

# GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE

Finding joint solutions to common issues



## Gagauz authorities launch policy development in tourism

In January 2021 Gagauz authorities endorsed the policy development process in tourism and continued the development process on education. In this context, Crisis Management Initiative (CMI) in partnership with the Gagauz authorities organised a number of events in the framework of the policy development process. These events were chaired by the Bashkan of ATU Gagauzia, Irina Vlah and attended by central and autonomy's representatives, local and international experts.

During the meetings, Irina Vlah, welcomed the work of the experts and highlighted the importance of the policy development for both education and tourism spheres for the economic growth of Gagauzia. The Bashkan, also confirmed institutional support of the process, mandating experts from the Executive Committee of Gagauzia as members of the Policy Development Task Force (PDTF).

CMI assists Gagauz authorities in the policy development process by providing international advice and expertise. The process is inclusive and participatory. In this regard, PDTFs consisting of independent experts from Chisinau and Comrat were created to support the process of Gagauz policymaking in three key areas: education, tourism and culture.

## IN THIS EDITION

GAGAUZ AUTHORITIES  
LAUNCH POLICY  
DEVELOPMENT IN TOURISM

CMI ASSISTS GAGAUZ  
AUTHORITIES IN EDUCATION  
POLICY DEVELOPMENT

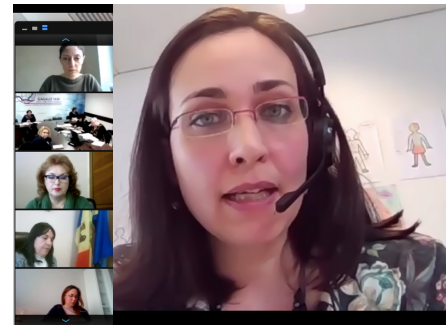
GAGAUZIA TO ELABORATE  
TOURISM DEVELOPMENT  
PROGRAM 2025

PARLIAMENTARY WORKING  
GROUP SETS 2021 AGENDA

CMI TRANSITIONS INTO  
MARTTI AHTISAARI PEACE  
FOUNDATION

## POLICY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE NEWS

### CMI assists Gagauz authorities in education policy development



“Gagauzia Dialogue” Project continues to work with the Executive Committee of ATU Gagauzia in organising a participatory process of developing the long-term Program in the field of education for the ATU Gagauzia. In this context, CMI facilitated several online events.

On January 27, 2021, the online seminar “Multilingual Education: Definitions, Models, Benefits and Challenges”, took place. The seminar, organised in partnership with Eurac Research from Bolzano, Italy, aimed at improving the knowledge on multilingual education of the Working Group involved in the development of a long-term Program. More than 50 participants got acquainted with various models of multilingual education, as well as learning about the advantages and challenges of their implementation.

Also, in February 2021, CMI, in cooperation with the Gagauz authorities carried out a series of consultations with target groups directly involved in the educational process: students and parents. About 200 students from grades 9 to 12 from educational institutions of Gagauzia took part in the first round of consultations. They shared their opinions about the subjects studied, extracurricular activities, primary needs and the problems they face.

In the framework of the same process were held consultations with parents of children from primary, secondary and high school, including parents of children with special needs.

The opinion of the representatives from professional-technical schools and higher education from Gagauzia were also consulted. The online event took place on April 13, 2021.

The participants outlined the main challenges as well as their needs and pointed out valuable ideas related to the educational system of the autonomy. All the proposals expressed by the participants in the consultation process will be included in the education long-term Program of ATU Gagauzia.

The Program envisions several areas for long-term strategic development: ensuring access to better quality education and improving the quality of education in accordance with socio-economic needs, development and promotion of multilingual education, strengthening capacities of teaching staff and others.

The work of the policy document consists of three phases and will conclude in 2021.

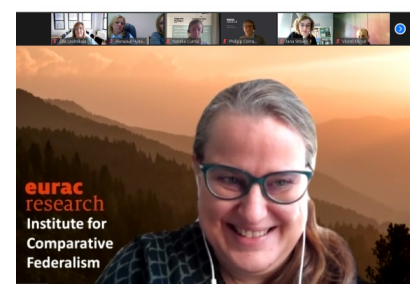
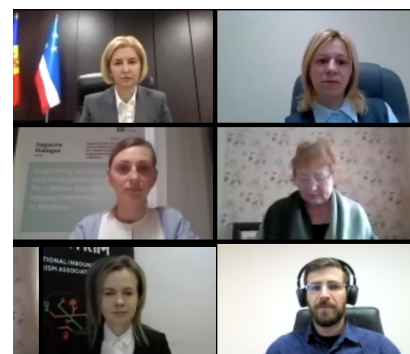
## POLICY DEVELOPMENT TASK FORCE NEWS

### Gagauzia to elaborate Tourism Development Program 2025

In January 2021, the Gagauz authorities, started the elaboration of the policy document "Tourism Development Program in ATU Gagauzia 2025", with CMI assistance. In this context, on January 28, 2021, an online workshop to discuss the Strategic Directions for the policy development in the tourism sphere in Gagauzia was organised. Over 40 participants analysed three strategic directions and set specific objectives and priorities for each of them.

On February 25, 2021 the autonomy's and central authorities benefited from an online Capacity Building workshop on tourism management at autonomy level delivered by the international experts from Eurac Research. The participants learned about the effective and quality management of the tourist destination, tools for communication and governance models through vertical cooperation – national, regional and local. The acquired knowledge will contribute to establish wider vision in the tourism sector in Gagauzia and include the international perspective in the Program development.

The Tourism Development Program aims to establish a strategic vision in the tourism sector in the autonomous region and will be set up in line with the "National Tourism Development Program 2025".



## PARLIAMENTARY WORKING GROUP ON GAGAUZIA NEWS

### Parliamentary Working Group sets 2021 Agenda



Despite the difficult period of the pandemic the Parliamentary Working Group (PWG) continued the dialogue process engaging in several online formal and informal working sessions.

At the meetings which took place in March 2021, the PWG members discussed the topics related to the deconcentrated

services, autonomy's representation in the broads of national funds, and the PWG agenda priorities for 2021. As a result of the meetings, facilitated by the CMI, the PWG members approved five decisions including PWG Activity Report for 2020.

Also, within the last meeting, based on the results of the work previously done and presented to the PWG by CMI Expert Group on the institutional mechanisms for cooperation between the centre and autonomy, a list of priority proposals for the Expert Group to work on for the adjustment of the legislative framework was agreed.

The PWG is the permanent dialogue platform made up of representatives from Moldovan Parliament and People's Assembly of Gagauzia, 35% are women. The Group was created in 2015 to improve the functioning of Gagauz autonomy in the constitutional framework of the Republic of Moldova.



## "GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE" NEWS

## CMI transitions into Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation

As of May 1, 2021, the "Crisis Management Initiative" transitions into CMI Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation and embraces a new CEO – Janne Taalas and visual identity. Mr. J. Taalas will lead the implementation of the CMI's new strategy to 2030. This aims to strengthen the capacity of CMI and peace mediators to prevent and resolve conflicts in the volatile global environment. Additionally, for 2030, CMI will invest in the empowerment of women and the use of digital technologies in peace processes.

The key driver behind this change is to make the organisation more sustainable. The purpose of the new foundation is to promote peace and the capacity to prevent and resolve crises globally. The new configuration will improve CMI's basic functions in many ways, giving it a more reliable and efficient decision-making and governance structure.

CMI Foundation will continue its global peace work in conflict resolution and conflict prevention through dialogue and mediation, offering good offices while maintaining its former core acting principles and values.

Founded by Nobel Peace Laureate and former President of Finland Martti Ahtisaari in 2000, CMI has since grown to be a leader in the field of international peacemaking. In Moldova CMI has been implementing the „Gagauzia Dialogue” project, facilitating the dialogue process between Chisinau and Comrat since 2015.

For more information about CMI, its history and the new CEO visit [www.cmi.fi](http://www.cmi.fi).



*"The most important thing is to genuinely listen to the parties, and their concerns and to help them find solutions".*

**Janne Taalas, CMI's new CEO**

**CMI**  
MARTTI AHTISAARI  
PEACE FOUNDATION

## 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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