

Draft 23/04/2015

Efficient Mechanism of Consultations and Negotiations between the National Governments and the Local and Regional Governments

Expert meeting of the Eastern Partnership Panel on Public Administration Reform

Thursday, 18 June

19:00 Dinner

Friday, 19 June

Arrival to National Library of Latvia, Mūkusalas Street 3

9:00 Registration of participants
Venue: Accreditation Centre, 1st floor

9:30 Welcome coffee

10:00 Opening of the meeting:

- Welcome address by Andris Jaunsleinis, Chairman of Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments
- Address by Juris Poikāns, Latvian Ambassador-at-Large for Eastern Partnership
- Address by a representative of the European Commission (*tbc*)

Venue of the meeting: Hall "Vidzeme"
Simultaneous interpretation provided: Latvian/English/Russian

10:30 -12:30 **Part I: Experience of the self-government associations in the EU member states regarding consultations and negotiations with the national governments**
Moderator: Toivo Riimaa, Deputy Director, Association of Estonian Cities (Estonia)

- Anders Knappe, President of Chamber of Local Authorities, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe
- Nils JANSONS, Deputy Head of Division for the Eastern Partnership, Regional Cooperation, and OSCE, European External Action Service (*tbc*)
- Māris Pūķis, Senior Adviser, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (Latvia)
- Nellija Kleinberga, Member of National Parliament, former chairperson of Skrunda Municipality Council (Latvia)

- Dan Jiranek, President, Union of Towns and Municipalities of the Czech Republic (The Czech Republic)
- Andrzej Porawski, Executive Director, Association of Polish Cities (Poland)
- Representative of the Association of Flemish Cities and Municipalities (Belgium)

12:30-13:30 Lunch

13:30-15:30 **Part II: Experience of the self-governments and their associations of the Eastern Partnership countries in developing consultation mechanisms with the national governments**

Moderator: David Melua, Executive Director, National Association of Local Governments in Georgia (Georgia)

- Romanova Nataliya, Vice-President of Chamber of Regions of Congress of the Council of Europe (Ukraine)
- Viorel Furdui, Executive director of Congress of Local Authorities of Moldova (Moldova)
- David Melua, Executive Director, National Association of Local Governments in Georgia
- Natalya Lapauri, Executive Director, Union of Communities of Armenia
- Representative of Azerbaijan (tbc)
- Miroslav Kobasa, Chairman of the Board, NGO "Lev Sapieha Foundation" (Belarus)

15:30-16.00 Conclusions

- Frederic Vallier, Secretary General of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions
- Māris Pūķis, Senior Adviser, Latvian Association of Local and Regional Governments (Latvia)

19:00 Dinner

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