

Press Release

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Seminar on transfrontier co-operation and the "Dnipro" Euroregion

Strasbourg, 26.06.2008 – Developments in the field of transfrontier cooperation in Europe and the activities of the Dnipro Euroregion (Ukraine-Russian Federation-Belarus) will be the highlights of a seminar which is being held on 30 June in Chernigiv, Ukraine.

The seminar, which is an initiative of the Working Group on Inter-regional Co-operation of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, is being organised in cooperation with the Ministry of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine, the Chernigiv Regional Council, the Ukrainian Association of Local and Regional Authorities, the Foundation for Local Self-Government of Ukraine, Centre of Research of the Issues of Regional and Local Development and Support to the Administrative Reform.

The specific objectives of the seminar are to:

- study the development of transfrontier co-operation today and the major stakes involved;
- inform about a legal framework to facilitate transfrontier co-operation in Council of Europe member states;
- learn about the history, aims and activities of the Dnipro Euroregion;
- provide examples of existing European cross border and inter-regional projects in different fields including the Adriatic Euroregion recently established by the Congress;
- explore possibilities for setting up co-operation projects within the framework of the Dnipro Euroregion;
- discuss how to achieve a sustainable development of the Dnipro Euroregion.

The seminar will be opened by: Nataliya Romanova, President of the Chernigiv Regional Council and Congress Vice-President, Vasyl Kuybida, Minister of Regional Development and Construction of Ukraine, Yavuz Mildon, Congress President, Borys Tarasuk, President of the Parliamentary Committee on European Integration Issues, Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine and Mykola Pukhtynskiy, President of the Foundation for Local Self-Government of Ukraine.

A **press conference** will be held on 30 June at 10.45 (Chernigiv Conference Hall, 43, Avenue of Peace, 14000, Chernigiv).

The Congress has two chambers, the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions.

It brings together 318 full and 318 substitute members representing more than 200 000 European territorial communities.

President of the Congress : Yavuz Mildon (Turkey, EPP/CD), President of the Chamber of Regions: Ludmila Sfirloaga (Romania, SOC),

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**).