

## PROGRAMME

### Regional training seminar for young local leaders on local and regional democracy

**Chernihiv, "Chernihiv Park\_Hotel"**  
**September 30 – October 2, 2014**

#### Context

*This seminar is part of a series of regional seminars which are organised in Ukraine by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe within the "Strengthening the capacity of local authorities in Ukraine" and the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine.*

*The aim of this Seminar is to spread a culture of democracy by raising the awareness of young community leaders on local and regional democracy principles and developing their capacity to engage in local elections in an active and qualified manner. It is intended to generate a spirit of co-operation among a selected group of young people including some recently elected mayors and councilors or candidates, and - through an exchange of experience which involves members of the Congress and experts - to create an environment where participants feel free to discuss their personal experience and share their perception of the role of local authorities and of citizens.*

#### Objectives

- To raise awareness of participants about European principles on local democracy, in particular the key provisions of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, and how these principles should be applied in Ukraine;
- To exchange experience with local elected representatives from other European countries and provide specific recommendations on how local leaders and civil society can unite their efforts for responding better to citizens' needs;
- To enhance participants' skills on citizens participation and communication in the context of local political governance and decision-making processes, in particular with a view to engaging into electoral campaign and planning action together;
- To increase understanding of the participants on ethics issues at local level (what is ethical and what is not) and to provide practical recommendations on how participants can fight corruption and unethical behavior.

#### 30 September 2014

10:30 - 11:30                      Registration of participants

11:30 – 12:30                      **Introduction**  
*Welcome speeches*

**Mykola ZVEREV**, Head of Chernihiv Regional Council

**Nataliya ROMANOVA**, President of the Congress Chamber of Regions, Councilor of Chernihiv District Council

*The situation of local and regional democracy in Ukraine and the role of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe*

**Marite MORAS**, Head of the Co-operation Activities Unit, Secretariat of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

*Presentation of the Council of Europe and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities*  
*Presentation of activities of the Congress in Ukraine and aims of the seminar*

12:30 – 13:30 Mutual presentation of participants (social game)

13:30 – 14:30 Lunch

### **LOCAL DEMOCRACY IN EUROPE AND UKRAINE**

14:30 – 15:00 **Bernd SEMMELROGGEN**, member of the Group of Independent Experts on the European Charter of Local Self-Government of the Congress  
*Presentation and discussion on the European standards for local and regional democracy, the philosophy and main contents of the Charter, its Additional Protocol on the right to participate in the affairs of a local authority and the Reference Framework for Regional Democracy.*  
*Congress key recommendations on local and regional democracy in Ukraine*

15.00 – 15.20 **Local democracy in other European countries**

**Liisa ANSALA**, Councilor, Rovaniemi City Council, Finland, Member of the Congress

*Presentation on how the principles of the Charter are implemented in their own municipalities, current responsibilities, personal commitment, reasons to stand for elections, link to constituencies and contribution to the development of the native cities.*

15.20 – 16.00 Discussion

16:00 – 16:30 Coffee break

16:30 – 18:00 **Local democracy: what is it about?**

*Work in groups: dilemmas on local democracy*  
*Common discussion about local democracy*

18:15 - 20:30 Social Programme: *Visit to Caves of Saint Anthony and Dinner*

### **1 October 2014**

09:00 - 10:30 **Trust and social capital: ingredients for a successful community**

*Work in groups*

10.30 – 11.10 **Citizens participation. The European Local Democracy Week.**

**Volodymyr UDOVYCHENKO**, Mayor of Slavutych, Ukraine, Member of the Congress

**Levon BARSEGHYAN**, Councillor, Gyumri City Council, Council Chairman of Journalists' Club "Asparez" NGO, Editor-in-chief of "Asparez" daily

*Presentation of experience on enhancing of citizen participation in local affairs, the role of civil society in this process.*

11.10 – 11.40 Discussion on goals, conditions and tools for citizen participation.

11:40 - 12:10 Coffee break

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| 12:10 - 13:30 | <b>Deciding together</b><br><br><i>Work in groups:</i> Simulation of a decision making process in a group.   |
| 13:30 – 14:30 | Lunch  |
| 14:30 – 16:00 | <b>Leaders: model of values and behaviors</b><br><br><i>Work in groups:</i> dilemmas of personal values and how it interlinked with public life, getting aware of the inner values that can motivate other citizens to engage in public affairs  |
| 16:00 - 16:30 | Coffee break   |
| 16:30 - 17:20 | <b>Campaigning for local elections</b><br><br><b>Mairi EVANS</b> , Councilor, Angus Council, Scotland, United Kingdom, Member of the Congress<br><br><b>Liisa ANSALA</b> , Councilor, Rovaniemi City Council, Finland, Member of the Congress<br><br><i>Presentation of their experience in conducting their last electoral campaign, messages to transmit to citizens, flagship projects proposed and communication strategy adopted.</i> |
| 17:20 – 18:00 | Discussion   |
| 18.00 – 20.00 | Dinner   |

## 2 October 2014

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| 09:00 -09:20  | Warm-up  |
| 09:20 - 09:50 | <b>Ethics in local authorities and anticorruption measures</b><br><br><b>Oleksiy KHMARA</b> , Executive director of Transparency International Ukraine   |
| 09:50 - 10:45 | Discussion   |
| 10:45 – 12:45 | <b>Local democracy in practice: what can we do now?</b><br><br><i>Work in groups:</i> "Planning a series of feasible initiatives in order to strengthen local democracy in a municipality"<br>Evaluation criteria: a) feasibility; b) creativity; c) supposed effectiveness. |
| 12:45 – 13:15 | Lunch  |
| 13:15 – 14:15 | <b>Conclusions, evaluation and lessons learnt</b>  |