

Press Release

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The Council of Europe Congress and the City of Strasbourg launch a poster campaign against domestic violence

Strasbourg, 01.03.2007 - From 1 to 15 March 2007 the City of Strasbourg and the Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities will be co-operating in a poster campaign against domestic violence throughout the Strasbourg metropolitan area. This activity will be conducted as part of the Council of Europe's campaign to combat domestic violence against women.

The Council of Europe launched its two-year campaign in 2006 targeting the governmental, parliamentary and local/regional levels. The Congress is responsible for the local and regional dimension, including setting up information points on the campaign in the local communities.

Pascal Mangin, the Strasbourg deputy mayor responsible for international affairs, who is also a member of the Congress and Rapporteur on domestic violence, says that in becoming involved in this awareness-raising campaign the City of Strasbourg wants to show its determination to prioritise public action against domestic violence. The initiative is shortly to be extended to other European cities, and poster campaigns are already scheduled in Spain, Portugal, Italy, Ukraine and Iceland, for example.

Furthermore, on 8 March 2007, International Women's Day, the Mayor of Strasbourg Fabienne Keller will be attending a conference organised by the Council of Europe on the theme "Domestic violence against women – Breaking the silence". She will also be speaking at a debate on the same subject at the Congress' spring session from 26 to 28 March.

Further information on the "Stop domestic violence" campaign is available at www.coe.int/congress/stopviolence.