

MEMBERSHIP PACKAGE



European Association
for Local Democracy

*Promoting good governance and citizen
participation at the local level in the
enlarged Europe since 1999*

Become a member of ALDA!

✓ About us

The European Association for Local Democracy is an organisation dedicated to the promotion of good governance and citizen participation at the local level. ALDA in particular focuses on activities that facilitate cooperation between local authorities and civil society. Every day, we develop projects with our members to support their activities for the good of the whole community. We are experts in identifying all possible means (EC funds, partnership, donations, etc.) to make our work – and our members' work possible.

ALDA is a membership based organisation gathering more than 200 members (including local authorities, associations of local authorities and non-governmental organisations) coming from more than 40 countries. ALDA is funded through membership fees and project funding from the European Commission, the Council of Europe and other public and private donors.

ALDA was established in 1999 at the initiative of the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities to coordinate and support a network of Local Democracy Agencies, which was established in the early 1990s. ALDA is the umbrella organisation of the Local Democracy Agencies which are self-sustainable, locally registered NGOs that act as promoters of good governance and local self-government in their regions.



✓ What is unique about ALDA?

Most of ALDA's work is based on the method of multilateral decentralized cooperation. This method involves a multi-stakeholder approach, which focuses on strong partnerships between Local Authorities and civil society organisations. These partnerships create positive synergy and ensure that common goals are reached in a successful way. We are essentially project-oriented and we develop our mission through joint actions.

✓ What do we do?

In the framework of promoting 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:

- Coordinating and supporting the 11 Local Democracy Agencies in their activities and 3 Operational Partners.
- Conducting its own projects (and members' projects) in the field of good governance and citizen participation at the local level.
- Supporting other local stakeholders' initiatives - like Local Authorities - by providing expertise gained through ALDA's knowledge and experience in the regions where ALDA and the Local Democracy Agencies are working.

Our members say about us:

"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, President of European Movement International, BELGIUM

"Being an Association of Local Authorities in a developing country means to strive not only for local autonomy, but also for active citizenship as only empowered natives make democracy work for development and prosperity. We found ALDA extremely instrumental for community mobilization and capacity building at grassroots, and therefore we keep ourselves committed to its membership – this is an important aspect of our organizational strategy"

David Melua, Executive Director of NALAG -National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia, GEORGIA

"Progettarte has been part of ALDA's network for 15 years, feeling as part of a big family."

"During these years of cooperation we became more aware about the importance of being involved, working side by side with qualified people who always supported us. But most important, we had the possibility to work within an international network, feeling European citizens and contributing in shaping the growth of individuals and society"

Francesco Zarzana President of Progettarte, ITALY



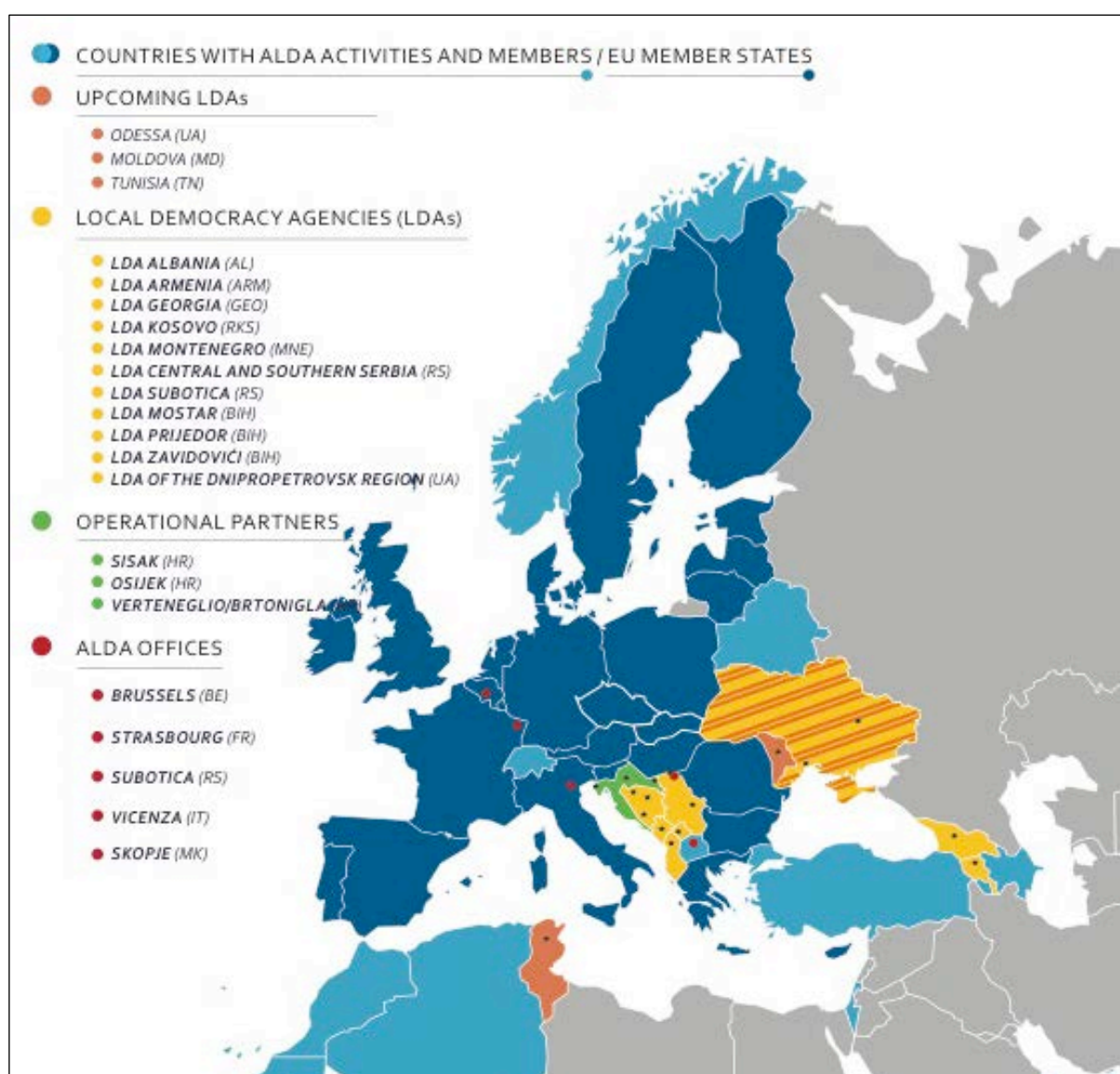
• Membership package •

✓ Where do we work?

ALDA works in most of the European Union and the European neighbourhood countries. 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 (LDA) are located in the Western Balkans, which gives a natural focus on that area. But ALDA is also becoming more and more active in the European neighbourhood. The most recent LDA was created in 2015 in Dnipropetrovsk, Ukraine. We are now working towards the opening of new LDAs: Moldova; Tunisia and Odessa, Ukraine.

ALDA is also leading several other projects and developing partnerships in other European Neighbourhood countries, such as Belarus, Morocco, Tunisia and Turkey.



Services to members

Sharing our mission

Being a member of ALDA means first of all sharing our mission – the promotion of good governance and citizen participation at the local level.



As a member you will access the following services:



Projects development and funding opportunities research:

+ 15 years experience in developing and implementing projects.

- Priority on opportunities offered to be partner of projects, or to join consortia built to apply for tenders in various fields
- Support of ALDA multilingual staff in the project proposal development phase (EN, FR, IT, SR, MK, RU)
- Identification of relevant international partners for specific areas
- 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 and European authorities
- Visibility through a European network counting over 160 members (local authorities, NGOs, association of local authorities)
- Promotion of members' activities, initiatives and events at the European level through ALDA's communication channels (newsletter sent to over 11.000 contacts, website with over 200.000 visitors and 1.300.000 visits per year, social networks, media activities)
- Online presence for our Members on ALDA 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'

- Timely updates via ALDA communication channels, particularly the monthly newsletter in six languages: EN, FR, RU, SR, IT, AR
- ALDA and EU publications, 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, Mediterranean Area, Local Democracy Agencies support)
- Priority in offers of internship and job-shadowing
- Participation in the programme 'Volunteers for Democracy', allowing members to select volunteers to participate into international events



How to become our member

If you are interested in becoming member of the European Association for Local Democracy please fill the membership form following the procedures indicated.

The form together with a short description of the applicant member and motivation for becoming member of ALDA should be returned to ALDA, by e-mail to: alda@aldaintranet.org

Membership applications are approved by ALDA's Governing Board, normally within a period of one month. After the Governing Board has approved the application, the applicant will receive instructions for payment of the membership fee and once the membership fee has been paid the applicant is considered a full member of ALDA.

For more information please contact ALDA via phone: +39 0444 54 01 46 or email: alda@aldaintranet.org

Thank you for your interest in the European Association for Local Democracy!



Membership Application Form

1 – Status and contacts

Name of the organization/institution applying for ALDA membership (or name of the person for individuals):

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Type of organization or institution (mark the box):

Municipality

NGO

County

Other:

Region

Contact person of the organization

Name and surname: Role/Position:

Address:

Postal Code: City: Country:

Tel.: Fax: E-mail:

If you would like to be part of one of ALDA's working groups, please tick the box corresponding to your interest. (Optional)

Western Balkans

Eastern Partnership

Mediterranean Area

Participation and Local Governance Local Democracy Agencies support

2 – Fees

The following membership fees apply to (please, mark):

Type of membership	Annual membership fee					
	Number of inhabitants (Municipality*, County, Region)	10 – 10.000	10.000 – 50.000	50.000 – 200.000	200.000 – 1.000.000	>1.000.000
A. Membership for Local and Regional Authorities		300 EUR	600 EUR	1200 EUR	2400 EUR	4800 EUR
B. Membership for NGOs, Universities and other institutions	300 EUR					

* For municipalities hosting an LDA, only half of the fees are requested

3 – Description of the applicant and the motivation for becoming member of ALDA

Please, describe shortly (1 page) the applicant, its activities and motivation for becoming member of ALDA.

The **form**, together with a **short description of the applicant** and the **motivation** for becoming member of ALDA should be returned to ALDA either via email to alda@aldaintranet.org

Memberships are approved on a continuous basis, usually within a month by ALDA's Governing Board. As soon as the Governing Board approves the application, the applicant will receive instructions for payment of the membership fee. The applicant is considered a full member of ALDA once the membership fee is paid.

For more information please contact ALDA at tel. +39 04 44 54 01 46 or email: alda@aldaintranet.org

Thank you for your interest in the European Association for Local Democracy!

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