

Promotion of twinning and cooperation projects between Ukrainian cities and European Union cities

The Congress of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) Party, convening in Lisbon, Portugal, on 4-6 October 2024:

Notes that:

1. **Russia's Aggression:** The ongoing criminal aggression by Russia against Ukraine continues to undermine the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, causing immeasurable suffering to its people.
2. **Support for Ukraine:** The Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) firmly supports the sovereignty, independence, and territorial integrity of Ukraine within its internationally recognised borders
3. **Importance of Solidarity:** International solidarity and cooperation are crucial for supporting Ukraine in its struggle for freedom, democracy, and the rule of law.

Calls for:

1. **Support for Ukraine:** We reaffirm our commitment to support Ukraine through diplomatic, economic, humanitarian, and military means to strengthen its ability to defend its sovereignty and territorial integrity.
2. **Promotion of Twinning and Cooperation:** We call on all ALDE member parties to actively promote, in their respective countries, the establishment of twinning and cooperation projects between Ukrainian cities and cities in various European countries, as well as the European Alliance of Cities and Regions for the Reconstruction of Ukraine, as set up jointly by the Ukrainian government and the European Committee of the Regions. Such initiatives should aim to:
 - a. Facilitate cultural, educational, and social exchanges between local communities;
 - b. Promote economic and infrastructural development, capacity building, and good governance projects through peer learning in Ukrainian cities affected by the war;
 - c. Provide support for the effective and sustainable reconstruction of the Ukrainian society as a whole, including technical and logistical support to rebuild destroyed or damaged infrastructure;
 - d. Foster dialogue and mutual understanding among citizens, contributing to the building of lasting friendships.
3. **Ongoing Monitoring and Support:** We urge ALDE member parties to monitor the implementation of these twinning and cooperation projects and to share best practices and successes achieved to continuously expand and improve such initiatives;
4. **Commitment to the Future:** We commit ALDE to continue supporting Ukraine even after the conflict ends, helping the country to rebuild and thrive as a free and independent democracy within the European family.