

European Alliance of Cities and Regions for the Reconstruction of Ukraine

DECLARATION



**International Expert Conference on the
Recovery, Reconstruction and Modernisation
of Ukraine in Berlin**

25 October 2022

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to the International Expert Conference on the Recovery, Reconstruction and Modernisation of Ukraine in Berlin on 25 October 2022

We, EU and Ukrainian local and regional representatives, gathered in the European Alliance of Cities and Regions for the reconstruction of Ukraine (henceforth “the Alliance”) have pledged to coordinate our efforts to support the recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine.

We call for a sustainable reconstruction of Ukraine that is built around the principles of unwavering **support for Ukraine’s territorial integrity, sovereignty and unity**; of a **bottom-up approach** and of **empowerment of local self-government** to take on a meaningful role in the recovery and reconstruction; support to Ukraine’s EU **accession** path; of “**build back better**” with a **sustainable, green, smart and inclusive** approach; of **good local and regional governance**; and on the facilitation of local and regional business development and **innovation** and the development and **modernisation** of the Ukrainian countryside, respectful of its decentralisation reform.

Ahead of the Berlin Reconstruction Conference, we call on the European Commission, EU member states, international financial institutions and donors:

- to provide sufficient funding for all stages of the reconstruction process, and to propose a substantial **Ukraine Reconstruction Facility** (by the European Commission), which would enable the EU to pre-finance a significant share of the costs of reconstruction and recovery in Ukraine;
- to prepare the **legal grounds for using Russian assets**, frozen in the framework of sanctions, for Ukraine’s reconstruction process;
- to ensure an easy and flexible framework for multilevel cooperation and adequate financial resources that would enable EU institutions, European municipalities, regions, Euroregions, European Groupings of Territorial Cooperation and associations willing to assist Ukraine’s regions and municipalities in the reconstruction process, including by sharing best practices in urban and spatial planning;
- to allocate adequate financial envelopes to EU’s regional and local authorities for implementing cluster twinning partnerships, peer-to-peer exchanges and reconstruction projects with their Ukrainian counterpart at local and regional level;
- to maintain a strong commitment to engage with **local and regional self-governments, to promote good governance and local democracy**;
- to dedicate tailor-made **financial support for capacity-building** of Ukrainian local authorities and their associations in order to ensure proper implementation of the reconstruction plans at all levels.

The Alliance stands ready to engage and cooperate with all partners in order to ensure a bottom-up approach to the recovery and reconstruction process in Ukraine.

Partners:



European Committee of the Regions



ВСУКРАЇНСЬКА АСОЦІАЦІЯ ГРОМАД



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**European Committee
of the Regions**

Created in 1994 following the signing of the Maastricht Treaty,
the European Committee of the Regions is the EU's assembly of 329 regional and
local representatives from all 27 Member States, representing over 447 million Europeans.

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