

European Local Democracy Week

Edition 2011: concept, engagement, events by country

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Table of contents

ASSESSMENT OF THE ELDW 2011 EDITION	5
1. The leading theme	5
2. A more attractive image for the European Local Democracy Week	5
3. The outputs: facts and figures.....	5
4. The role of the institutional partners.....	6
5. The “12 Star City”: a successful concept	7
6. The added value of the ELDW at local level	8
7. Conclusions.....	8
EVENTS BY COUNTRY	9

	Albania	9
	Armenia.....	9
	Azerbaijan	10
	Belgium.....	11
	Croatia.....	14
	Finland	15
	France.....	16
	Georgia.....	20
	Germany	21
	Greece	22
	Italy.....	26
	Moldova	29
	Montenegro.....	32
	The Netherlands	33

	Poland	35
	Portugal	37
	Romania	39
	Russian Federation	41
	Serbia	46
	Slovakia	50
	Spain	51
	Switzerland	53
	Sweden	53
	Turkey	55
	Ukraine	61
	United Kingdom	63
ALL LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES TAKING PART IN ELDW 2011		75

ASSESSMENT OF THE ELDW 2011 EDITION

1. The leading theme

At the ELDW general meeting held on 8 February in Brussels, the theme “**Human rights at local level**” was chosen as the leading theme of the ELDW 2011 edition.

By proposing this subject, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities intended to stress one of the core missions of the Council of Europe: to defend human rights, which is also one of the key priorities of the Congress’ political agenda.

Throughout the year, the President of Congress, Keith Whitmore, and John Warmisham, Political Coordinator of the Week, were regularly encouraged Congress’ members and in particular of the Congress’ Chamber of Local Authorities, to take the opportunity of the ELDW for organising events in their communities.

2. A more attractive image for the European Local Democracy Week

On the occasion of the 2011 edition, the Congress “revamped” the ELDW graphic charter. The logo has been slightly reworked, while maintaining the idea of the municipality as the home of all citizens. A poster with the slogan “**Human rights? What about your backyard?**” has been developed to help municipalities and the wider public to identify themselves with the theme “Human rights at local level”.

The ELDW website - www.coe.int/demoweek– has been renewed as well. It has offered guidance to facilitate the implementation of the Week on the leading theme, with useful suggestions for activities focused on different aspects of local policies closely related to the safeguarding of human rights and their implementation.

The leaflet of the ELDW has been printed in the two official languages of the Council of Europe (English and French), as well as in German, Italian and Russian.

3. The outputs: facts and figures

On the occasion of the ELDW, a wide range of municipalities from all over Europe organised events, competitions, conferences and exchanges of views. The aims of the ELDW 2011 were mostly reached: to raise citizens’ awareness on human rights issues, to boost relationships between citizens and local elected representatives, and to highlight the crucial importance for local democracy of making all citizens aware how to implement their rights and to promote their respect. Local authorities paid special attention in involving youth and children so as to get tomorrow’s adult citizens closer to local institutions and more acquainted with local life.

Although the financial crisis provoked financial cuts in most of the community budgets, the participation in the European Local Democracy Week increased in 2011.

More than 300 municipalities and other local authorities from 26 member countries of the Council of Europe organised events in the framework of the European Local Democracy Week 2011. The feedback received by the Congress gives a picture of an initiative whose reputation and popularity increase year by year, in terms of the number of participating municipalities, the variety of activities, and in terms of concrete commitment by the institutional partners.

Local Authorities: 302 municipalities took part in ELDW this year, almost 3 times more than the number of municipalities which took part in 2010 (115). The number of municipalities which celebrated the ELDW is probably higher because the Congress collects only information provided by the municipalities which registered their participation in the official website of the ELDW, and by the national associations.

Countries: 26 is the number this year of the Council of Europe member states whose municipalities took part in the ELDW. Some municipalities from Finland, Sweden and Montenegro participated for the first time in the ELDW, or after a break of two or three years (Azerbaijan, Moldova), while Bulgaria, Estonia and Malta did not organise the Week this year, instead they did so in 2010. It is also important to point out that from some countries – such as the Russian Federation, Moldova, Romania, Serbia, the Netherlands, Turkey, Ukraine, the United Kingdom - the number of participating municipalities increased considerably compared to 2010.

Population: 32.246.000 is the population reached by the ELDW 2011, largely exceeding the 23.700.000 of the previous edition. These figures do not include the population of the municipalities from Azerbaijan, due to the fact that the European Local Democracy Week 2011 has been organised there from 19 to 25 December.

The size of the municipalities is also relevant. A great number of large municipalities took part in the ELDW, 50 of them have a population of more than 100.000 inhabitants.

4. The role of the institutional partners

National associations of local authorities

Many associations from member countries of the Council of Europe played an active role during the preparation of the 2011 edition of the European Local Democracy Week.

Thanks to their supportive actions, the European Local Democracy Week became more visible in their countries and encouraged the participation of municipalities. Some of the associations organised preparatory meetings (such as in Turkey and in the Wallonia Region of Belgium). Others provided information by means of their website, internal communication systems and newsletters, as well as by publishing the ELDW logo and the ELDW posters (Sweden, Georgia, Greece, and Turkey).

It should be underlined that some of the associations (in particular the Russian National Congress of Municipalities and the Association of Ukrainian Cities), as well as some national bodies responsible for local authorities (particularly the Ministry of the Interior in Greece, the Chancellery of the Republic of Moldova and the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan) co-operated very fruitfully with the Congress. On the one hand, they did so by diffusing the information on the ELDW, and, on the other hand, by sending to the ELDW Congress' coordination team a survey of the Week in their country. They provided information concerning the municipalities involved, facts and figures, pictures of the main events, etc., thus enabling the Congress to know more about the popularity and the followers of the Week across Europe.

This year the expansion of the Week has been remarkable in some northern countries such as the Netherlands, Finland or Sweden, where national associations promoted the European Local Democracy Week with conviction and enthusiasm. Relevant efforts were also made by the Association of the Romanian Municipalities in Romania, where different communities, in partnership with schools, libraries, cultural centres, and arts and crafts associations, engaged in the ELDW with pertinent activities on human rights issues.

Moreover, it is interesting to observe the active role of a growing number of Congress members, who organised the ELDW in their own municipalities this year.

European institutions and associations

European associations such as the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) and the Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA), as well as European institutions such as the Committee of the Regions of the European Union have co-operated with the Congress in promoting the ELDW.

5. The "12 Star City": a successful concept

In 2010, ELDW received fresh impetus with the launching of the "12 Star city" concept. The 2011 edition has confirmed that municipalities were eager to engage their communities in the ELDW in a relevant way.

19 local authorities chose to register in the ELDW 2011 as "12 Star City". They complied with the five required conditions: devoting a specific budget to the ELDW activities; making a promotion campaign using the graphic visuals provided by the Council of Europe; and carrying out a number of specific activities linked to the theme of "human rights at local level" that involved different groups of citizens in the initiatives, in particular young people through municipal youth councils, schools and colleges. The fifth condition was to organise an event with a European or pan-European dimension, so as to highlight the role of local authorities in building a democratic Europe.

The 19 municipalities which chose to become "12 Star City" represent 12 European countries, ranging from Sweden to Greece and from Portugal to Turkey.

They include: Brussels (for the fourth consecutive year) and Namur from Belgium; Sisak from Croatia; Strasbourg (for the fourth consecutive year) and Angers from France; Festos and

Chania from Greece; Mola di Bari (for the second year) from Italy; Utrecht from the Netherlands; Katowice (for the third consecutive year) from Poland; Amadora (for the second year) from Portugal; Belgrade (for the second consecutive year) from Serbia; Sundbyberg from Sweden; Mugla (for the second year), Lüleburgaz, Tarsus, Gebze and Gaziantep from Turkey; and Stockton-on-Tees from United Kingdom.

6. The added value of the ELDW at local level

One of the major effects from organising the ELDW consists in improving citizens' participation in the local democratic life.

All municipalities which took part in ELDW this year - and in particular the "12 Stars" cities - demonstrated a culture of tolerance and respect, which helped to improve social cohesion in their communities. They created a variety of initiatives involving young people, schools, municipal councils, civil society associations and human rights organisations, ombudsmen and lawyer's representatives.

Some of the "12 Star" cities recognized that the ELDW is "the annual meeting" with citizens that enables local authorities to appreciate their satisfaction for the public services and to understand whether they meet the needs and expectations of the people.

Others say that the ELDW is the occasion to assess, together with the citizens, the use of different tools for taking part in the decision-making processes, and to launch new initiatives in this domain for the following year.

7. Conclusions

Overall, the success of the European Local Democracy Week 2011 stems from a collective effort carried out by the Congress and its members, national associations and their ELDW correspondents, European associations and networks. They all have supported the Week: their actions are making this initiative the main European event on local democracy and citizens' participation.

In order to expand its numbers and boost its popularity, the Week needs greater support of all the actors and partners who contributed to its inception. Enhancing the quality of local democracy stands as an overwhelming imperative for the Congress.

* * *

EVENTS BY COUNTRY



Albania

VLORA

Population: 102 000 inhabitants

Partner organisations: Research Co-operation and Development Centre, Youth Centre, EU Info Centre

Activities:

Drawing Exhibition, essay on Child Rights; Presentation of EU Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child. Students, children, their families and public officials will attend the event.

Place: Public School "Jani Minga"

Date: 14 October

"Vlora citizens rights? Let's work together": public visits to the Municipal Council; in particular, a youth group will meet the Municipal Council members, information on new projects and prospects for improvement of citizens services, dialogue etc.

Place: Vlora City Hall

Date: 12 October

"Citizens of Europe": presentation and general information on how to travel, study and live in European countries. Presentation on Human Rights, Youth Rights etc. This events is open to all citizens.

Place: EU Info Centre

Date: 11 October



Armenia

GYUMRI City

Population: 250 000 inhabitants

28 October 2011

Partner institutions: Local Democracy Agencies, Rhône-Alpes Region, Friuli-Venezia Giulia Region, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia.

ONG partners: CISP - The International Committee for the Development of Peoples (Italy); different local NGOs from Armenia will join the initiative.

Media coverage: Local TVs

Approach: The process of involving people in local democracy is one of the key elements of the political mission of the Local Democracy Agencies. Developing local democracy in Armenia is part of ALDA's Strategy for the Southern Caucasus, which was initiated in 2003 with the support of the Congress of local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. The LDA will operate as a platform of debate, capacity building and shared co-operation between civil society and local authorities by the support of other local authorities from Europe.

Opening meeting: The opening event in October will mark the link between the LDA in Armenia and its work in support of Local Democracy and Human Rights in Armenia as part of European Local Democracy Week and as a medium to long term project.

Conference: An awareness-raising conference will gather citizens, NGOs and other groups actively involved in local governance issues to discuss and learn about best practices for involving citizens in public life.

The conference will give the participants a chance to understand better the bottom-up methodology for furthering local self-government and increasing citizen participation.



Azerbaijan

European Local Democracy Week has been held from 19 to 25 December 2011.

Information are given by the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Center of Work to Municipalities sent the following information to the Congress Secretariat:

Activities will include:

- meetings with citizens in open and closed spaces in order to give them reports on the works fulfilled in 2011, as well as the projects realised within the framework of "One municipality – at least one project" initiative, and with the purpose of discussing with the citizens the local budget and the projects to be realised in 2012;
- to fix "municipal mailboxes" in the places frequently visited by the people;
- to hang posters with the slogans "Let's strengthen relationships between municipality and citizens", "Let's take part actively in local democracy week" or "Let's encourage participation of citizens in local self-governance" on public buildings, streets, ect.
- organise "open door" days and reception of citizens by elected members of municipality;
- to set up a "hotline" to ensure frequent relations with people, to register and reply to incoming calls.

The list of municipalities having taken part to the ELDW and their feedback will be delivered furthermore.



Belgium

BRUSSELS 19 Municipalities and Brussels Capital Region



"12 Star City"

Population: 1 000 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Communication campaign: articles in the journal Trait d'Union, the newsletter of the Association of Municipalities and Brussels-Capital
Website dedicated to Brussels ELDW
Information to the local, regional and national press
Printing of 16,000 brochures and 2,000 posters, 80 banners and logo

Partner institutions: All 19 Municipalities organise ELDW initiatives and several public centres for social action, the Brussels-Capital Region, the Association of Municipalities of Brussels and the Brussels-Capital Region.

Targets: all citizens, youth, youth councils, schools.

Collective actions: Launch Conference on Human Rights and symbolic reconstruction of the house of local democracy by a group of children.

- A pathway "Journey of human rights": a map of the city will show the contribution of each community to the realisation of a particular right during the Week. The brochure contains the entire pathway.

- A cultural route on different human rights is organised by five social studies schools as part of five Public Centres for Social Action. Each school will discuss how to implement one right. The discussion will be open to all students.

European event: "How to encourage Europeans to join in local elections". The workshop's outputs will be taken into consideration for an information campaign encouraging European residents in Brussels to vote in the upcoming local elections in 2012.

Activities in the 19 municipalities: in each municipality at least one activity will focus on the theme of human rights. Other initiatives will focus on knowledge of local institutions and their functioning, as well as the forms of active citizenship.

Summary of the main initiatives conducted (*report*)

Anderlecht: dialogue tables (citizens in small groups debating issues with a professional mediator on the theme "made in Brussels")

Auderghem: inauguration of the social "drugstore" organised by the Red Cross; intergenerational spelling competition about human rights issues

Berchem-Sainte-Agathe: pathways of memory (audio-guide walks to the cemetery walls where people used to throw flowers from above to honour the British airmen killed during World War II)

Brussels: photo exhibition by the staff of the municipality who take pictures to illustrate their image of the community as a vital entity.

Etterbeek: European residents' participation in elections (getting European citizens to involve themselves in the community where they live).

Evere: senior immigrants in Parliament (first generation immigrants are informed of their rights and duties as senior citizens).

Forest: launching conference on human rights; exhibition - children present their work to the eminent persons attending the ELDW launch conference

Ganshoren: activities and services for elderly people are presented to the citizens

Ixelles: 'stereotypes – stereo female': game for combating gender prejudices

Jette: essay competition for 11 year old children on human rights issues

Molenbeek: in co-operation with four other municipalities organised the "democracy bus" to illustrate children's rights for schools.

Saint-Gilles: tactile tour of City Hall for blind people

Saint-Josse: Musical comedy produced by the young students on human rights issues

Woluwe-Saint-Lambert: citizens recently granted Belgian nationality are invited to talk to the aldermen and the mayor; social rights are presented to students of social studies colleges by the 5 high school social welfare centres in Brussels.

More info on www.bruxelles.sedl.be.

NAMUR "12 Star City"

Population: 301 400 inhabitants

10-12 October

Organising institution: Municipality of Namur, in partnership with SP Wallonie

Communication campaign: a press conference in mid September will launch ELDW in Namur; a newsletter will be sent to a specific mailing list, partnership will be set up with a local newspaper, local TVs and a local radio. 500 posters and 50 movable panels will be posted in different places. 1500 leaflets on the Namur ELDW calendar will be distributed.

Human rights activities:

European event: Cinema-debate about freedom of expression will be held in the main cinema auditorium; notable participants: Amnesty International francophone President Philippe Hensmans, Stéphan Hessel, philosopher, diplomat and writer who was involved in drafting the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in 1948, and Jean-Paul Marthoz, director of the magazine "Enjeux Internationaux".

Targets: students, youth and all citizens.

Date: 11 October

Conference – Forum on human rights: reflection on dealing with human rights on a daily basis and on access to water in modern society.

Targets: all citizens

Venue: City Hall

Date: 12 October

Visit to the permanent exhibition of “**Territories of Memory**” devoted to the concentration camps and deportation.

Targets: all citizens and cultural and adult education associations

Where: Liège

Date: 11 October

Drawing competition and creation of a **mural** on the theme of human rights; a citizens' jury will choose the entry that will be a mural for display in a public place

Targets: Namur school students and youth associations

Date: October 10 to December 10

GREZ-DOICEAU

Population: 12 300 inhabitants

12-15 October

Activities:

Town Hall “open doors”; as part of Local Democracy Week, the Municipality organises “open doors” afternoons. During these afternoons, a presentation and a tour of the town hall will be provided for citizens, followed by a debate between residents and the municipal council.

Place: Town Hall

Date: October 12 at 2 pm, October 13 at 2 pm, October 14 at 5 pm, October 15 at 2 pm

Impromptu Show on the theme of local democracy and human rights: the players will take the opportunity to discuss sensitive issues, such as democracy and human rights, in a funny, alarming or ironical way. So, through irony, laughter and emotions, people will be stimulated to talk about it!

Place: Néthen Cultural Space

Date: October 12 at 8 pm.

HOUYET

Population: 4 500 inhabitants

10-14 October

Cultural activities:

Pupils of 5 and 6 primary schools will discuss human rights issues, and will attend a film projection on human rights and children’s rights; during the afternoon there will be a guided tour of a court of justice.

Place: Houyet

Date: October 10

Film/debate on social cohesion: Projection of a film, followed by a debate on the promotion of social rights and access to public services and assistance structures. The debate will focus on how to anticipate and prevent the risk of poverty and sense of exclusion. Representatives of various stakeholder structures addressing different issues will be invited to attend the meeting and take part in the debate. They include representatives from: League of Human Rights, Centre for Equal Opportunities, King Baudouin Foundation, SPW (DGO5) social action and health, CSC and FGTB unions.

Place: Houyet

Date: 14 October at 7 pm



Croatia

SISAK  **"12 Star City"**

Population: 55 000 inhabitants

4-5 November

Partner Organisations: Local Democratic Agency (LDQ) of Sisak, Association of Local Democracy Agencies (ALDA).

Communication campaign and approach: the events organised by the Municipality of Sisak, in close co-operation with the LDA Sisak and ALDA, will be promoted in different ways and at different levels. At the local level, the Municipality will lead a promotional campaign aimed at informing all the citizens, while the LDA Sisak will perform the role of disseminating information among the NGOs throughout the region. The ALDA will promote and follow the international promotion of the event through its network of more than 300 members and partners in the wider Europe. In order to have a big international coverage, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities will also disseminate relevant information. Representatives of international organisations, including the CoE, will be invited to take part in the events.

Events:

"Promoting Human rights during 15 years of activities: the role of Local Democracy Agencies"

A public conference will be organised to demonstrate the importance of promoting human rights all over the Balkans after the conflicts in the former Yugoslavia. The conference will be an incentive to discuss local democracy and to highlight the role played by LDAs over the last 18 years. The Mayor of Sisak will chair the conference and national and international experts will be invited for contributions. Participants will have the opportunity to take the floor with questions and open discussions.

Place: Sisak City Hall

Date: 4-5 November 2011

Celebration of the 15th Anniversary of the Local Democracy Agency in Sisak

After the conference, a public celebration will be organised with the involvement of all the citizens and representatives of local, national and international authorities/institutions. Representatives of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities have been invited to attend.

Place: Sisak City Hall

Date: 4-5 November

Both the events described will have a European dimension. Representatives of European local authorities will be invited, together with representatives of European institutions (CoE, EU). Moreover, the events will be attended by the 12 leading partners (European local authorities) of the 12 Local Democracy Agencies

Youth Council meeting: young people and the associations of civil society will conduct a meeting in order to develop thoughts and concerns about human rights issues and in particular means for Sisak's youth to keep involved and have an active role in local public life. NGOs, students, local associations and Youth organisations will be invited to participate. The aim is to set up a Youth Council in the near term.



Finland

HELSINKI -MELLUNKYLÄ

Population: 583 000 inhabitants

10-14 October

Organisation Partners: local organisations in Mellunkylä

Events:

Day of Local Democracy

Open meeting and presentation of the events of the Week will be organised. An open discussion will take place.

13 October

Interviews of local people will be recorded during the ELDW in Helsinki, on how they feel about the state of local democracy in Helsinki.

Then will be published on the official website of the city.

More information on www.mellunkyla.fi

LIEVESTUORE Village

Population: 4 000 inhabitants

12 October

Partner Organisation: Laukaa municipality

Local services in the village: a meeting will be held, open to all citizens in the village, to collect information and concerns about the needs of social services to be delivered to the citizens.

Place: The house of citizens, Lievestuore

Date: 12 October 6-8 pm

**ANGERS** "12 Star city"

Population: 152 000 inhabitants

8 October - 6 November

Communication campaign: publication of posters and brochures on the highlights.

Inter-cultural entertainments on stage: including a 'food tasting area', an educational, civic and cultural exhibition about the five stages of the people's journey and foreign immigrants' life in Angers. The aim of the initiative is that, by mutual understanding, people may increase ownership of their own community life and destiny and recognise the contribution of immigrants to local life; the exhibition seeks to combat discrimination related to origin, gender, religion, etc.

Place: Angers, exhibition centre, during the Agora Association Forum

Date: 5-6 November

Forum "foreigners, immigrants: your rights and duties": the forum will have information stands (associations, institutions, communities) as its leading feature. A round table will be held on the issues of supporting networks through life (social solidarities, community associations, institutional aspects);

The exhibition "Foreigners, immigrants, full Angevin citizens" will be prepared, the first draft of the welcome booklet for foreigners will be distributed; the booklet has been drafted in co-operation with the Citizenship Council for Foreigners in Anjou and local agencies.

Place: City Hall

Date: October 8

Promoting foreigners' citizenship: different activities will be set up by the Council for foreign citizenship of Angers, in order to participate in and develop projects and actions contributing to the development of public policy, to enlighten diversity with the aim of fighting all forms of discrimination and improving citizenship and immigrants' integration.

European Event: in partnership with CAMC, the Council of Young Angevins and the Association for the promotion and integration in the Anjou Region, the municipality of Angers promotes a visit to the European Parliament and the Council of Europe in the framework of ELDW. For this visit, the city of Angers requests the co-operation of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities.

Place: Strasbourg

Date: March 2012

More on Angers ELDW: www.angers.fr/projets-et-politiques/democratie-participative/le-conseil-pour-la-citoyennete-des-etrangers-angevins/

STRASBOURG



"12 Star City"

Population: 280 000 inhabitants

6-15 October 2011

Approach to human Rights issues:

Strasbourg has been actively engaged for years in favour of human rights, as witness these actions in particular:

- 100 years of women's rights celebration, March 8, 2011 (round tables, debates, exhibitions, etc.)
- Support to the Sakharov Prize awarded by the European Parliament to honour individuals who strive to defend human rights and fundamental freedoms,
- Organisation of the 'Strasbourg dialogues' on civic commitment (with Stephane Hessel in February 2011) and the European Convention on Human Rights (with Robert Badinter in March 2011)
- Initiatives to support the Council of Europe and the Congress for the integration of Roma people (participation in the training of Roma mediators 'Roma programme', support for the Summit of Mayors in September 2011).
- Implementation of the campaign "Black, white or green don't matter to me" by the Strasbourg Youth Council, sponsored by Lilian Thuram to fight racial discrimination;
- Creation of a DVD, "Know the law - know your rights", educational tool for raising young people's awareness about the law and improve understanding of their rights, by the Justice Action Committee of the Youth Council.

Communication campaign: A poster campaign will be organised in order to allow citizens to raise awareness of local democracy, brochures and flyers will be distributed in public places, a press conference will announce the Week's activities, and articles will be published in the major newspapers in the region.

The website of the city of Strasbourg will give information on various activities to be organised. An "**ELDW bus**", in the colours of the campaign, will visit various districts in the 10 days that Strasbourg will devote to European Local Democracy Week.

Activities: a **Round Table** on the theme "30 years of freedom of association for foreign residents" will be organised by the Council of Foreign Residents of the city of Strasbourg

Date: 12 October

Democracy Routes: when the bus passes through the different districts of the City, workshops and various citizens' involvement activities will be held to make residents more familiar with the methods of public consultation. They will be involved in sharing opinions on neighbourhood projects. An exhibition will also be presented to residents to inform them of local democracy tools provided by Strasbourg's local government to get people involved in different issues regarding their interests, such as equal opportunities, youth, citizenship and urban infrastructures.

Dates: 6-15 October

European event: During ELDW and in co-operation with the French Embassy, Robert Herrmann, first Deputy Mayor in charge of citizen participation, will travel to Perm, a city of the

Russian Federation. On this occasion, the city of Strasbourg will bring to the local Russian community its expertise and recommendations on participatory democracy. The city of Strasbourg, in fact, was asked to evaluate a system of local democracy tools in Perm. During the exchange visit, the two communities will also address the topic of the role of local authorities in the construction and development of a democratic Europe.

AIX-EN-PROVENCE

Population: 147 000 inhabitants

Partner Institutions: Maison de l'Europe de Paris

Activities:

Awareness-raising activity: open days of the neighbourhood councils

Political debate: "What the Council of Europe suggests to the local authorities"

Date: October (to be decided)

Place: City Hall

DIJON

Population: 155 460 inhabitants

13 October

Participatory democracy activity: reconstitution of the neighbourhood committees.

The neighbourhood committees are local assemblies consisting of three colleges: city residents drawn, local elected officials, and qualified persons appointed by the Mayor. When this process is renewed in the autumn of 2011, all Dijon citizens will participate by responding to a call for candidatures previously issued.

The draw, held on October 13 as part of European Local Democracy Week, will determine the candidates who will be part of the nine district commissions for the term 2011-2014. Through these participatory bodies, the 270 newly drawn Dijon citizens can share new ideas and propose projects in the framework of participatory budgeting. People who not drawn may nevertheless attend the neighbourhood committee meetings, open to the public.

Place: State Room, Palace of the Dukes of Burgundy

Date: October 13

FACHES THUMESNIL

Population: 17 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities:

Human Rights Week at the Marguerite Yourcenar Library: as part of European Local Democracy Week, neighbourhood councils of the city, the Youth Forum and elected officials decided to organise a week on Human Rights at the Marguerite Yourcenar Library. Dedicated areas will be established (books, DVDs, music ...), exhibitions will be presented (an exhibition created by the Youth Forum on the Rights of the Child, and an exhibition of Amnesty International).

Public debate will be held between the neighbourhood councillors, the Youth Forum and the citizens of Faches Thumesnil who wish to discuss human rights at the local level. Following the meeting, the Youth Forum will design a mural to be carried out in the coming weeks.

Place: Marguerite Yourcenar Library

Date: 10 October

LE MAS

Population: 167 inhabitants

15 October

Approach: Located in the Alpes-Maritimes (Provence-Alpes-Cote d'Azur), the small town of Le Mas wishes to support European Local Democracy Week.

Activities:

Conference entitled "My rights are yours". The conference will provide an opportunity for the presentation of a work of the Mayor Fabrice Lachenmaier on Human Rights. Free distribution of this work is foreseen at the close of the conference. The book's publication was supported by the European Commission and the publisher was the European Federation of Schools (supported by the Council of Europe).

A film projection on human rights issues: the association "New Ideas Europe" will show a short film on the Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union, with distribution to the public of a DVD produced in partnership with the EC.

Date: 15 October

Place: City Hall

METZ

Population: 123 700 inhabitants

1 October – 30 November

Activities in the field of human rights

Public lecture chaired by Vincent Rebérioux, Deputy Secretary General of the League of Human Rights on the theme of the voting rights of foreigners.

Place: Metz

Date: 10 October

Debate with children: the Children's City Council discusses the voting rights of foreigners, on the basis of their experiences and personal feelings.

Place: European Institute of Sustainability, Metz

Date: 12 October

Citizen participation activities

"You have your say": as part of its campaign to renew its neighbourhood committees and to promote the participation of its citizens, the city of Metz organises activities like 'street theatre' performances.

Place: all 11 districts of the city

Date: 1 October to 30 November



Georgia

AMBROLAURI Municipality

Population: 14 500 inhabitants

13 October 2011

Partner institutions: National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia

Media coverage: Local press, www.nala.ge

Activities: Photo exhibitions: The world through the eyes of disabled children

BOLNISI Municipality

Population: 78 000 inhabitants

12 October 2011

Partner institutions: National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia, local NGOs

Media coverage: Local press; www.nala.ge

Activities:

Intercultural festival "Youth for local development". A joint folk concert organised with the participation of Armenian and Georgian youth (from Tashiri);

Photo exhibition "Youth without borders"

Place: Youth centre

OZURGETI Municipality

Population: 80 000 inhabitants

14 October 2011

Partners: Governor of Guria Region, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia

Media: Guria Region TVs

Activity: Chess tournament at schools for disabled children

Place: Ozurgeti Chess School

RUSTAVI City government

Population: 140 000 inhabitants

15 October 2011

Partner institutions: Rustavi City government, Rustavi Municipal Council, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia

Media coverage: Local TV, www.nala.ge

Activities: The Mayor and Head of Municipal Council of Rustavi will visit the Centre for Disabled children. They will distribute presents for children.

Event venue: Centre for disabled children

TBILISI City Council

Population: 1 081 000 inhabitants

10 October 2011

Partner institutions: public and fine arts schools, National Association of Local Authorities of Georgia, child centres

Media coverage: Local TVs, www.tbilisi.gov.ge

Cultural activities: Exhibition of schoolchildren's paintings; open lessons dedicated to children's rights; children's concert.

Place: Public park



Germany

NUTHETAL Municipality

Population: 8 637 inhabitants

4 October – 29 November

Activities: Public debate "**Nuthe talk**" on the issue of "The impact of demographic changes on municipal budgets," Guest: Manfred Stolpe, former Prime Minister of Brandenburg, Moderator: Ute Hustig, Mayor of Nuthetal Municipality.

Where: Multigenerational Centre, Bridlington 46, Nuthetal

Date: 17 October

Targets: all citizens

Activities on human rights issues:

Interviews with video recordings on people's reaction to the theme "Human rights at the local level".

The interviews are conducted with the residents of Nuthetal by the young people of "The Bridge" Association for youth recreational and social work.

Date: from 4 October to 14 October

Targets: all citizens

Workshop "Understanding human rights at the local level": discussion on the results of the interviews on the same subjects published in the Nuthetal Municipal Bulletin. During the workshop, child care is provided by the representatives from the Youth Parliament.

Where: Multigenerational Centre

Date: 29 October from 10 am to 1 pm

Targets: all citizens

STUTTGART

Population: 600 000 inhabitants

10-25 October

Activities: Celebration of the 50th anniversary of the German-Turkish Labour Force Agreement

In 2001 the City of Stuttgart adopted an integration policy concept in the form of a 'Pact for integration' with the private sector and civil society, both migrants and Germans. The aim is to promote the social, cultural and political integration and participation of Stuttgart's migrant population in every facet of daily life.

The 50th anniversary of the German-Turkish Labour Force Agreement celebrates the contribution of the Turkish migrant group, currently the biggest group, to the city's society, economy, culture, sports and in various areas. On this occasion the Mayor Dr. Schuster has published a book with 50 success stories of Turkish migrants living in Germany telling about their experiences, successes as well as challenges and problems they faced in everyday life.



Greece

CHANIA



"12 Star City"

Population: 108 310 inhabitants

31 October -6 November

Partner Organisations: Chania Municipality will co-operate with various Non-Governmental Organisations or Foundations, such as the General Secretariat for Gender Equality of the Greek Interior Ministry, Human Rights Defence Centre, Association for the Social Support of Youth, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the Greek Ombudsman (Independent Authority), Amnesty International, Marangopoulos Foundation for Human Rights, Independent Non-Governmental Organisation P.R.A.K.S.I.S, Non-Governmental Organisation KLIMAKA for the Development of Social and Human Potential, Fair Trade Hellas, Non-Profit Enterprise ACT.

Communication campaign: Chania Municipality will promote ELDW in its network and on its website. The latter will show the programme of Democracy Week and the news about it. Information about the existing possibilities to take part in the decision-making process and to get people involved will be circulated through special activities during European Local Democracy Week.

Activities:

Full respect for human rights is an integral part of local democracy and plays a significant role in the Municipality of Chania as well. During ELDW, the Municipality will open a **public chat** on the official website for all citizens to chat with the local politicians.

An **Information Centre** will be organised in order to allow citizens to raise awareness concerning local democracy. Brochures, flyers and publications about human rights will be distributed in public places. Furthermore, videos about "Human Rights at the Local Level" will be broadcast.

Conference on "Human Rights and Local Policies" will be organised. Rights to health, culture, environment, and citizenship will be discussed with citizens.

"Every child is special" (Taare Zameen Par): produced & directed by Aamir Khan, India, 2007, the movie on human rights will be screened at a public venue.

An article competition for students about human rights will be organised. The best article will receive an award from the Mayor of Municipality of Chania and will be published in local newspapers.

Local politicians in local schools: Council of Europe ELDW focuses on young people and local democracy, helping them to understand what the local council does, how it affects their lives and how they can make a difference to the decisions that are being made. Local politicians will visit local schools and discuss with students.

Open Panel Discussion about European strategy and policies, local society and citizens: different experts, local politicians and European Parliament members will be invited to debate the topic. Their conclusions will be presented at a public meeting. Other municipalities from the Union of Municipalities of Crete will be invited. The discussion will be placed on line on the website of the Municipality and on local media.

Chess tournament: a chess tournament will be organised during the week for citizens of all ages.

European event: More details of our activities will be announced on the website www.chania.gr

Date: ELDW in Chania will take place from 31 October to 6 November, taking into account the Anniversary of the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms, which is celebrated on 4 November.

FESTOS  **"12 Star City"**

Population: 24 228 inhabitants
19 September – 14 October

Communication campaign:

The Festos Municipality will allocate a specific budget for the ELDW activities. This budget will also be financed by other bodies, such as local public service providers and sponsors. The Municipality of Festos will run an ELDW promotion campaign with posters, promotion of activities at schools using the ELDW visual identity decided upon and provided by the Council

of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. A full report will be posted on the official website of Festos Municipality (www.dimosfestou.gr) with the logo E.L.D.W. and reports on human rights (in Greek and English). Links will be also be posted to other organisations, NGOs and institutions dealing with human rights.

Activities:

Students' essay on human rights: an essay competition in secondary schools will be set up, focused on human rights. The best essays will be published in local newspapers and the winners will receive a special award in a separate event.

Date: 19–30 September

Environmental Rights: during the Week, lectures will be held in schools with the participation of environmental groups and agencies. The purpose of the action is to protect the environment and raise public awareness, particularly among young people, on issues affecting citizens' quality of life and environment. An interactive game will highlight the major problems confronting our planet and our society, and realistic ways of reducing the impact will be suggested. A powerful message will be sent out, able to capture the interest of young people and raise awareness.

Place: Moires, Tymbaki, Zaros

Date: 10 and 14 October

Culture Festival: inter-cultural initiatives involving citizens will be organised in different neighbourhoods where people from different regions and countries will present their traditional cookery, music and dances, thereby improving social cohesion in neighbourhoods and communities where many immigrants live. It will be a journey into flavours and music of the world.

Place: Sivas

Date: 10 October

The Rights of children with dyslexia and learning difficulties: An open discussion with experts on the rights of children, focusing in particular the situation which affects children with dyslexia and learning difficulties. All citizens have not only obligations but also rights, which should be guaranteed. A common goal should be attained: to protect and promote the rights of all children, regardless of their situation and whatever their identity. Every child has the right to participate in the social life of groups which is integrated to the fullest possible extent, taking responsibility and participating in decision making.

Place: Moires

Date: 5 October

European Event: An event entitled "Human Rights in the 21st Century" will be organised, with the participation of the Mayor of Festos as the main speaker. Among others, Members of European Parliament and a member of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities will be invited to attend the meeting.

An open discussion on human rights will be held, with particular emphasis on respect for people with disabilities and on non-discrimination and prejudices based on religion, language, cultural origin or sexual orientation.

Place: Moires

Date: 15 October 2011

ANATOLIKI MANI

Population: 17 156 inhabitants

1-16 October

Communication campaign: articles in local media and newspapers. The website of the Municipality will host the programme and ELDW news in Anatoliki Mani. The schools will be asked to submit letters of intent to take part in ELDW.

Dates: 1-8 October

Activities on human rights:

Youth photo exhibition on the theme **“My life: my community”**. Photos will highlight their direct experience of human rights issues. The young photographers are obliged to comment on their photos and share their experiences.

Other activities:

A survey will be made by the Municipality in order to highlight the degree of **citizen satisfaction with public services**. The survey will be published and the data will be discussed during ELDW.

Dates: 1-16 October

Short stories: “In the shoes of your elected representative”. Students aged over 16 will write short stories on a broad subject such as public life and public responsibility.

Dates: 1-16 October

KARPENISSI

Population: 18 000 inhabitants

10-13 October

Events on human rights

Essay contest “Human Rights-Children’ Rights”: the Municipality of Karpenissi organises a competition for primary school pupils from. A prize will be awarded for the best essay.

Place: Primary schools of Karpenissi

Date: 10 October

Press and Youth for Human Rights: The local newspapers will present youth and student opinion regarding human rights. Young people will have the opportunity to write and publish their concerns over human rights issues.

Date: 12 October

Awareness-raising initiatives on local democracy

Youth Council: High school students will simulate a city council session, organising a meeting where they can discuss problems that they face in their city and make suggestions for solving them. Actually, the municipality of Karpenissi is willing to create a Youth Council with the aim of educating participants about current issues, topics and priorities on the local authorities’ agenda.

Place: City Council Room

Date: 14 October

“Give us the answer”: in co-operation with the local radio station, the Municipality invites the high school students of Karpenissi to replace the journalists and interview the Mayor.

Place: Radio Karpenissi Studio

Date: 13 October 2011



MOLA DI BARI



“12 Star City”

Population: 26 000 inhabitants

10-15 October

Communication campaign: a press conference will be held on October 7 at the Municipal House to present the initiative. Leaflets and brochures and material from the Council of Europe will be distributed. [Poster](#)

Place: Mola di Bari

Date: 7 October

Activities:

Experience Active Democracy! In the framework of the Week, different initiatives will be organised, involving different target groups, in particular schools and youth. They include:

- **Info point on the civil mediator** in four different areas of the city. This activity will be carried out in collaboration with NGOs from the area.
- **Awareness-raising activities** will illustrate European Local Democracy Week and human rights issues, as well as providing information on the health and social services available in the area.
- **Short articles**, and drawing contest on human rights for the students of primary and secondary schools.
- **Pedibus “Special convoy-Human Rights”:** 100 primary school children will walk in the streets of the city, raising awareness through short interviews and distributing a leaflet, specifically created, on the issue of citizen’s human rights.

Place: the streets of Mola di Bari

Date: 10-13 October

European event: pan-European event in co-operation with the Albanian Human Rights Centre and conferring the title of **“Human Rights Activist”** on the students who participated in European Local Democracy Week. Public debate on experiences for the protection of human rights. Presentation of awards to volunteers from Mola di Bari.

Place: Castello Angioino

Date: 15 October

CASSANO DELLE MURGE

Population: 15 000 inhabitants

22 October

Activity:

A public meeting, open to the whole of the townsfolk and institutional bodies in the area (schools, associations, representatives of different stakeholders, NGOs, etc..) will be held with the aim of raising awareness and actively involving people in community matters of interest to them. Mainstream financial and social problems will also be addressed during the meeting.

Place: Municipal Council

Date: 22 October

CATANZARO Province

Population: 93 000 inhabitants

10-11 October

Partner Organisations: Calabria Region, AICCRE

Activity: Conference on "Italy, Mediterranean, Europe: the future of local governments and their citizens in the new millennium"

10 October: Taverna (Catanzaro)

Workshop: Twin cities in Europe, citizen participation. An exchange of views on the use of the EU co-operation programs will be held.

11 October: Taverna (Catanzaro)

POLLA (SA)

Population: 5 300 inhabitants

22 October

Activity:

E-governance tools: in the framework of European Local Democracy Week, Mayor Massimo Loviso and the Councillor for Culture, Gennaro Gonnelli, presented a new project enabling people to know more about their local authorities and local life. The purpose of the project is to strengthen and promote democratic participation at local level by means of e-governance tools. The technical report was made by the IT manager Nicholas Lorusso.

Place: Auditorium Santa Chiara

Date: 10 October

ROVERETO (Trento)

Population: 33 000 inhabitants

17 September – 16 October 2011

Organisation: Peace Bell Foundation -"Opera Campana dei caduti Maria Dolens"

Cultural activities: Art exhibition and debates on human rights .

The initiative will highlight different ways to express the concept of Human Rights, with artworks by artists from all over the world.
The aim is to raise awareness at local level amongst those who, enjoying their own rights, don't care about those whose rights are violated every day.

VENICE Municipality

Population: 300 000 inhabitants

15-17 October

Partner Organisations: Association of Local Democracy Agencies (LDA); a network of Local Democracy Agencies and experts from Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Malta, Poland and Romania.

Activities:

Workshop on "Mobility and Volunteering in town twinning: How to create a human resources exchange methodology for Local Democracy Agencies and Civil Society Organisations (CSO)"

The event – held in the framework of European Local Democracy Week - aims at strengthening CSO involvement in the co-operation scheme with local authorities and local democracy agencies. More generally, the workshop aims to boost public-private partnership in view of a better interaction with different countries and territories, so as to promote European co-operation and identity. Around 80 people, 20 locals and 60 from other partner cities, will take part in the workshop.

Place: Venice

Date: 15-17 October

Meeting on the policy making process: the event concentrates on creating tighter links between twinned towns through activities that promote active citizenship at local level and related international events between the partners and other European players. The event in Venice will give all partners the opportunity to discuss the project, get to know each other better, learn about ways to intensify, widen and improve their twinning relations and how to create new partnerships. The event will gather together representatives of local authorities and NGOs from Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, France, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Macedonia, Malta, Poland and Romania.

Date: 15-17 October

Venue: Venice

VERONA

Population: 275 000 inhabitants

22 October

Activities:

Public meeting: the municipal Council will organise a public conference focusing on different issues related to protection of human rights at local level. They will illustrate different services provided in Verona, such as:

- “municipal civic ombudsman”: hearing and defending vulnerable groups facing delays, misunderstandings, or failures of local civil servants;
- “defender of rights and personal freedoms”: access to social life, job opportunities, etc;
- transparency and accountability of the Council and of local elected officials, inter alia through the use of innovation and technologies;
- experiences of good practices in social policies.

Place: Verona City Hall

Date: 22 October



Moldova

State Chancellery of the Republic of MOLDOVA

Communication campaign: a wide-ranging campaign will be set up with the aim of extensively promoting European Local Democracy Week among local authorities and the public. The campaign includes:

- Articles in local and national newspapers and magazines
- Press conferences with the participation of local government representatives
- Broadcasting TV programs on national television
- Distributing promotional material
- Uploading information material on the official web site of the State Chancellery

www.descentralizare.gov.md

CHISINAU

Population: 700 000 inhabitants

13 October

Activities: a national Conference will be held on the topic: “The role of local government in securing human rights and gender equality at the local level”.

The conference will be attended by **Victor Bodiu**, General Secretary of the Government, **Ingrid Tersman**, Ambassador of Sweden in Moldova, **Ulvi Akhundlu**, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Moldova, **Kaarina Immonen**, UN Resident Co-ordinator in Moldova, **Viorel Furdui**, CALM representative, **Victoria Cujba**, Department of decentralisation policies of the State Chancellery, **Anastasia Divinskaya**, International Gender Specialist, UNDP / UN Women. Among the participants were several representatives of local authorities including **Iurie Toma**, Chairman of Ungheni District Council, **Eugen Buraga**, Mayor of Leova, **Nina Costiuc**, Mayor of Budesti, **Grigore Policinski**, President of Dubasari district based in Cosnita, **Efimia Bandalac**, President of Briceni district and other representatives of civil society.

Place: Chisinau

Date: 13 October

Celebratory initiatives: during the National Conference, there will be the official launch of a postal envelope bearing fixed postmark with the leading theme of ELDW 2011, “Human rights at local level”.

Other “partnership initiatives” will be organised as follow:

Ghindești / Florești - FALCĂ Gheorghe - Mayor
Sărata Veche / Fălești - GALIȚ Maria - Mayor
Coșnița / Dubăsari - POLCINSCHII Grigore - District President
Ciorescu / Chisinau - SCRIPNIC Ion - Mayor
Budești / Chișinău - COSTIUC Nina - Mayor
Malcoci / Ialoveni - ERMURACHI Zinaida - Mayor
Sărata Galbenă / Hânțești - VLAS Ștefan - Mayor
Calfa / Anenii Noi – CEAGLIC Ludmila – Mayor
Selemet / Cimișlia - BADAN Tatiana - Mayor
Crihana Veche și Manta / Cahul - CUCEREANU Rodica and NEAGU Ion – Mayors.

In all these communities, ELDW posters, leaflets and other visibility materials were provided by the State Chancellery of Moldova.

Activities in these partner municipalities include:

- Installation of a “suggestion box” for community welfare “Suggest! Ask the mayor or councillor” at the City Halls.
- Round tables and discussion club meetings where the ideas drawn from the box were also discussed - the proposals and questions extracted from the “suggestion boxes” have been discussed. In most cases, mayors expressed their interest in examining them during the local council meetings (see Annex 2 – List of proposals from “suggestion boxes”). It should be mentioned that the idea of Discussion Clubs was welcomed both by local public administration, students and civil society and will hopefully continue to be carried out in communities.
- Organisation of an essay contest on two topics: “If I were mayor ...”, “If my colleague were mayor ...”. Prizes will be awarded to the best contestants.

DUBASARI District and its 11 communities

Dubăsari district conducted activities in all its communities: Cocieri, Corjova, Coșnița, Doroțcaia, Holercani, Marcăuți, Molovata, Molovata Nouă, Oxentea, Pîrîta, Ustia

Activities included:

Lessons on “Local Democracy” by the District President of Dubăsari visiting all high schools of the district.

Open Days were organised in all communities

LEOVA

Activities:

Population: 14 000 inhabitants

Educational lessons in schools – “My rights”, “Youth participation in public life”

Book exhibition and poster contest – “Me and the Law”, “Citizens involved in community problem solving”

Round tables and public debates

Meetings with children and youth "Youth involvement in respecting children's rights"
Meetings with elderly and disabled groups
Meetings with children on "Children's rights", "Good behaviour in school and society"

Place: different schools in Leova

Activities:

Exhibition on "Human rights in modern society"
Distribution of leaflets
Discussion club on "My rights – what should I do with them?"
Information board – "Humans between rights and values"
Leova Centre for Youth Information and Documentation:
Book exhibition on "Your right: access to information"
Round table "Ensuring my future through human rights"

Place: Leova Library

REZINA District and its 25 Communities

Rezina organised ELDW activities in all its communities: Rezina, Bușăuca, Cinișeuți, Cogîlniceni, Cuizăuca, Echimăuți, Ghiduleni, Gordinești, Horodiște, Ignăței, Lalova, Lipceni, Mateuți, Meșeni, Mincenii de Jos, Otac, Păpăuți, Pecîște, Pereni, Pripiceni-Răzeși, Saharna Nouă, Sîrcova, Solonceni, Trifești, Țareuca

Activities included:

Question-and-answer contest on ELDW topics in schools with prize-giving;
Open Days – local citizens visited the City Halls and spoke with the local elected officials;
Public debates on "My rights in community life".

UNGHENI district and its 33 communities

Ungheni district – ELDW events have been organised in all its communities: Ungheni, Cornești, Agronomovca, Alexeevca, Boghenii Noi, Buciumeni, Bumbăta, Bușila, Cetireni, Chirileni, Cioropcani, Condrătești, Cornești, Cornova, Costuleni, Florițoaia Veche, Hîrcești, Măcărești, Măgurele, Mănoilești, Morenii Noi, Năpădeni, Negurenii Vechi, Petrești, Pîrlița, Rădenii Vechi, Sculeni, Sinești, Teșcurenii, Todirești, Unțești, Valea Mare, Zagarancea

Activities included:

Open Days;
Opinion survey concerning the satisfaction of the citizens on local government activity and proposals to improve the public services;
Information campaign "Equal access to public services" – special section in media
production of the Consultative Council for Local Development;
Round table "Civic participation – security of local democracy";
Meetings of the local and district council with youth participation;
Meetings of Mayors with citizens;
"Mayor and District President for one day" activity – youngsters acted as mayor or district president for one day;
Small grants programme for youth;

Grant competition for youth initiatives;
Essay contest "Let us know our rights";
Book exhibition "Human Rights in Moldova";
Promotional leaflets on delivery of public services and citizen involvement in community life have been distributed;
Informative lessons have been given in schools on "Citizen participation in the decision-making process" and "Democracy at local level".



Montenegro

KOTOR

Population : 23.000 inhabitants

12-13 September

Partner organisation: Union of Municipalities of Montenegro, NGO Eco Center Dolphin.
Kotor municipality organises the ELDW with the title of 'Human rights-potentials and possibilities'

A **round table** on 'Nations, religions, cultures: Kotor throughout history' will take place during the first day. The aim is to promote Kotor as a multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-confessional environment, its coexistence and tolerance between representatives of different groups. The discussion will be opened by the Mayor. After realisation of the event the conclusions will be summarised and diffused.

Place: Municipal Parliament

Date: 12 September 2011

A **round table** on 'The potential of a strong cooperation between local government and NGO sector will take place in the second day of ELDW: its opportunities and needs'.

The aim is to improve the cooperation through collecting the proposals and suggestions of NGOs in areas where Kotor local community needs for development.

Place: Municipal Parliament

Date: 13 September 2011

Exhibition of children's works on 'Differences bring us together'. The competition is organised for primary school students from 11-14. They are expected to show, through their works, their vision of Kotor as a community of different religions, nationalities and cultures. The Municipality shall give symbolic rewards (books and artistic material) to the schools taking part in the competition. The exhibition will be opened by the representative of the round table 1 or local official who will address them to the given topic.

Place: Town Gallery

Date: 12 September 2011

Thematic radio show on the topics of two round tables at local radio station:

After each round table it will be organized a 30 minute coverage -interview with a participant of the round table or a local official about the given topic at local radio station.

Place: 'Skala' radio studio

Date: 12 and 13 September 2011



The Netherlands

UTRECHT



"12 Star City"

Population: 312 634 inhabitants

10-14 October

Communication campaign and approach:

Utrecht ran an ELDW promotion campaign with posters and digital buttons using the ELDW visual identity decided upon and provided by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. Full respect for human rights is an integral part of local democracy and plays a significant role in Utrecht as well. Utrecht is promoting ELDW in its network and on its website, www.utrecht.nl/mensenrechten and weblog www.humanrightsutrecht.blogspot.com

Human rights activities:

Through the ELDW, Utrecht aims to **raise citizens' awareness of the local dimensions of human rights**. A number of organisations in Utrecht are dealing with human rights issues. They (some 300 organisations) are invited to organise activities on a wide range of themes, among them: enhancing the position of vulnerable groups (eg immigrants, minorities, disabled, elderly and homeless people), boosting social corporate responsibility and combating sexual exploitation. The range of activities is likewise broad (cultural activity such as theatre, movie, exhibition), debate or an open house. Youth involvement and youth organisations are also encouraged.

The five most innovative initiatives will be granted a prize of 1000 euro at the ELDW closing event on Friday 14 of October. All the participating organisations will be invited to take part in this event. There will be a theatre debate about justice with a guest role for the mayor of Utrecht, Aleid Wolfsen, as the judge (see <http://www.huisaandewerf.nl/detail.php?id=75>).

A panel discussion about **human trafficking** and prostitution: Different experts will be invited to debate this topic, and their conclusions will be presented at a public meeting and a film projection in the evening (to be confirmed).

A film projection about human trafficking and prostitution will take place at a public venue. The film will be introduced and closed by experts from the panel discussion (to be confirmed).

"Inspiration meeting: working with human rights at the local level": a joint meeting on human rights at local level: Amnesty International, the Association of Netherlands Municipalities and the city of Utrecht will organise a meeting for other municipalities and key players to raise awareness about the importance of the protection of human rights at local level.

Place: City Hall

Date: 10 October

European event:

Utrecht will host a **European meeting of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency** (FRA) in the framework of the EU "Joined Up Governance Project". This project seeks to explore and develop methods for enhancing fundamental rights implementation across various government levels. The project aims to support collaboration between national, regional and local governments in addressing complex fundamental rights challenges in an integrated way. At this meeting, the results of the project and future plans will be extensively discussed.

Further information:

www.utrecht.nl/mensenrechten

www.humanrightsutrecht.blogspot.com

ALMELO Municipality

Population: 73 000 inhabitants

13 October

Communication campaign: The municipality of Almelo will organise public debates on Socialmedia (Twitter) with local politicians and other participants talking to all citizens on issues of local interest.

Date: 13 October

Political Market: Public debate with politicians and citizens will gather together people to meet their local councillors and officers.

Place: Inner city of Almelo

Date: 13 October

More information on www.almelo.nl

DIEMEN

Population: 25 000 inhabitants

October 2011-March 2012

Partner Organisation: Macadam organisation in Diemen

Children in hospitals become human rights advisors

The municipality of Diemen is supporting and co-implementing an e-learning project which aims to give long-term convalescent children an advisory role with their Mayors all over Europe. The project is an initiative of the Macadam MixTalent Web-Workshop, a local organisation providing on-line-education programmes for children in hospital schools or housebound for medical reasons.

Macadam organisation networks with many other on-line education associations in other European countries who are implementing the same project. Children and young people from several countries have enlisted to become advisors to their local mayor on human and children's rights.

The objectives of the project are: to render children in hospital more confident in their own dignity and rights, to build bridges between those children and the local communities, to mobilise local authorities towards children rights.

Activities:

Addressing the theme 'learning together, playing together', students make drawings for their mayor or write an essay about safeguarding children and human rights.

Launch of the international project by Amy Koopmanschap, Mayor of Diemen, presenting it at a conference organised by the Association of Netherlands Municipalities (VNG), in co-operation with Amnesty International in the context of Utrecht ELDW.

Place: Utrecht

Date: 10 October

The international dimension of the project: dozens of web teachers all over Europe and beyond will spread the initiative among their students. By now the project is also undergoing development in Poland, Turkey, Greece and Belgium. Furthermore, USA, Israel and Ghana are participating. In 2012 the drawings and advice which will be received by the Mayors will be presented at a conference held by the Macadam organisation and the municipality of Diemen.

Place: Diemen

Date: February and further

Link to the project:

http://www.macadam.nl/mxEurope_week_2011/Europaboek/MixTalent_Europa1_eBk.pdf



Poland

KATOWICE



"12 Star City"

Population: 307 000 inhabitants

10-15 October

Communication campaign: information about ELDW activities will be available on the websites of Katowice and of the co-operating institutions and organisations; in the local newspaper "Nasze Katowice" ("Our Katowice"); on Radio "Katowice"; in the Tourist Information Centre, cultural centres and branches of the Municipal Public Library (posters, leaflets, brochures, agenda of events, etc.). The information will also be displayed on a large outdoor screen of the "Spodek" Arena in Katowice.

All the ELDW events will be financed from the budgets of Katowice City (various municipal institutions) and its partners (non-governmental organisations).

Activities on participatory processes:

Workshops on the SEKAP System and classes for senior citizens on the "Computer ABC": free computer classes and workshops will be organised in order to acquaint citizens with the use of SEKAP - Electronic Communication System of Public Administration which **facilitates residents' communication via the Internet**. They will be run by the employees of Katowice

City Hall and Silesian Information Society Centre. The aim of the initiative is to promote easy access to e-administration and prevent the information divide (e-exclusion) of senior citizens.

Place: Municipal Public Library

Date: 10-15 October

Human rights activities:

Different departments of the Municipality dealing with human rights on a daily basis will organise ELDW activities such as: **chat with the Mayor** of Katowice City (11 October), **extra advisory service** for residents provided by the Municipal Consumer Advocate (13 October), **free legal advice** / civic information (11-12 October) and extra opening hours of the **Local Ombudsman Attorney Office** (13 October).

Educational meetings with experts, lectures, debates, discussions, arts contests, knowledge competitions, workshops, games, exhibitions, multimedia presentations, computer classes and study tours will be devoted to spreading the ideas of local democracy and civil society. Various institutions, schools, the Municipal Public Library, cultural centres and organisations will combine their efforts to organise the events.

Dates: 10-16 October

European Event: "Child Safety in Emergency", International Conference and Workshops on the Case Study of Floriansdorf in North Rhine-Westphalia. The event will be organised in co-operation with partners from Germany including the twin city of Cologne. The event will be focused on sharing experiences on topics dedicated to a broad interpretation of children's safety as well as promoting the ideas of friendship and good neighbourhood.

Place: Grammar School

Dates: 12-15 October

PODKOWA LESNA

Population: 3 800 inhabitants

10-30 October

Partner Organisations: Towarzystwo Przejaciol Miasta Ogrodu Podkowy Lesnej

Activities:

Youth Council elections

Dates: 10-15 October

Lecture at the senior citizens' university on "citizens' rights in the local community", with the aim of raising awareness about respect for human rights.

Date: 12 October

Essay contest for students (children and youth) on human rights

Dates: 10-30 October



Portugal

AMADORA



"12 Star City"

Population: 175 872 inhabitants

19 September – 6 November

Communication campaign: Amadora City Council will use different communication tools for ELDW: a dedicated website to publicise all the activities we have planned; the ELDW poster and leaflet will be translated into Portuguese and distributed through different public services during the ELDW activities. In addition, a press release will be sent to the local and national media as well as appearing in a municipal bulletin.

"The rights of elderly people": in the framework of the Month of the Elderly, to be held in October, Amadora will carry out a number of activities aiming to raise all citizens' awareness regarding elderly people; to promote social interaction among the elderly; to foster the exchange of information between institutions and associations; to promote a set of actions stimulating their creativity: the increase of life expectancy in recent decades is a new challenge in terms of economic and social problems, with poverty increasing and age discrimination for elderly people, including:

- Party in a local association (3 October)
- Cultural visit to Costume and Theatre Museum (11 to 14 October)
- Walk for health and well-being for the whole family (15 October)
- "Vamos à Revista Bué da Tesos (21 to 28 October)
- "Fado: Património de Um Povo" (show on 24 and 25 October)
- Public presentation of the Strategic Guidelines of Amadora Gerontological Plan and launching of Amadora Guide for Elderly People (28 October)

Participative Budget: the link between human rights and democracy is expressed in Article 21 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. To promote development of human rights, strengthening of democratic ideals and its citizens' aspirations, Amadora City Council gives them an active voice, ensuring their participation in decision-making on local public policies. During the month of October, open meetings will be organised in order to give the residents the opportunity to present their projects eligible for funding under next year's municipal budget. At the end of the process, the best will be selected according to criteria of relevance and contribution to strengthening of social and territorial cohesion.

Places: Damaia, Falagueira, Mina, Reboleira, São Brás, Venda Nova and Venteira Parish Councils of Amadora

Dates: 11 -27 October - 27 October

Public Ceremony of the 14th "Orlando Gonçalves Literary Award"

Freedom of thought, opinion and expression as well as the participation in community cultural life enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. These rights are of prime importance in any democratic society.

Since 1998, Amadora City Council established the Orlando Gonçalves Literary Prize, in tribute to this writer and journalist who spent his life defending freedom, democracy and human rights. The award seeks to encourage literary output, in order to contribute to the defence and enrichment of Portuguese culture. In this 2011 presentation, written works of fiction will be rewarded during a public ceremony to be held as follows.

Place: Auditorium of "Fernando Piteira Santos" Library

Date: 13 October

"Snoopy helps Unicef" - Right to education: Exhibition as part of the Amadora Cartoon Festival. This exhibition is staged in conjunction with CPLG and Peanuts Worldwide in order to give visibility to the causes supported by UNICEF.

In its development co-operation policy, Amadora City Council has been striving for the promotion of early childhood education in developing countries, to achieve the Millennium development Goals set in the Millennium Declaration in 2000.

In this context and as part of the "22nd Amadora BD" (Amadora Cartoon Festival), the exhibition celebrating Snoopy's 60th anniversary entitled "Snoopy helps UNICEF " will be held. The aim is to support the programme "Schools for Africa - Transforming Lives through Education" which acts to ensure children's access to a proper education in 11 African countries in a joint effort between UNICEF, the Nelson Mandela Foundation and Hamburg Company.

Place: Forum Luis de Camões

Dates: 21 October - 6 November

Documentary Exhibition "Timor Lorosae"

Since 20 May 2002, East Timor has been an independent sovereign state, and one of the youngest countries in the world, enjoying the same rights and duties as any other independent nation. Portugal, the EU and the rest of the international community have praised the courage and exemplary determination of the Timorese in creating their free homeland and have played an important role in the defence and recognition of Timorese cause.

Through the documentary exhibition "Timor Lorosae", Amadora City Council intends to show the culture, traditions and history of this people, the memory of their fight for autonomy and the efforts they have made.

This exhibition also celebrates the dignity, freedom and democracy won by the people of East Timor.

Place: Library "Fernando Piteira Santos" – Pólo da Boba

Date: 19 September -18 October

"BIG EI – Libraries for gender equality – Equality School –Municipal Equality Olympics"

Equal opportunities constitute a principle enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the Constitution of the Portuguese Republic. The promotion of this right is a key axis for the development of a fairer, democratic and more human rights abiding society. The Municipality of Amadora has been carrying out a number of important activities in partnership with different stakeholders, based on active citizenship and a culture of equality.

In October, the Municipality is expected to sign a protocol with UMAR – União de Mulheres Alternativa e Resposta (NGO for women's rights) to establish a partnership under the project "BIG ~EI – Libraries for gender equality – School of Equality –Municipal Equality Olympics" to be carried out in 2012.

The project is targeted to students from private and public secondary schools as well as municipal libraries intending to make gender issues conspicuous through alternative artistic,

literary and cultural activities seeking to break down gender stereotypes; to involve schools and local authorities in the promotion of cultural and citizenship practices geared to gender equality, to foster active involvement of young people in refusing multiple discrimination and situations of violence and exclusion, and to develop inclusive forms of citizenship as well as inclusive language.

Place: public or private secondary schools and municipal libraries.

Date: the Protocol is expected to be signed in October 2011 – The project will be implemented in 2012.

European Event: The right to a healthy environment. "An informed citizen is a prepared citizen" is the slogan of Amadora 6th Conference celebrating "International Day for Natural Disaster Reduction". The conference will pay special attention to the problem of risk, disaster and community resilience, basic concepts of the campaign "World Disaster Reduction Campaign 2010-2011 which the Amadora Municipality joined in 2005. This campaign is a call to all local communities to face the problem of natural disasters and associated fatalism, and thus develop a set of good practices that enable them to resist, adapt and recover (resilience). Eminent representatives from science and operational and political speakers will certainly enrich the discussion and the exchange of views. Among others, Mr. Jorge Olcina, teacher in the Department of Regional Geographic Analysis and Physical Geography of Alicante University, Spain will attend the conference.

Place: Auditorium of Unidade de Apoio da Área Militar Amadora/Sintra.

Date: 12 October



Romania

BRAILA

Population: 212 500 inhabitants

13-14 October

Events:

Photo and painting exhibition: the activity has the aim of promoting human rights through photos and paintings made by students and children from nursery and primary schools.

Place: Monumental hall of Maria Filotti Theatre

Date: 13-14 October

"Social rights and access to public services": a meeting on this sensitive issue will be organised. Representatives from the Russian, Greek and Gipsy communities, elderly persons' associations, young people and students, local authorities, local councillors and Members of the European Parliament have been invited to take part.

Place: Conference room of Maria Filotti Theatre

Date: 14 October

DEVA

Population: 70 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Information campaign: Deva Municipality will devote a special place in the municipality website to launching ELDW 2011. A link to the Council of Europe website will also widen the information on local democracy issues.

Activities:

Art contest on human rights: the schools of Deva will participate in a competition that will end in an art exhibition. The main issue that the students are asked to address is human rights.

Place: Art School of Deva

Date: 10-16 October

Open debate on local projects for human rights: the Mayor and councillors will meet the citizens and discuss with them projects for the 2012 budget to enhance human rights in Deva.

Place: City Hall

Date: 12 October

IASI

Population: 320 888 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities:

"Equal rights for all": School prizes for essays, articles, paintings and art exhibitions concerning human rights. All schools are invited to participate

Place: Municipality District Centers

Date: 10-16 October 2011

Reading on "Human Rights": Exhibition of books on "Human Rights" in collaboration with "Gh. Asachi" County Library.

Place: Municipality District Centres

MEDIAS

Population: 55 153 inhabitants

12-13 October

Activities:

Promoting social rights and access to public transport services and support structures
The Meditur Local Company will distribute an info flyer on "Operation of ticketing system" and the second Eco Bike Tour will be organised; furthermore, radio and TV shows related to the theme "Operation of ticketing system" will be broadcast.

"Citizens rights to their legal quality services": public discussion where students will be invited to Medias's City Hall for a debate.

Place: Medias's City Hall

Date: 12 October

Citizens rights and access to facilities: "Ape Tarnave Mari" Company will inform and promote the actions related to the E.U. Programme so called "Expansion and rehabilitation of water and wastewater systems" in municipal areas of Medias, Agnita Dumbraveni, Sibiu County. Actions will take place at two local high schools.

Place: Media high schools

Date: 13 October

TURDA

Population: 58 000 inhabitants

14 -15 October

Partner Organisations: Societatea Culturala Filarmonia, Centrul de Tineret, Slow Food Turda, Scoala T. Murasanu, Casa de cultura

Children rights: teenagers and children will be the entrants in a drawing competition on children's rights. An exhibition of it will be held.

Place: City Hall

Date: 14 October

Traditional arts and crafts fair: monthly event aimed at encouraging traditional manufacturing activity in order to encourage the right of the citizen to healthy food and taste education, to promote local customs/local culture and disseminate information materials on ELDW 2011.

Place: city centre

Date: 15 October



Russian Federation

15 regions (out of 81), 86 municipalities, and one regional association of municipalities took part in ELDW 2011 by organising 499 events.

Information delivered by the national co-ordinator, Russian National Congress of Municipalities (www.RNCM.ru)

ORENBURG

Population: 564 200 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities

Communication campaign: preparing and printing booklets with reference to the theme of European Local Democracy Week 2011 "Human rights at local level". ELDW information

material (logos, posters, banners) will be used as awareness-raising material during European Local Democracy Week. A special section of the official website will display the logo, slogan and links to the ELDW website and human rights reference texts on the Council of Europe site;

Events focused on human rights

Radio program on "Human rights at local level", with the participation of the Head of the City of Orenburg;

"Interview with a Councillor" on the theme "Human Rights at local level" on radio station 'Echo of Moscow';

Briefing on the development of **local democracy tools** in Orenburg; "The City of Orenburg": people's involvement in public affairs;

"If your rights are infringed": meeting with a lawyer

Seminar on: "Human rights in the light of the decisions of the European Court of Human Rights"

Open Day on the theme 'Human rights at local level' in the public reception rooms of the Orenburg City Council

Place: libraries, City Hall, TV and radio studios

Date: 10-15 October

Students and youth events:

"Rights and freedoms of every Russian citizen";

Business game "Political rights and freedoms";

Legal quiz "everyday rights"

Place: schools, libraries

Date: 10-15 October

Other events:

Visiting families with children living in country areas in order to emphasise children's rights; meeting with a lawyer about rights and obligations of electors; information service on state registration of civil status certificates; meetings and lectures on "I am a Russian citizen!", organised in a municipal orphanage.

Organising lessons with debate in the schools of the city on "Me and the elections";

"Open Days" in rural settlements of Orenburg to explain their rights as regards health protection and free medical assistance to the inhabitants;

Consultations for active school students: school self-government tools; dealing with socialisation of senior students.

Lecture for senior students "Local self-government in Russia: history and modernity"; panel discussion to increase the civic and democratic involvement of youth; Tournament on best knowledge of law among young people "We are for respectable life".

Place: schools, libraries

Date: 10-15 October

"Frankly speaking" TV program devoted to ELDW in Orenburg - the importance of the Week for further development of democracy, rights and freedoms of the citizens of Orenburg

Place: TV channel "Region"

Date: 16 October

ULYANOVSKIY Region

Population: 650 000 inhabitants

Municipalities:

Inzensky, Bazarnosizgansky, Dimitrovgrad, Cherdaklinsky, Karsunsky, Maynsky, Novomaynsky, Novospassky, Pavlovsky, Radishevsky, Starokulatkinsky, Sursky, Terengulsky, Tsilnintsky, Ulyanovsky, Ulyanovsk.

Partner Organisations: Administration of Ulyanovsk municipality, Government of Ulyanovskaya oblast, Ulyanovsk City Duma, Election Commission of Ulyanovsk, Election Commission of Ulyanovskaya oblast.

Opening Ceremony of European Local Democracy Week - 2011 "Human rights at local level" in Ulyanovskaya oblast

Welcoming address by the Governor, the President of the Government of Ulyanovskaya oblast Sergei Morozov; the Ombudsman of Ulyanovskaya oblast will talk about the report of Galina Edvars on "The Ombudsman institution". Prof. Arbahan Magomedov, the Chair of the Public Relations Department of Ulyanovsk State University, will report on "The Council of Europe: means of co-operation in the field of human rights"

Place: Conference Hall of Ulyanovsk State University

Date: 10 October

"Developing grassroots democracy": the round table is aimed at discussing topical problems of civil society in Ulyanovskaya oblast: improving public sector activities, co-operation of local authorities with NGOs, civil consciousness among the citizens, the access of the public sector to decision-making processes, ensuring the rights of the citizens at local level

Place: conference hall of the Legislative Assembly, Ulyanovsk

Date: October 11

Activities in the other municipalities of the Region:

Discussions of "Democracy issues" with the participations of children, elderly people, youth and women's clubs, "open days" of municipal administrations, series of publications in municipal newspapers, children's Q&A competition on "election rights", ELDW billboards, book fairs, high school students' sports and essay competitions.

Altay Krai

Biysk

High school students' game "political debates", "open days" of municipal departments.

Khabarovskiy Krai

Khabarovsk

Citizen rating – "local government decisions and their Internet transparency", discussions on "democracy issues", municipal administration "open days", open phone lines, series of publications in municipal newspapers, children's Q&A competition on "election rights", book fair, high school students' sports competition.

Khanty-Mansiysk Autonomous District

Surgut

High school discussions on local government and elections, video conference with municipalities participating in “child-friendly cities” (St. Petersburg, Paris), thematic discussions and lectures, home owners associations – my community rights, exhibitions and presentations.

Komy Republic

Vorkuta, Vuktil, Inta, Pechora, Sosnogorsk, Syktyvkar, Usinsk, Uhta, Izhemsky, Knyazhpogodsky, Koysky, Kortkerossky, Priluzsky, Siktivdinsky, Sisolsky, Troitsko-Pechorsky, Udorsky, Ust-Vimsky, Ust-Kulomsky, Ust-Tsilemsky, Ezhvinsky.

Class discussions for high and middle school pupils, political games “you are responsible!”, Q&A quiz on “local self-government”, computer game “elections” for elementary school children, “European democracy centres” – virtual tour for school children, essay competition “municipal budget – my responsibility”, multi-media presentations on “elections”.

Leningrad region

Novodevyatkinskoe

Round Table discussion with participants from local administration, Regional Ombudsman Bureau, Veterans’ Council, Youth Council, people with disabilities and women’s organisations.

Novgorod region

Malovisherskiy Regional Council of Municipalities

Book fair, youth Q&A games, poetry competition, round table discussions, conference and thematic discussion with the participation of the Regional Ombudsman Bureau

City of Saint-Petersburg

Molodezhnoe, Finlandsky district, Ribatskoje district, Kolomyagi district, Piskarevka district, Ligovka-Yamskaya, Prometey district, Izmaylovskoe district, Sennoy district, Severny district, Dvortsovy district, Lomonosov, Pushkin.

Local newspaper events, high school discussions on “election rights”, Q&A sessions at the municipal administrations, community surveys, chess and other sports competition, open discussions, high school public debates (in class presentations), “transparency of local government decisions” in local media.

Saratov region

Svetly

“Electoral rights” and other thematic games, discussions and presentations, community surveys, municipal administration open excursions, poster competition, high school local government.

Tambov region

Tambov, Michurinsky, Baylovsky, Vyazhlinsky, Egorovsky, Znamensky, Yzosimovsky, Kochetovsky, Lipovsky, Morshansky, Nikiforovsky, Pokrovo-Vasilievsky, Petrovsky, Pichaevsky, Podjemsky, Rudovsky, Sosnovsky, Uvarovo.

Discussions on "Democracy issues", "helping veterans" and social volunteer events "let's clean up our community", municipal administration open days, book fairs, community surveys "my view on democracy", children's political game "I want to be the President", round table discussion on "young political leader", sports competitions including "for healthy life" running event, "UK parliaments" class presentations, drawing competition.

Tomsk region

Seversk

High school events: class discussions on democracy issues, essay competition "my rights at the local level", thematic exhibitions, youth competition "young leaders of Russia", youth parliament elections game.

Tula Region

Aleksin, Aleksinsky, Donskoy, Novomoskovsk, Schekino, Schekinskiy

"Democracy issues" discussions, municipal administration "open days", book fairs, community surveys "my first elections" and "my health care rights", children's political game "I want to be the President", essay competitions, round table discussion on "disabled people's rights", sports competitions including disabled children and orphans, "professor rating awards" by university students, posters competition.

Yamalo-Nenetsky Autonomous Region

Muravlenko

High school game "elections are important!", thematic debates on local self-government and electoral rights; series of events on "democracy vector"; book fair, discussion at the senior citizen centres, sports competitions and activities, lectures, Internet game for young professionals "We and politics", youth poster competition "there is a choice!"

Zabaykalsky Krai

Syvyakovskoe

"Open days" of municipal administration and departments, student's election club and public council meeting.



Serbia

BELGRADE



"12 Star City"

13 - 15 October

Population: 2 000 000 inhabitants

Communication campaign: The Municipality will print and distribute leaflets, display posters with human rights messages provided by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, run a promotional video on local TVs, electronic and print media will also be fully exploited.

Activities:

Opening celebration will take place on Republic Square. An opening statement will be delivered by Mrs. Antje Christa Rothmund, Head of Mission of the Office of the Council of Europe in Serbia. During the opening meeting, different projects organised by the CoE Office in Serbia will be presented to citizens and the main activities of the Week will be announced as well as their objective, target groups and partner organisations. They include "The House of Human Rights" project; "Belgrade: violence free city"; "The protection of vulnerable groups". The event will be followed by all relevant electronic and print media.

Place: Republic Square

Date: 13 October

An information stand will be held for three days on the main square of Belgrade (Republic Square) where promotional materials will be distributed to the citizens in order to raise awareness of human rights.

Institutions and civil society organisation representatives and witnesses will take an active part in promoting their programmes and services for human rights in Belgrade.

Main participants include: civic initiatives www.gradjanske.org; Lawyers Committee for Human Rights, YUCOM, www.yucom.org.rs; Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, www.bgcentar.org.rs; Helsinki Committee for human rights in Serbia, www.helsinki.org.rs; the Ombudsman, www.beograd.rs; Belgrade Youth Office, www.kancelarijazamlade.rs

Place: Republic Square

Date: 13-15 October

Launching "The House of Human Rights": by this project Belgrade aims to provide protection and legal aid for people with violated rights. This project will be presented for the first time to the public during ELDW. Five civil society organisations will work together on issues of human rights and democracy, supported by the Municipality of Belgrade.

On this occasion, **a short film** from the "How to enter EU?" TV programme will be shown, focusing on enhancement of human rights in Belgrade.

After the film projection, **a debate** will be organised with the following participants: Miljenko Dereta, Executive Director of Civic Initiatives, TBC www.gradjanske.org –

Milan Antonijević, Director of YUCOM, www.yucom.org.rs –

Vesna Petrović, Executive Director of the Belgrade Centre for Human Rights, www.bgcentar.org.rs –

Sonja Biserko, President of the Helsinki Committee for Human Rights in Serbia, TBC
www.helsinki.org.rs –

Danko Runić, Director of the Agency for European Integration and Co-operation with Civil Society, Municipality of Belgrade

Place: Medija Centar

Date: 12 October

“Belgrade: violence free city”: sports activities, mini tournaments (football, basketball and volleyball) for elementary and high school students, as well as finals competitions, championships; award of medals/prizes is to be organised. Partners in the initiative: Youth initiative for human rights www.yihr.org -Belgrade: violence free city, www.beogradbeznasilja.com

Place: public schools

Date: 15 October

The protection of vulnerable groups: Serbian celebrities will take part in distribution of LICEULICE periodical on Republic Square, at the close of the ELDW event. LICEULICE is a monthly periodical, published and sold by homeless people, street children and the most vulnerable citizens, chiefly the Roma minority. The mission of LICEULICE is to help solve the problem of poverty and combat social and cultural exclusion of homeless people, by creating conditions for legal income. The basic idea is to publish and distribute periodicals, which then would be sold by specially trained homeless people. Through this work, they would earn legal income. The City of Belgrade supported this project with a grant.

Partners in the initiative: LICEULICE www.liceulice.org and Centre for Youth Integration www.cim.org.rs

Place: Republic Square

Date: 15 October

Target: Homeless or poor people, Roma minority

KIKINDA

Population: 67 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities on Human Rights:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights in context: the initiative is expected to raise citizen’s awareness of human rights.

The Declaration will be prominently displayed place so that every citizen of Kikinda can read their rights. The aim is to inform citizens about human rights in an innovative way.

Place: Central square or National Museum

Date: 10-16 October

Films on human rights: raising public awareness on what human rights mean, and where personal and social responsibility lies for this sensitive and ubiquitous realm of human life.

Place: National Library courtyard

Date: 14 October

Other initiatives:

Promotion of youth mobility: this activity will present the possibilities for mobility of young people. It will be conducted in co-operation with the Office for Youth. Each participant will receive a gift card worth 26 Euro. The aim of this activity is to explore the possibilities for travel and for non-formal education.

Place: Kikinda Cultural Centre

Date: 11 October

Environmental protection: in co-operation with NGO Youth Club, the Municipality of Kikinda will present its environmental protection policy to local citizens. An info desk will be manned by volunteers who will share information about the importance of a healthy environment and will distribute leaflets and info material.

Place: Central square of Kikinda

Date: 12 October

KRALJEVO

Population: 121 700 inhabitants

10-15 October

Activities:

Visit of young people to local institutions. The aim is to introduce young people from 8 public schools to the concept of the responsibilities of local organisations and their management at the Local Centre for Social work, the Gerontological Centre and the Local City Assembly.

Place: Local Centre for Social work, Gerontological Center, Local City Assembly

Date: 10-12 October

Awareness-raising event on human rights: a lecture followed by debate will focus on different aspects of human rights. The aim is to stimulate the active role of the participants, which is necessarily required in the process of creating a sensitive society and a society with equal rights.

Place: Club members of the City of Kraljevo

Date: 13 October

Writing an essay on the topic: "human rights and freedoms". All the high schools in Kraljevo will be asked to take part in this competition. The two best works will be read out and discussed during a City Council meeting.

Place: High schools

Date: 14 October

Photo exhibition on human rights: awareness-raising activity on human rights. This public event will be open to all citizens of Kraljevo.

Place: Club members of the City of Kraljevo

Date: 15 October

KRUSEVAC

Population: 131 368 inhabitants

11-14 October

Activities:

Exhibition of art works on "Children's Rights". Participants will facilitate the artistic work of children of "Nata Veljkovic"

Place: City Administration Building lobby

Date: 11 October

Tribune: Function of the **local ombudsman** and of the Service for free legal aid

Place: City Hall

Date: 12 October

Artistic programmes for elderly people: Local elected officials will visit a senior citizens' centre. During the visit a performance will be held. Participants: Cultural Centre and Cultural Educational Community

Place: Gerontology centre in Krusevac

Date: 13 October

Prize for an essay on the topic: "If I was the mayor, what would I do to raise awareness of human rights at the local level in my city?". High school students will take part in the competition.

Place: City Hall

Date: 14 October

NIS

Population: 250 518 inhabitants

11-16 October

Activities:

Public debate on human rights: special emphasis will be placed on discrimination against Roma and other ethnic communities. Issues such as women and homophobia will be addressed.

Place: Metropolitan University

Date: 11 October

Public debate on rights of youth affected by disabilities: during these debates the rights of youth with disabilities to education, work, sport and culture will be addressed and discussed in depth, in order to improve present services.

Place: Metropolitan University

Date: 12 October

Exhibition on human rights: an exhibition of children's paintings and photos on the topic of human rights will be organised. The authors will be the students from art schools and schools for children with special needs. Winners with the best works will be awarded a voucher for an annual scholarship at the Metropolitan University.

Place: EU corner in Nis

Date: 16 October



Slovakia

SAL'A

Population: 23 764 inhabitants

10-14 October

Partner organisations: District Office Saľa, State Archive in Saľa, Fire Department in Saľa, City Library of J. Johanides

Activities:

Public debate open to all citizens on the theme "**Social rights of citizens in practice**" with professionals from the Social Rights sector in the city, promoting social rights and access to public services

Place: J. Johanides City Library, Saľa

Date: 12 October

Citizens' involvement in local affairs: student parliament representatives from the secondary schools in Saľa will discuss different topics with the members of Saľa City Parliament in order to increase youth involvement in local politics and in decision-making processes.

Place: Sala City Hall

Date: 11 October 2011, 15.00

School competitions in essay writing and drawing focused on human rights will be held in the framework of ELDW. An exhibition of the most successful work will take place.

Place: City Hall

Dates: 10-14 October

Municipal Open Days: presentation and promotion of the public services provided in Saľa, including: District Office, City Hall functions, City Police, Fire Department, State Archive, Library Saľa's J. Johanides Cultural Centre.

Exhibition and presentation of activities by the fire-fighters and the city police dog handlers.

Place: Saľa main square

Date: 13 October

Citizens #to their city – citizens protecting nature: Traditional cleaning of the area by the River Váh, as an initiative of the citizens with the aim of protecting nature in the area.

Place: Saľa

Date: 15 October

ZABIEDOVO

Population: 830 inhabitants

10-14 October

Activities:

In co-operation with the primary school of Zabiedovo, the Municipality will organise events as part of European Local Democracy Week.

An article in the local newspaper "Zábiedovský oznamovateľ" on the subject: Charter of Fundamental Rights of the European Union

Place: Zábiedovo Village

Date: October 14

Children's police for the environment: admission of new members, conferment of uniforms and educational conferences to promote knowledge of the principles of environmental protection.

Place: Room of the Municipal Council

Date: October 13

Food aid: People in poverty and low-income households will be the target groups of a local radio broadcast on food aid from the European Union, in order to draft a list of eligible persons.

Location: Zábiedovo Village

Dates: October 10-14

Tour of the Town Hall: primary school pupils' visit to the Mayor. Pupils will be informed about the general operating principles of local democracy; a "questions and answers" session will follow.

Place: Zábiedovo town hall

Date: October 12



Spain

MALAGA

Population: 568 507 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities:

"United Nations and international co-operation in the face of the current financial crisis": round table. Main speakers: the Mayor Francisco de la Torre and Cecile Molinier, director of the UN Development Programme.

Place: Municipal Heritage Museum

Date: 10 October 5.30 – 7.30 pm

Malaga Open Days: different museums and public utilities companies will open their doors for free visits and in order to make citizens aware of their wide artistic and natural heritage and functions.

Dates: 10-14 October

“Questions to the Mayor” from the students of Malaga University. The Mayor and the municipal councillors will answer the questions.

Place: Malaga University, Psychology Sciences

Date: 11 October

Assisting the Mayor for a day: students of journalism will follow the Mayor’s activities for a day.

Date: 13 October

“Questions to the Mayor” from the NGOs sector.

Date: 13 October

“Is our democracy in crisis?”: local TV registration for local channels. The main political parties of the municipal government will discuss this.

Date: 13 October

Malaga strategic planning: a conference will be held in order to discuss on the future of the central district of Malaga.

Place: Malaga Education Centre

Date: 14 October

European music concert: a concert will be performed by the municipal musical group.

Place: Eduardo Ocon square

Date: 16 October

SEGOVIA

Population: 56 660 inhabitants

13 October

Activities:

Open doors: the activity, organised through the office "Europe Direct" and promoted by the Department of Citizen Participation and Employment, Development and Technology will be open to all citizens. Applicants for these tours must register by email.

Citizens are invited to visit the municipal offices at 1 and 6.30 pm.

Place: City Hall

Date: 13 October

A Conference-seminar on Human Rights and Local Democracy will be held. The main speaker will be Alvaro Gil Robles, who was the first Commissioner for Human Rights at the Council of Europe.

Place: City Hall

Date: 13 October, 8 pm



Switzerland

GENEVA

Population: 192 000 inhabitants

13 October

Partner organisation: the Martin Ennals Foundation

Activity: The Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders

The Martin Ennals Award is the main prize of the international human rights movement. It is a unique collaboration among ten of the world's leading human rights organisations. The Martin Ennals Award for Human Rights Defenders goes to Ms Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera. Kasha Jacqueline Nabagesera has been awarded the prize for her work for lesbian, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) rights and marginalised people in Uganda. She is the founder and Executive Director of Freedom and Roam Uganda, a main LGBT rights organisation. She was threatened and even attacked on many occasions by people for appearing in the media. On 26 January 2011 one of her colleagues, gay activist David Kato, was murdered following the publication of a "gay list" by the Ugandan tabloid calling for their hanging; in this black list Kasha Jacqueline's name also appears.

Place: Geneva, Victoria Hall

Date: 13 October

NEUCHÂTEL

Population: 32 973 inhabitants

12 October

Activities:

The municipal council invites all inhabitants and residents of a district (the fifth, city centre) of Neuchâtel to an open dialogue session. The citizens have the opportunity to communicate (on post-it) their positive and negative comments. After reading the comments, the City Council will enter into dialogue with the assembly, and an exchange will take place on ten topics selected according to the number of questions about them. Informal and direct discussions will continue at the end of the session over a friendly drink.



Sweden

SUNDBYBERG



"12 Star City"

Population: 39 000 inhabitants

3-30 October 2011

Communication campaign: articles on ELDW will be published in local media and newspapers, ELDW posters will be posted in public areas and places. The website of the municipality will show the program of Democracy Week and the news about it. Information about the existing possibilities to have influence in the municipality and to get people involved will be disseminated through special activities during Democracy Week. During ELDW, a public chat will be opened on the website for all citizens to chat with the local politicians.

Awareness-raising activities on local life:

Open discussion at the Municipal Assembly; during the open meeting the public will be given the opportunity to ask questions.

Date: 26 September

A **Youth hearing** will be organised to give young people an opportunity to meet local politicians.

Date: 11 October

A **Consultation meeting** is organised with citizens and the political leaders to discuss the development of a special district of the community. The meeting will take place on an evening in the district of the city due to be developed. All the citizens will be invited.

Date: 13 October

A **bus trip** around the municipality is planned. The Chair of the Municipal Assembly will welcome the citizens to the trip and during it a guide will tell them about present and future plans of the municipality. Newcomers to the municipality get a special invitation by post.

Date: 15 October (two trips)

Cultural activities on Human rights:

The Culture, Leisure and Recreation Committee will keep one of their meetings open for citizens.

Date: 13 October

“Question of the week”: during the month of October on the website every week a new question on human rights will be widely discussed. When people answer a question they will be linked to more information about ELDW.

Date: 3-30 October

The libraries will lay special emphasis on human rights in different ways during ELDW so as to reach the public at large. An author is invited to the main library to talk about one of her books focused on the Second World War.

Date: 12 October

A **lecture** in Sundbyberg about children’s rights will highlight how to secure children’s rights. This activity is targeted to public officials and local politicians.

Date: 14 October and 8 November.

A **culture-festival** is organized with singing, dancing, theatres and more on the theme of human rights. It is open to children as well as grownups.

Date: 15 October.

The public schools plan different activities on democracy and human rights during ELDW.

Organisations for senior citizens plan activities in places where elderly people meet.

More info can be found on www.sundbyberg.se

ÖREBRO Municipality

Population: 135 460 inhabitants

14-18 November 2011

Approach: The Municipality of Örebro celebrates "Tolerance Week" during the 46th week of the year.

The leading theme will be "**My rights – My duty, from words to action**".

Activities: during the Week, educational associations, NGOs, organisation and high schools will develop and implement various activities such as lectures, seminars, exhibitions, competitions and events.

More information will be available at: www.orebro.se/toleransveckan



Turkey

GAZIANTEP Metropolitan Municipality



"12 Star city"

Population: 1 700 000 inhabitants

10-16 October 2011

Communication campaign: The Municipality will print leaflets and posters to inform the public and raise their interest in ELDW. Posters of a campaign "Do you know your rights?" will be displayed in public spaces. Articles and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights will also be posted on the official web site. The Week's activities will be announced in the local press, publications will be distributed by the Council and through the web media. The Municipality will contact the surrounding municipalities, inviting local authorities and citizens to the celebrations. A bus and light rail system will be decorated with posters. A thematic short film will be produced and broadcast on local TV channels and newspapers.

Activities:

Interviews and information stand: information stands will be mounted at the shopping centre and in different places in the city centre brochures, and invitations will be distributed. University students will give the citizens information on what is going on during the Week at these stands. Furthermore, the students will interview the citizens about human rights issues.

Place: Shopping centre and Democracy Square

Date: 10 October

Conferences and workshops: during the Week, conferences, a forum and a workshop on different topics relating to '**Human Rights – Children’s Rights, Women’s Rights, Youth Rights**' will be organised.

Gaziantep University students from foreign countries will take part in a workshop on "**How human rights stand in their country?**"

Place: Gaziantep Metropolitan municipality, Gaziantep University

Date: 11-16 October

Opening of Human Rights Declaration Road: Human Rights Declaration Road will be officially opened with the aim of inviting people to be informed about the Declaration of Human Rights.

Place: Centre Park of Gaziantep

Date: 12 October

Awareness-raising activities: Bicycle tour in the city centre of Gaziantep to be done with posters. The aim of this tour is creating awareness and drawing attention to human rights. The name of this awareness raising campaign will be '**Riding for Human Rights**'. This campaign is expected to reach all citizens and university students in particular.

Place: City Centre

Date: 15 October

European Event: a public meeting will be organised for representative of the local authorities and eminent persons. The Vice President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Mrs. Gaye DOĞANOĞLU is invited to share her views in a meeting with target groups on “Human rights issues at local level”.

Place: Gaziantep University

Date: 14 October

GEBZE  "**12 Star City**"

Population: 297 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Communication campaign: Gebze Municipality will print leaflets and posters to inform the public and raise their interest in ELDW. Posters of a campaign "Do you know your rights?" will be displayed in public spaces. Articles and The Universal Declaration of Human Rights will also be posted on the official web site.

An information stand will be manned at the shopping centre and brochures and invitations will be distributed during the week.

A 'Freedom wall' will be officially opened with the aim of inviting people to express their thoughts and concerns.

Place: Gebze Center Shopping Mall

Date: 10-16 October

Awareness-raising activities

Activities with disabled groups will take place: disabled vehicles for disabled people will be presented during the ceremony. After the opening speech made by the Mayor, a film about the rights of disabled people will be screened. These activities will be held by the representatives of the citizens, including the city council, the village leader, NGOs, immigrants and Romanian Group Activities.

Photo exhibitions will be organised by Roman Cultural Association. The Romanian group will discuss '**Their yesterday, today and tomorrow**' in the human rights perspective. The village leaders, NGOs, Youth Associations and all citizens will be invited to take part in the activities. After the conference, people irrespective of age and gender will participate in a music concert.

Place: Osman Hamdi Bey Culture Center of Gebze

Date: 10-16 October

Youth Council Activities: during the week different conferences and workshops on different aspects of human rights will be organised. Movies on human rights will be shown by youth organisations. High school students will also organise lectures with speakers on Human Rights from the University.

Place: Osman Hamdi Bey Culture Center of Gebze

Date: 13-16 October 2011

European event: A public debate open to citizens, immigrants, disabled and youth will be held on the theme 'citizens' rights'.

Place: Osman Hamdi Bey Culture Center

Date: 13-16 October 2011

More about ELDW in Gebze: <http://www.gebze.bel.tr/tr/dokumandetay/0/88/insan-haklari-evrensel-beyannamesi.aspx>

LÜLEBURGAZ Municipality



"12 Star City"

Population: 100 412 inhabitants

10-16 October 2011

Communication campaign: the Municipality will print leaflets and posters. They will be distributed along with other promotional items (mugs, key chain, etc.) to inform the public and to raise their interest in ELDW.

Activities will be announced in the local press, publications distributed by the Council and through the web media. The Municipality will contact the surrounding municipalities, inviting local authorities and citizens to European Local Democracy Week the celebrations in Lüleburgaz.

Representatives from Valkaneş Municipality (Moldova) will be invited as "twin city" to take part in the initiatives.

Activities:

Youth poetry, essay and art competitions will be organised. Schools will be asked to debate human rights issues with students and to organise competitions. The winners will receive awards.

Opening ceremony of the Week: After the opening speech by the mayor, held on 10 October, a "Freedom wall" and an open space will be officially opened with the aim of inviting people to express their thoughts and concerns. A photo exhibition consisting of photographs by local artists will take place in the main square during the Week. The opening ceremony will end with a chamber orchestra concert.

Place: City Square and Conference Hall of the Municipality

Date: 10-16 October

Conferences and awareness-raising activities: The Youth Council will read and discuss the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Human rights treaties will be displayed in the town square, so as to make the general public aware of the long history and importance of freedoms. Poems about human rights and freedom will be read.

A public memorandum for the observance of human rights at local level will be prepared with the citizens through different workshops. A public conference will be held at the venue for the signature of memorandum by the representatives of urban groups (the city council, the village leader, NGOs, union representatives, representatives of the university and high school students, etc). Before the formal signature of the memorandum, people will meet for a march through the streets of the city.

Place: Training Hall of the Municipality and City Square

Date: 8-15 October

Popular dance and concert exhibition: people of both sexes and all ages will participate in music concerts. A dance on the theme of peace and brotherhood will be held with the participation of young people and children.

Place: City Square and Conference Hall of the Municipality

Date: 10-12 October

European Event: Representatives of Valkaneş Municipality (Moldova) are to attend and be involved in the activities of ELDW. Representatives of Valkaneş will share their views in a meeting with target groups about "How human rights stand in their country?"

Place: Conference Hall of the Municipality

Date: 13 October

MUGLA Municipality



"12 Star City"

Population: 52 918 inhabitants

10-16 October 2011

Communication campaign: posters of a promotional campaign about "Do you know your rights?" will be displayed in public spaces. Articles will also be published in local newspapers.

Activities:

Opening event: walking tour in the city centre of Mugla with posters. The procession will reach the main square of the city and the ceremony will be opened by a song, which will be followed by the speeches of the public authorities. In the same square, a podium will be set up to allow citizens to have their say on human rights during the Week. All citizen categories will be invited to participate.

Place: Limitlessness Square

Date: 10 October

Conferences and workshops: During the Week various conferences, forums and workshops on different aspects of human rights will be organised. Rights to health, culture, environment, citizenship and reducing physical barriers will be discussed with citizens.

Place: Conference Hall of the Municipality

Dates: 10-16 October

Exhibitions and cultural activities: Photo exhibitions and graphics will be organised by youth and cultural associations. Movies on human rights will be shown and a caricature exhibition will be held. Youth organisations, Youth Councils, women's councils, students and NGOs will be invited to organise and take part in the activities.

Place: Conference Hall of the Municipality and other public spaces

Dates: 10-16 October

Visits to Children's protection houses, old people's homes and prisons. Dedicated activities such as films for children and concerts will be organised for the people living in institutions.

Date: 13 October

European event: a public debate with citizens and residents, immigrants and foreigners, will be held on the theme "Citizen rights in Mugla – do you feel your benefit?"

Place: Culture Centre of Mugla

Date: 16 October

TARSUS



"12 Star City"

Population: 303 261 inhabitants

10-16 October

Communication campaign: The Tarsus Municipal Assembly, in September, took a decision to take part in European Local Democracy Week as a "12 star city" and to cover the costs of the activities. The activities have been prepared in co-operation with: Association of Illustrators, Association of Photographers, Businesswomen's Association, Lawyers' Council and YG-21. These partner groups will announce the Week to all their members. Poster of ELDW will be printed and distributed to all these groups.

A bus will be decorated with posters and pictures on ELDW and will visit the village schools.

Visit to village schools: during the Week, events will take place in 5 village schools. Some lawyers, advocates of children's rights, will inform pupils of their rights. The artists from the Association of Illustrators will paint with the children, enabling them to express their feelings

about children's rights. A bus decorated with posters and pictures will bring people to visit the village schools.

Dates: 10 -16 October

Women's meeting: a meeting at the city council about the problems of women at the local level will be organised. The discussion will focus on how the women's committee of the city council can work more effectively. Women municipal council members will attend this meeting and discuss how to enhance women's rights at local level. ELDW Turkey co-ordinator Bahar Ozden will be one of the speakers at this meeting.

Place: Tarsus City Council

Date: 14 October

Debate between youth groups: the Youth Committee of the City Council will organise a debate on human rights with young people coming from the twin city Langen (Germany). They will discuss together how to be more effective regarding human rights at the local level. They will share their experiences and compare two different societies and cultures.

Place: Tarsus

Date: 12 October

Visiting the old people's home: a group of Tarsus councillors will visit the home at Tarsus.

Place: Tarsus old people's home

Date: 15 October

European event: a delegation from Langen, the twin city in Germany, has been invited. There will be politicians, NGO representatives, youth and local elected officials from Langen. Politicians, representatives of NGOs and young people from Tarsus will join in the event. ELDW Turkey coordinator Bahar Ozden and journalist M. Canpolat from Langen will be the main speakers. After the speeches there will be a **question and answer session** with politicians and elected officials on "Improving local democracy and human rights at local level".

Date: 11 October

BUYUKCEKMECE

Population: 225 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities:

Partner Organisation: Buyukcekmece Public Education Centre

"Its future in Education": this project aims to reduce unemployment in the area, and especially at the inclusion of women (who make up about half the active population) in the labour market, and in a self-employed life.

By means of this project, established under the aegis of the Municipal and Public Education Centre in co-operation with the Public Academy of Vocational Training Courses, women who are unemployed and live at home have the opportunity to obtain information and enter their new vocational training in various branches.

The first step is the process of accession to the training courses: public announcements and one-to-one interviews facilitate the women's empowerment process. The second step is to provide training courses by experts, certified instructors and volunteers in flexible hours and on a wide number of branches of education, including jewellery, textiles, bead embroidery,

hot glass art, dolls, tile, wire break and calligraphy. The third ingredient of the project is that the Municipal Culture and Social Affairs Directorate, in co-operation with industrial associations, determine the training demands of skilled workers in the district. Last but not least, training workshops for the children of trainee mothers are organised in toy-libraries. The main purpose of the toy-libraries is that children, by playing with toys, will also acquire the habit of reading books in the library. After completing their training, during an exhibition which takes place each year, women present and sell the goods produced. This year the activities of European Local Democracy Week between 10 October - 16 October will include the products exhibition in the Ataturk Cultural Centre Ibrahim Çallı Art Gallery.

Place: Buyukcekmece Ataturk Cultural Centre Ibrahim Çallı Art Gallery

Date: 10-16 October



Ukraine

DONETSK

Population: 1.132.700 inhabitants

14 October 2011

Partner Organisations: Donetsk Regional Council, State Foundation for Local Self-Government in Ukraine

Activity at national level: Conference and workshop "International Municipal Hearings" on the state and best practices in the implementation of the European Strategy for Innovation and Good Governance in the member states of the Council of Europe.

Main issue: raising local representatives' and citizens' awareness about good governance, transparency, accountability of local elected representatives, citizens' involvement in public life.

Action: to inform Ukrainian municipal representatives about principles of good democratic governance and the importance of establishing a permanent dialogue between citizens and local representatives.

During the meeting, good practices will be presented in order to exemplify how to implement the principles of the European strategy and its European benefits. Examples will also be provided on how to get people involved in local public life.

KHMELNYTSKY

Population: 260 000 inhabitants

12 October

In partnership with other local authorities, the municipality of Khmelnytsky is organising a public meeting, open to all the citizens, on the defence of rights for the unscreened layers of population

Place: Khmelnytsky University of management and law

Date: 12 October

KYIV

Population: 2 600 000 inhabitants

15-16 November 2011

Partner organisations: the Canadian International Development Agency and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities

The Association of Ukrainian Cities, in order to support the ELDW 2011 initiative, on November 15-16, 2011 held a Forum of Local Government for Supporting Equal Rights and Opportunities of Women and Men within the framework of the joint project 'Municipal Local Economic Development in Ukraine' that is financed by the Government of Canada through the Canadian International Development Agency and the Federation of Canadian Municipalities.

Over 120 representatives of the Ukrainian and Canadian local governments – mayors, deputy mayors, council secretaries, council members – representatives of central authorities and, gender equality experts took part in the event.

Place: Kyiv

Date: 15-16 November

RIVNE

Population: 247 000 inhabitants

10-12 October

Events:

"Children's rights at the local level": different conferences will be organised on this theme. The protection of children's rights was chosen by the Ukrainian Chairmanship of the Council of Europe as one of its priorities, due to the fact that this is an area which continues to require particular and urgent attention. To promote the protection of children's rights, special attention is necessary to face problems such as violence against children and children's rights to health care. It is important to implement a comprehensive strategy for combating violence against children. This strategy will aim to strengthen child protection, the prevention of violence and work with children who are victims of violence. It also includes reviewing national standards in guardianship and care services, developing comprehensive programmes of reintegration and rehabilitation of child victims or witnesses of violence and implementing other measures to stop child abuse. An ombudsman for children's rights is recently active in Ukraine.

Place: Conference room, Rivne City Council

Date: 10 October

"Disseminate a culture of human rights": a survey on high school students and awareness about human rights issues will be conducted.

The aim is to promote a culture of Human Rights in Ukraine, by enhancing education, training, monitoring and awareness of European human rights standards. A strong co-operation with civil society is of the utmost relevance in three broad areas of CoE competence: human rights training; human rights education and awareness-raising as regards European human rights standards.

Place: 30 high schools and 4 Universities situated in Rivne will take part in the survey

Date: 10 October

Open meeting on Council of Europe values will be held by the Ukrainian delegation of the Congress.

During the open meeting, discussions will highlight, in particular, the aims of the Council of Europe to defend children's rights, human rights and rule of law in the context of democracy and stability in Europe, by strengthening the development of local democracy.

Place: Assembly hall in Rivne Palace of Children and Youth

Date: 12 October

"The way of Ukraine to Europe lies through Eastern Partnership". Today's Europe is the Europe of regions that are sustainable administrative and territorial entities. This is the assumption of this workshop which point out the regional dimension of Europe. There are two ways of integration into Europe, namely, from the top down - by political will of the central authorities, and from the bottom upwards - through territorial communities as such. Rivne region has been keeping on this second way for about twenty years confidently maintaining the status of a pro-European region. The co-operation with other European regions and communities is essential for European territorial development.

Place: Institute of Slavonic Studies in Rivne

Date: 11 October

Other municipalities which took part in European Local Democracy Week in Ukraine (report):

Vilnogirsk, Dniprorudne, Teplodar, Izmail, Chernivtsi, Odesa, Korosten, Kremenchuk, Synelnykove, Barvinkove, Bila Tserkva, Pereyaslav-Khmelnytsky, Lviv, Kamianets-Podilsky, Boryslav, Novovolynsk, Lutsk, Ostrog, Simferopol, Brianka, Voznesensk, Ternopil, Cherkasy, Zhmerynka, Kupiansk, Dniprodzerzhynsk, Syevyerodonetsk, Chuguiv, Krasnoarmiysk, Yevpatoria, Volodymyr-Volynsky, Alushta, Kherson, Ternivka, Kuznetsovsk, Romny, Chervonograd, Makiyivka, Mykolayiv, Boryspil, Dubno, Pryluky, Krasnoperekopsk.

Main activities held: discussion, lectures, seminars, workshops, 'open days' in local councils, meetings with mayors, their deputies, council members with youth, sessions of youth parliaments and civic councils, public hearings, thematic exhibits, contests for children and youth, radio programmes, and other events on local democracy and human rights.



United Kingdom

STOCKTON-ON-TEES Borough

Population: 192 900 inhabitants

5 September-6 November



"12 Star City"

Communication campaign: the official logos/leaflets were downloaded to be used in the publicity campaign to promote ELDW.

Awareness-raising activities:

'Make your Mark' campaign with Youth MP Matthew Wilson: this activity is about the right to be heard. Democratic Services and the Integrated Youth Service are working with the Borough's Youth MP, Matthew Wilson, to encourage young people to make their mark and get their voices heard by getting involved in the campaign and voting for the issues that matter the most to them. Activities include: attending youth groups/ clubs / events; new content on the Council web page; information going out to all the secondary schools in the borough to promote participation. The aim is to motivate the young people to make their voices heard; raise young people's awareness that they have a representative in the UK Youth Parliament, and his role. On 4th November 2011, the UK YP will meet in the House of Commons to debate and decide which of the top five issues raised by the survey will become their core campaign for the following year and to see how to take them forward in the Borough policy.

Place: Across the Borough

Date: 5th September to 4th November 2011

Your vote is your voice: School Council Elections. This activity promotes local democracy in schools by supporting and promoting the election of school councils. It involves delivering a specially developed assembly to promote and explain the importance of having a school council and the voting process. We provide the schools with template paperwork to run the election as well as actual election equipment. As part of ELDW we will support school council elections in 5 primary schools and one secondary school. The activity is intended to promote active citizenship in the school community.

Place: Several schools in the Borough

Date: 8 September to 18 October 2011

Young Carers Aloud: This activity is about the right to be heard and the citizenship rights of disabled people. As part of ELDW, Democratic Services ran a 'Getting Heard' workshop with a group of young carers called 'Young Carers Aloud'(YCA) in August. (A 'young carer' is someone who helps look after another family member with an illness, a disability and / or alcohol or substance misuse).

YCA want to help raise the awareness of decision makers and service providers about issues affecting young carers, and to raise the awareness of young carers who are not currently receiving any help regarding the support available to them.

Young Carers Aloud meet the City Council members: They will give a presentation based on their roadshow followed by questions. This activity is intended to provide a group of the most excluded young people with the opportunity to be heard, to raise awareness about the issue affecting young carers, and to influence both service providers and decision makers. The roadshow they prepared is now to be delivered to 550 medical students who will be going into the health and social care professions. It is also to be included in the Children's Workforce Development training programme for current council staff.

Place: Education Centre

Date: 19 October 2011

'Getting Heard' Citizenship Workshop: This activity is about the right to be heard. The workshop uses a variety of fun and unusual activities to look at politics; citizenship; belonging and contributing to a community; rights and responsibilities; local and central government roles; local councillors. The purpose of this activity is to raise their awareness of the importance of using their voice through registration, voting and active citizenship; encouraging them to become 'democratic' champions and passing on what they have learned to other young people;

Place: Archon Building

Date: 21 October

European Event: 'Stockton Bazaar': is a local multicultural event. It will be a fun, colourful 'mela' style event celebrating the diversity of cultures in our borough. There will be an exciting collaboration of multicultural food, dance, entertainment, music and trade stalls. It is intended as a family event, attracting all sections of the community, but especially our black and minority ethnic communities. It will help to break down barriers as well as strengthen community relationships. This event is also an occasion to communicate Stockton trading policy and its link to agricultural traditions.

The events will raise citizens' awareness about the aim of the CAP (Common Agricultural Policy) to provide farmers with a reasonable standard of living, consumers with quality food at fair prices and to preserve rural heritage. They will also highlight how their purchase decisions affect human rights, and the actions they can take to campaign for the rights of others. In addition to these events, Stockton Borough Councillors will re-affirm their commitment to Fair Trade by re-signing the Fair Trade pledge at the full council meeting on 19th October.

Lesson plans related to human rights and fair trade are also being added to the council website to be used by schools or community groups. A few years ago, Stockton Council expanded its 'Local Democracy Week' to run activities and events throughout the year. The actual time period around ELDW is used to launch new initiatives and to generate requests for further activities by highlighting the activities we offer to promote democracy in the community.

Place: Stockton High Street

Date: 6 November

ANGLESEY

Population: 69 000 inhabitants

10-18 October

"Our Island, Our Council, Your Contribution": this is the title of the ELDW organised in Anglesey.

Residents are being asked for their priorities as the County Council strives to improve Anglesey life and shape its future workplan. Different initiatives will take place in different premises between 10 and 18 October, so as to have citizens' active contributions as far as possible.

Drop-in sessions will give people a chance to highlight the issues which really matter to them. Anglesey residents are being asked to share their views and let the Council know what's important to their lives and communities. The drop-in sessions will provide an opportunity for residents to talk to the Council's Commissioners, senior councillors and officers. Information on next year's local elections and developing equality targets will also be available.

The 'Our Island, Our Council, Your Contribution' roadshow will contribute to develop three main fields of the co-operation between citizens and local elected officials.

Our Island Lets the County Council know about the economic, social and environmental issues that affect your life, your health and your community as it prepares its Community Strategy 2012-2025 with key partners.

Our Council Help the County Council shape its future priorities as it develops a new Corporate Plan for 2012-2015. Citizens can also give their priorities and feedback through an online questionnaire at: www.anglesey.gov.uk/corporateplan

Your contribution Your views, together with those of various partners, are vital in helping the County Council shape future priorities and set targets for which it can be held accountable by the public.

Places and dates:

Council Offices, 10 October

Holyhead High School, 12 October

Ysgol David Hughes, Menai Bridge, 13 October

Ysgol Uwchradd Bodedern, 17 October

Ysgol Syr Thomas Jones, Amlwch, 18 October

CARMARTHENSHIRE County Council

Population: 180 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Approach: the ELDW is an occasion to organise events that will give young people an insight into local politics and the importance of democracy.

Activities:

Citizens may follow the Council life of one of the leading Councillors – County Councillor Pam Palmer, who is also an Executive Board Member in charge of Business Manager, Public Protection and Youth Services.

Design an Election Poster Competition: Carmarthenshire's Electoral Registration Office is launching their poster competition during Local Democracy week. The goal of the competition is to encourage young people to think about voting and encourage their active participation making their mark on Election Day. The winning poster should be designed to remind people to vote at next year's Local Council Elections in May 2012. Prizes will be given to the top two winning entries and the designs will form part of the Council's publicity campaign.

COLERAINE Borough Council - Northern Ireland

Population: 57 000 inhabitants

October-November 2011

Approach: Coleraine Borough Council is celebrating Local Democracy Week 2011, a European campaign which runs from Monday 10 to Sunday 16 October, by launching a new initiative designed to promote communication and understanding between school children and Elected Members. The scheme aims to increase young people's understanding and awareness of their local government, whilst encouraging them to engage effectively with the Councillors who represent them.

Activities:

Throughout October and November, part of the initiative will be to support twelve young people from the North Eastern Education and Library Board (NEELB) Coleraine Youth Council and local secondary schools in working alongside elected Members during media skills training sessions.

The expected results: it is predicted that this initiative will make Coleraine Borough Council more accessible whilst encouraging greater communication between Councillors and young people. In addition, the project will help students and Councillors engage with the media to broaden their understanding of political communication in the modern media. This project has received financial support from the Office of the First Minister and Deputy First Minister and the Department for Social Development.

HYNDBURN BOROUGH Council

Population: 81 100 inhabitants

10-16 October

Human rights activities:

A **question time** at St Christopher's Sixth Form College will give students the opportunity to question a panel of local politicians (Councillors) on human rights issues.

Activities with **young people with learning difficulties:** the role of the Council in the local community will be illustrated to young people with particular learning difficulties.

Other activities:

Be leader for a day: young people will get the chance to be Leader of the Council for a day and to make a presentation to a selection panel.

Where: Council offices

When: 12 October

Meet the Mayor: children from local primary schools will be invited to meet the Mayor, to learn about the history of Hyndburn and what happens in the Council Chamber.

Where: Town Hall, Accrington

When: 10-14 October.

More information on www.hyndburnbc.gov.uk

LONDON - BOROUGH of MERTON

Population: 210 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities:

Tours of the Civic Centre for local primary schools every weekday during Local Democracy Week.

Demand for these tours has been extremely high; the pupils will have the opportunity to meet the Mayor in her Parlour, go up on the roof of the 14-storey Civic Centre, and visit the Council Chamber where key meetings take place.

When: 10-14 October

Over 100 local children from **10 primary schools will visit the Houses of Parliament** and meet Merton Council representatives. This year will be the fourth year running that Ms McDonagh MP will be hosting this extremely popular tour.

When: 11 October

A speed networking event between members of Merton **Youth Parliament and the Council's Cabinet and Shadow Cabinet** will take place. Leader of the Council, Stephen Alambritis, will be attending and introducing the event.

When: 12 October

Where: the Civic Centre.

A talk on local democracy and the role of councillors will be given by Councillor Ray Tindle and Councillor Richard Hilton to members of the Merton Children's Council at their Annual General Meeting. The talk will be followed by a questions and answers session.

When: 14 October

In addition, some individual Councillors are arranging visits to local schools to talk about being a Councillor and local democracy in Merton, including:

A talk to Wimbledon High School by Councillor Suzanne Evans

A talk to members of the Merton Abbey School Council by Councillor Maxi Martin

Further information at getinvolved@merton.gov.uk.

LANCASHIRE County Council

Population: 1 160 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities:

Fancy speed debating, quiz nights, road shows, circles of influence or question time, then Local Democracy Week may be for you?

Lancashire Young People's Service are putting on lots of different events during democracy week to give young people an opportunity to have a say about issues that affect them in their area.

The Lancashire districts who take part in the European Local Democracy Week:

The list of activities on:

Democracy week in Burnley

Democracy week in Chorley Democracy week in Hyndburn

Democracy week in Pendle

Democracy week in Preston

Democracy Week in the Ribble Valley

Democracy week in Rossendale

Democracy week in South Ribble

PETERBOROUGH

Population: 164 000 inhabitants

10-14 October

Activities:

Youth Council and UK Youth Parliament shadowing local Councillors: the discussion will focus on health and police services

Date: to be confirmed

Councillors visit youth centres: Inviting local councillors to visit local Youth Clubs and centres to talk to young people

Place: youth centres across Peterborough

Date: 10 October, subject to be confirmation

More information on www.peterborough.gov.uk

PORTSMOUTH

Population: 200 000 inhabitants

10-14 October

Partner institution: University of Portsmouth

Activities:

Public debate on “Should prisoners have the right to vote?”

The debate aims to explore the right to vote and the responsibilities that come with it. The event will also seek to explore the role of offenders and ex-offenders in wider society and the challenges of their rehabilitation. The debate is designed to be informal and informative. It is an opportunity to debate a topical issue with a distinguished panel of expertise and opinion. It is also an opportunity to highlight the work of public services in this field and some of the academic argument influencing policy.

Place: Park Lecture Theatre, University of Portsmouth

Date: 10 October, 18.30-19.30pm

Law Students' Mock Court Session: run by the University of Portsmouth with contributions from local magistrates and experts from the University's Law School. The target people involved will be students.

Place: University of Portsmouth

Date: 12 October, 2.30-4 pm

Other Activities:

Lord Mayor's Schools Debate: Local schools working in teams to debate topical issues and take part in a session presided over by the Lord Mayor of Portsmouth

Date: 10 October 12- 2.00 pm

Politics & Debating Society event: University students facilitating a session with city councillors and college students focused on "Hacking and blagging: Privacy versus public interest".

Place: Highbury College,

Date: 13 October, 12-2.30 pm.

Guildhall & Politics & Debating Society event for students

Place: Highbury College, Portsmouth

Date: 10 and 13 October

"How Parliament Works" A session supported by Parliamentary Outreach focusing on the process, politics and practicalities of UK Parliament and how it relates to the local level. Both local Members of Parliament will attend, as well as a keynote speaker. Delegates must register.

Date: 14 October - 12-4.15 pm

Place: Menuhin Room, Central Library, Portsmouth.

Question Time Radio Debate with 93.7 Express FM

Visit of the Bulgarian Ambassador to the UK hosted by the Bulgarian Society UPSU

Political Speed dating: "Political Hero"

Place: Menuhin Room, Central Library, Portsmouth

14 October - 12-4.15 pm

SALFORD

Population: 73 000 inhabitants

3 September

Awareness-raising activities:

Salford City Council ran a large outdoor event for residents to increase awareness of local democracy and bring council services closer to the community.

A question & answer session was set up with senior officers from public sector organisations across Salford, including the council, the police, the fire service, the University and Salford National Health Service. Residents had the chance to ask these decision makers any questions they had.

"Meet your local councillor": during this event, residents could sit down with a councillor and find out more about what they do, or discuss any issues of theirs.

Exhibition stalls were put in place where residents could find out more about the City Council, the services provided for citizens and the partner services.

Furthermore, the council's elections team encouraged people to vote at local elections.

Human rights issues:

“One Voice”, a Salford NGO addressing accessibility issues for people with disabilities, exhibited to raise awareness of its work.
The event was attended by over 4 000 citizens.

SHEFFIELD

Population: 555 500 inhabitants

10-14 October

This year’s theme is “Human rights? What about your backyard?” – highlighting human rights as a fundamental component of local democracy.

A series of events are running during the week, including:

Event in City Council: Children’s Voices are working with younger children to run a special event with Sheffield City Council.

Date: 10 October

Budget debate: Members of Sheffield Youth Council will attend a morning budget consultation exercise with elected members at Sheffield City Council (to be confirmed)

Date: 11 October

Meetings: representatives from Sheffield Youth Council, Young Advisors and UKYP will attend

Dates: 12-13 October

Six senior Sheffield City Councillors managers will present ideas on service improvement (a different one each day). They will write a pitch, say what they already do and then describe something they may want help with. The manager with the best pitch will win a ‘support voucher’ that pays for the young people’s support.

Speed dating with young people and elected members in Bramall Lane (5.30 pm – 7.30 pm)

Date: 14 October

SHROPSHIRE

Population: 293 400 inhabitants

1-30 October

This is the second year that the Council has extended the European Local Democracy Week event in the county to include the whole of the month, following its success in 2010.

Activities:

Question time: Shropshire Members of Youth Parliament (MYPs), with support from Shropshire Council’s customer insight team, organised three fun question time events for young people across the county aged between 11 and 18 years old. Questions were on any topic which affects young people, from job opportunities and transport, to smoking, drugs, and alcohol. Before the panel sat down to take questions, young people also had the opportunity to vote on topical issues and take part in smaller discussions.

Places: Sir John Talbot’s School in Whitchurch; Shire Hall in Shrewsbury and Ludlow College

Dates: 6-20 October

MYPs and the Speak Out Group are also visiting schools and colleges to share information on getting involved in local democracy and to encourage young people to stand in forthcoming MYP elections.

The Speak Out Group meets regularly to discuss young people's issues, take part in meetings with councillors, as well as support the MYPs in running events for young people.

1-30 October

To find out more about MYPs and the Speak Out Group: www.shropshireyouth.com

SOUTHEND-ON-SEA BOROUGH Council

Population: 164 300 inhabitants

10-16 October

Communication campaign: Southend Borough web-site has published a page dedicated to ELDW 2011 with the aims and concepts of ELDW and its leading theme for 2011 edition.

Approach: summarised in "Voice and Influence Information Booklet for Schools and Colleges", issued by Southend on Sea during 2011/12 to mark European Local Democracy Week

Activities:

A number of events will be held to encourage children and young people in particular to participate in decision making and making their voices heard.

More information on:

http://www.southend.gov.uk/info/10021/events-democracy/1280/european_local_democracy_week/1

SWANSEA City Council -

Population: 229 100 inhabitants

10-16 October

Activities:

Consultation with young people: young people who attend Youth Clubs across the City and County of Swansea will have the opportunity to complete a questionnaire regarding voting.

"What I would do if I was Lord Mayor of Swansea for the day"

During Local Democracy Week, a competition across all the primary schools in the City and County of Swansea will be launched.

Students attending committee meeting: a group of Politics Students from Swansea University have been invited to attend the Petitions Committee meeting on Wednesday 12 October.

What can I vote for in 2012? During 2012 there will be Local Government elections, Community & Town Council elections and Police & Crime Commissioners elections.

Becoming a Councillor 2012

Are you interested in representing the people of Swansea by becoming a Councillor?

How Politics Affect Us

The Electoral Commission have produced lot of information as part of their 'How politics affects...' series.

TORBAY Council

Population: 134 000 inhabitants

10-16 October

Communication campaign: Torbay's Council website has published a page dedicated to ELDW 2011 with logo and links to the ELDW official web-site.

Approach:

Torbay Council's aim for Local Democracy Week is to:

- Encourage young people to voice their opinions on issues that matter most to them.
- Raise the profile of local democracy and the role of the Mayor and Councillors.
- Encourage more Councillors to get involved in youth participation and to support the young people of the area.
- Raise awareness on elections and how to vote.

The Local Democracy Campaign is attempting to give young people a better understanding of how local democracy works and what their role in the local community is. This can be achieved by learning about how the local council works and having an opportunity to meet local councillors.

Activities and events:

A set of activities and events are under preparation. Citizens, Youth organisations and young people who wish to participate in any of the events may contact Democratic Services on democratic.services@torbay.gov.uk

VALE OF GLAMORGAN - County

10-14 October 2011

Partner institutions: LGA

Media coverage: Local TVs, social networks, etc.

Approach: in the Vale, ELDW focuses on young people and local democracy, helping them to understand what the local council does, how it impacts on their lives and how they can make a difference to the decisions that are being made.

Activities: election of a 'youth champion'. Local political parties put forward candidates to become the youth champion. Their role, if elected, is to select some key young people's issues and to ensure that they are considered in local government decision making. There is a 'job description' for the candidate. Each candidate records a video manifesto for young people, and elections are held on-line for young people to vote during local democracy week.

LDW on the road - Our funky 'youth bus', called the v-pod, visits high schools, engaging with 14-18 year olds. On the bus, which has multimedia resources, young people can vote for the youth champion, find out why it is important to do so, and how to register to vote in real elections. Cabinet members from the County Council, along with chief officers of the Councils, are on hand to answer questions about Council services that the young people may have. Environmental and leisure issues are especially popular.

Question time - for young people who have further questions, these can be submitted on-line on a specific local young people's website 'swoosh'. Cabinet members and officers will answer the questions and these will be posted for all young people to see on 'swoosh'.

More information on <http://www.swoosh.me.uk/> and http://v-pod.me.uk/?page_id=2

WOKINGHAM Borough Council

Population: 153 000 inhabitants

10-14 October

Activities:

Young People Question Time: All primary and secondary schools within the Wokingham Borough have been invited to participate in a Question Time, to be held in the Council Chambers of the Civic Offices. Schools are being asked to nominate 3/4 pupils to attend and will prepare questions based upon the theme. These questions will then be put by those pupils at the Question Time to a Panel of high profile community representatives e.g. Political Leader of the Council, Chief Police Constable, and "Wokingham Youth MP", etc.

Place: Council Chambers, Civic Offices, Wokingham Borough Council

Date: 13 and 14 October

Publicity and Raising Awareness: a mobile stall/stand will be placed in the reception areas across the Wokingham Borough including Libraries and Leisure Centres, the Civic Office reception areas. These mobile stalls/stands will have information about democracy, ward councillors, elections, voting, the decision making process and Wokingham Borough Council. Helpers will be staff and volunteers from Democratic Services, the Mayor's Office and other service areas of the Council.

Place: Market Square, Town Centre.

Date: 10-14 October

School visits: The Mayor and Democratic Services Officers to tour both primary and secondary schools across the Borough upon invitation to speak to pupils about democracy, engagements, elections, the role of Councillors, the decision making process, community affairs and raise awareness about local functions of the Council.

Place: different schools within the Borough.

Date: 10-14 October 2011