

## Digital dialogue

MANABALSS/ PUBLIC INVOLVMENT FOUNDATION







One of the systematic obstacles to public involvement of the Ukrainian society is the low quality of social initiatives, actually the lack of quality criteria, methodology and implementation mechanisms/tools.

In this project, together with introduction of a digital e-petition tool *ManaBalss.lv*, the related Ukrainian platform *MiiHolos.ua* was updated according to the Latvian experience, which is the most successful platform in public involvement in the world. During the project a methodology on how to increase the effectiveness and quality of the Ukrainian digital democratic platforms was also developed.

In Kiev we jointly organized a well-attended conference about democracy, where influential action-policy makers and practitioners of digital democracy took part. Representatives from ManaBalss also took part in *Kyiv Smart City* conference. Additionally, the experience of Latvia was reflected upon in the 3<sup>rd</sup> International legal forum in Kharkiv.

The working principles of the digital petition tool that we introduced on the *MiiHolos.ua* platform may increase the effectiveness and quality of the numerous Ukrainian digital democracy platforms.

With this project the experience of *ManaBalss.lv* from 2016 when the platform *MiiHolos.ua* was introduced has been solidified. Also, new connections have been established and groundwork has been layed to use the competences and developed technologies

gained from their visits to Latvia to strengthen and increase the effectiveness of the Ukrainian civic society and state administration.

Currently, at the end phase of the project, ground work is being layed for long term cooperation with the Ukrainian government, parliament, local governments, NGO's and researchers to introduce the developments brought to attention by this project for improving the dialogue between the civic society and action-policy makers in practice.



## More about the project:

- https://ej.uz/q8rg
- https://ej.uz/i16x
- https://ej.uz/zmum
- https://ej.uz/i12k
- https://ej.uz/55o6
- https://ej.uz/oos5

Our conclusion is, that it is not possible to transfer experience and good practice without adaption. It must be adapted to the conditions of the receiving country – it's legislature, if necessary, also by initiating changes in laws, and the culture and behaviour of the society towards certain fields. Initiating change in behaviour and attitude is a long term process and it is not completable in one or a few projects.



Latvian ambassador in the Ukraine Juris Poikāns opens the project conference "E-democracy Forum 2.0" in Kiev.



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