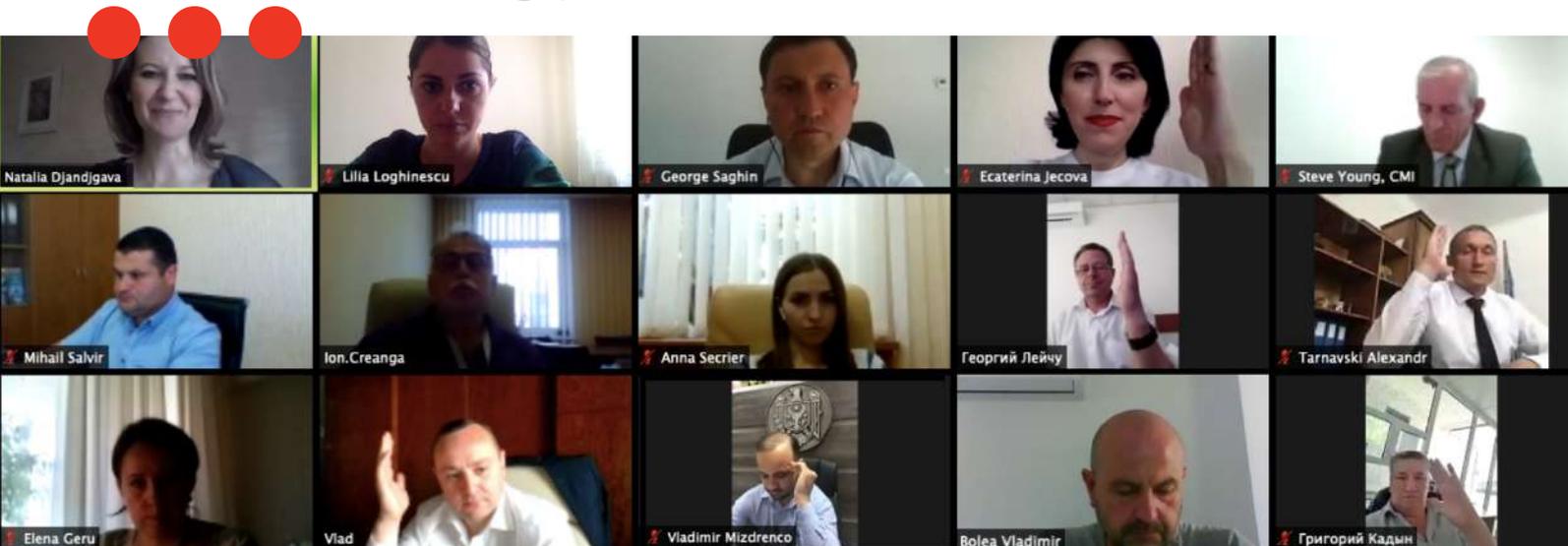


GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE

Finding joint solutions to common issues



Dialogue Process Continues Online

The Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia held its second formal meeting using an online platform on July 10, facilitated by CMI. The members of the group voted to approve their joint priorities and Action Plan for 2020, and agreed on the necessity of involving ministry representatives in future meetings to encourage their input into joint solutions.

This was the latest in a series of online meetings which have taken place since March, facilitated by CMI. These include informal meetings between members of the Working Group to identify priority areas for discussion, an informal online meeting of the Group on May 12, and a formal meeting of the Parliamentary Working Group on May 26. This formal meeting was observed by representatives from the Swedish Embassy, OSCE and the Office of the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities (located in the Hague), and members discussed future work plans and agreed on a joint logo and visual identity for the Working Group.

The Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia represents a sustained dialogue between representatives from the Moldovan Parliament and People's Assembly of Gagauzia, which began in 2015, facilitated by CMI. The successful transition to using online platforms demonstrates the commitment of Working Group members to continuing the dialogue process, even in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic period.

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Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia News



Expert Group formed to support the work of the Parliamentary Working Group



The project's 'Expert Group on Institutional Mechanisms and for Support of the Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia' (known as the Expert Group) met for the first time on May 27, followed by a second meeting on June 25.

In 2018, the PWG adopted a roadmap that mandated the development of recommendations for improving the institutional mechanisms governing center-autonomy relations. The Expert Group, composed of legal specialists, will begin to develop these recommendations based on the results of a comprehensive assessment and mapping of Chisinau-Comrat relations commissioned by CMI in 2019.

The launch of the Expert Group marks the start of a complex advisory process, designed to provide the PWG and other elements of the Dialogue Project with technical support when finding joint solutions to shared issues. The meetings presented the concept of the Expert Group to its new members, clarified its functions, roles and processes, and elaborated the next steps in the process.



About the Expert Group



The development of sustainable, joint solutions to shared issues between Chisinau and Comrat (including legislative questions and the creation of institutional mechanisms) requires substantive technical knowledge, obtained through professional specialisation.

In this context, CMI has created an Expert Group to act as the project's core legal and technical resource, providing support and analysis to the members of the PWG and other components of the project.

The Expert Group consists of four members, with equal numbers of representatives from Chisinau and Comrat, plus international specialists, all acting as independent consultants. Representatives from relevant institutions in Chisinau and Comrat will also be continuously be consulted, ensuring relevance, ownership and continuity.

Through regular meetings, the Expert Group will provide expert analysis and technical support to the PWG on legislative processes and clarification of competences of the ATU authorities, and provide insight into institutional and legal procedures regarding the center-autonomy relationship, including potential mechanisms for centre-autonomy dialogue as set out in the PWG 2018 roadmap.

Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia News



Parliamentary Working Group builds communications capacity



On May 19, 2020, members of the PWG were joined by key CMI staff for a training on "Strategic Communications in a Crisis Period". This training was organised to address the immediate needs of PWG members on crisis communication, as part of the Working Group's capacity building program delivered by the project.

The training covered the methods, principles and channels of communication in a time of crisis, and was designed to strengthen the abilities of attendees to respond to times of uncertainty, such as political upheaval or a pandemic.

The Working Group also now has its own logo, elaborated as part of the Communications Strategy, enabling the dialogue platform to have its own clear and independent visual identity.



**Parliamentary
Working Group
on Gagauzia**



Grupul de Lucru
Parlamentar
privind Găgăuzia

Gagauziyaylan
İlgili Parlamentin
Çalışma Grubu

Policy Development Task Force News



Gagauzia Education Department discusses long term policy vision with CMI experts



On June 15, the leadership of the General Department of Education of the Executive Committee of Gagauzia held an online meeting with CMI experts to discuss the process of developing a long-term vision for education policy in the autonomy.

This meeting built on the results of the Policy Development Task Force workshops organised in December 2019, where stakeholders were consulted on the preliminary findings of an analysis of Gagauzia's education and tourism policy, conducted by CMI experts.



In consultation with the Gagauz authorities and the Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia, the previous phase of the dialogue project selected Education, Tourism and Culture as the three areas for Gagauzia to develop a strategic policy vision. The Gagauzia Dialogue Project developed a Policy Development Task Force to support this goal.

The Policy Development process is part of CMI's efforts to support the autonomy in effective governance of key policy areas as part of its dialogue with the center.

Gagauzia Dialogue Project News



CMI celebrates 20th anniversary of peacemaking around the world



The Gagauzia Dialogue Project is facilitated by the Crisis Management Initiative (CMI), an independent Finnish organisation that works to prevent and resolve violent conflicts through informal dialogue and mediation. Nobel Peace laureate and former President of Finland Martti Ahtisaari founded CMI in 2000, and since then it has grown to become one of the leaders in its field.

CMI is celebrating 20 years of experience facilitating dialogue, mediating between actors and stakeholders, and providing mediation support at all stages of the dialogue process. Over the past 20 years, CMI has grown to be one of the world's leading conflict resolution organisations. Last year, CMI was involved in nine peace processes across the globe, working on projects in the Middle East, Africa, Asia, and Eurasia.

CMI has been working in Moldova since 2011, engaging with the Transdnestrian settlement process with support from the Finnish MFA. Since 2015, with support from Sweden, CMI has been providing Good Offices to and facilitating political dialogue between Chisinau and Comrat to improve the functioning of the Gagauzia Autonomy within the Republic of Moldova.

For more information about CMI, its history and the legacy of Martti Ahtisaari, visit www.cmi.fi.



"Peace is a question of will. All conflicts can be settled, and there are no excuses for allowing them to become eternal".

President Martti Ahtisaari, CMI's founder



Gagauzia Dialogue



“Supporting Inclusive Dialogue and Strengthening Capacities for a Better Functioning Gagauz Autonomy in Moldova” or ‘Gagauzia Dialogue’ is a three-year project bringing together representatives of the government, legislators, experts and other interested parties from Chisinau, Comrat and across Moldova to find joint solutions to common issues related to the Gagauzia autonomy.

The project runs from 2019-2021, facilitated by CMI and funded by Sweden.

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