

Towards ALDA 20²⁰ years

4 webinars, 4 geographic areas of action for local democracy
at the dawn of ALDA's 20th anniversary

SUSTAINABLE MEDITERRANEAN CITIES

Wednesday, July 15th, 2020 | 2 pm CEST

REGISTER HERE: https://bit.ly/MED_ALDA20years

Interpretation available in **French** and **Arabic**

Dear Members and Partners,

we hope that our message finds you well in this moment when everybody is slowly but effectively exiting the lockdown caused by the spread of the COVID-19. The last months have been difficult for everybody, and we experienced a revised and somehow limited version of our work and social life; nevertheless, all over the world, local communities and the international civil society have shown an excellent sense of solidarity, mutual support and resilience.

Our work has never stopped, and so haven't our lives: we aptly kept -and continue keeping- alive our efforts in linking communities, supporting actions for the building of better communities, and putting in place activities, turning virtual communications into a means for sharing best practices and advocating for a more sustainable and inclusive future for all of us, as we have been doing for the past 20 years. With the summer ahead and the final months of the year in front of us, it seems we will have the opportunity to slowly return to our usual activities, too, gathering together in person the different stakeholders involved in our work, our members and partners.

Considering the importance of 2020 for ALDA, which is celebrating its 20 years of activity in the fields of citizens participation, good local governance and sustainable communities, and the fact that the future will –now more than ever- bring new challenges in our work for all of us, we decided to pave the way to our Annual General Assembly (which will take place in Brussels in October) by organizing online meetings and webinars to take a moment and celebrate the results we have achieved in the past 20 years, and reflect together on the future challenges in the different geographical areas we are operative in.

In this framework, we are hosting four online meetings of about 90 minutes each, with a focus on our four geographical areas of action -Europe, the Western Balkans, the Eastern Partnership and the MENA region- and we will be extremely glad to have the opportunity to have you on board with us during this very important moment. Thank you!

Antonella Valmorbida,
Secretary General

ALDA - European Association for Local Democracy



Towards ALDA 20²⁰ years

4 webinars, 4 geographic areas of action for local democracy
at the dawn of ALDA's 20th anniversary

The Mediterranean context

ALDA's engagement in the Mediterranean has strengthened in various ways and shapes in the past few years. One of the most significant projects undertaken in 2020 is AUTREMENT, in the framework of **DG DEVCO's programme "Local authorities: partnerships for sustainable cities"**. AUTREMENT's general objective is to promote a sustainable urban development in Kairouan and Mahdia (Tunisia) and therefore to ameliorate both the citizen's quality of life and the touristic and economic attractiveness of those cities.

The Strasbourg Municipality (**Sandrine Millet & Maxime Ammendolea**), AUTREMENT project leader, will contribute on its engagement in the field, and on an overview of the AUTREMENT project itself. The Mayor of Kairouan (Tunisia), **Radhouene Bouden**, will bring forth its city's commitment to sustainable development and give an overview on the expected impact of the project. On its part, ASIMA Tunis, led by MedCities (**Josep Canals I Molina**) and also financed under the DG DEVCO "Local authorities: partnerships for sustainable cities" programme, aims to reinforce the urban planning of Tunis in its metropolitan dimension, favouring multi-level governance systems around a concertized and participative city.

ASIMA Tunis and AUTREMENT, as two projects running in parallel with many opportunities for collaboration, will have the possibility to enhance the territorial coverage of DG DEVCO's program and maximize its significance in the Mediterranean area.

The impact of Covid-19 in Mediterranean countries being very substantial, **all speakers will be invited to share reflections** on how these last few months and their developments can now bring a positive impulse on sustainable development, and on the other side on how these projects can respond to the current needs and constraints.



Towards ALDA 20²⁰ years

4 webinars, 4 geographic areas of action for local democracy
at the dawn of ALDA's 20th anniversary

Webinar agenda

Opening speech

ORIANO OTOČAN, *ALDA President*

ALDA's 20th anniversary and its activity in the Mediterranean: a foreword;

A presentation of ALDA's new logo, Activity Report 2019 and LDA Activity Report 2019

ANTONELLA VALMORBIDA, *ALDA Secretary General*

PANEL DISCUSSION moderated by **GIULIA SOSTERO**, *ALDA Coordinator for the Mediterranean area*

SANDRINE MILLET & MAXIME AMMENDOLEA, *Strasbourg Municipality, AUTREMENT project leader*

RADHOUENE BOUDEN, *Mayor of the Kairouan Municipality, AUTREMENT project partner*

JOSEP CANALS I MOLINA, *Secretary General of MedCities, lead partner of ASIMA Tunis project (DG DEVCO)*

Questions & Answers

The future of ALDA and its action plan in the Mediterranean / MENA region

ANTONELLA VALMORBIDA, *ALDA Secretary General*

Questions & Answers

Final remarks

