

GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE

Finding joint solutions to common issues



The EU report on the Moldova accession progress features the results of the Chisinau-Comrat Dialogue process

On November 8, 2023, European Commission published the Report on the progress of Moldova towards the accession process to the European Union.

The Report highlights the importance of the consultation mechanism between Chisinau and Comrat adopted by the Parliament in December 2022 and People's Assembly of Gagauzia in 2023.

The Parliament revised two laws to facilitate the exchange of consultations between the Parliament and the People's Assembly of Gagauzia during the drafting of legislation. Similarly, Gagauzia has the ability to consult the central authorities on different issues related to proposed autonomy laws. The modifications were elaborated in the framework of the Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia with the technical support of international and national experts.

This achievement is a result of the dialogue process between Chisinau and Comrat facilitated by CMI – Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation with the support of Sweden.

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PARLIAMENTARY WORKING GROUP ON GAGAUZIA NEWS

Experience of 80 and 100 years of autonomies shared with the representatives of the Parliament and People's Assembly of Gagauzia



On November 20 and 21, 2023 Gagauzia Dialogue project organized two seminars on 'Territorial Autonomies in Comparative Practice of European States' for Parliamentary Working Group members and stakeholders. The seminars aimed to enhance the knowledge of representatives from the Parliament and People's Assembly of Gagauzia on how European autonomies function.

The experts Elisabeth Alber from Italy and Susann Simolin from Finland presented concrete examples of South Tyrol and Åland Islands autonomies and their principles of good governance, decentralisation, cooperation, and conflict resolution mechanisms.



In both cases, they stressed the importance of dialogue and clarification of competencies to make the autonomies well-functioning.

The participants also discussed the position of the autonomies concerning the European Union both from the perspective of the accession process but also how the European Union integration had helped the autonomies to strengthen their economies and countries' well-being.

The attendees emphasized the importance of capacity-building events to learn from the international models and contextualize the knowledge in the national framework.

Representatives of the secretariat from the People's Assembly of Gagauzia participate in an internship at the Parliament



During October 2 – 6, 2023 the representatives of the Secretariat from the People's Assembly of Gagauzia took part in an internship at the Secretariat of the Parliament of the Republic of Moldova.

The internship aimed to develop the skills and practical knowledge of the People's Assembly representatives and exchange experience between employees of the two institutions.

During the internship, the public servants got familiar with the organisation and functioning of the Secretariat of the Parliament. The officials also gain an understanding of the work of Parliamentary committees and their Secretariats.

The program of the internship also included attending meetings of plenary sessions of the Parliament.

The internship was an opportunity to strengthen mutual cooperation between the institutions.

"GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE" NEWS

Over 150 students from Chisinau and Comrat learned about the European autonomies and the dialogue process



On November 20 and 21, 2023 the State University of Moldova and the State University of Comrat hosted public lectures on “Comparative arrangements of autonomies: South Tyrol and Åland Islands”. The lectures were organised within the Gagauzia Dialogue project with Sweden's support and attended by students and professors.

The experts, Elisabeth Alber, Eurach Research, and Susann Simolin, Åland Islands Peace Institute gave a comparative presentation on autonomies in Italy and Finland. They presented the history and functioning of European autonomies, the division of competencies and powers, and other topics of interest. Speaker's session can be accessed on the Gagauzia Dialogue YOUTUBE channel.

University students had the opportunity to communicate with international experts and get answers to questions related to autonomies.

Additionally, on October 25, 2023, the students from Comrat University participated in an open discussion on the “Parliamentary Working Group on Gagauzia: achievements and perspectives”. At the discussion, CMI representatives Steve Young and Natalia Djandjgava spoke to the participants about the dialogue platform between Chisinau and Comrat, the results achieved and the role and work of CMI - Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation in Moldova and worldwide.

The lectures were an opportunity to share international experience and contextualize the subjects in the Republic of Moldova. The students appreciated the lessons and said that learning about international models on the functioning of autonomies is a useful exercise for learning best practices in the context of building relations between central and autonomous authorities.



"GAGAUZIA DIALOGUE" NEWS

CMI – Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation continues the legacy of its founder around the world



Former Finnish president and Nobel Peace Prize laureate Martti Ahtisaari passed away in Helsinki on October 16, 2023.

Martti Ahtisaari was President of the Republic of Finland from 1994 to 2000. In 2000, Ahtisaari founded the Crisis Management Initiative (CMI), an independent non-governmental organisation, to continue his legacy of conflict resolution. CMI is today known as CMI – Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation.

Martti Ahtisaari can be considered the most successful peace mediator of all times. For almost nearly four decades he worked hard to prevent and resolve conflicts throughout the world. His work will remain part of national history in many countries.

Ahtisaari was driven by a strong vision that all conflicts can be resolved. His vision was clear, and he understood how big things affect smaller ones and how small things are often crucial. Everyone who worked with Ahtisaari knows that he was an excellent leader who treated all people equally and warmly.

The CMI and the Finnish foreign policy that emphasise the importance of peace mediation are Ahtisaari's living legacy. CMI will continue working to resolve conflicts where official agencies cannot, that would broadly involve society as a whole, and that would work in partnership with international organisations and leaders.



Martti Ahtisaari
1937 - 2023

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Gagauzia Dialogue



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"Supporting institutionalized and sustainable dialogue on Gagauzia Autonomy" or "Gagauzia Dialogue" is a 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 is implemented by CMI – Martti Ahtisaari Peace Foundation and funded by Sweden.

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