

Academy on Participatory Democracy

The Academy on Participatory Democracy is jointly organised by the Council of Europe and the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for the Rule of Law and European Values (CRoLEV) at the School of Law of the University of Central Lancashire in Cyprus (UCLan Cyprus), facilitated by the Interdisciplinary Centre for Law, Alternative and Innovative Methods (ICLAIM)

28th November 2023 (online)
1st and 2nd December 2023 (in person) at the UCLan Cyprus campus in Pyla, Larnaca area.

1. DESCRIPTION OF THE ACADEMY

The Academy on Participatory Democracy aims at promoting Council of Europe standards on civil participation and providing key concepts and tools of participatory democracy while strengthening the interaction between local authorities and civil society organisations on the island of Cyprus. It will raise awareness about the benefits of participatory democracy and the possibilities of unlocking the potential of the dialogue with citizens and various stakeholders, providing proposals, guidance, and indications on how efficient engagement of citizens in political decision-making can be reached.

KEY EXPERTS



Dako (Darejan) Muradashvili - Council of Europe Expert

Dako is the Head of the Branch Office of Civil Society Institute in Georgia. She holds an MA in Philology, at Gori State University. She has 15 years of extensive experience in delivering consultancy and advocacy on building strong resilient local communities and advocating participatory democracy. Dako is a chairwoman of the Mayor's advisory council in Gori and she facilitates local civil society initiatives. She is an alumna of different international leadership programs. Mrs. Muradashvili has contributed to and facilitated different international participation Academies and Schools on participatory Democracy for the Council of Europe.



Anna Ditta is the Head of the program's development department at ALDA - the European Association for Local Democracy, an organisation created under the auspices of the Congress of Regional and Local Powers of the Council of Europe in 1999. She holds MA in International Politics at the University of Padua (Italy). She has 15+ years of experience in project development in the area of good local governance, which includes: support to cooperation among local stakeholders, capacity building for Local Authorities and Civil Society Organisations, and facilitation of civic engagement at the local level. Over the years, she also developed a solid experience in facilitation and training on these topics and in different geographical areas, including the EU, the Western Balkans, and the Maghreb. She is an alumna in different programs related to participatory democracy, such as the Deliberative Democracy Exchange of the Kettering Foundation and a few programs issued by

the Council of Europe.



Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou

Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou is a Professor of European Law and Reform and Head of the School of Law at UCLan Cyprus. Director of the Jean Monnet Centre of Excellence for the Rule of Law and European Values (CRoLEV) at UCLan Cyprus, she is also Visiting Professor at the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR). Rule of Law Expert on the sustainability of rights and systemic challenges to justice in times of crisis, with key publications and achievements, she is also an ADR expert in Cyprus and at the EU level (certified and registered commercial Mediator with the Ministry of Justice and Public Order of the Republic of Cyprus; Arbitrator, Trade & Sustainable Development Expert for the European Commission) and an AI and privacy Expert. She also leads executive education in the fields of Law, ADR, ethics and integrity, Rule of Law and Good Governance principles. Founder of the Civil Society Organisation 'Interdisciplinary Centre for Law, Alternative and Innovative Methods' (ICLAIM), she promotes actively fundamental rights, social justice and conflict resolution in Europe and was awarded the European Parliament's European Citizen 2020 Prize on behalf of ICLAIM for promoting European values on the ground in Cyprus via social mediation.



Dr Katerina Antoniou is a Lecturer in Tourism at UCLan Cyprus and the Course Leader for BA (Hons) Tourism and Hospitality Management. She holds a BA in Political Science and Economics from Clark University, Massachusetts, an MSc in International Relations Theory from the London School of Economics, and a PhD in International Peacebuilding from the University of Central Lancashire, Preston. Her research focuses on niche tourism management, peace tourism, tourism as a form of international relations, and conflict resolution. She is the author of the book *Tourism as a Form of International Relations*, by Edward Elgar Publishings. In other publications, Dr Antoniou has examined the role of visiting professionals in peacebuilding, the politicisation of dark tourism sites, and visitation in politically unstable destinations. Dr Antoniou has also contributed to the Encyclopedia of Tourism Management and Marketing as the author of the terms

Peace Tourism, Peacebuilding Tourism, and Peacebuilder. Dr Antoniou is a trained facilitator in non-formal education and a trainer for Social Mediation. She is a resident expert for ICLAIM, and a Fulbright Alumna.



Dr. Nadia Kornioti is a qualified Advocate in the Republic of Cyprus, holding an LLB from the University of Leicester, UK, an LLM in Public International Law from University College London, UK, and PhD in Law from the University of Central Lancashire, UK.

Nadia has decade-long experience with a number of international, regional and Cypriot institutions, including all major EU institutions, the EU Fundamental Rights Agency (FRA) and the International Red Cross/Red Crescent Movement. Working areas include Migration, Asylum, Fundamental Rights, Equality and Non-Discrimination, Memory, Transitional Justice and Peace Education.

She became a member of ICLAIM in 2018, when she was invited to act as a reviewer for the then newly-launched '[Handbook on Social Mediation](#)'. Since then, she has been a core member of the Social Mediation team, conducting training, and contributing to the development of the project. Building on her experience, Nadia's research areas of interest include general Public International Law, with a focus on International Humanitarian Law and International Human Rights Law, Refugee and Migration Law, Legal History and Theory, Comparative

Public Law, and the Law's intersection with Politics, the Social Sciences and the Humanities. She has taught, published and/or presented on the above topics.

AGENDA

Online Meeting 28TH November 2023

10:00-13:00 (CYT)

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/85610075873?pwd=TLVYaKezi47GLGapwW0bEKrb3ttWL4.1>

10:00-10:10	Introduction: objectives and the concept of the Academy <i>Prof. Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou, Rule of Law expert and accredited mediator</i>
10:10-10:20	Standards and concepts of the Council of Europe <i>Mrs. Cornelia Perle, Division of Elections and Participatory Democracy, Council of Europe</i>
10:20-11:00	Getting to know each other with interactive method (padlet) Expectations from the participants with Mentimeter <i>Moderated by Mrs. Dako Muradashvili and Mrs. Anna Ditta</i>
11:00-12:00	Introduction to the Council of Europe's toolbox: quick overview of the tools that will be presented during the Academy <i>Moderated by Mrs. Dako Muradashvili</i> Q&A
12:00-12:30	Code of Good Practice for civil participation in the decision-making process 9 principles of good participation 4 levels of participation <i>Moderated by Mrs. Anna Ditta</i>
12:30-13:00	Next steps Logistic information for face-to-face training <i>Moderated by Prof. Stéphanie Laulhé Shaelou, Rule of Law expert and accredited mediator</i>

Methodological references of the sessions above:

Code of good practice for civil participation in the decision-making process

Friday 1st December 2023
At the UCLan Cyprus campus in Pyla, Larnaca area.

14:00-14:30	Welcome Reception and registration
14:30-15:00	Presentation of Civil Participation in Decision-Making Toolkit* Structure and Methodology Mrs. Dako Muradashvili
15:00 – 16:30	Simulation Exercise in groups: Community Assessment using an operational tool
16:30 - 17:00	Coffee break
17:00 – 17:45	Citizens' Assemblies Presentation and added value of the tool Mrs. Anna Ditta
17:45- 18:00	Evaluation of the DAY 1
<p>Methodological references of the sessions above:</p> <p><u>Civil participation in decision-making toolkit</u> * The Civil Participation in Decision-Making Toolkit was authored by the Council of Europe's Centre of Expertise for Good Governance in cooperation with the Institute of International Sociology of Gorizia (ISIG), Italy. Participants will be introduced to the toolkit and its potential application.</p> <p><u>"An easy-to-organize citizens' assembly" from the Blue Centre for democracy</u></p>	
18.00-19:00	Networking reception at the UCLan Cyprus campus, offered by CRoLEV

Saturday 2nd December, 2023
At the UCLan Cyprus campus in Pyla, Larnaca area

9.00 – 9.15	Welcome and Introduction of the Day 2
9.15 – 10.15	Presentation of CivicLab Toolkit Structure and Methodology Presentation of best practices of use of CivicLab Toolkit <i>Mrs. Dako Muradashvili</i>
10:15-11:15	Group exercise simulation
11:15-11:40	Presentation of results of group work and discussion with participants on the potential use of civic lab
11:40 - 12:00	Coffee break
12.00 – 12.30	Uchange Game Presentation Simulation in plenary Short Overview School Participatory Budgeting <i>Mrs. Dako Muradashvili</i>
12:30-14:00	Public Space Planning Public Consultations and Citizens Engagement and Implementation <i>Mrs. Natalya Chernogub</i> <i>online session</i>
14.00 – 15.00	Lunch break
15:00 - 17.00	Focus Group Potential application of the Council of Europe tools to the participants' contexts: action plans
	Final Evaluation
17.00 – 17.30	Conclusions and Final Remarks by the hosting partners and the Council of Europe
<p>Methodological references of the sessions above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● CivicLab, a toolkit for development, analysis, and forecasting decision options in decision-making ● U-CHANGE Game ● School participatory budgeting toolkit 	

Funded by the European Union. Views and opinions expressed are however those of the authors only and do not necessarily reflect those of the European Union or the European Education and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA). Neither the European Union nor the EACEA can be held responsible for them