



## CIVEX external seminar in Rome

Thursday- Friday 9-10 December 2021

### Building territorial partnerships: The experience of local and regional authorities in the Nicosia Initiative to support Libyan municipalities

Campidoglio (headquarter of the municipality of Rome),

Campidoglio Square 1, 00186 Rome, Italy

Room "Sala della Promoteca" (entrance from Portico del Vignola)

*In January 2016, at the ARLEM plenary session in Nicosia, the European Committee of the Regions and Libyan mayors together launched the Nicosia initiative as an open platform of cooperation between European regions and cities and Libyan municipalities from all parts of the country, bridging political divides. This seminar will be the occasion to develop perspectives for peer-to-peer cooperation at the local and regional level within the Nicosia initiative and beyond.*

**Thursday, 9 December 2021**

*Interpretation will be provided to and from English, Italian, and Arabic as well as from Spanish.*

Morning      Arrival of participants (transport to hotels/venue tbc)

14:00          Registration

14:30          [Opening statements](#)

- **Roberto Gualtieri**, Mayor of Rome
- **Riccardo Varone**, President ANCI Lazio
- **Vincenzo Bianco** (IT/PES), First Vice Chair of the CoR's Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs, President of the National Council of the Association of Italian Municipalities (ANCI)
- **Apostolos Tzitzikostas** (EL/EPP), President of the European Committee of the Regions

15:00

[Session I - Five years of successful peer-to-peer cooperation bottom-up](#)

*From 2016 to 2021, thanks to the active contribution by European local and regional authorities and the support mostly by the European Union, 33 study visits, meetings, and training activities took place with over 500 Libyan participants from all over the country.*

- **Hanneke de Visser**, Project Manager, Transparency International Belgium
- **CIVEX members**

Questions and answers

15:30

[Session II - A new impulse for cooperation with Libyan municipalities](#)

*In 2021, the Nicosia initiative entered a new phase in two ways: Two new initiatives were launched to build capacities for local politicians and civil servants and foster local social economic and institutional development (Research and Education Building Urban Institutions for Local Development, Towards A new Multilevel Shared Approach for Libya Local governance). At the same time, the initiative's place within the consolidation among Libyan municipalities is being confirmed.*

- **Giuseppe Maria Buccino Grimaldi**, Italian Ambassador to Libya (video message)
- **Sandra Goffin**, Head of Operations, EU Delegation to Libya (video message)
- **Alsaqar Abuwujawuri**, Mayor of Benghazi; **Yosof Khalifa Ibderi**, Mayor of Ghariyan; **Ibrahim Al Shawush**, acting Mayor of Sebha; **Ibrahim Khalifi**, Mayor of Tripoli; **Mustafa Albaroni**, Mayor of Zintan, Libya
- **Lorenza Biasetto**, Acting Director, Office of development cooperation Autonomous Province of Trento, REBUILD
- **Roberta Dall'Olio**, President of EURADA, Head of ART-ER International, Territorial Cooperation Social Innovation Unit, TAMSALL
- **Antonio Ragonesi**, Head of International Relations Area, ANCI
- **Benedetta Oddo**, Nicosia Initiative Coordinator

Discussion with CIVEX members

17:00

Break

17:15

[Session III - Perspectives for peer-to-peer cooperation](#)

*Based on the successful experiences, and supported through a peer-to-peer cooperation survey within the CoR, how could this decentralised model of cooperation inspire other partnerships and attract funding?*

- **Rani Daoud** and **Andreas Berding**, Support to Municipalities in Libya, GIZ
- **Steffen Hudolin**, Head of Cooperation, EU Delegation to North Macedonia (video message)

- **Peter Polajnar**, Team Leader, and **Piotr Cichocki**, Project Assistant, Institution Building Unit, Directorate-General for Neighbourhood and Enlargement Negotiations, European Commission
- **Roberto Ciambetti** (IT/ECR), President of the Regional Council of Veneto and Co-chair of the Joint Consultative Committee with Montenegro, CoR

Discussion with CIVEX members

18:15

[Closing](#)

- **Mark Speich** (DE/EPP), Chair of the Commission for Citizenship, Governance, Institutional and External Affairs, CoR

tbc

Official dinner at Navona square (tbc)  
*Further information will be sent in due time.*

## Friday 10 December

10:00-

**Visit to the Capitoline Museums** (tbc)

11:00

*Further information will be sent in due time.*

Afternoon

Departure of participants (transport from hotels/venue tbc)