

Community of Practice on Deliberative Democracy in South-East Europe

The Community of Practice brings together:

18

municipalities
and cities

7

associations of
local governments



to share knowledge and learn from each other. Co-ordinated by NALAS, it aims to strengthen the skills and capacities of local authorities and their associations to integrate deliberative processes, focusing on citizens' assemblies, into decision-making.

The Community of Practice on deliberative democracy in South-East Europe is established as part of the project "[Promoting deliberative democracy and innovative approaches to citizen participation in South-East Europe](#)", delivered in partnership with the **Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe**, with financial support from **Germany**. It builds on the Council of Europe [Recommendations](#), [standards](#) and [guides](#) in the area of deliberative democracy and aligns with NALAS strategic goal to support LGAs and LGs in advancing inclusive governance. It is implemented until **December 2025**.



Members of the Community of Practice:

18 LGs and their **7 LGAs** in Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo*, Montenegro, North Macedonia and Serbia

Brcko District, Doboj and Sarajevo in Bosnia and Herzegovina

Bujanovac, Leskovac and Tutin in Serbia

Bar, Tivat and Savnik in Montenegro

Lipjan, Prizren and Peja in Kosovo

Berat, Roskovec, Tirana in Albania

Aerodrom, Centar Municipality and Makedonski Brod in North Macedonia

* This designation is without prejudice to positions on status and is in line with UNSCR 1244 and the ICJ opinion on Kosovo Declaration of Independence

Strengthening local capacities for deliberative democracy

Community of Practice



Facilitate multilateral exchanges between the involved local authorities and with their counterparts from other European countries



Develop initiatives for more inclusive procedures and innovative practices at local level



Increase knowledge and skills relevant to organise a deliberative process



Document and disseminate good practices and lessons learned among local authorities, their associations, and other key relevant stakeholders

As part of the Project, a **dedicated pool of trainers** is established to help local authorities design and implement participatory and deliberative practices. To further strengthen these efforts, an **e-learning course on organising local-level deliberative processes** will be launched within the NALAS E-Academy.





Meetings of the Community of Practice so far:

-  14 November 2024 · Tirana, Albania
-  29 January 2025 · Online
-  24 April 2025 · Skopje, North Macedonia
-  26 June 2025 · Online

Main results so far:

-  A stronger network of peers across South-East Europe
-  Increased knowledge of citizens' assemblies and democratic innovations among local governments
-  Targeted information sessions for Community of Practice members, delivered by trainers from the Project's Pool
-  Recommendations developed for next steps in community-building and promoting democratic innovations at the local level