

GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE

Finding joint solutions to common issues



Parliamentary Working Group summed up Annual Results

On December 15, 2020 the Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia (PWG) convened in the final 2020 formal meeting. The meeting was chaired by the Speaker of the Parliament, Zinaida Greceanii and attended by the Bashkan of ATU Gagauzia, Irina Vlah, Swedish Ambassador, Anna Lyberg, representatives from the ministries and international organisations as observers.

The Speaker welcomed the participants and thanked the partners for their support. The Speaker noted the achievements reached by the PWG in 2020 and encouraged the group members to continue the constructive dialogue for the benefit of the country. Ambassador of Sweden to Moldova, Anna Lyberg also highlighted the importance of the dialogue in order to find the best solutions and develop the functional arrangements, which should be based on trust and professionalism.

During the meeting the group summed up the results achieved in 2020 and gave a hearing the reports presented by the ministries on the topics related to PWG activity plan in the field of economy, culture and justice.

This year, the Working Group held over 20 meetings, facilitated by CMI. The Group has agreed upon the short- and long-term priorities of Gagauzia, elaborated the Activity Plan, and voted joint decisions in the cultural sphere. The members of the group also participated in a series of workshops on the topics related to the functioning of autonomy in which MPs strengthened their knowledge of autonomy, decentralization and good governance from the international perspective.

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PARLIAMENTARY WORKING GROUP ON GAGAUZIA NEWS

"Gagauzia Dialogue" transitions to a hybrid meeting format

Due to pandemic, the Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia (PWG) continued its activities in a new hybrid format, successfully combining offline and online participants within the meetings.

On September 22 and November 24, following a series of online meetings, facilitated by CMI, the PWG met to identify key priorities set in the long-term Action Plan. The members of the Parliament and People's Assembly of Gagauzia reported on activities conducted and approved the short-term Work Plan. As a result of the discussions, key topics related to the fields of culture, education and environment; mechanisms and procedures for improved relations between the Center and ATU Gagauzia were prioritized.

The PWG is the permanent dialogue platform made up of representatives from all parties of the Moldovan Parliament and People's Assembly of Gagauzia, 35% are women. The Group engages in both informal and formal dialogue processes, facilitated by CMI, to enable the development of joint solutions to common problems. The Group was created in 2015 at the initiative of the Speaker of the Parliament, since then over 50 joint decisions were adopted.



CMI experts held consultations with the Gagauz authorities



On December 8, 2020, CMI experts held consultations with the Executive Committee of ATU Gagauzia on the report regarding the centre-autonomy institutional relationships.

The report was elaborated the CMI's legal experts to support the work agenda of the Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia in improving functioning of the centre-autonomy institutional arrangements. The meeting was chaired by the Bashkan of ATU Gagauzia, Irina Vlah, and attended by the Executive Committee representatives and CMI experts.

The CMI legal experts presented the key findings of the research and outlined the main conclusions and recommendations, which were thoroughly discussed with the audience. Based on the feedback provided by the participants the CMI experts will continue developing the recommendations and come up with technical advice on coordination mechanisms.

POLICY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE NEWS

Gagauzia launches the policy development process on education with the CMI support



In December, 2020, the Gagauz authorities launched the policy development process in the field of education and started the elaboration of the long-term sectorial programme on education with the CMI support.

The purpose of the process is to define strategic goals for the development of the education in ATU Gagauzia and establish the foundation for the clarification of competences in this sphere. Additional objective is to expand the dialogue between the autonomy and central authorities on educational needs of the autonomy.

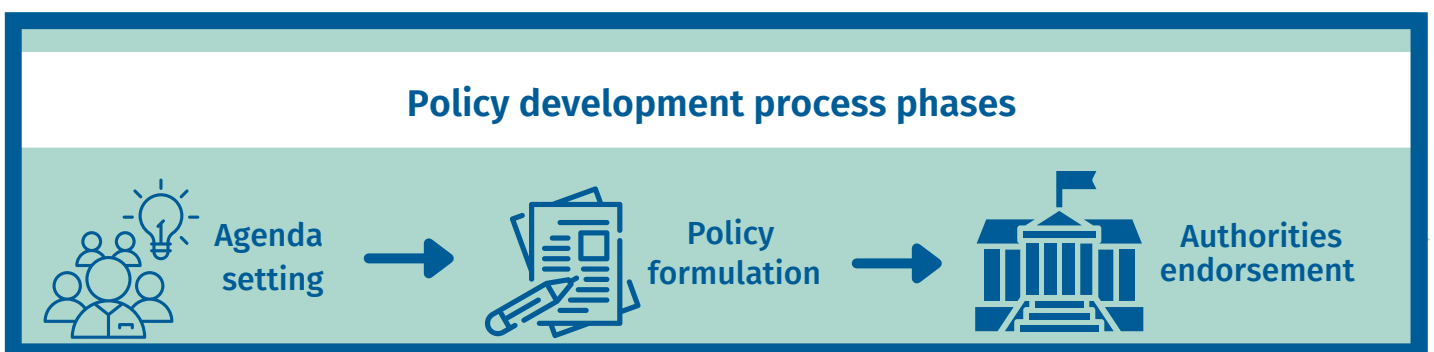
As part of its role in the process, on December 16, 2020 "Gagauzia Dialogue" Project in cooperation with Gagauzia authorities organised an online workshop entitled "Policy development in education field in ATU Gagauzia: discussion of strategic directions". The workshop gathered together over 60 participants, representatives of central and autonomy public authorities and

institutions, education institutions, CSOs, development partners and other relevant stakeholders.

During the meeting, the CMI experts presented the findings of the situational analysis previously conducted in the field of education in the autonomy. The analysis identifies a set of needs and suggests potential directions to be included in the long-term sectorial programme.

As a result of the workshop, several strategic directions were identified as key priorities: development and promotion of an effective multilingual education system, coordination mechanisms between the autonomy and center, quality of education, inclusive education, funding mechanisms, and others.

The policy development participatory process includes several stages and will conclude by the end of 2021.



"GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE" PUBLIC AWARENESS CAMPAIGN

Chisinau-Comrat dialogue process discussed in a duplex TV show



Gagauzia Dialogue launched a broader communication campaign to raise awareness among larger audience about the dialogue process between Chisinau and Comrat and the activities implemented within the project.

This format of the campaign is a premiere for the Republic of Moldova. It represents a virtual connection between two public television studios with the participation of different actors involved in the project's activities.

On December 22, 2020, the members of the Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia (PWG) participated in a Special edition show entitled

“Progress made by Gagauzia since the adoption of the special legal status”. The TV show was dedicated to the 26th anniversary of the adoption of the law on the special legal status of Gagauz autonomy and was broadcasted simultaneously at the national television Moldova 1 and local Gagauz Regional Television - GRT.

The show analysed the achievements since the establishment of the territorial unit with special status, but also the needs for Gagauzia as an autonomy, to become a success story. During the show, the MPs discussed about the importance of the dialogue continuation, and the results achieved through the PWG platform.

Gagauz people enrich the Moldovan national culture

As part of the awareness-raising campaign, the project's website www.gagauziadialogue.md, section People and Places continues highlighting interesting locations and talented people who cherish their cultural heritage. One of the unique personalities is the Choreographer Constantin Ghermec – a devoted person to his roots and traditions. Constantin Ghermec has a personal commitment to Gagauz people, to stage the Gagauz traditional dances as part of the overall richness of Moldovan culture.



Gagauzia Dialogue



Sweden
Sverige

“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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