



EU-CHEM-REACT 2

European Program on Exercises on Civil Protection in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine

EU-CHEM-REACT 2 program (www.ecr.iccss.eu) financed by the European Union DG ECHO, is based on the successful, ongoing implementation of the EU-CHEM-REACT project implemented in Ukraine by the international consortium of Lithuania, Ukraine Poland with an active participation of OSCE, Latvia and Czech Republic, and led by the International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS), www.iccss.eu.

EU-CHEM-REACT 2 provides for a series of exercises and various preparedness activities to complement the national prevention, preparedness and response at local, national and regional levels to simultaneous big scale chemical and environmental man-made or natural emergencies in Belarus, Moldova and Ukraine. They include: Table Top Exercise /TTX/, in Belarus, on 29-30 October, 2019, Command Post Exercise (CPX) in Chisinau, Moldova, on 3-4 March, 2020, and a Full Scale Field Exercise (FsX) in Ukraine, on 15-16 September 2020, as a main event of the program. It offers unique opportunity to bring together the capacities of the EU and NATO Members, countries of Eastern Europe, and the relevant international organizations to prepare and respond to chemical terrorism and natural disasters. The program expands the Union Civil Protection Mechanism (UCPM) to the countries of Eastern Europe.

EU-CHEM-REACT 2 develops volunteer fire services and medical rescue and promotes their use within UCPM. It develops Civil Protection Exercises Public Information Strategy, and promotes European exercise network in civil protection.

The Union Civil Protection Mechanism, hereafter the Mechanism, was established by Decision No 1313/2013/EU of the European Parliament and of the Council of 17 December 2013 on a Union Civil Protection Mechanism. The Mechanism was set up with the aim to provide support, upon request, in the event of major emergencies and to facilitate improved coordination of assistance intervention. The Mechanism does so by facilitating response to protect primarily people but also the environment and property, including cultural heritage, in the event of natural and man-made disasters, acts of terrorism and technological, radiological or environmental accidents, including accidental marine pollution, occurring inside or outside the European Union, taking into account the special needs of the isolated, outermost and other regions or islands of the European Union.

EU-CHEM-REACT 2 includes a **broad Media Plan** and **VIPs and Observer program** which would enable an active UCPM promotion and participation of countries of Eastern Partnerships and other regions, including the Middle East, to get acquainted with UCPM and international cooperation and humanitarian assistance.

EU-CHEM-REACT 2 EXPECTED RESULTS:

- create, within the UCPM and neighboring countries, a common basis of understanding concerning the tasks, procedures and co-operation during international civil protection assistance interventions;
- verify and improve (if necessary) national Civil Protection procedures with use of UCPM;
- better prepare for growing chemical terrorism threats;

- share knowledge about UCPM especially through dissemination of minimum required standards and procedures in the framework of civil protection valid for EU Participating States.
- Development, promotion and professional prowess of voluntary fire services in the the neighbouring European Union countries and their preparedness to support to meeting the CBRN related disasters;
- Development of training materials for preparation and conduct of trainings and exercises in the neighbouring European Union countries;
- Develop European Training and Exercise network in civil protection.

EU-CHEM-REACT 2 PARTNERSHIP is formed by an international consortium composed:

- **International Centre for Chemical Safety and Security (ICCSS) in Warsaw, Poland**, www.iccss.eu - initiated and runs the international consortium EU-CHEM-REACT, which was awarded an EU grant for years 2017-2018. ICCSS possess major management experience in international projects and broad contacts in the region – **leader of the Consortium**
- **General Directorate of the Fire Rescue Service of the Czech Republic**, <https://www.hzscr.cz/> – possesses CBRN and natural disaster response and operational capacities and experience on use of UCPM and EU tools, EU-CHEM-REACT observer and provider of technical capacity. This will be done through State Fire Rescue Service of Latvia– technical and operational capacities and experience in use of UCPM and EU tools.
- **The General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations of the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Republic of Moldova**, <http://www.dse.md> – possesses CBRN and natural disaster response capacities and experience in organization and conduct of exercises.
- **Lviv State University of Life Safety, Ukraine**, <https://ldubgd.edu.ua/> is a national leading education and training facility in fire service, with broad competence in substantive and support staff, and a modern technical base, to conduct exercises
- **The State Educational Establishment "University of Civil Protection of the Ministry for Emergency Situations of the Republic of Belarus**, beneficiary: <http://www.ucp.by> a national leading education and training facility in civil protection, and a centre to conduct national and international activities, including exercises, EU-CHEM-REACT observer.
- **Fire Safety Works and Services Association in Lithuania**, <http://www.pdpa.lt> – offers technical experience, technology capacities and contacts to conduct practical activities in crisis management.
- **State Fire and Rescue Service, Ministry of Interior of Latvia**, <http://www.vugd.gov.lv/> – provision of CBRN and disaster response and operational capacities and experience during the FsX and use of UCPM.

INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS PARTICIPATION:

- **UN OCHA** – coordination of humanitarian assistance;
- **OPCW** – verification of use of chemical weapons and international assistance in case of use of chemical weapons;
- **OSCE** – provide an expertise on cooperation with the Ukraine relevant organizations and member of the evaluation process;
- **INTERPOL** – chemical security prevention and information exchange.

Working together to enhance chemical safety and security