ↑↓ MIGRATION

#### Urban Re-Generation: European Network of Towns – URGENT

**Funding programme:** Europe for Citizens  
**Timespan:** September 2016-August 2018

URGENT project had the ambitious goal of gathering together a large variety of European local stakeholders (including local authorities, NGOs of different nature, CBOs, local development agencies), actively engaged in fostering urban inclusion in 11 very different European contexts, to promote dialogue among them, accommodate diversities, foster a shared understanding and principles of action for facing the challenges posed by socio-spatially excluded neighbourhoods in their cities and towns.



URGENT final conference in Athens, Greece. June 2018



## Youth Metre - A tool for forward looking youth participation



**Funding programme:** Erasmus+ KA3 Forward Looking Cooperation Projects  
**Timespan:** January 2016 – June 2018

In line with the objectives of the Erasmus+ Programme and in order to foster the achievement of Europe2020 goals, the YouthMetre project aimed at supporting EU Member States, municipalities and regions in carrying out effective policy reforms in the field of Youth, in line with the indications provided by the EU Youth Strategy and according to the priorities perceived by its target population: young Europeans.



*Presentation of the project results during the final conference held at the Committee of the Regions in Brussels, Belgium. April 2018*



## COOPilot



**Funding programme:** DG Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs of the European Commission  
**Timespan:** April 2017-March 2018

COOPilot provided innovative responses to the youth employment challenge in the EU, by stimulating cooperative entrepreneurial spirit through education and training. COOPilot transferred competencies from the more advanced countries in the field of cooperatives (Belgium, France, Italy, Spain) towards the less advanced ones (Bulgaria, Cyprus, Greece, Romania and Slovenia).



*COOPilot partners meeting in Athens, Greece. October 2017*



## Metropolitan Europeans in Active Network, Inducing Novelties in Governance – MEANING



**Funding programme:** Europe for Citizens  
**Timespan:** October 2016 –September 2018

As a result of the project, a thematic network of European Metropolitan Cities was built that exchanged experiences about their management and role in the future of European governance, by focusing on the participation of citizens in these processes. The network gathers Metropolitan Cities with years of experiences with the Metropolis institutions and realities.



*Final Conference of the Meaning Project in Zagreb, Croatia. September 2018*

 GOOD LOCAL GOVERNANCE

## CRISCO: Crossroad of the Regions – fostering involvement of all citizens in local life to Improve Social COhesion.



**Funding programme:** Europe for Citizens  
**Timespan:** September 2017 – August 2019

The project aims to foster the involvement of all citizens in local life to improve social cohesion and mutual understanding among the population of these cosmopolitan cities. The CRISCO partners are developing different local initiatives aiming at a better integration of their population by: 1) experimenting and reviewing their own local integration initiatives; 2) exchanging their experiences among the CRISCO network; 3) Proposing good practices and recommendations beyond the network, at EU level



CRISCO Transnational Meeting in Strasbourg, France. September 2018

 EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES

## GET UP – Gender Equality Training to overcome Unfair discrimination Practices in education and labour market



**Funding programme:** European Commission - Directorate General Justice and Consumers  
**Timespan:** January 2017 – December 2018

Aiming to address the stereotyping of educational and career choices and to promote gender equality in education, training, career guidance and at the workplace, the GET UP project implemented a capacity building process for the professionals who intervene in transition phases along the education-training-labour market chain by developing and delivering a training on gender equality based on a common European Minimum Standard of Competences and putting in place an awareness raising campaign at the European level.



GET-UP Final conference in Rome, Italy. December 2018

 EDUCATION

## Student Talent Bank



**Funding programme:** Erasmus+  
**Timespan:** November 2017 – October 2019

School Talent Bank promotes entrepreneurial education in secondary schools among teachers in order to prevent early school leaving, facilitate the transition from school to work and increase students' engagement. In order to do so, the project enriches school teachers with entrepreneurial competences, as well as creating an online platform, "The School Talent Time Bank".



*The first multiplier event of the ST BANK project in Sceaux, France. June 2018*

 ACTIVE CITIZENSHIP

## Fair EU - Fostering Awareness Inclusion and Recognition

## FAIR EU

**Funding programme:** Rights, Equality and Citizenship Programme (2014-2020) of the European Union

**Timespan:** January 2018- June 2019

FAIR EU (Fostering Awareness Inclusion and Recognition) aims to foster the successful inclusion of EU mobile citizens in their host EU country's civic and political life through the provision of a holistic approach to tackling obstacles they face when exercising their rights.



*Dissemination workshop at the European Parliament*





## Focus on our activities in France

ALDA, being established at the initiative of the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities in Strasbourg, has a strong presence in France. Thanks to this close relation and the presence of ALDA's office within the main building of the Council, ALDA promotes good governance and citizen participation also at local level in France through various projects. The activities of ALDA in France in 2018 led to the cooperation with French partners such as NGOs (Makers for Change, JRS Strasbourg, AMSED, Plurielles...), but also French Municipalities (Strasbourg, Sceaux, Paris) and networks such as RTES. ALDA is also an active member of the European Movement France. We cooperate closely with this broad French network structured through local and regional sections, and implementing a wide panel of awareness-raising activities about Europe.

In 2018, ALDA has organised numerous actions and events on the local as well as the national level, and offered the opportunity to participate to international conferences, youth exchanges and trainings to its partners, members, and to French citizens. One of these trainings was held during Fall 2018 and allowed 15 civil servants from French municipalities (such as Paris, Annecy, Rennes, Bilière, Saillans, Loos-en-Gohelle...) to be trained on the co-creation of public policies, in the framework of the Erasmus+ project Co-Created. ALDA is developing its network in France and now has 19 French members among which local and regional institutions, associations and organisations of the civil society.

## Project in the spotlight



# WOM-COM(Women's Communication for Solidarity)



**Topic:** Assertive communication, feminism, street art



**Funding programme:** Erasmus+



**Timespan:** September 2017 – March 2018

In the framework of the Erasmus+ WOM-COM project, whose purpose is to promote intercultural exchange and solidarity among women coming from different backgrounds through street art, ALDA's team in Strasbourg organised various events and trainings. In May 2018, 5 young women from Strasbourg were invited to be a part of an international youth exchange held in Croatia, where they were able to discuss with women coming from Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Italy and Croatia about feminism and street art. In September 2018, a street art mural was painted by a collective of young women on the campus of the University of Strasbourg, promoting feminism and women's solidarity.



*Painting of the mural by a local group of young activist women. September 2018*

# Project in the spotlight

↑↓ MIGRATION, GENDER AND INCLUSION

## WEMIN - Migrant Women Empowerment and Integration



**Topic:** empowerment and inclusion of migrant and refugee women in European societies



**Funding programme:** AMIF



**Timespan:** January 2018 – December 2020

The AMIF-funded WEMIN project was launched in 2018 with the aim to promote a better and smoother inclusion of migrant and refugee women in participating cities and countries (Germany, France, Sweden, Greece, Spain, Italy, Ireland), as well as empowering them through empowerment and mentoring sessions, and artistic workshops. In Strasbourg, ALDA has organized various activities such as language courses and developed a fruitful partnership with a local association, Plurielles, working with migrant and refugee women in the Central Station district. The project also allowed to develop a guide with recommendations for local authorities which was locally adapted with the help of local associations working on the field. This project is still ongoing and others workshops are planned for the year 2019.



Workshop with migrant and refugee women, in cooperation with Plurielles and ALDA. September 2018

# ALDA cooperation

ALDA works in cooperation actions and contributes to the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals in Europe and in the Neighbouring countries. Bearing in mind the universality of the 17 SDGs, ALDA strengthens its work within and outside Europe, according to the Agenda 2030 in mind and making efforts to reach the targets established.

With the conclusion of its pivotal project LADDER – Local Authorities as Drivers for Development Education and Raising awareness at the end of 2017, ALDA has continued its work on the SDGs in Europe and in the neighbouring areas throughout the implementation of several other projects focused on different thematic tackling different SDGs: right of education and education to sustainable development – SDG 4, environment – SDG 13 – 14 - 15, gender equality – SDG 5, migration and inequalities – SDG 10, labour integration – SDG 8, sustainable urbanisation of the cities – SDG 11, sustainable production and consumption – SDG 12 etc.

Additionally, ALDA has fostered its work on International Cooperation and Development by its active participation to European Network such as CONCORD Europe and SDG Watch Europe. Among its actions, a constant advocacy action to bring the DEAR (Development Education and Awareness Raising) Call of the EC closer to the needs of the CSOs sector was carried out in 2018.

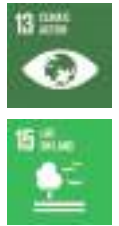


## Project in the spotlight

In 2018 ALDA's work was characterised by the kicking off of three LIFE Projects, namely METRO ADAPT, BEWARE and LIFE FALKON. The LIFE Programme is the EU's funding instrument dedicated to the environment and climate action and, in line with this, our three projects contribute to the achievement of SDG 13 - Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts and SDG 15 - Sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, halt and reverse land degradation, halt biodiversity loss.

 ENVIRONMENT, CLIMATE GOVERNANCE AND INFORMATION

# BEWARE – BETter Water-management for Advancing Resilient communities in Europe



**Funding programme:** EU Commission (DG Environment) - Executive Agency for Small and Medium-sized Enterprises (EASME) under the LIFE Programme



**Timespan:** September 2018 - June 2022



**N. of partners/associates:** 6 Partners

*“The dangerous consequences of climate change are more and more visible. BEWARE allows Municipalities and individuals to react to this phenomenon and adopt new solutions to safeguarding their lives. Is there anything more relevant and crucial than this?!”*

Sofia Caiolo, BEWARE Project Manager

BEWARE project aims at establishing and promoting the diffusion of a model for climate adaptation to flood risk. This process is aimed to be reached throughout an increase of people's awareness about climate adaptation and flood events and the implementation of Natural Water Retention Measures (NWRMs) in the Municipality of Santorso (COMSAN) and the Municipality of Marano Vicentino (COMMAR) and other EU municipalities. The project foresees several actions, such as the implementation of a sustainable urban drainage system in urban areas and NWRMs in agricultural areas, but also trainings, webinars, the establishment of a Community of Interest and the creation of didactic materials.



Kick Off Meeting of the BEWARE Project. October 2018



## Focus on South-East Europe

ALDA and LDA's consistent involvement in Western Balkan countries has made the LDAs a regional network of professional and accountable actors advancing the reform and the accession negotiation process with the EU, through strengthening the local ownership over the reform process by getting the citizens of local communities closer to European values and standards.

ALDA's offices in Subotica and Skopje continue to grow and to provide technical and operational support to ALDA and LDAs in the region. The establishment of Regional network for local democracy within the Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue strengthened the cooperation between the Balkan LDAs and ALDA, providing a structure for successful project development and implementation.

The network continues to provide an effective contribution to research, analysis, policy monitoring, capacity building, practising and promoting citizens' participation, especially among youngsters. The partnership strategy, with a variety of commonly designed and implemented activities, enables good communication and exchange between members of the network who are then able to support closer cooperation between youth and stakeholders between the communities which are involved.

With this in view, it is particularly relevant to note:

- ALDA and the LDAs have actively participated in the consultation process for the establishment and the programming activity of the Regional Youth Co-operation Office, in the consultation process within IPA 2 Programming, in SALTO Euromed Youth Regional Tool Fair 2017 planning and implementation.

- All LDAs in the Western Balkan countries are involved in the public policy making process within the SECO mechanism - Sector Organizations Consultative Mechanism to develop a structured dialogue within specified Chapter-based negotiation process and use its knowledge and exchange of information to strengthen the IPA 2 Programming and evaluation process.
- All LDAs in the Western Balkan countries were included in desk and field research work, drafting evidence-based Policy Recommendations to promote participation of young people in public life and in regional co-operation programmes.
- Within the respective host cities, the LDAs created a community of good local practice in fostering social cohesion, by promoting policy measures in social entrepreneurship development, inter-generational solidarity, intercultural exchange, improved participation of women and youth.
- At the end of 2017, the LDAs were part of a meeting in Brussels where the proposal for a Partnership Support Scheme was discussed. Delegates and partners of the LDAs were present, as well as representatives from the European Commission, DG NEAR and the Committee of Regions. During the meeting, a short video message by Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for European Neighborhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations, in which the Commissioner congratulated and thanked ALDA and the LDAs for their work and achievements.

# Project in the spotlight



## Balkan regional youth forum - Intercultural Dialogue and Cooperation



**Funding programme:**  
Western Balkans Fund



**Timespan:**  
May – November 2018



**N. of partners/associates:**  
9 Partners



**Countries impacted:**  
Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Macedonia, Montenegro, Serbia

The project “Balkan regional youth forum - Intercultural Dialogue and Cooperation” is the first project financed by the newly established program “Western Balkans Fund for fostering regional cooperation”.

The project’s highlight was the Balkan Youth Forum’s event, titled “Creative innovations towards active youth participation in the Balkans” organised from May 15th to 18th, 2019. The Forum saw the participation of over 70 representatives of CSOs, local authorities and youth workers coming from different Western Balkan countries. The Forum included an open conference, creative workshops and study visits. Participants also visited the Parliament of the Republic of Macedonia during the forum, where they met and discussed youth policies with the two youngest Members of Parliament. This Forum highlighted and gave voice to youth that as a social group have the quality to play a transformative role across Balkan societies.



*Balkan regional youth forum - Intercultural Dialogue and Cooperation, Skopje. May 2018*



*Balkan regional youth forum - Intercultural Dialogue and Cooperation, Visit to the Parliament, Skopje. May 2018*



Balkan regional youth forum - Intercultural Dialogue and Cooperation, Workshop, Skopje, May 2018

“Youth engagement and active participation become more than ever a precondition for ownership over the democratic reform process and a guarantee for peace and stability in the region.”

Stanka Parac Damjanovic, SEE Regional Programmes Coordinator

## Other projects



### DECENTRALISED COOPERATION

#### Decentralised cooperation between Normandy and Macedonia led by Collombelles



**Funding programme:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France and partners in the programme  
**Timespan:** May 2018 - April 2019

The programme was focused on topics of remembrance, peace and reconciliation as well as youth and European citizenship engaging various stakeholders from both territories on the basis of multi-actor partnerships. The stakeholders from Normandy and Macedonia cooperated in the last 11 years to foster decentralised cooperation and local democracy through various topics.



Cooperation between actors from Normandy and Macedonia 2018





YOUTH

## Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue



**Funding programme:** European Commission, Civil Society Facility - Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations

**Timespan:** January 2015 - December 2018

The project aims to increase awareness on youth participation, activism and young people influencing policies closely related to them on the local and regional level. 2018 was the last year of implementation filled with activities like Youth taking over a day, regular meetings of the Local youth advisory group, raising awareness campaigns, Balkan youth forum and the celebration of the International Youth Day.



Sixth Regional Network meeting of the Platform – Celebration of our 4 years, Novi Sad. October 2018



EU INTEGRATION

## Regional Youth Compact for Europe



**Funding programme:** European Commission, Civil Society Facility – Consolidating Regional Thematic Networks of Civil Society Organisations  
**Timespan:** 2018 - 2021

This initiative was launched in 2018 by 14 CSOs from the EU, Western Balkans and Turkey with the aim to enhance the effective participation of civil society and youth organisations in the EU integration through capacity building, awareness raising and advocacy actions organised at the local, national and regional level.



Official presentation of the regional project "Regional youth compact for Europe", Belgrade. November 2018



LOCAL DEMOCRACY

## CSOs for making local democracy work



**Funding programme:** IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Programme 2014-2015

**Timespan:** February 2017 - January 2020

The project is designed as a set of measures to empower civil society to be a credible, accountable and independent stakeholder in the EU accession processes. 2018 is the second year of implementation: 12 projects were subgranted, an international conference, local forums and panel discussions were organised and two publications produced.



International conference "European integration through the perspective of cooperation between civil society and local authorities", Skopje. November 2018

## Remembrance of the First World War in Macedonia

**Funding programme:** Regional Council of Normandy – Normandy for Peace Program

**Timespan:** January 2017 – December 2018

The project aims at territorial development through actions highlighting the collective European history of the First World War. Commemorating the Centenary of the end of the First World War educational, scientific, raising awareness and memorial tourism actions were developed through different aspects involving actors from Macedonia, Normandy and Europe



High school exchanges from Normandy and Macedonia on remembrance of the First World War, Bitola. April 2018

## Highlight - World Forum Normandy for Peace

The highlight of the activities between ALDA and the Region Normandy was the World Forum Normandy for Peace in Caen held in June 2018. ALDA had a stand dedicated to the activities of Remembrance, peace and reconciliation, European citizenship and its cooperation with Normandy.



World Forum Normandy for Peace, Caen. June 2018

## France/Balkans multilateral decentralised cooperation programme on good governance in South-East Europe

**Thematic category:** Decentralised cooperation

**Funding programme:** Ministry of Foreign Affairs of France

**Timespan:** January 2016 – December 2018

The main objective of this network is to promote and support the relations of French local authorities with the countries of South East Europe. The highlight of the project was the international meeting of the partners in the cooperation in March 2018 in Dijon which brought together more than 100 representatives of local authorities and young people from France and the Balkans.



International meeting of the partners, Dijon. March 2018



COOPERATION BETWEEN  
LOCAL AUTHORITIES AND CSOs

## RECOV: REthinking Collaborative Values for public services



**Funding programme:** Europe for citizens  
**Timespan:** March 2018 – February 2020

The main goal of the project is to create local networks working together on the improvement of local governance through dialogue and participation, contributing to a more inclusive and democratic society. The first international conference “Open government: principles, methods, and ICT open source tools” was organised in Skopje in June 2018.



First international conference “Open government: principles, methods, and ICT open source tools” was organised, Skopje. June 2018



GOOD GOVERNANCE

## Perfecting the structure for good internal management in ALDA Skopje

**Funding programme:** European Union, subgrant of “Sustainable Civil Society - State Financing of CSOs» of the Macedonian Center for International Cooperation - MCIC  
**Timespan:** June 2018 - June 2019

The aim of this project is to strengthen the capacities for internal management of ALDA Skopje in accordance with the democratic principles of good governance, transparency and accountability. Follow up of this activity is strengthening the capacities of local CSOs through the transfer of knowledge, practices and mentorship on behalf of ALDA Skopje.



Promotional event cultural heritage of Novaci, Novaci. June 2018



CULTURAL HERITAGE

## Raising awareness for the cultural heritage in the Municipality of Novaci

**Funding programme:** EU Delegation Skopje  
**Timespan:** January – October 2018

Honouring the 2018 European Year of Cultural Heritage ALDA Skopje and the Municipality of Novaci implemented this project which aimed to raise awareness for the protection and promotion of the cultural heritage of the territory of Municipality of Novaci.

## FRANCOPHONIE AND YOUTH

ALDA is also active in Francophonie engaging in actions related to local democracy and youth and supporting the values of Francophonie. Staff member Ivana Velkova, from ALDA Skopje, took part in the 2nd International Conference of Young Francophones (CJF) in Geneva in September 2018 together with 200 youngsters.



2nd International Conference of Young Francophones, Geneva. September 2018



## Focus on Eastern Partnership

It was a challenging 2018 for the Eastern Partnership region from ALDA's perspective as a new regional coordinator stepped in. Thus, the focus was to evaluate the previous period, draw the conclusion and plan ahead for the next years in line with overall ALDA strategy. In this regard, a new strategy (2018 – 2021) for the Eastern Partnership region was developed, approved and started being implemented. ALDA continued its contribution in promoting local democracy through building multi-party dialogue at local level, and various projects have been carried out in Armenia, Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine.

2018 was also the year when EaP national governments expressed and initiated the will to reform local administrations, based of which ALDA submitted several project proposals to support this process. In some cases, such as Moldova, the projects were approved by the donor and for the next 24 months, together with its partners, ALDA will support national reform efforts. From a membership point of view, ALDA's family grew with 5 more members coming from EaP region, including one member from the Russian Federation, bringing Russia in our focus area for the next years.



# Citizens Voice and Actions on Local Development in Consolidated Communities in Armenia



**Funding programme:**  
European Union



**Timespan:**  
March 2018 – August 2020

In a record 5-month time period, ALDA together with the Local Democracy Agency Armenia and the Community Finance Officers Association of Armenia, managed to build a modern Ski Center in Ashotsk. Ashotsk is a village in north-west of Armenia, situated at an altitude ensuring 7 months of snow per year.

By building the ski center, which offers accommodation and eating facilities, ALDA together with its partners contributed to boosting tourism in the village, attracting new investments, decrease unemployment and offer better infrastructure to village citizens. Moreover, an agreement with the Armenian Ski Federation exists that enables the Olympic team to use the facility as a permanent training spot. The success of this project relies in mobilization of the local community, the support of local and central authorities, and the partnership with the Ski Federation of Armenia.



Participants at the opening ceremony

“This project is a good example of how relatively small investment and partnerships at local level can create great synergies with multiple positive impacts. By building a Ski Center, ALDA didn’t just create a modern facility, it actually contributed to sustainable local development. As a result, people from Ashotsk will benefit of a modern recreation facility, more national and international tourists will come to the village, thus creating more job places, and more people will benefit on proper conditions for practicing sport and a healthy life style.”

Alexandru Coica, Eastern Partnership Coordinator



## Focus on Euro-Mediterranean area

The year 2018 has been very productive for ALDA in the Mediterranean area. ALDA developed its expertise through various projects, but also developed its capacities, welcoming new members among its team, developing new partnerships and supporting the development and opening of Local Democracy agencies in the Maghreb.

In October, the LDA Tunisia office was joined by a new member to support the delegate in her tasks, since the activities of ALDA in Tunisia, for which the LDA is a significant partner, took a greater dimension. In parallel, ALDA worked during the year to the opening of a second LDA in the region, located in Northern Morocco. In November, the municipality of Tétouan (Morocco), hosted the first ALDA meeting between all the future local and international partners to this new agency, as the representatives of the municipalities of Tetouan, Larache and Chefchaouen, some delegates of the Fons Mallorqui, the Moroccan Local and Regional Council and civil society organisations.

In Tunisia, the PARFAIT project reached its climax, with the implementation of several activities through the country. The diversity of events held by ALDA, together with the LDA of Kairouan, has heavily played a role in improving its visibility and network. In addition with all the trainings and awareness-raising campaigns implemented by ALDA in this framework, 2018 was marked by a major event regarding the project: its mid-term conference. The event, marked by a very enthusiastic and proactive public, saw the participation of local CSOs, as the regional organisation CAWTAR and the collective action association. Other relevant personalities from the local political scene joined the conference, in particular the president of the Commission for parity and equality of the Municipality of Tunis, the president of the Commission for participative democracy, governance and anti-corruption and a representative of the Ministry of women, family and childhood. From the international side, the representative of the Congress of local and regional powers of the Council of Europe, as well as a European elected women from France and Belgium came to Tunis for the PARFAIT project conference.

“Thanks to the training on the electoral cycle, I felt proud of myself as a woman and a citizen, proud of my knowledge of the rules of eligibility of lists. This allowed me to train more than 30 other candidates on my list, both male and female. I felt valued, «able» to speak on an equal footing with the other men on the list. Although I was the head of the list, men did not want me to talk too much, but thanks to the training, I was able to impose myself on others because I was more prepared and aware than them, especially on the technical and administrative levels.”

A women beneficiary of the project AVEC - Villages Associations of Savings and Loans for the Economic and social empowerment of vulnerable women. Project in Morocco

## Project in the spotlight

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EXTERNAL AND DEVELOPMENT COOPERATION

# PARFAIT - Participation des Femmes pour l'Avancement et l'Innovation de la Tunisie



**Topic:** local democracy, women participation



**Funded by:** EuropeAid



**Timespan:** October 2017 - October 2019



**N. of partners/associates:**

The European Partnership for Democracy (EPD) ; La Coalition pour les Femmes de Tunisie



**Countries impacted:**

Tunisia - 6 governorates: Gafsa, Kairouan, Grand Tunis, Jendouba, Kebili and Mahdia)

Launched in 2017, PARFAIT aims at increasing Tunisian women participation at local level by giving them the tools to fully access the public sphere – as voters and candidates, but also as empowered, informed and involved citizens, thus ensuring the ongoing decentralization process will be a success for every single Tunisian citizen. The project specifically targets six Tunisian governorates: Gafsa, Kairouan, Grand Tunis, Jendouba, Kebili and Mahdia. Through this project, 180 women, as well as 48 elected representatives from the six regions received continuous coaching on the gender dimension aiming at improving women's participation in the local public life. Some of the flagship activities of 2018 included the introduction of an awareness truck which circulated across Tunisia to raise awareness among citizen on women participation in local governance, and training cycles on specific topics (self-confidence, participative democracy, project management, advocacy, electoral cycle, etc.). These latter aimed at preparing women for running in the local elections in May, but also more generally to provide women capacities and tools to be actors of change within their local community. At the end of these trainings, more than 30 women beneficiaries ran for elections, and 12 were elected.



Awareness truck – awareness raising campaign, Kairouan.





PARFAIT Training on Gender Dimension, Kairouan.



PARFAIT Training on Gender Dimension, Kairouan.



PARFAIT Training on Gender Dimension, Kairouan.



Awareness truck – awareness raising campaign.



PARFAIT training on participatory democracy, Grand Tunis.



PARFAIT training on Election Law, Kairouan.



Inter-city meeting with the UNDP with women beneficiaries of PARFAIT Project, Zarziss. 22 April 2018

# Other projects

 ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS

## AVEC 2 - Socio-economic empowerment of the rural women through their integration into the solidarity, social and environmental economy circuit

# AVEC 2

**Funding programme:** Fondation RAJA - Danièle Marcovici

**Timespan:** September 2018 – September 2019

**N. of partners/associates:** ARDES and EMESSE

**Countries impacted:** Morocco

In the line of AVEC project (2016-2017), AVEC 2 is dedicated to work with the same women beneficiaries from rural areas of Morocco who had created their own cooperatives, by providing them with specific training enabling them to consolidate their leadership skills and an ongoing support.



*Handmade embroidery realised by a women beneficiary, Cooperative Thesghneste, Maazaz.*



*Visit of a gas station run by a woman president of one the cooperative of the AVEC 2 project.*

# The network of Local Democracy Agencies

## Supporting good governance and citizen participation in the field

ALDA coordinates and supports the network of 14 Local Democracy Agencies (LDAs) and 3 Operational Partners (OPs) in their activities. Initiated by the Council of Europe in the '90s, the programme represents a unique and successful experiment of democratic support, with full engagement of local governments and civil society organisations from Europe and from the cooperation countries. LDAs are locally based organisations funded and supported by partners (local and regional authorities, and civil society organisations), with a long-term joint programme to promote local democracy and citizens' participation at the local level.

The first Agencies were located in the Western Balkans, supporting the democratic transition of the countries after the war, but ALDA is today active throughout the European Neighbourhood – East and South. The network is in constant expansion, and 2017 was a record-breaking year with three LDAs established – LDA Moldova in Cimişlia; LDA Kairouan (Tunisia), the first in the southern shore of the Mediterranean; and LDA Mariupol (Ukraine), in the easternmost city in Europe.

A crucial aspect of the LDAs is the process of partnership building, as their work is based on the innovative method of multilateral decentralised cooperation. The cooperation between local and international partners, as well as between local authorities and civil society organizations, transforms the process of activities design and implementation into a real capacity-building exercise for all stakeholders involved, and is a practical example of how a democratic participatory planning process can create results.

LDAs and OPs are supported by more than 100 partners – both local and regional authorities, and civil society organisations – from all over Europe, providing financial and political support to fulfil their mandate and to accompany local democracy, civil society empowerment, and citizens participation in the decision-making process at local level.

LDAs partnerships develop through two main lines of action:

- A territorial based approach, involving all the actors of the communities concerned on a geographical base
- Thematic networking focused on specific issues, connecting different local communities

The overall budget of the LDAs keeps increasing year by year since 2009, thus ensuring effective implementation of the action plans. Furthermore, a particularly relevant indicator is the constant increase of funds resulting from the fundraising activity of the LDAs, while partners' fees and ALDA's support to LDAs considerably decreased in percentage.

The benefit/cost ratio of the LDAs is extremely high. Partners' fees are multiplied 20 times by the LDAs' virtuous capacities (human resources, expertise, and volunteering). The global budget of the network of LDAs in 2015 was 952.000 EUR, against an investment of partners' fees of approximately 50.000 EUR.

The synergic and systemic approach of each LDA is multiplied by the umbrella organisation, ALDA – the European Association of Local Democracy. ALDA gives the frame for the LDAs existence, support and monitoring. It evaluates the programmes and creates opportunities for cooperation.

On the occasion of the discussion about a proposal for a Partnership Support Scheme to LDAs in Brussels in December 2017, gathering delegates and partners of the operational LDAs, Johannes Hahn, European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy & Enlargement Negotiations sent a very powerful video message to the participants, congratulating and thanking ALDA and the LDAs for their work and achievements in the field of local democracy. This recognition is a huge satisfaction for the whole network of ALDA.

# Objectives:

- Promoting **good local governance** and improving citizens' participation
- **Building capacities** through the exchange of know-how and training of local elected representatives and civil servants
- Creating a Europe-wide **network of citizens** committed to dialogue, engagement, and solidarity
- Fostering the development of a more **inclusive** civil society
- Improving intercultural **dialogue** and diversity management in multicultural local communities
- Promoting **respect** for human and minority rights in local communities

## COUNTRIES WITH ALDA ACTIVITIES AND MEMBERS / EU MEMBER STATES

### ● ALDA OFFICES

BRUSSELS  
STRASBOURG  
SUBOTICA  
VICENZA  
SKOPJE

### ■ UPCOMING LDA

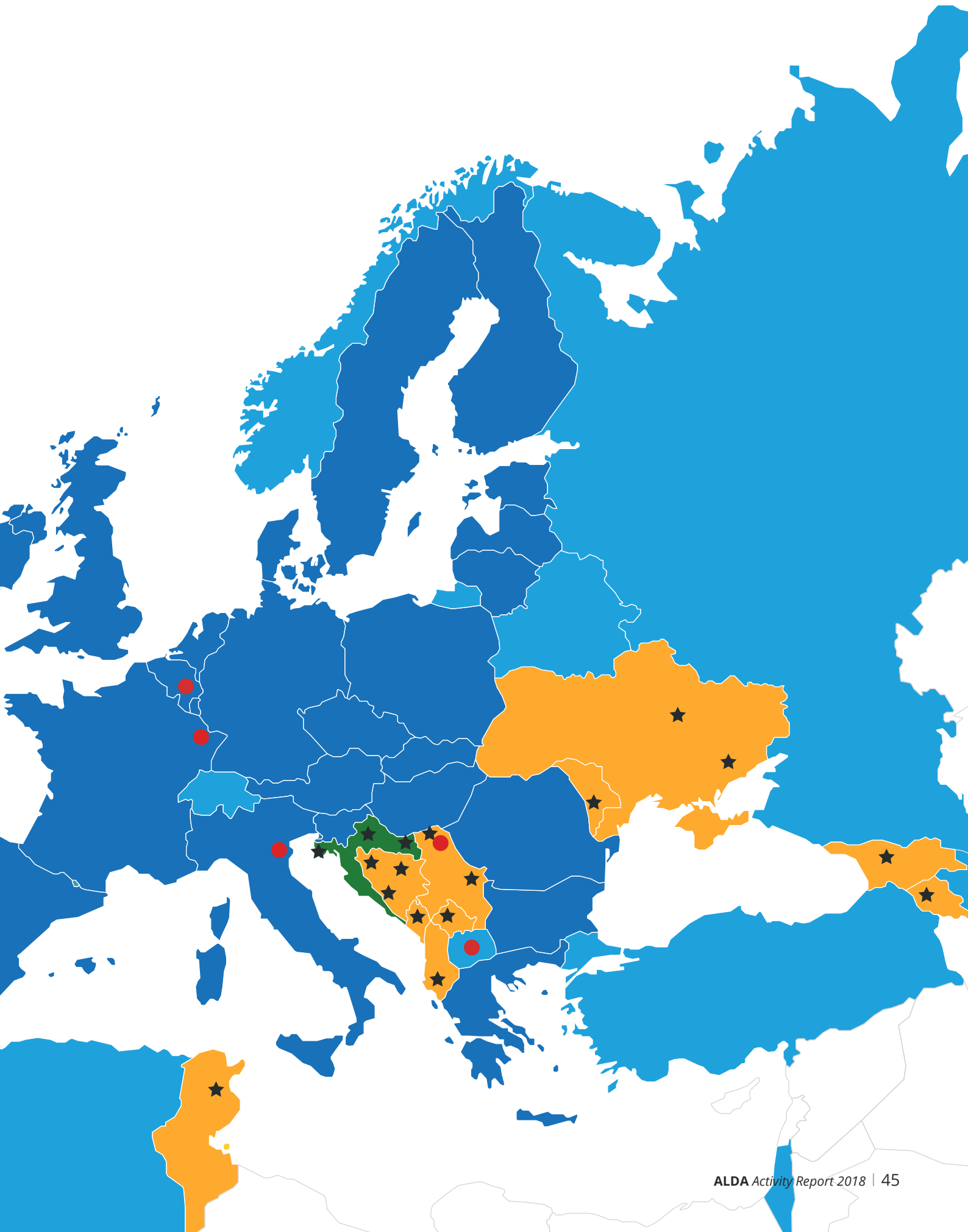
LDA MOROCCO

### ★ OPERATIONAL PARTNERS

SISAK  
OSIJEK  
VERTENEGLIO /BRTONIGLA

### ★ LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES (LDAs)

LDA ALBANIA  
LDA ARMENIA  
LDA GEORGIA  
LDA KOSOVO  
LDA MOLDOVA IN CIMIŞLIA  
LDA MONTENEGRO  
LDA CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SERBIA  
LDA SUBOTICA  
LDA MOSTAR  
LDA PRIJEDOR  
LDA ZAVIDOVIĆI  
LDA OF DNIPROPETROVSK REGION  
LDA MARIUPOL  
LDA TUNISIA



# LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES



## LDA ARMENIA, Gyumri

**Tel:** +374 94 200 878

**Email:** [ldaarmenia@aldaintranet.org](mailto:ldaarmenia@aldaintranet.org)

**Lead partner:** Autonomous Region Friuli Venezia Giulia (Italy)



**Delegate:**  
Ms Lusine Aleksandryan

The LDA Armenia was established in 2011. Its main priorities are supporting the capacity building of local authorities and civil society in citizens' participation, supporting the participative practices in the promotion of sustainable tourism, strengthening and developing regional cooperation and empowerment of youth and women. Furthermore, the cooperation with the French Embassy, the Council of Europe, Kettering Foundation, Black Sea NGO Forum and the European stakeholders promoted the implementation of many initiatives in the field of local democracy and participative decision-making.

*“Small changes starting from bottom lead to big results. Joint decision-making at the local level is the most trustful tool for state empowerment.”*

### Projects and activities implemented in 2018:

- “CSO-Government dialogue: Towards policy reforms on reducing the use of plastic bags” project – initiated with the local partner “Urban Foundation” and is implemented in Talin city that is acknowledged as a “smart city” on behalf of the Nature Protection Ministry
- “Support to libraries” – LDA Armenia implemented a series of trainings with the community libraries to promote their capacities on cooperating with educational
- Institutions, within their networks and civil society organizations, on drafting projects and participatory budgeting and also promoted some of their activities
- Trainings in the rural communities – LDA Armenia implemented trainings in the communities with local authorities and citizens on the problem jointly framing, deliberating and solving for community development based on the Kettering foundation methodology
- “Citizens Voice and Actions on Local Development in Consolidated Communities in Armenia” is being implemented by a consortium of Communities Finance Officers Association, European Association for Local Democracy, LDA Armenia as a sub-contractor, and Union of Communities of Armenia



## LDA CENTRAL AND SOUTHERN SERBIA, Knjaževac

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[www.instagram.com/lda.knjazevac/](https://www.instagram.com/lda.knjazevac/)



**Delegate:**  
Mr Sasa Marinkov

The LDA Central and Southern Serbia was established in 2001 in the City of Niš. With the aim of spreading its program further onto the territories in need, in 2014 the LDA has moved its headquarter to Knjaževac, a city in the South-Eastern part of the country.

The LDA aims to contribute to the development of local democracy in the communities of Eastern, Southern and Central Serbia through capacity building programs based on the principles of active citizenship and establishment of concrete mechanisms of citizens' participation in the development of their communities.

### **The LDA Central and Southern Serbia (CSS) carried out a number of projects during 2018:**

- Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue, funded by European Union through Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations - Support to Regional Thematic Associations and Knjazevac Municipality
- Regional Youth Compact for Europe, funded by European Union through the programme Europe for Citizens, European Remembrance
- Balkan Kaleidoscope, funded by European Union through programme Europe for Citizens, European Remembrance
- GREENist – The future and challenges of sustainable development of South Eastern Serbia, funded by Regional Environmental Centre Serbia and SIDA - Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency
- Do we know how to listen, watch and read correctly?, funded by European Union through Erasmus + programme
- Youth's advocate, funded by European Union through Erasmus + programme
- Italian volunteers promote active participation of disadvantaged youth, funded by European Union through Erasmus + programme
- Cultural Heritage That We Share, funded by Knjazevac Municipality
- Global Citizens Education, funded by Autonomous Province of Trento
- Territorial cooperation Trento - Knjazevac, funded by Autonomous Province of Trento



## LDA OF DNIPROPETROVSK REGION, Dnipro (Ukraine)

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**Lead partner:** Lower Silesian Voivodship



**Delegate:**  
Ms Anzhelika Pylypenko

Local Democracy Agency of Dnipropetrovsk Region was established in 2015. It became the first LDA in Ukraine, and stands as a platform of cooperation, dialogue and exchange of experience and best practices across several aspects of regional development (cultural, social and economic) between local authorities and civil society in the EU and in Ukraine.

LDA fosters citizen participation at the local level, and mobilizes civil society organizations, local and regional authorities to develop joint initiatives.

### In 2018, the LDA of Dnipropetrovsk Region carried out the following projects:

- IDPs “Social Adaptation as a Human Rehabilitation Vital Element” (IDPs SAVE)
- “Digital Community”
- “Development and advocacy project of the Concept of e-democracy of the Dnipro city until 2020”
- “We are the e-community of the Dnipro city”



## LDA GEORGIA, Kutaisi

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**Lead partner:** City of Strasbourg, France



**Delegate:**  
Ms Nino Khukhua

The Local Democracy Agency Georgia was set up in 2007 in Kutaisi, as part of ALDA's strategy in the Southern Caucasus. The mission of the LDA Georgia is to strengthen local democracy and civil society, support democratic reforms in Georgia, and develop new and innovative approaches to local and national challenges by cooperating with local and international stakeholders.

### The LDA mandate is focused on:

- Capacity building programs for local authorities and non-governmental organizations
- Promoting active citizenship and good governance
- Promoting human and minority rights
- Supporting and initiating cross-border and regional cooperation
- Promoting EU integration and European values in Georgia

### A number of projects and activities were implemented in 2018, including:

- “Regional HUB in Imereti Region”
- “Increasing awareness about the Association Agreement with the European Union in Imereti Region”
- “Voice of More Women in Local Self-Government”
- “Strengthening the Capacity of People with Disabilities in Elections and Politics”
- “Local Self-Government Index”
- “The way forward for reforms in the housing sector: empowering grass-root homeowners’ associations in Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine”



- “Citizens Initiative for Accountable Self-Governance”
- Support the Georgian National Platform for a More Equitable, Open, and Democratic Society.
- “Raising awareness about DCFTA among public in Imereti region”
- “Model UN conference”

“Democracy refers to «rule of the majority». Democracy is a system of processing conflicts in which outcomes depend on what citizens do. It produces more public goods and invests more in human capital. Promoting local democracy contributes to a better world because it creates an operational platform of debate, capacity building and shared cooperation between civil society and local authorities.”



### LDA KOSOVO, Peja

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**Lead partner:** Association “Trentino con i Balcani”, Italy



**Delegate:**  
Mr Elbert Krasniqi

LDA Kosovo was officially opened in 2011 in Peja/Pec, Kosovo, with the purpose to foster opportunities of meetings and constructive dialogue with the aim to improve relationships and the coexistence among communities through a shared reflection on the past, present and future, in a perspective of conflict elaboration and transformation. Its main priorities are to promote the local democracy related to the European Integration processes, to promote and strengthen the social areas regarding youth, culture and equal opportunities, to foster dialogues among different communities in Kosovo, to improve the economic development and to support logistics for the LDA's partners.

LDA Kosovo gained relevant experience even for the future on how to improve the collaboration of different communities in Kosovo's society, within a regional perspective through an exchange of cultural and intellectual reflections. LDA Kosovo, by summing up the great results earned, strongly believes that using culture as a tool on building bridges between communities in local and regional perspective, will bring even in the future general

improvements of its citizens, and the key role of local democracy in a society.

#### Main projects and activities implemented by LDA Kosovo in 2018:

- Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue
- Regional Youth Compact for Europe
- Balkan animation 2018
- Conference “Building trust and empowering communities-The way forward for Kosovo after the Association Agreement”
- Assembly of LKLT (Liga Kosovare në Luftë kundër Tumoreve)
- Campaign on healthy lifestyles and prevention in the City center of Peja
- Theater show- Burrat pa Gra
- Questionnaires for the consumption of drinking water- Hidrodrini



## LDA MARIUPOL, Ukraine

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**Delegate:**

Ms Tetiana Lomakina

LDA Mariupol was established in December 2017. Our mission is to create a platform for cooperation, building dialogue and sharing experience between local citizens, communities, municipalities and European partners. Mandate of LDA Mariupol is focused on:

facilitating the dissemination of information and participation between Ukraine and European countries to ensure constant exchange of the best practices;

strengthening the level of a civic participation aiming to take part in the decision-making process at the local level;

building dialogue between citizens and local authorities fostering their cooperation and mutual understanding;

increasing the level of awareness of citizens and communities about instruments and methodologies to address their needs.

### In 2018, LDA Mariupol implemented several projects:

- “Bridges of Trust” funded by USAID. The main goal of the project is to build a constructive dialogue between the community and the authorities by adopting features, differences and limitations of each of the parties
- “Green Moneybox” funded by USAID. “Green Moneybox” is a competition for the co-owners of multi-apartment houses of Mariupol, which organized collection points for recycled materials
- “Way to the Dream” funded by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania. A joint project of Ukraine and Lithuania, implemented by NGO Women’s Council of Donetchyna and Local Democracy Agency of Mariupol
- “School of Active Citizens” funded by U-LEAD with Europe. The project is aimed at raising awareness of the decentralization reform in Ukraine, to mobilize residents of the potential Sartana and Mariupol united territorial communities

### During 2018, the team of LDA Mariupol conducted the following exchange, trainings and activities:

- Changing experience with Municipality of Gdansk. Since 2017, LDA Mariupol and delegation from Mariupol City Council visited several times the Municipality of Gdansk, like the “Week of Democracy” in Gdansk, with direct participation of ALDA, LDAs and European partners. Delegation from Mariupol visited the Consulate of Ukraine in Gdansk aiming to discuss cultural exchange and mutual projects’ implementation
- Project management trainings. In September 2018, the team of the LDA Mariupol organized a training on project management with participation of NGO Mariupol Development Fund. Participants studied the basics of the project management, “Cynefin” approach, design-thinking, “problem tree”, and other topics
- German-Ukrainian meetings. On the occasion of the Fourth German-Ukrainian meeting of writers in Ukraine, there was organized a meeting with the Deputy General Council of Germany Peter Schmahl in Mariupol within the frame of the project “Paper Bridge”
- Trainings on project management, organized with the support of NGO Mariupol Development Fund, Mariupol Youth Union, NGO Women’s Council of Donetchyna
- “Fourth German-Ukrainian meeting of writers in Ukraine” with participation of the Deputy General Council of Germany, Peter Schmahl in Mariupol within the frame of the project “Paper Bridge”
- Meeting with Mariupol youth on the platform “Art-Puzzle”
- Panel discussion on the “Concept of the civil education development in Ukraine”
- German-Ukrainian meeting “Socio-Information Dominostain” organized by NGO “Wiedergeburt” in Mariupol

- Press conference of the project "School of Active Citizens". Visit of Alexandru Coica, EaP Coordinator, to Mariupol.
- Conference on "Women' Democracy Network", addressed to deputy women of Mariupol.
- Round table "Children suffered from the conflict at the East of Ukraine. Key directions of assistance"
- Signature of the Memorandum of Cooperation with NGO Mariupol Youth Union



## LDA MOLDOVA IN CIMIŞLIA

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**Lead partner:** Solidarité Eau Europe, France



**Delegate:**  
Mr Nicolae Hristov

The LDA Moldova in Cimişlia has been established on 3 March 2017, with the signature of the Memorandum of Understanding by the partnership, thus kicking off the operational activities of the LDA. It represents the first Local Democracy Agency in Moldova, based in the city of Cimişlia, a historic and symbolic city, the aim is to create a platform for cooperation, dialogue and mutual exchange of experience in all aspects (cultural, social and economic) between local communities and communities of European partners and will constitute a platform of discussion between citizens, local associations and authorities on the field in order to meet the needs of local communities

### LDA Moldova implemented several initiatives in 2018, including the following projects:

- "Raising public awareness of freedom of expression and access to local media", funded

by Freedom House and the Black Sea Trust for Regional Cooperation "Media Freedom Matters: Financial and Technical Support to Advocacy, Education and Outreach Initiatives for Media in Moldova"

- "Increasing the degree of comfort of the population by promoting tolerance and social inclusion", funded by the Solidarity Fund PL in Moldova
- "Online and offline promotion of natural and anthropic objectives with tourism potential", funded by the French Republic in Moldova
- Participation as a local partner to the "Transparent Budgets and Active Citizens for Sustainable Development" project



## LDA MONTENEGRO, Nikšić

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**Lead partner:** Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, Italy



**Delegate:**  
Mr Kerim Medjedović

The LDA Montenegro was established in 2001. Its main priorities are local administration capacity development, human rights and peace building, youth participation, local economic development, and European Union integration processes.

### In 2018 the LDA implemented the following main projects:

- "Balkan Regional platform for youth participation and dialogue"

- “Balkan Greeters”
- “DeFacto Development”, within the framework of the IPA Civil Society Development Programme and the Civil Society Facility Montenegro Programme
- “Youth’s Advocate”
- “Youth to Youth”
- “Regional Youth Compact for Europe” - Consolidating Regional Thematic Networks of Civil Society Organizations
- “Safeguarding, enhancing and promoting the natural and cultural heritage of COastal

Communities by boosting the eco-museum model aiming at smart and sustainable TOURism management - CoCo Tour”

- “Welfare Youth Development”. Donor: Monfalcone municipality - Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia
- “SHARE - Democratic participation, linguistic identity and participative management of public services”. Donor: Regione Autonoma Friuli Venezia Giulia
- “Making Europe Work”, with Europäische Academy Otzenhausen



## LDA MOSTAR, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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**Lead partner:** Apulia Region, Italy



**Delegate:**  
Ms Dženana Dedić

### In 2018 the LDA Mostar implemented several projects and activities:

- “Balkan regional platform for youth participation and dialogue”, funded by European Union through Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations - Support to Regional Thematic Associations
- “Regional youth COMPACT for Europe”, funded by European Commission (IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Program 2016-2017)
- “Balkan Kaleidoscope” Funded by European commission, EACEA Europe for Citizens – Strand 1: European Remembrance
- “URGENT Urban Re-Generation - The European network of cities”, funded by the European Commission
- “INCOME – Innovating Coworking Methods trough Exchange”, funded by the European Commission, Erasmus + KA2, Cooperation for innovation and the Exchange of Good Practices, Strategic partnership for Youth
- “Snapshots from the borders - Small towns facing the global challenges of Agenda 2030” funded by the European Commission, International Cooperation and Development (DEVCO)

- “Youth’s Advocate” Funded by the European Commission, Erasmus + KA2, Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Capacity Building in the field of Youth
- “WomCom - Women’s Communication for Solidarity” Funded by the European Commission, Erasmus + KA2 – Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Capacity Building in the field of Youth
- “Vols Europe - Volunteer Management in Europe’s Youth sector” funded by the European Commission, Erasmus+ programme - Capacity Building Youth - Western Balkans
- “Balkan regional youth forum - Intercultural Dialogue and Cooperation”, funded by the Western Balkan Fund
- “BeRlin cultural Intervention - Differences Grow Equal / BRIDGE”, funded by the Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany, Sarajevo
- “Mostar Days of Oris” – an activity of the ADA Center
- Educative touristic program developed for students from Trentino in cooperation with the Associazione Trentino con i Balcani Onlus

- Educative touristic program developed for the Gardolo Scouts
- Educative touristic program developed for the students from Tuscany Region
- Educative touristic program developed for the groups of the Viaggi Solidali responsible tourism Torino Italy

“Local participation and local engagement are the only effective, and only possible base for good higher level democracy.”



## LDA PRIJEDOR, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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**Lead partner:** Association Project Prijedor, Italy



**Delegate:**

Mr Dragan Došen

LDA Prijedor was established in 2000. Its main priorities are promoting citizens' participation, supporting the democratic process at the local level, fostering the social network between citizens, organizations and institutions, supporting social inclusion and local economic development, and contributing to the work on Remembrance.

### In 2018 the LDA Prijedor implemented several projects and activities:

- Balkan Regional Platform for Youth Participation and Dialogue

- Regional Youth Compact for Europe
- Project of educative exchanges and participatory territorial planning
- Program of development and cooperation Trentino – Balkan
- Support to capacities of local governments and contribution to economical promotion of sectors for renewable energies, sustainability and forests management and promotion of small businesses in three cities in Bosnia and Herzegovina



## LDA SUBOTICA, Serbia

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**Lead partner:** Wolverhampton City Council, United Kingdom



**Delegate:**

Ms Silvija Patarčić

LDA Subotica was established in 1993, as the first Local Democracy Agency. Its main programmes are focused on capacity building, awareness raising and advocacy actions intended for three main target groups – policy and decision makers at the local level, civil society organisations, youth and women's groups in particular. Educating for democratic citizenship, promoting intercultural dialogue, regional cooperation, cross-sectoral partnership building for local sustainable development are the main types of activities, including networking at regional and European level. Its main priorities

include advocating for democratic governance and participation and getting the accession negotiation process with the EU closer to citizens in local communities in Serbia and in multicultural Autonomous Province of Vojvodina in particular.

### The LDA Subotica implemented several projects and activities in 2018:

- Balkan regional platform for youth participation and dialogue - Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations - Support to Regional Thematic Associations

- Regional Youth Compact for Europe – Consolidating Regional Thematic Networks of Civil Society Organisations
- Balkan Kaleidoscope – Europe for Citizens Programme, European Remembrance
- Local Civic Monitor - European Policy Center Belgrade, WeBER project subgranting programme
- Vojvodina Initiative for EU - Open Society Fund
- Local Initiatives for Solidarity - Sub-granting programme of Ana and Vlade Divac Foundation Belgrade within Open Society Foundations Project
- Townlab MEET - Europe for Citizens Programme, Network of Towns
- Every Button Counts - Europe for Citizens Programme, European Remembrance
- Subotica – European Intercultural City - Provincial Secretariat for Interregional Cooperation and Local-Self Government, Government of Vojvodina
- Marking the Day of Europe in Subotica – information campaign and public event in Subotica
- Practice Solidarity and Shape Europe - Europe for Citizens Programme, Civil Society Projects
- Citizens of Macro Regions for a Stronger Europe – Europe for Citizens Programme, Civil Society Projects
- Public Administration Reform – Membership in National Working Groups



## LDA TUNISIA

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**Delegate:**  
Ms Afaf Zaddem

LDA Tunisia was established in April 2017. It represents the first Local Democracy Agency in the Mediterranean. The Agency is based in the city of Kairouan, a historic and symbolic city, and constitutes a platform of discussion between citizens, local associations and authorities on the field in order to meet the needs of local communities.

### The LDA Tunisia implemented several projects and activities in 2018:

- Support to the implementation and communication strategy of the PARFAIT project and coordinates the activities taking place in Kairouan and Mahdia.
- Observation visit for 15 students from the International Center for European Training (CIFE), dedicated to students currently preparing their Master thesis, in connection with topics related to sustainable development, governance, human rights and democracy.
- “inter-city meetings” between different Tunisian municipalities which took place in Zarziss-Medenine and organized by the so-called “Madinatouna” UNDP project
- “Friendly talks sessions”, to encourage young people to speak out in public, allowing them to experience a simple exercise of active citizenship
- Participation to the training at the Council of Europe in Strasbourg, held by the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform. The training was about the 12 principles of Good Governance, developed by the Centre of Expertise these last 10 years to assess the performance of the Local Governments in the CoE Member States
- In the context of the twinning of Strasbourg and Kairouan municipalities, Mr. Roland Ries, Mayor of Strasbourg, and his deputies visited the city of Kairouan. This meeting was the occasion for the LDA to support the organization of the event, and also to present its project related to local cultural heritage
- Participation to the 18th International Conference of the International Observatory on Participatory Democracy (OIDP), in Barcelona. Three intense days were devoted to debate, reflection and experiences sharing on direct democracy, citizen initiative and inclusive democracy ecosystems from the perspective of local governments

- The LDA was invited by the European Union Delegation in Tunisia to take part to the tripartite consultation co-organized with the Tunisian Ministry of Foreign Affairs on Human Rights, Rule of Law and Democracy
- During the “International Solidarity Week”, the LDA launched an event entitled “Festival of Solidarity” in Kairouan, organized in cooperation with the Municipality of Kairouan, the Junior Economic Chamber of Kairouan (JCI-junior) and the Super Bike Kairouan group



## LDA ZAVIDOVIĆI, Bosnia and Herzegovina

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**Delegate:**  
Mr Slađan Ilić

The Local Democracy Agency in Zavidovići was established in April 1997, following many years of cooperation between Italian NGOs and local authorities with the host city of Zavidovići. It is located in the Zenica-Doboj Kanton, BiH Federation, Bosnia Herzegovina. Zavidovići and the surrounding area were severely affected by the war.

### Main activities and projects implemented in 2018:

- “Balkan regional platform for youth participation and dialogue” funded by the European Union through Civil Society Facility Operating Grants to IPA CSO Associations - Support to Regional Thematic Associations
- “Regional youth COMPACT for Europe”, funded by the European Commission (IPA Civil Society Facility and Media Program 2016-2017)
- “Balkan Kaleidoscope” Funded by the European Commission, EACEA Europe for Citizens – Strand 1: European Remembrance
- “Balkan regional youth forum - Intercultural Dialogue and Cooperation”, funded by the Western Balkan Fund
- “Youth’s Advocate” Funded by the European Commission, Erasmus + KA2, Cooperation for innovation and the exchange of good practices - Capacity Building in the field of Youth
- “Vols Europe - Volunteer Management in Europe’s Youth sector” funded by the European Commission, Erasmus+ programme - Capacity Building Youth - Western Balkans
- “Wim Laboratories Iuvenis”, funded by the European Commission, French NA Erasmus+ KA 2: Strategic Partnerships
- “Sigurno mjesto: services and activities for women”, funded by the Municipality of Alba
- “Welfare Youth Development”, the Municipality of Monfalcone and Regione Friuli Venezia Giulia
- “Strani Vari – Summer centres for children”, funded by Association Strani Vari Alba (Italy), the Federal Ministry of culture and sport FBiH, and by the Municipality of Zavidovici
- “Ludobus – Animation for children in rural areas”, funded by Associazione Mimi
- “Development of family gardens in Zavidovići municipality”, funded by Enti per la pace della Provincia di Cremona and Budd Camp
- “Memorial Allesandra”, sport exchanges between Municipality of Roncadelle and Zavidovici
- “Vivicittà” – sport events, athletic race and tournaments, funded by UISP Cremona
- “Coalition for combating prejudice and intolerance in the community”, supported by OSCE Mission to BiH
- “Scout camp”, supported by scout group of Sant’Antonino

“Local democracy inspires communities to respond to the challenges they face with local solutions.”



## LDA ALBANIA, Vlora

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**Lead partner:** Metropolitan City of Bari, Italy

The Local Democracy Agency Albania was established in 2008 in Shkodra, and its work ended in 2014. The LDA is now back in action after being relocated and re-established in Vlora, in the south of the country, in 2015. The LDA intends to be a cornerstone to strengthen the local democracy and to accelerate Albania's path towards the European Union.

### The LDA's thematic priorities are:

- Strengthening cross-border and regional cooperation

- Supporting capacity building for local authorities and civil society associations
- Supporting citizens' participation
- Supporting European Union integration.

The LDA Albania was suspended in 2017, and work is in progress to make it fully operational.

# OPERATIONAL PARTNERS



## OP OSIJEK, Croatia

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**Lead partner:** City of Lausanne, Switzerland



**Delegate:**

Mr Miljenko Turniski

The Operational Partner Osijek was established as an LDA in 1993, 25 years ago. Its mission is to encourage citizens to build an open, sustainable and inclusive society through networking, sharing of information and lifelong learning. The OP's vision is that through active participation in democratic life of the local communities, citizens contribute to the creation of society based on knowledge and values of equal opportunities, democracy, tolerance, social sensitivity, intercultural values, as well as ecological and consumer's awareness.

### Main activities and projects implemented in 2018:

- Youth Information Centre Info FORA
- Dignity World

- Mind the App
- Into the Wald - DE
- Peacebuilding School Award Programme

### Other activities in 2018:

- Local Products for Local People
- Balkan Kaleidoscope – Conference: Teachers and students for multi-perspectivity in history and remembrance teaching
- Hosting of American Social Work Students
- MOTUS – platform of civil society organisations in Osijek-Baranja County
- HANGOUT – new youth initiative established





## OP SISAK, Croatia

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**Delegate:**  
Ms Paula Raužan

The Operational Partner Sisak was established as an LDA in 1996. Its main priorities are fostering local democratic processes, active citizenship, voluntarism, promoting human rights and international cooperation, contributing to strengthening social capital of individuals, government and wider community.

**In 2018, it implemented a number of projects and initiatives, including:**

- Volunteer Centre Sisak
- Sisak Volunteer' Network

- Life Experience – My Youth for an Active Ageing
- Q25 – Strengthening Volunteering' System in Rural Communities of the Central Croatia
- Volunteer' School
- On volunteering waves – an infrastructure for strong and connected communities
- Youth Work in Progress
- What's the issue?

*“We must wonder, what is important to our citizens? How to relate rights with obligations and civic duties? Decades of dedicated work of various non-governmental organisations working on citizens' participation worldwide, prove that the bottom-down approach that perceive citizens as passive consumers is not leading to sustainable change. Including citizens in shaping and developing their communities, especially youngsters, do lead to active participation and importantly to the enhancement of local human capital.*

*Working on local democracy and active citizenship is never-ending, challenging, frustrating, hard, rewarding, brilliant and definitely necessary! Because, what else?”*



## OP VERTENEGLIO/ BRTONIGLA, Croatia

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**Lead partner:** Municipality of Bellinzona,  
Switzerland



**Delegate:**  
Mr Umberto Ademollo

The Operational Partner Verteneglio/Brtonigla was established as LDA in 1996. Its main priorities are supporting the development of local democracy, fostering cross-border cooperation, strengthening cooperation with youth organizations and CSOs, and empowering youth and less advantaged groups.

### In 2018, the OP Verteneglio/Brtonigla implemented the following projects...

- Project T.E.N. in Europe – Team for European Networking
- Project Y.I.E.L.D. in Europe - Youth Ideas Empower Local Democracy in Europe

### ...and it was partner in the following ones:

- EVS “Bridge Over the Borders”
- EVS “Viseu Jovem”
- EVS “VOICE3”
- “New Forms of European Citizenship in Migration Era”
- “FROM M.E. TO E.U FROM Migrants’ Engagement TO Europe Upgrade”
- Yout’s Advocate
- European Training in agriculture sector
- FIG Financial Improvement: the Game

## ALDA worldwide

While the geographical scope of ALDA is the enlarged Europe, our Association is a leading stakeholder in the field of local democracy at the global level. Our staff and experts are increasingly involved in actions all over the world.

ALDA is a member of CIVICUS, the World Alliance for Citizens Participation, and of European Partnership for Democracy (EPD). Moreover, the Secretary-General of ALDA, Antonella Valmorbida, has been appointed President of EPD, the platform advocating for a stronger presence of democracy support on the European Union's agenda and facilitating the exchange of knowledge and best practices.

Ms. Valmorbida is also a member of the Council of Advisors of the National Civic League, a Colorado-based organization supporting for over 120 years civic engagement in US communities. The National Civic League found in ALDA and its experience in the field of local democracy and citizens' involvement at the local level a key partner.

In 2018, Ms. Valmorbida took part in a project aimed at fostering the concept of citizens' participation at the local level in several Municipalities in Algeria. There, through coaching and formations, she trained 225 local Mayors on the theme of "Participative Democracy".

ALDA became also a member of the International Observatory on Participative Democracy (IOPD), a network gathering over 800 towns, cities, associations, organisations and research centres from all around the world, sharing interest and expertise on participative democracy at a local scale.



## TRAININGS AND ASSISTANCE

ALDA+ is the company owned by ALDA. Created in 2017, it provides specialized services in the field of EU funding programmes and projects.

ALDA+ is at the service of public authorities, civil society organizations, companies and individuals who need support in scouting funding opportunities offered by the European Union and are looking for a dedicated care in developing and managing projects.

### Main trainings delivered in 2018:

- Training course on project cycle management promoted directly by ALDA (Vicenza, Italy), 30 participants
- Training course on EU funding programmes, promoted directly by ALDA (Vicenza, Italy), 30 participants
- Trainings on the rights of children in primary schools in EU Member States, about 300 participants
- Training course about EU funding programmes and community development in Derry and Belfast, Northern Ireland, in cooperation with the Community Foundation for Northern Ireland, 60 participants
- Training course on EU funding programmes dedicated to the inclusion of migrant communities, to Casa a Colori ONLUS (Italy), 4 participants
- Workshops on EU funding programmes and employment addressing youth, Studio Centro Veneto, 40 participants
- Workshop on Citizens' participation in decision-making process, YUSTE foundation, Yuste (Spain), 80 participants
- Training on advocacy for the CUOA foundation, Veneto Region (Italy), 80 participants
- Training on Project Cycle Management for the CUOA foundation, Veneto Region, 40 participants

### Main technical assistance services on project development and funding opportunities

- Technical assistance on project development and management in the field of the European Solidarity Corps to Primavera 85 Social Cooperative, Sovizzo, Italy
- Technical assistance to the municipalities of Thiene, Breganze, Arcugnano, Santorso, Bassano del Grappa (Italy) on fundraising and project development
- Technical assistance in fundraising and project development to GOPA (DE), Veneto Agricoltura (IT), Cooperativa Primavera 85 (IT), Istituto Rezzara (IT), Centro Edile Andrea Palladio (IT), Associazione Giochi Antichi, (IT) Orchestra di Pordenone (IT), Aperion onlus (Nepal), Polo Tecnologia Pordenone (IT), VHC (IT)
- Consultancy on project revision to SMP
- Consultancy on EU funding programmes to Hangar Teatri srl
- Financial management and reporting of a national structural fund for the municipality of Thiene (Italy)
- Technical assistance to VHC on the implementation of EU funded projects in the frame of the territorial cooperation programmes (organization of events and media coverage)
- Technical assistance on project development to several members and partners, both vis-à-vis and online, belonging to different categories, such as local and regional authorities, civil society organizations, universities, small and medium enterprises, etc. Among these, we list the main ones activated/implemented during the year: Local Democracy Agencies (Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership, and Southern Neighborhood); Associations: Cooperativa Social Margherita, Social cooperative Samarcanda (Italy), Institutions: Milan Metropolitan City (Italy); municipalities of Thiene, Schio, Zugliano, Marano Vic.no o, Villaverla (Italy); Fargfabriken cultural association (Stockholm, Sweden); Agorà (Czech Republic) ... and many more!



# WHAT WE DO

## Training and Capacity Building

*Trainings, workshops, webinars*

- European and Transnational projects
- Project development
- Implementation, evaluation and monitoring of projects
- Financial management and project reporting
- Fundraising
- Communication strategies
- Participatory governance
- Governance related-topics
- Accountability and transparency
- Management of public services
- Internationalization of local authorities

## Technical Assistance

*Coaching, support, help desk, provision of experts*

- Development of European transnational projects "on demand"
- Supervision and coordination of projects
- Administrative and financial management
- Financial reporting and final project report
- Partnership building
- Information on European programmes
- Tailor-made scouting of funding opportunities



## Consultancies

*Ad hoc experts, on-line consultancies*

### Methods

- Project development, management and reporting
- Communication strategies
- Decentralized cooperation
- Fundraising

### Topics

- Local governance
- Participatory democracy
- EU and non-EU funds

### Geographical Areas

- European Union
- Western Balkans and Turkey
- Eastern Europe and Russia
- Southern Mediterranean

## Participatory Governance

*Facilitation, accompanying processes, supervision*

- Participatory processes at the local level
- Participatory budget
- Participatory methods: Open Space Technology, World Café...



## Events

*Organization, facilitation, logistics*

- Organization and facilitation of project events (trainings, workshops, conferences, etc.)
- Study visits
- Educational tours (visits to EU institutions)

## Communication and Public Relations

*Information, dissemination, networking*

- Development and management of projects' communication and dissemination strategy
- Development of promotional and communication materials/tools
- Projects publications, manuals and handbooks
- Organization of institutional and non-Institutional meetings (with representatives of the European institutions, with European Networks, etc.)

*For any questions on our training opportunities, to require a tailor-made training programme or a consultancy, please contact Marco Boaria, leading ALDA+ Benefit corporation: [marco.boaria@aldaplus](mailto:marco.boaria@aldaplus)*

“I find it extremely motivating, to see the attitude evolution of the participants of our courses on EU project development. Many initially joined to obtain fundings, but after the training they recognized the real value of project development, lying in working for the well-being of the community, in order to improve it.”

Marco Boaria, CEO of ALDA+

## Participants' voices:

“Trainers and materials are the best you can find on the market, based on my personal experience.”

“Learning about European projects through the voices and experiences of its protagonists is a true privilege!”

“I recommend the training to all those who work with territorial projects needing funding. Often field workers - myself included - lack information to manage a project from A to Z.”



# Join our network!

**Building resilient communities by making local authorities and civil society work together**



ALDA is a unique membership-based organisation at the European level. We believe that the cooperation between local and regional authorities and civil society organisations is key to creating sound local democracy, and promoting citizens participation in their community life. That's why our members are both local/regional authorities and civil society organisations, from all the whole enlarged Europe.

We enhance joint work and synergies between local governments and organised civil society, in order to promote and improve the exchange of best practices in the field of local governance and citizens' active participation.

The network of ALDA grows year by year, thus reflecting the added value of the membership, as well as the fruitful cooperation and exchange among members from very different contexts.

Today ALDA counts around 300 members from 40 countries.

Since 2017, the network also counts on Ambassadors, selected people who have been part of and supported ALDA for a long time, who are mandated to represent the Association, strengthening our visibility and presence all over the enlarged Europe, consolidating ALDA as a pan-European organization.

Among them, there are members of the Association, representatives of ALDA's Governing Board, Delegates of the Local Democracy Agencies, former staff members. Their role is both to improve visibility and establish relationships with new counterparts within their country of activity, and to support the action of members of ALDA on the territory, with a more decentralized and widespread approach.

*For further information about ALDA membership, please contact: [membership@aldaintranet.org](mailto:membership@aldaintranet.org)*



# Services for the members of ALDA

Being a member of ALDA means, first of all, sharing our mission. But it also means enjoying the following services:



## Projects development and funding opportunities research

*20 years experience in developing and implementing projects*

- Priority on opportunities to be partners of projects, or to join consortia for tenders in various fields
- Support of ALDA multilingual staff in the project proposal development phase (EN, FR, IT, SR, MK, RU, ES)
- Identification of relevant international partners for specific geographic and thematic needs
- Support to the partnership building process and dissemination of members' calls for partners
- Identification of potential donors



## Being part of a consolidated European network

*Strategic partner of the Council of Europe and of the European Commission*

Support in the relations with:

- EU, CoE, UN, Agencies, and other public and private International institutions
- Local and regional authorities, as well as national governments in the enlarged Europe, European officials, MEPs, and other relevant international authorities
- Visibility through a European network counting 300 members (local and regional authorities, CSOs, associations of local authorities)
- Support in the organization of study and networking visits in Brussels, and all over Europe
- Online presence for our members on ALDA's website, and presentation to the network of contacts via the newsletter
- Access to EU experts, professional networks, academic organizations

## Information and structures

*Wide dissemination of our activities and our members'*

- Promotion of members' activities, initiatives and events at the European level through ALDA's communication channels (newsletter sent in six languages to over 11.000 contacts, website with over 360.000 visitors/year, social networks, media activities, publications and information materials)
- Access to the information points on EU and active citizenship (info-points based in Brussels and Vicenza)
- Free use of ALDA equipped offices and meeting rooms in Brussels (Belgium), Vicenza (Italy), and upon approval of the Council of Europe, in Strasbourg (France)

## Capacity building

*Further your skills and horizons through a variety of opportunities*

- Information on funding programmes and opportunities
- Participation in international events (conferences, seminars, etc.) promoted by ALDA
- Priority in partnership for specialized trainings (e.g. Master classes on EU programmes, trainings, etc.)
- Participation in ALDA working groups (on Citizens Participation and Local Governance, Western Balkans, Eastern Partnership, Mediterranean Area)
- Priority in offers of internship and job-shadowing, and in the programme "Volunteers for Democracy"
- Special rates for the services provided by ALDA+



# ALDA members

## MUNICIPALITIES

### Armenia

- Voskehask Community
- Lernakert Community
- Nahapetavan Community
- Nor Kyanq Community
- Saralanj Community
- Sarapat Community

### Belgium

- City of Ieper
- Etterbeek Municipality

### Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Mostar Municipality

### Croatia

- Verteneglio Municipality
- Sisak Municipality
- Vodnjan Municipality
- City of Našice
- Svetvinčenat Municipality
- Osijek Municipality

### Denmark

- Vejle Municipality

### France

- Strasbourg Municipality
- City of Sceaux

### Georgia

- Kutaisi Municipality
- Zugdidi Municipality
- Khoni Municipality
- Baghdati Municipality
- Lanchkhuti Municipality
- Ozurgeti Municipality
- Chokhatauri Municipality

### Greece

- Patras Municipality
- Samos Island Municipality
- Chios Municipality

### Italy

- Bari Municipality

- Lavis Municipality
- Lecce Municipality
- Reggio Emilia Municipality
- Thiene Municipality
- Monfalcone Municipality
- Bassano del Grappa Municipality
- Mesagne Municipality
- Lendinara Municipality
- Montecchio Maggiore Municipality
- Santorso Municipality
- Cremona Municipality
- Cervino Municipality
- Gazzo Municipality
- Formigine Municipality
- Erchie Municipality
- Zugliano Municipality
- Castegnero Municipality
- Arsiero Municipality

### Kosovo

- Peja Municipality
- Mitrovica South Municipality
- Gjilan Municipality
- Ranillug Municipality
- Ferizaj Municipality
- Viti Municipality
- Peja Municipality
- Vushtrri Municipality

### Malta

- Birgu Local Council

### Moldova

- Cimișlia City Hall
- Taraclia Municipality

### Montenegro

- Herceg Novi Municipality
- Rožaje Municipality Montenegro
- Bijelo Polje Municipality Montenegro
- Niksic Municipality

- Budva Municipality
- Kotor Municipality
- Bar Municipality
- Pluzine Municipality

### Morocco

- Tétouan Municipality

### Poland

- Bydgoszcz Municipality Poland
- Gdansk Municipality Poland

### Portugal

- Valongo Municipality
- Lousada Municipality

### Republic of North Macedonia

- Dojran Municipality
- Novaci Municipality
- Tetovo Municipality
- Centar Municipality
- Radovis Municipality

### Romania

- Ploiesti Municipality
- Mioveni Municipality
- Arad Municipality

### Serbia

- Kragujevac Municipality
- Subotica Municipality
- Knjaževac Municipality
- Bujanovac Municipality

### Slovenia

- Novo Mesto Municipality
- Grosuplje Municipality
- Ivančna Gorica Municipality

### Spain

- Villanueva de la Cañada Municipality

### Switzerland

- Bellinzona Municipality
- Lausanne Municipality
- Delémont Municipality



### Turkey

- Karsiyaka Municipality

### Ukraine

- Dnipro City Council

### United Kingdom

- Wolverhampton Municipality

## PROVINCES OR COUNTIES

### Italy

- Trento Autonomous Province

### Romania

- Prahova County Council

## REGIONS

### Croatia

- Istria Region

### France

- Normandy Region

### Italy

- Apulia Region
- Veneto Region
- Friuli-Venezia Giulia Autonomous Region
- Sardinia Autonomous Region

### Poland

- Lower Silesia Region
- Kuyavian-Pomeranian Region

### Spain

- Autonomous Community of Extremadura

## ASSOCIATIONS OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES

### Albania

- Albanian Association of Regional Councils Albania
- Albanian Association of Municipalities – AAM Albania

### Armenia

- Sarapat Community Armenia

### Bulgaria

- Regional Association of Municipalities “Central Stara Planina”
- UBBSLA - Union of Bulgarian Black Sea Local Authorities
- NAMRB - National Association of Municipalities in the Republic of Bulgaria

### Croatia

- Croatian County Association

### France

- AER, Assembly of European Regions
- AFCCRE, Association française du conseil des communes et régions d'Europe

- ENTO - European Network of Training Organisations for Local and Regional Authorities
- Pays Vichy-Auvergne

### Georgia

- NALAG - National Association of Local authorities of Georgia

### Italy

- Tecla, Associazione di province Italiane
- COPPEM - Comitato permanente per il Partenariato Euromediterraneo dei Poteri Locali e Regionali
- Union of Municipalities Montiferru Sinis

### Kosovo

- Association of Municipalities of Kosovo - AMK

### Latvia

- Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments - LALRG

### Malta

- Local Government Association – LGA

### Republic of North-Macedonia

- NALAS, Network of Associations of Local Authorities in South-East EuropeZELS, Association of the units of local-self government of the Republic of Macedonia

### Moldova

- Municipality of Cimişlia

### Poland

- Union of Rural Communes of Poland - ZGW RP

### Romania

- AMR, Romanian Association of Municipalities
- The Mountain Community Iezer Muscel Association

## Serbia

- Standing conference of towns and municipalities

## Slovakia

- The Union of Towns and Cities of Slovakia (UTCS / UMS)

## Spain

- Fons Pitius de Cooperació
- Fons Mallorquí de Solidaritat i Cooperació
- Fons Menorquí de Cooperació

## Switzerland

- Causes Communes Ticino

## Turkey

- Marmara Municipalities Union (MMU)
- Association of Social Democratic Municipalities (SODEM)

## CIVIL SOCIETY ORGANISATIONS

### Albania

- CRCD Center
- Urban Research Institute
- Institute for Public Policies and Good Governance (IPPM)

## Algeria

- Association Educative et Culturelle Arc en Ciel

## Armenia

- Women for Development NGO

## Austria

- Foster Europe
- International Association for the Advancement of Innovative
- Approaches to Global Challenges - IAAI

## Azerbaijan

- NGO Alliance for Municipality Development (BINA)
- Center "Women and Modern World"
- "Intelligent Citizen" Enlightenment Center (ICEC)

## Belarus

- Lev Sapieha Foundation

## Belgium

- European Projects Association ASBL
- Inter-Environnement Wallonie ASBL
- ECIT (The Foundation on European Citizens' Rights, Involvement and Trust)

- European Association for Viewers' Interests - EAVI
- Oxfam Wereldwinkels vzw
- Association of Cities and Regions for Sustainable Resource Management (ACR+)
- POSECO asbl

## Bulgaria

- Presidents Club Bulgaria
- Law and Internet Foundation

## Croatia

- Udruga ECHO

## Cyprus

- The Management Centre

## Czech Republic

- AGORA CE
- ADK - Asociace debatních klubů, z.s. - Czech Debate Association
- Association for Integration and Migration

## Estonia

- Valgevene Uus Tee, MTU
- Peipsi Center for Transboundary Cooperation
- Center for Civil Initiatives Support in Estonia (MKT)



- Mittetulundusühing Kodanikualgatuse Toetuskeskus

## France

- ALFA Formation
- CIDEFE
- Institut international des droits de l'Homme et de la paix (2IDHP)
- Maison de l'Europe
- LIKE - Villes et régions européennes pour la culture
- Le Partenariat
- D'Antilles et D'Ailleurs (Martinique)
- Institut de recherche et débat sur la gouvernance

## Germany

- SJR Betriebs GmbH
- CIVILSCAPE
- MitOst e.V.
- KITEV - Kultur im Turm e.V.
- CRISP - Crisis Simulation for Peace e.V.

## Greece

- EGTC Amphictyony
- SYMBIOSIS Greece

## Hungary

- Hungarian Environmental Partnership Foundation (HEPF)

## Iceland

- Island Panorama

## Ireland

- Expac Ltd

## Israel

- The Multi-Disciplinary Center (MDCM)

## Italy

- A 31-20 Futuro Anteriore
- Altiero Spinelli Institute
- ANPAS - Associazione Nazionale Pubbliche Assistenze
- ARCI Servizio Civile Vicenza
- Arcigay

- Associazione "Italia-Serbia"
- Associazione "Le fate" ONLUS
- Associazione per l'Ambasciata della Democrazia Locale a Zavidovici
- Associazione Progetto Prijedor
- CISP COMITATO INTERNAZIONALE PER LO SVILUPPO DEI POPOLI
- Consorzio Sol.Co Verona S.C.S.C.
- Coppula Tisa ONLUS
- Cultural Association Socrate - European School
- Federazione Trentina della Cooperazione
- Fondazione CUOA
- Fondazione Opera Campana dei Caduti
- HUMANITAS
- IL MOSAICO Association
- IRS - Istituto per la Ricerca Sociale
- ISBEM
- Istituto Euromediterraneo
- JONATHAN Cooperativa Sociale
- La Piccionaia scs
- LC Associazione Learning Cities
- Le Guide - Associazione Sportiva Dilettantistica
- Leonardo consorzio di Cooperative Sociali
- Margherita cooperative
- Progettarte
- Putignanonelmondo
- Samarcanda Cooperativa Sociale Onlus
- SPES - Associazione Promozione e Solidarietà Centro di Servizio
- per il Volontariato del Lazio
- Studio Progetto Società Cooperativa Sociale ONLUS
- Trentino con i Balcani
- UNISCO - Network per lo sviluppo locale
- Volunteer Centre of Vicenza province

- Auxilia ONLUS
- National Agency for Microcredit / Ente Nazionale per il Microcredito
- Consorzio Operativo Salute Mentale Società Coop. Sociale
- C.O.S.M.
- Kallipolis
- European Academy of Bozen-Bolzano (Eurac Research)
- ENAIP Veneto Impresa Sociale
- Globus et Locus
- Fondazione Teatro Comunale Città di Vicenza
- ICEI - Institute for International Economic Cooperation
- Biosphaera - RSN Ricerche e Studi Naturalistici
- Cultural Association Nexus
- ANYWAY ACCESSALENTO
- GES. FOR. Formazione
- ANYWAY ACCESSALENTO
- GES. FOR. Formazione
- Polis Vestina
- Brindisi Produce S.C.A.R.L.
- Social Cooperative Aster Tre
- FELCOS Umbria
- Associazione Casa a Colori

## Latvia

- Civic Alliance Latvia (CAL)

## Lithuania

- Eurobelarus
- Lithuanian NGDO platform

## Moldova

- Congress of Local Authorities from Moldova - CALM
- Solidaritate Europeană pentru Apă în Moldova (SEAM)

## Montenegro

- Comunità degli Italiani di Montenegro
- Centre for Monitoring and Research - CeMI
- ARDES - The Regional Association for Economic and Social Development

## Morocco

- EMESSE - Espace Marocain de l'Economie Sociale, Solidaire et Environnementale
- AMAPPE - Association Marocaine d'Appui à la Promotion de la Petite Entreprise
- Conseil de la société civile pour le suivi de la chose locale
- ROPAIESS: Réseau d'Oriental pour la Promotion et l'Appui d'Initiatives de l'Economie Sociale et Solidaire
- Corps Marocain Pour L'Enseignement Préscolaire - CMEPS
- Réseau Associatif pour le Développement Participatif de Meknès
- AMIDI - Association Migration pour le Développement Interculturel

## Netherlands

- Stichting Vrienden van Felix Meritis
- Stichting Fairtrade Gemeente Nederland

## Poland

- ECWM - European Centre of Youth Cooperation
- International School of Bydgoszcz
- Klamra Foundation
- TILIA Association

## Portugal

- Clube Intercultural Europeu
- The National Federation of Young Farmers of Portugal - CNJ
- 4Change CRL
- EPAR - Desenvolvimento, Ensino, Formação e Inserção
- ACI - Associação Centro InterCulturaCidade

## Republic of North Macedonia

- CSCD-Center Sustainable Community Development - Debar

- Foundation for local development and democracy FOKUS
- Sega Coalition
- Association of Finance Officers of the Local Governments and Public Enterprises

## Romania

- Rural Women National Association (Asociatia Nationala a Femeilor Din Mediul Rural)
- Association for Sustainable Rural Development and Preservation of Traditions
- Foundation for Defending Citizens Against State Abuse

## Russian Federation

- Open St. Petersburg

## Serbia

- Danube 1245
- Regional Development Agency Eastern Serbia – RARIS

## Slovakia

- CEE Citizens Network (CEECN)

## Slovenia

- Association for Developing Voluntary Work Novo Mesto
- Development Centre Novo Mesto, Consultation and Development Ltd
- ZRC SAZU - Scientific Research Centre of the Slovenian Academy of Sciences and Arts
- SLOGA - Slovenian Global Action

## Spain

- Associació Districte 11 - City to City
- FUNDACION INDERA
- Ser Joven Association
- Asociación Mar Violeta

## Sweden

- Baltic Fem

## Turkey

- Association for Local Participation

## United Kingdom

- Assist Social Capital Community Interest Company (ASC)
- Scottish Community Alliance
- SPERRIN - Cultural Awareness Association
- Leafair Community Association

## Ukraine

- Association for Community Self-Organization Assistance

## UNIVERSITIES AND SCHOOLS

### Georgia

- Tbilisi Teaching University Gorgasali

### Italy

- IUAV University of Venice
- CEDOC - Centro di Documentazione e Studi sulle Organizzazioni Complesse ed i Sistemi Locali
- Cultural Institute Nicolò Rezzara

### Morocco

- Faculté des Sciences de l'Éducation, Université Mohammed V de Rabat

### Slovenia

- GRM NOVO MESTO - CENTER BIOTEHNIKE IN TURIZMA

### Ukraine

- Ukrainian School of Political Studies

## LOCAL DEMOCRACY AGENCIES (LDAs)

### Albania

- LDA Albania

### Armenia

- LDA Armenia

### Bosnia and Herzegovina

- LDA Mostar
- LDA Prijedor
- LDA Zavidovići



## Georgia

- LDA Georgia

## Kosovo

- LDA Kosovo

## Moldova

- LDA Moldova in Cimişlia

## Montenegro

- LDA Montenegro

## Serbia

- LDA Central and Southern Serbia
- LDA Subotica

## Tunisia

- LDA Tunisia

## Ukraine

- LDA of Dnipropetrovsk Region
- LDA Mariupol

## OPERATIONAL PARTNERS

### Croatia

- LDA Osijek
- LDA Sisak
- LDA Verteneglio

## INDIVIDUAL MEMBERS

### Belgium

- Lukas Van Damme

### Denmark

- Flemming Meyer

### France

- Sylvie Affholder
- Ulrich Bohner
- Luigi Vulcano

## Germany

- Michael Schley

## Italy

- Diego Bottacin

## Poland

- Imislawa Gorska

## Serbia

- Dobrica Milovanović

## Spain

- Dorothee Fischer

## Switzerland

- Hans-Martin Tschudi

## United Kingdom

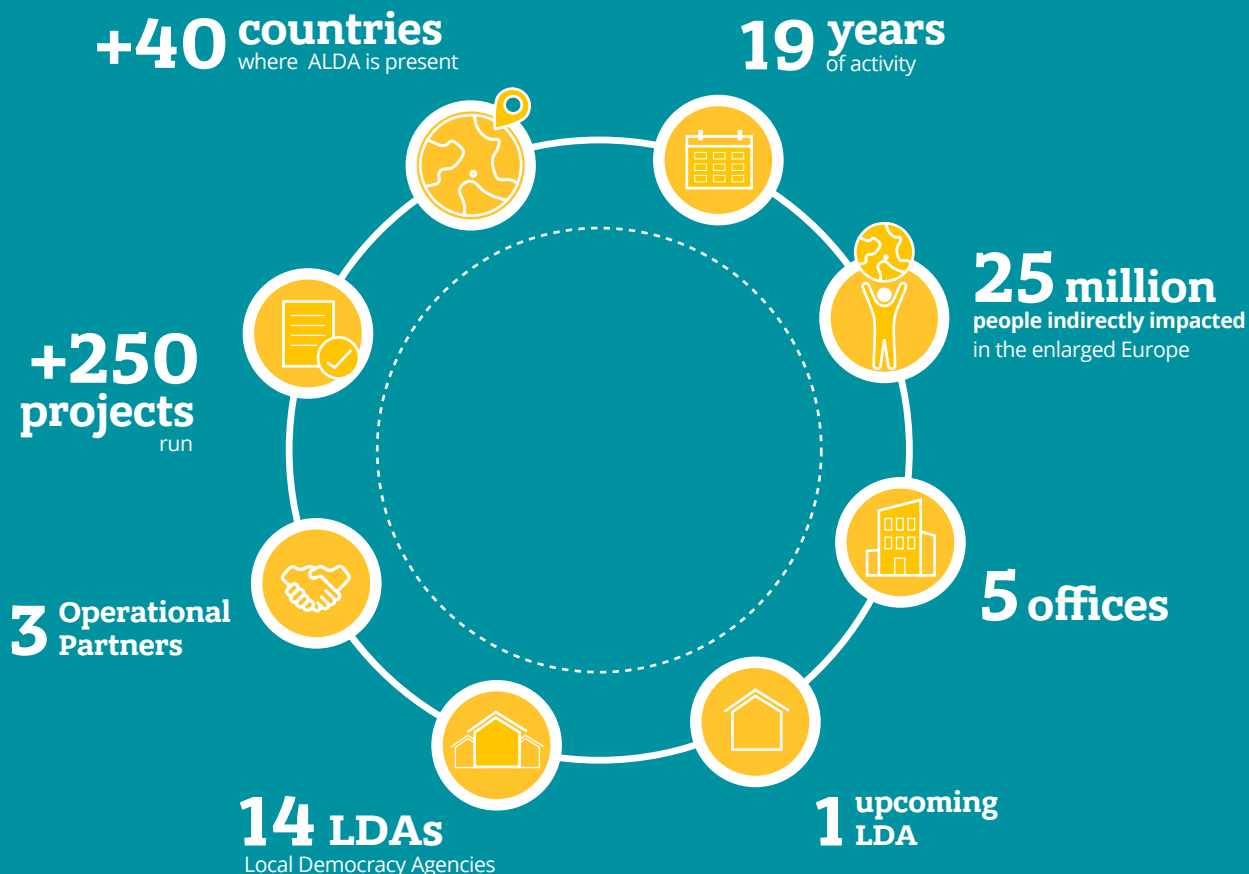
- David Mayer
- Roger Lawrence

## Spain

- Francesca Campana



# The World Of ALDA



“Thanks to the training on the electoral cycle, I felt proud of myself as a woman and a citizen, proud of my knowledge of the rules of eligibility of lists. This allowed me to train more than 30 other candidates on my list, both male and female. I felt valued, able to speak on an equal footing with the other men on the list. Although I was the head of the list, men did not want me to talk too much, but thanks to the training, I was able to impose myself on others because I was more prepared and aware on the technical and administrative issues.”

Beneficiary woman of the PARFAIT project

# Get involved!

## Become a friend of ALDA

If you believe that local democracy is key to better, more sustainable local communities, ALDA's doors are open to you. You can support our activities with a small donation starting from 20 €/year, and become a Friend of ALDA. You will always be informed about our initiatives, receive our monthly and thematic newsletters, be invited to meetings and events, and receive the E-card 'FRIENDS of ALDA' as symbol of the relationship and trust with our Association. The card will also ensure discounts on training opportunities and other activities organised by ALDA and ALDA+



For further information  
please contact [alda@aldaintranet.org](mailto:alda@aldaintranet.org)

## Volunteers 4 Democracy

Would you like to support local democracy, citizens' participation, and human rights? You can help us with your skills and time through an ad-hoc volunteering agreement!

Volunteering with ALDA means contributing to local democracy in Europe and its Neighbourhood, as well as developing new skills, practicing languages, and being part of a fast-paced, international association. Particularly motivated volunteers will have the opportunity to attend international events for the association.

To join the programme, send an email to [elisabetta.uroni@aldaintranet.org](mailto:elisabetta.uroni@aldaintranet.org), attaching your CV, motivation letter, and description of how you would like to contribute to ALDA's activities.



## Traineeships opportunities

ALDA has several agreements with Universities and institutions to host trainees in all its offices. Our idea of traineeship is offering young people the opportunity to grow professionally in the field they would like to build a career in. We all remember how tough it was to access the working environment, and we have a vivid memory of our first experiences and mentors. That's why we offer traineeships within our organisation, and make sure they represent a cornerstone in trainees' development. We are not looking for people to make coffee – we do manage this crucial task pretty well. We need people with fresh ideas and creativity, enthusiasm, and willingness to be part of the team of ALDA. Tutors and staff make sure that the traineeship develops personal and professional skills of the youngsters, and a variety of support initiatives are in place to support our former interns.



If you are interested in establishing an agreement with a University, School, or other institution, please contact [internships-alda@aldaintranet.org](mailto:internships-alda@aldaintranet.org)

“I really appreciate that I had the opportunity to do the internship with ALDA because it brings you a lot of new experiences, allows you to improve and deepen your skills, offers you a space for your creativity and ideas while working in a friendly environment where you are not just an intern, you are actually part of the team. Six-months internship is the best period to find out how the organization works, to be able to work independently and to actually benefit from the experience”.

*Zuzana, Czech Republic - Intern in ALDA's communication team*

**Become a citizen journalist, and have your say!**



ALDA's citizen journalist initiative is open to all those who want to express their opinions about the issues they find interesting or worth to be publicly

discussed. Our goal is to encourage and support active citizen participation in the enlarged Europe, thus empowering all Europeans to contribute to the improvement of their communities, and of the whole Europe. Contributions of citizen journalists will be disseminated via ALDA's communication channels.



*Don't be shy, Europe needs your voice!  
For information or articles submission, please contact [alda@aldaintranet.org](mailto:alda@aldaintranet.org)*

“When I was a child I dreamt of working for an NGO making the planet a better place, and of flying. I am extremely happy about all initiatives opening the doors of ALDA to all those of you who want to make their dreams come true and join our adventure... Even if afraid of heights!”

*Irene Zanetti, Former Head of Communications*

## Apply to the scholarship Gianfranco Martini

ALDA awards an annual scholarship in memory of our Honorary President, Gianfranco Martini. Martini was among the initiators of the concept of Local Democracy Agencies, and became the first President of ALDA in 1999. Throughout his active life he remained passionate about the promotion of local democracy, the engagement of civil society and the encouragement of interethnic dialogue in Europe, with a particular focus on the Western Balkans.

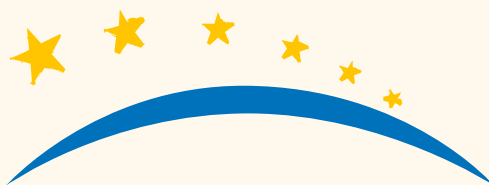
This scholarship supports a student or researcher proposing a project focusing on local democracy, engagement of civil society and/or interethnic dialogue. The winner presents her/his work during the following General Assembly. Information about the application is disseminated through ALDA's website and channels.

*Would like to know more? Please contact Francesco Pala: [francesco.pala@aldaintranet.org](mailto:francesco.pala@aldaintranet.org)*



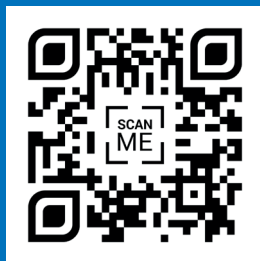






# ALDA

European Association  
for Local Democracy



## Stay connected!

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 ALDA European Association for Local Democracy

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