

ROBERT
SCHUMAN
Institute

FOCUS ON UKRAINE

MUNICIPAL POLITICS –
CLOSEST TO THE PEOPLE



Over 200,000 new local councilors elected on 25 October, 2015
What will the EPP family do to support them?

THE NEED

On 25 October, 2015 local election for **over 200,000 mandates** takes place in Ukraine, completing the replacement of Yanukovich-era structures with the influx of thousands of newcomers to political life. Combined with a decentralization process that brings a new operational framework to the councils, the task is a serious challenge. However, this is a window of opportunity to support a bottom-up effort for building a new country firmly set on a European course.

WE ASK FOR YOUR PARTNERSHIP
SO THAT THE **ROBERT SCHUMAN
INSTITUTE (RSI)**, - THE EUROPEAN
LEVEL POLITICAL EDUCATION
INSTITUTION OF THE EPP FAMILY -
COULD MAKE GREATER IMPACT
IN REINFORCING THE NEW COUN-
CILORS' EFFECTIVE WORK.

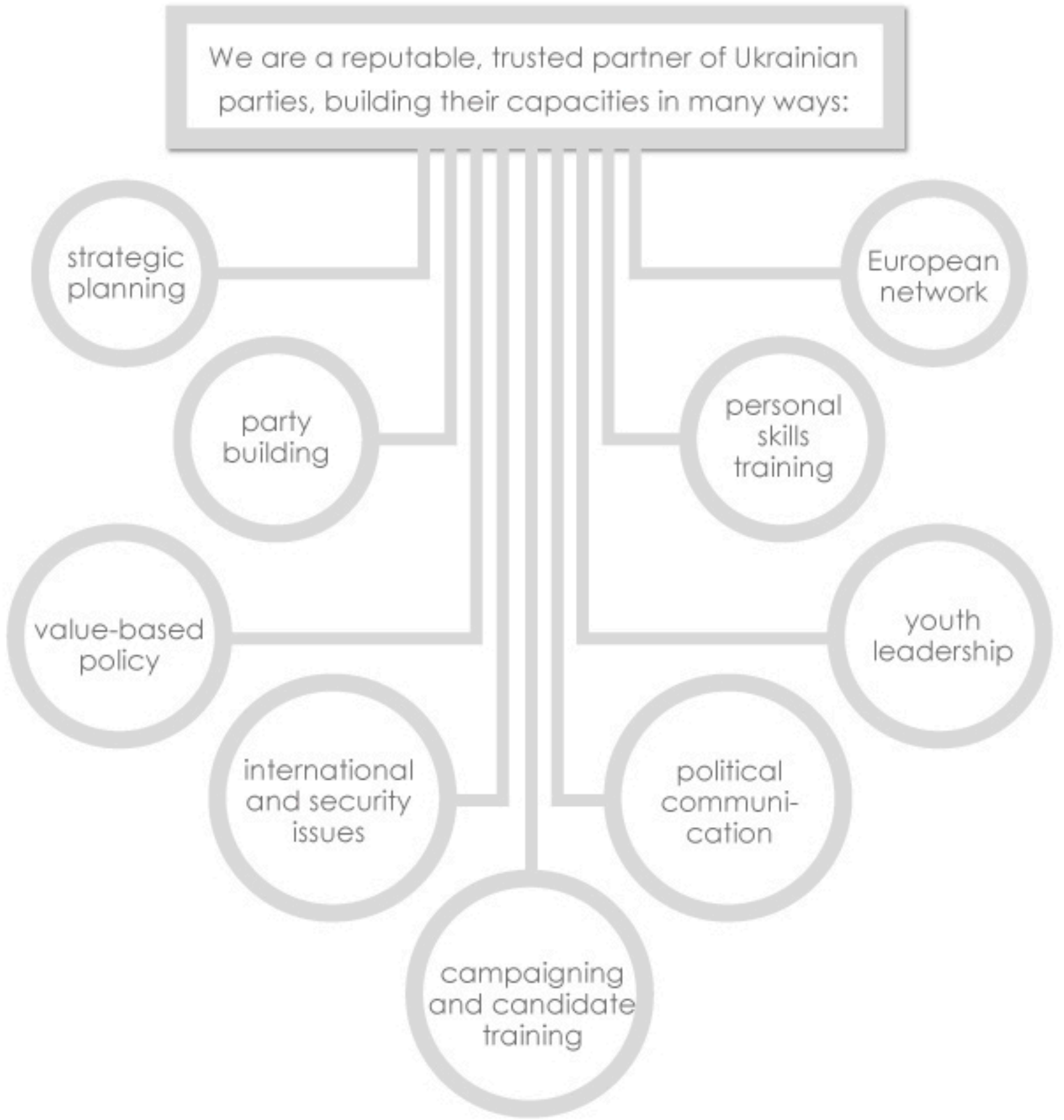


EPP can only remain the most important player on conditions that its members are competent, well trained and well prepared for political life. For us the Robert Schuman Institute is a key partner in achieving this goal.

Luc Vandeputte, Deputy Secretary General, European People's Party

RSI OFFERS ADDED-VALUE AND 20 YEARS OF EXPERIENCE

The Robert Schuman Institute has been offering trainings, seminars and study visits for Ukrainian representatives of EPP sister parties involving MPs, parliamentary advisors, local and district councilors, youth leaders, journalists and other opinion makers in different fields.



STRONG LOCAL CAPACITY

The **Institute of Political Education (IPO)** has been a partner of RSI for many years. IPO was founded in 2001 with the mission of political education of Ukrainian society, including the development of parliamentary democracy and local self-governance, European integration of Ukraine and the promotion of Christian democratic values.



Since the independence of the country six democratic local elections were held in Ukraine, electing tens of thousands of councilors. In each election **more than half of the local councilors were newly elected**, many of them with low-level of political education, especially in matters related to local government. This compli-

cates the solution of local problems, prevents the strengthening of democratic processes, even generating revanchist sentiments for the return of the old Communist administrative systems. Through the cooperation of IPO and RSI many local councilors acquired knowledge that allowed them to effectively solve the problems of their communities. Ukraine has stepped on the road of decentralization, implements the principle of subsidiarity, and the successful European experience of reforms is necessary for the Ukrainian councilors.

Andriy Strannikov, IPO director, RSI alumnus and Kyiv city councilor



RSI INVITES YOU

TO CONTRIBUTE TO THE TRAINING OF
THE NEWLY ELECTED LOCAL COUNCILORS
OF THE **EPP** SISTER PARTIES



We would like to offer:

FUNDAMENTAL TRAININGS:

3 X 3 working day course in Kyiv focusing on:

- value-based politics for the local level
- local councils after decentralisation
- operating the organisation of a local council
- effective work in political groups
- role of councilors in fighting corruption
- involving the community in decision making
- fiscal and budget procedures
- urban development
- operation of public companies
- political leadership, public speaking

STUDY VISITS TO

EU MEMBER STATES:

- visiting institutions on local and regional level
- EU partnership
- specific policy discussions
- networking and cross-border cooperation opportunities



For newly elected local councilors it is very difficult to start their work. During the seminar, I received many mechanisms of influence on the government in general and the officials. I also found different solutions to very complex problems at the local level, learned to react quickly

and help the community. Local councilors want to make big changes in the country, and that is why we have a great need for such seminars.

Svitlana Viryaskina, Oleksandriya city council, Kirovohrad region



Local councils have to perform different functions: improving investment climate, control over quality housing services, guarantee of safe and comfortable public transport, as well as creation of kids-friendly zones or facilities for disabled people. In fact it's about taking care of everyday comfort of community residents. Unfortunately, most candidates and even

already elected councilors are not prepared properly by their political parties and so do not realise their powers and duties. This results in low efficiency of councils' activity, which must be helped by proper education.

Olena Halushka, Kyiv city councilor, RSI alumna

RSI is maintained exclusively from membership fees, grants and donations.

THERE ARE TWO WAYS YOU CAN SUPPORT OUR WORK:

1 To join the RSI as a COOPERATING PARTNER in this project, contact Gábor BERCZELI, Acting Director:



H-1123 Budapest, Alkotás u. 5., Hungary

E-mail: office@schuman-institute.eu

www.schuman-institute.eu

 Robert Schuman Institute (Budapest)

2 INDIVIDUAL DONATIONS are welcome at:

Name of the beneficiary: **Robert Schuman Institute**

Name of the bank: **MKB Bank Zrt.**

Address of the bank: **H-1056, Budapest, Váci utca 38.**

IBAN: **HU05 1030-0002-5010-0406-2100-4887**

SWIFT: **MKKBHUHB**

Remittance information: **Ukraine**

Please also provide us with your e-mail address, so we can inform you about the allocation of your donation and the results of the project.