



Local &  
Regional  
Europe

## The role of Local & Regional Governments & their Associations

# EU Future Enlargement

---

Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia, Kosovo\*,  
Moldova, North Macedonia, Serbia, Türkiye, Ukraine

<https://ccre-cemr.org/>

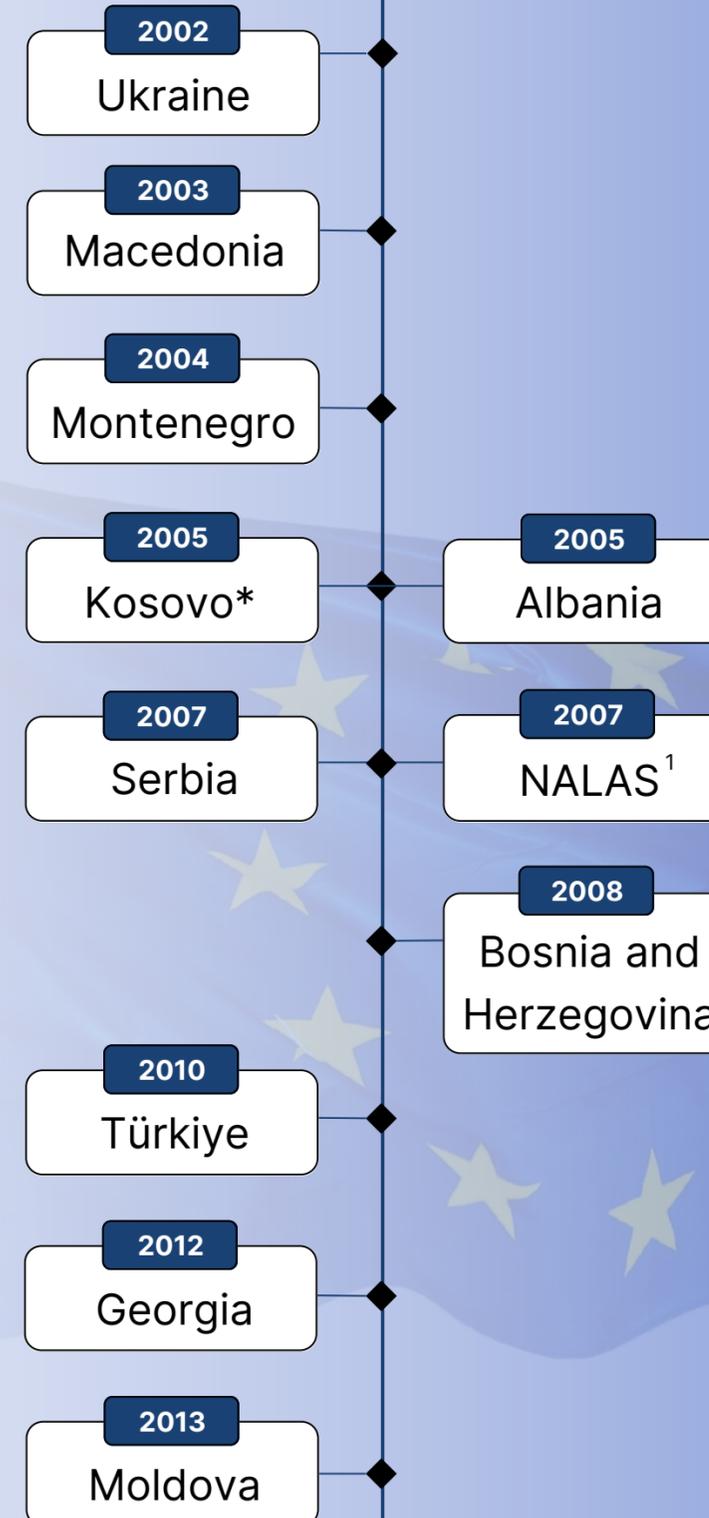
\*This designation is without prejudice to positions on status, and is in line with UNSC 1244 and the ICJ Opinion on the Kosovo declaration of independence.

# CEMR's Membership from EU Candidate Countries

Founded in 1951, CEMR has long worked across Europe, engaging with Local and Regional Governments (LRGs) and their national associations from countries beyond the European Union.

By strengthening local partnerships, CEMR helps foster cohesion, unity, and progress toward EU integration across the continent.

1. Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe



# WHAT WE DO



## CEMR's Political Declarations & Statements

Through Political Declarations and Statements, CEMR reaffirms its unwavering commitment to democracy, local self-government, and the enlargement process.

In doing so, it sends a strong message of solidarity that resonates across Europe's towns and regions, reinforcing the role of local authorities in shaping a united, resilient, and democratic Europe.

2. <https://ccre-cemr.org/press/declaration-on-three-years-of-war-in-ukraine>

3. <https://platforma-dev.eu/how-can-we-support-ukraine-moldova-and-georgias-joining-the-european-union/>

4. <https://ec.europa.eu/newsroom/eucor/items/845557/en>

5. <https://ccre-cemr.org/projects-programmes/bridges-of-trust/eu-ukraine-municipal-partnerships-forum>

6. <https://ccre-cemr.org/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/Declaration-on-Turkiye-TBB-President-2025-ENG.pdf>



# WHAT WE DO



## Fostering partnerships with EU candidate countries

CEMR drives initiatives that empower LRGs and their national associations, by:

- Twinning and partnerships building
- Sharing expertise and practical solutions
- Strengthening local capacity to tackle today's challenges

Through targeted projects and hands-on tools, we help build lasting partnerships, reinforce local governance, and support reform efforts on the ground, laying the foundation for a more inclusive and effective enlargement process.

### PLATFORMA EaP activities<sup>7</sup>

Since 2015, decentralised cooperation projects (city-to-city cooperation, capacity building, exchanges of best practices).

### PROJECTS

- Bridges of Trust<sup>8</sup>
- SUN4Ukraine<sup>9</sup>

### Matchmaking Platform

All-in-one digital tool connecting Local and Regional Governments and strengthening partnerships across the European continent.<sup>10</sup>

7. <https://platforma-dev.eu/tag/eap/>

8. <https://ccre-cemr.org/bridges-of-trust>

9. [https://ccre-cemr.org/sun4ukraine\\_SUN4Ukraine](https://ccre-cemr.org/sun4ukraine_SUN4Ukraine)

10. <https://partnerships.ccre-cemr.org/>

# WHAT WE DO



## Policy & Advocacy

CEMR engages with EU institutions through recommendations and proposed amendments to key EU institutions' reports, as well as regular exchanges with the European Commission and the European External Action Service (EEAS).

11. <https://platforma-dev.eu/wp-content/uploads/2025/01/Conclusions-Platforma-Salar-EaP-local-2024.pdf>

12. <https://platforma-dev.eu/key-recommendations-from-the-eu-eap-local-leaders-seminar/>

### PLATFORMA

Advocacy for **Georgia, Moldova and Ukraine** LRGs and their associations' active involvement in the EU accession process.

Recent work:

- *EU-EaP Local Leaders Seminar*<sup>11</sup>
- *Recommendations on the EU enlargement report 2025*<sup>12</sup>

### SUN4UKRAINE

Provide policy recommendations to enhance multilevel governance **in Ukraine**, on Energy and Climate.

### BRIDGES OF TRUST

Contributing to joint advocacy and coordination of support to European Alliance of Cities and Regions for the Reconstruction of **Ukraine**.

# WHAT WE DO



## Recent & upcoming events

CEMR's long-standing engagement with EU candidate countries is reflected in our active presence across key events, organised by us or in collaboration with partners. Through these moments, we support local cooperation, strengthen municipal partnerships, and bring the voice of Local and Regional Governments into the EU enlargement process.

<sup>13</sup>. <https://ccre-cemr.org/statutory-affairs/matchmaking-platform-for-twinning>





Local &  
Regional  
Europe

**01/07/2025**

# **SAVE THE DATE**

**CEMR webinar | Local Governments  
dialogue on the road to EU Enlargement**

Voices from local authorities, EU institutions and organisations.

contact info: [bella.tskhlishvili@ccre-cemr.org](mailto:bella.tskhlishvili@ccre-cemr.org)