

Press Release

Communication Unit of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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Action against domestic violence: the Congress involves the universities of Strasbourg

Strasbourg, 16.03.2007 - As part of the Council of Europe's campaign "Stop domestic violence against Women", the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities – in co-operation with the City of Strasbourg, Marc Bloch University, the ITI-RI University and the Portuguese student association CHAMA – is organising an awareness-raising week in Strasbourg's universities from 19 to 23 March 2007.

The week will begin on 19 March at 6pm. with a conference on the various kinds of violence which young women may encounter: date rape drugs, sexual assault and violence between partners.

The conference will be opened by Pascal Mangin, Strasbourg deputy mayor responsible for international affairs, also member of the Congress and Rapporteur on domestic violence. Participants will include Frédérique Loutrel-Radice (Vice-President, Urban Community of Strasbourg), Myriam Lackner (social worker, Neuhof), Annie Géraut (forensic doctor), Franka Sieffert (SOS Femmes solidarité), Pierre-Olivier Daize (police inspector), and Marie-Claude Jolly (Unit for Action against Violence in Families, CTVI).

The week will also feature the following events: a film-show with discussion, an improvised theatre evening with the Compagnie Inédit Théâtre, a quiz evening, a mixed football match and information stands on the Council campaign in universities.

Venue of the conference: University of Strasbourg, ITIRI, amphi Pangloss - Building Le Pangloss, allée René Capitant, Strasbourg (France)

Special file on the week: www.coe.int/strasbourg-stopviolence
Campaign website: www.coe.int/stop-violence

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The Congress has two chambers, the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions.
It brings together 315 full and 315 substitute members representing more than 200 000 European territorial communities.
President of the Congress Halvdan Skard (Norway, SOC), President of the Chamber of Regions: Yavuz Milden (EPP/CD, Turkey),
President of the Chamber of Local Authorities : Ian Micallef (Malta, EPP/CD).
Political Groups : Socialist Group (SOC), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (EPP/CD),
Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG).