



12th Central European Round Table of Green Local Councilors Vienna, 20th-22nd October 2016

Draft Programme (**updated 2016-10-14**)

Central European Round Tables of Green Local Councilors (CERT) take place in Vienna annually since 2005, with approx. 30 to 50 local officeholders from Austria, Czech Republic, Hungary, several countries from former Yugoslavia and guests from Western Europe.

ORGANIZERS:

MEP Monika Vana, Greens/EFA Group, Grüne Bildungswerkstatt (Austrian Green Foundation), Die Grünen Vienna

DATE 2016:

Thursday, 20th October 2016, 6:00 - 9:00 pm
Friday, 21st October 2016, 9:30 am - 6:00 pm
Saturday, 22nd October 2016, 9:30 am - 5:00 pm

LOCATIONS:

Thursday: C3-Centre for International Development, Sensengasse 3, Vienna (district 9)
Friday + Saturday: Headquarters of Die Grünen Vienna, Lindengasse 40, Vienna (district 7)

PARTICIPANTS:

- Greens and Green-affiliated officeholders and activists from Austria (and Vienna).
- Green MEP's from Austria, Hungary, Slovenia and Croatia.
- Elected Green Local Politicians and civil society representatives from Hungary, Czech Republic, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Montenegro, Republic of Macedonia, Kosovo, Albania and Bulgaria.
- Representatives of EGP (European Green Party), Greens/EFA Group, CDN (Cooperation and Development Network Eastern Europe), ENGS (European Network of Green Seniors), Green Foundations, etc.

More info on the previous Round Tables (reports, presentations, photos etc.) can be found here: <http://greeningthecities.wordpress.com/central-european-round-table/>

DRAFT AGENDA

Thursday, 20th October 2016, 6:00-8:30 pm

Location: C3-Centre for International Development, Sensengasse 3, 1090 Vienna.

"Contested Democracy" - authoritarianism and grassroots mobilization in East and South-East European countries

Public discussion organized by GBW - Austrian Green Foundation in cooperation with IWM - Institute for Human Sciences, Vienna

After the end of authoritarian socialism, much hope was placed in the democratic transition to a liberal and prosperous society. Nearly three decades later, East and South-East Europe are severely disillusioned with respect to democracy: Neither has it delivered prosperity for more than a minority nor has it led to an open and participatory mode of governance: Liberal democracy is criticized openly, nationalism is exculpated, elections are manipulated and opposition rights are curtailed. Nevertheless, grassroots mobilization has time and again contested these reactionary policies. What are the lessons to be learned from the failings of the post-1989 transition? How to reinvent democracy at the local, national and European level?

Speakers:

- **Ivan Krastev** (political scientist, Bulgaria/Austria, IWM-Institute for Human Sciences)
- **Lilijana Popovska** (MP of DOM-Democratic Renewal of Macedonia)
- **Merima Mujanović** (Bosnia-Herzegovina, member of "Naša Stranka"- "Our Party", Sarajevo-Stari Grad)
- **István Ferenczi** (Hungary, LMP-Politics can be different, local councilor in Budapest, district XIX)
- Moderation: **Monika Vana** (MEP, Die Grünen Austria)

6:00 - 6:30 pm:

Opening by **Andreas Novy** (GBW-Austrian Green Foundation), MEP **Monika Vana** and (video message) MEP **Ulrike Lunacek**, Vice President of the European Parliament.

6:30 pm:

Statement by Ivan Krastev, reaction and inputs by other panelists.

7 pm:

Discussion among panelists and with audience.

8 - 8:30 pm:

Closing

Friday, 21st October 2016:

Location: Headquarters of Die Grünen Vienna, Lindengasse 40, 1070 Vienna.

9:30 - 10:00 am:

Opening by Monika Vana (MEP),

Summary of Thursday's discussion.

Moderation: Nada Zerzer (Die Grünen Vienna) and Rosi Macher (GBW).

10:00 - 11:00 am:

Input by Members of the European Parliament on their priorities and work in EP-Committees with special focus on Central and Eastern Europe:

- Tamás Meszerics (MEP, Hungary - LMP)
- Davor Škrlec (MEP, Croatia)
- Igor Šoltés (MEP, Slovenia)
- Ulrike Lunacek (MEP, Austria, Vice President of the European Parliament)

11:00 am - 12:30:

Workshop organized by Working Group Baltic to Balkans (B2B) of Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament

Input by Robert Godina, Political advisor of the Greens/EFA Group, on

- Authoritarian tendencies in Central and South-East Europe
- Review of previous elections and upcoming campaigns.

Input by Vesna Jusup, European Green Party (EGP) on Green campaigning experiences.

12:30 - 1 pm:

Presentation: Politics in Währing - a new "green" district in Vienna.

1 - 2:15 pm:

Lunch

2:15 - 6 pm:

Excursion to Währing (district 18)

Währing is an urban district located in the West of Vienna, stretching between Gürtel street and Vienna Woods. For 70 years, the District Mayors elected belonged to ÖVP, the conservative party. In October 2015, Die Grünen became strongest party with 28% of the vote and 12 seats out of 40. An excursion, led by Green local councilor Marcel Kneuer, will cover places in Währing, where Green campaigning led to the implementation of "good practices". Between 3 and 4 pm, a meeting with newly-elected District Mayoress Silvia Nossek will take place in a café.

6 - 7:30 pm:

Free time

7:30 - 10 pm:

Dinner (in the 7th district of Vienna) with David Ellensohn, spokesperson of the Green Group in the City Assembly of Vienna.

Saturday, 22nd October 2016:

Location: Headquarters of Die Grünen Vienna, Lindengasse 40, 1070 Vienna.

Networking, Round-up and "Good Practices" from the countries present
(with "graphic recording" documentation)

9:30 - 9:45 am: Opening by Monika Vana.

Moderation: Rosi Macher (GBW) and Birgit Meinhard-Schiebel (Die Grünen, member of the City Assembly of Vienna).

9:45 - 10:15 am:

Presentation - by Emina Adamović and friends - of the work of "Bečka Grupa", a new initiative in the Framework of the "Green Migrants" section (GMW) of Die Grünen Vienna - founded by local councilors with roots in the "West Balkan" countries.

10:15 - 11:45 am:

Workshop organized by Working Group Transparency & Democracy of Greens/EFA group in the European Parliament

Input by Pam Bartlett-Quintanilla (WG Transparency & Democracy of Greens/EFA Group) and Markus Trilling (Climate Action Network) on

- EU funding and democratic development
- Steps towards more transparency and accountability
- Corruption in the public sector

11:45 am - 12:00:

Coffee break

12:00 - 12:20:

"Challenges in an urban district in Hungary ruled by a Green mayor. Experiences from Budapest XIV., Zugló" by Rebeka Szabó (Deputy Mayoress of the 14th district of Budapest)

12:20 - 1:15 pm:

Lunch (Lindengasse 40, canteen)

1:15 am - 1:45 pm:

Short reports on networking activities in Europe: EGP, Balkan Network, ENGS, Greens/EFA Group, Conferences on refugee issue, Grüner Städtetag Austria, etc.

1:45 am - 3:00 pm:

Round-ups & best practices ("poster fair") from participating countries, part 1.

3:00 - 3:15 pm: Coffee break

3:15 - 4:00 pm:

Round-ups & best practices ("poster fair"), part 2.

4:00 - 5:00 pm:

Feedback on best practices Round-ups and ideas.

Closing (next steps, further cooperation).

Registration:

Non-Austrian participants: gerhard.jordan@gruene.at

Austrian participants: karin.binder@gruene.at