



About us

Local Democracy Embassy in Zavidovici was founded in 1996. It was created as a spontaneous initiative of a group of peace activists who had gathered around the Coordination of solidarity initiatives in Brescia in 1992 during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and implemented the projects of humanitarian assistance to the population in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and the reception of refugees in Italy. Over the years, this initiative has been expanded from Brescia to the territories of Alba and Cremona.

During 1993, the Standing Conference (now Congress) of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe adopted a resolution 251, which promotes the creation of "Embassy of Local Democracy", as an instrument of mediation, promotion and protection of human rights in a pluralistic and multicultural society. This included the formation of a delegation in the ex-Yugoslav communities, which would be an instrument of democracy and support to the peace building process. So in 1997 a project that started as initiative from Italy officially has been recognized as the Embassy of Local Democracy and the office was formally inaugurated with a permanent delegation.

Today, LDA Zavidovici in Bosnia and Herzegovina carries out activities in the local community and Zenica-Doboj Canton, and works with organizations from across the country and the region in the implementation of common projects. In addition, it should be stressed that the backbone and constant work is always close collaboration with the founders and partners of the organization from Italy.

Activities

- *decentralized cooperation in different sectors: local democracy, environment, local economic development, social welfare, social, educational, cultural activities, with special focus on women, youth and the protection of human rights;*
- *organization of twinning between local authorities in Italy and Bosnia-Herzegovina;*
- *organization of sports exchange between Italy and Bosnia and Herzegovina;*
- *youth exchanges, animations of children in rural areas of Zavidovici;*
- *support and assistance to local initiatives for the*
- *fight against domestic violence;*
- *awareness-raising activities in local communities on the issue of human rights, civil participation and promotion of European integration;*
- *coordination and hosting of volunteers within the European Voluntary Service - EVS;*
- *mediation activities and encouraging the construction of civil society at the local level;*
- *activities of research, analysis and publication of documents on the state of society and social needs.*

Network

LDA Zavidovici is a member of ALDA, Association of Local Democracy Agencies, a European network that brings together more than 150 members including local authorities, associations of local authorities, non-governmental organizations and individuals from more than 30 countries. The main characteristic of ALDA and its members is to promote the concept of good governance and citizen participation at the local level.



LDA offices:

Osijek, Sisak and Brtonigla (Croatia); Niš and Subotica (Serbia); Peja (Kosovo); Prijedor, Zavidovici and Mostar (Bosnia and Herzegovina); Nikšić (Montenegro); Shkodra (Albania); Kutaisi (Georgia); Gumri (Armenia), Dnipropetrovsk (Ukraine)

Values

- **Democracy**

Promoting the principle of representative and participatory democracy to strengthen solidarity and social responsibility of individuals and institutions

- **Human rights**

Respect of human rights and the fight against all forms of exclusion and discrimination

- **Social cohesion**

Encouraging confidence, dialogue and cooperation among social actors at local, regional and European level

- **Sustainable development**

The promotion of social development that meets the needs of citizens, effectively protects the environment, sensitively consumes natural resources, and contributes to a high and stable movement of economic growth and employment

- **International Cooperation**

Networking with European institutions and partners in order to transfer good practice and achieving intercultural cooperation

- **European values**

The promotion of of European standards and values at all levels

Contact

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Balkan regional platform for
youth participation and dialogue



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Local Democracy Agency Zavidovići



Associazione per l'Ambasciata della
Democrazia Locale a Zavidovici