

# Territorial Reform to Boost City Halls Capacities

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TIRANA – Albania's Association of Municipalities in cooperation with Tirana Office of the German Konrad-Adenauer-Stiftung organized in Tirana on Monday the conference under topic "European Dimension of Local Government and Instruments for Democracy and Decentralization."

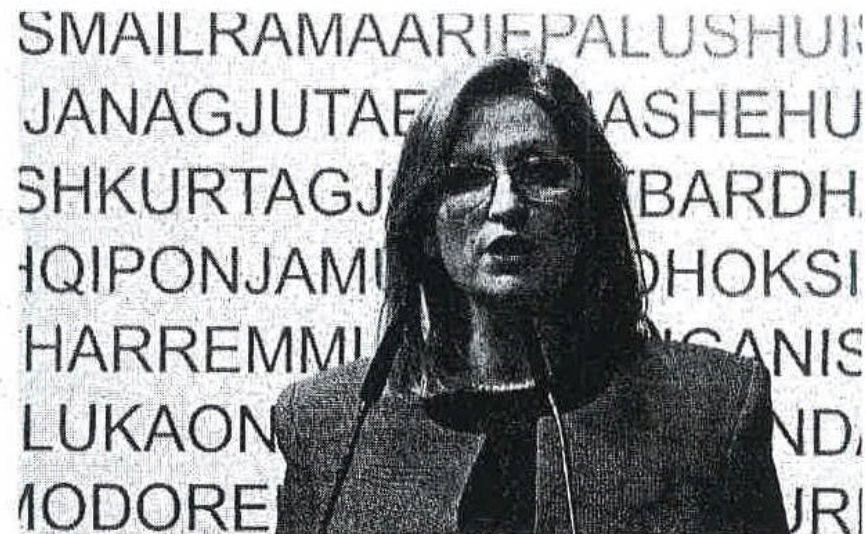
Attending the conference were local officials and foreign guests like CDU MP Thorsten Frei, a member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs and Rapporteur on Albania to the German Bundestag.

In his speech delivered to the conference, Frei made an expose of German regions development while putting the emphasis on significance of financial administrative management and responsibilities in pub-

lic services as a factor of success in challenges ahead of the local government.

Being an authority of local government issues as a former mayor of Donaueschingen town, Frei focused on the best German practices of local governance and local self-financing that aim at being close to the citizens like models that guarantee development of municipalities. Local development is in the root of national development, he said.

While, Head of the Albania's Association of Municipalities Voltana Ademi talked about importance of the territorial reform and said that although two years have passed since implementation of this reform there are still issues that need improvement in regard to the regulatory



Voltana Ademi

legal framework and management of autonomy under the conditions of territorial enhancement.

The financial management is another issue that needs to be improved so that to achieve the German level, said Ademi. While, the DP MP Jorida Tabaku focused on the role of Parliamentary approach and the democratic model for the local government as well as acquaintance with the EU instruments as an opportunity for development

of Albanian city halls. The new territorial organization aims at strengthening the city halls through capacity building in providing high quality services for the citizens and through increasing efficiency in management of their resources.