

Seminar on democratic governance of metropolitan areas
(Thessaloniki, 17-18 October 2017)

Outline programme:

Day one		
Democratic governance of metropolitan areas		
Opening session	Welcome and Introduction	Keynote speakers
Session 1	Metropolitan governance and current trends	<p>Why metropolitan governance matters?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Factors that influence governance. <p>Different models of metropolitan governance and their application.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Informal/self-coordination - Inter-municipal authorities - Supra-municipal authorities - 'Metropolitan city' status <p>Division of competences and the role of metropolitan authorities.</p>
Session 2	Practices in Metropolitan governance in member States	<p>Speakers (representatives from ministries and from metropolitan areas) present practices such as:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Framework legislation on metropolitan/capital city areas - Functional Structures <p>Including evaluation/review of policy and improvements/further reforms needed.</p>
Session 3	Capital cities	Representatives from member states and capital cities present legislation, practices and the specific status on capital cities in Metropolitan governance:
Day two		
Session 4	Participative democracy in metropolitan cities	<p>Presentations of structures and measures to strengthen citizen involvement and civil participation (citizen and neighbourhood councils, consultation, advisory forums, etc.)</p> <p>Exchange on policies aimed at increasing inclusiveness and reinforcing community integration.</p>
Session 5	Metropolitan and capital governance in Greece	Peer to peer exchange: panel discussion of mayors, city managers and government representatives on practices and trends in Council of Europe member states to address current challenges, in particular in Greece.
Closing Session	Conclusions and Lessons learnt	<p>Metropolitan governance and application of the principles of good governance. Action to be taken by:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - the Council of Europe; - member states.