

21st June 2025

ALDA Statement

We support Ukraine fighting against Russian invasion and confirm our support to its path to join the European Union

As we are entering the final preparations for the **Ukraine Recovery Conference 2025**, we felt it was time to pay tribute to all our members and partners and acknowledge the journey of our collective support to Ukraine European Future. Since 2014, ALDA has been condemning the Russian invasion and occupation with strong stands of its Governing Board, President and staff. We still reconfirm our constant support to Ukraine.

As a European association founded in 1999 upon the initiative of the **Council of Europe**, ALDA has always placed the values of **democracy, rule of law, citizen participation, and human rights** at the core of its mission. Our commitment is not only institutional but also deeply political: we strongly support the **European integration of Ukraine** and actively contribute to this transformative process through our work on the ground.

Aligned with the initial mission of the Local Democracy Agencies, which were created to promote good local governance and European values, **ALDA has been working in Ukraine since 2012**. Within the framework of a European program ALDA contributed to build the capacity of over 200 local governments experts on good local governance and citizen participation.

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After the invasion of Ukraine in 2014, ALDA and its members supported the creation of **Local Democracy Agencies in Dnipro and Mariupol**, with the support of Lower Silesia and the municipality of Gdansk.

In 2022, ALDA was among those who joined forces and mobilised their members and partners to provide support to Ukrainians. We have been conducting efforts to establish new Local Democracy Agencies to offer sustainable and flexible support to our Ukrainian members and partners.

ALDA supports **European values** not just as abstract principles, but as **daily realities in Ukrainian communities**. For instance:

- In **Mariupol (in exile)**, the Agency is pioneering civic resilience activities, human rights education, and preserving democratic continuity despite displacement and destruction.
- ALDA coordinates the **Working Group on Local & Regional Dimension for the Ukraine Recovery Conference 2025 (URC2025)**, bringing together local authorities, civil society, and EU actors to co-design transparent and participatory reconstruction mechanisms.
- In **Dnipro, Kharkiv, Odesa, Ovrutsh and Vinnytsia**, we promote inclusive urban development and partnerships with EU cities and regions including as Dijon Métropole, Sceaux, St Brieuc Agglomération, The Provincial Deputation of Barcelona, region Bourgogne, Etterbeek, Grand-Est, Istria and others advancing the New European Bauhaus principles in post-war recovery. For all of those, we have been channelling, with our members, humanitarian support, opening also the space for long term partnership

ALDA's support to Ukraine's EU integration also extends to advocacy: we engage directly with the **European Commission**, the **European Parliament**, the **European Committee**

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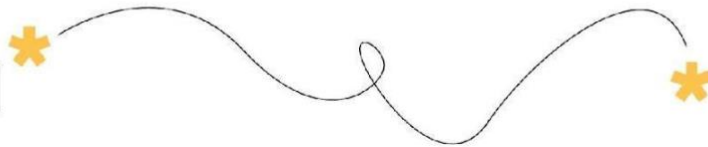
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of the Regions, the **Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe** and key EU member states to voice the needs and visions of Ukrainian local actors.

Through a series of conferences, consultations and other activities, we have been raising awareness in the European Union about the necessity to provide continuous support to Ukraine and to Ukrainian cities.

We are grateful to all our members, partners as well as to all the institutions that have placed their trust in ALDA and we feel deeply honoured to have the chance to contribute to provide a united European response to Ukraine.

For more info and highlights:

- <https://www.alda-europe.eu/statement/>
- [Building Europe Locally: ALDA at the 7th German-Ukrainian Municipal Partnership Conference](#)
- [TIPS4UA: Launching New Paths for Local Democracy](#)
- [Opening of the Local Democracy Agency \(LDA\) in Kharkiv Region: A Pillar of Democratic Resilience for Eastern Ukraine](#)
- [Strengthening Local Democracy, One Partnership at a Time: From Dijon to Vinnytsia, a powerful step forward for Ukraine's recovery and European future!](#)

Read more statements on the topics:

- [Statement on Ukraine – Russia](#)
- [ALDA Governing Board statement on the Russian exclusion from the Council of Europe](#)

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European Association
for Local Democracy

- [Statement by the Secretary General of ALDA Antonella Valmorbida, on the Russian Federation's Local Elections in Annexed Ukrainian Territories](#)
- [ALDA Statement on the Third Anniversary of the Full-Scale Russian Invasion of Ukraine](#)

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