

Press Release

Communication Unit of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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Congress to observe elections of the Supreme Council of the Adjara Autonomous Republic (Georgia)

Strasbourg, 29.10.2008 – A delegation of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe will visit Georgia from 31 October to 4 November 2008, to observe elections of the Supreme Council of the Adjara Autonomous Republic, which will take place on 3 November.

Prior to election day, the delegation, which will be headed by Congress Vice-President Günther Krug (Germany, SOC), will meet in Tbilisi and Batumi with representatives of the international community and Supreme Council of Adjara, NGOs and political parties.

On 3 November, the delegation will be deployed in different areas of Adjara to observe the voting and ballot counting.

A **press conference** will be held in Tbilisi on **4 November, at 1.30 pm** in the Council of Europe Office (I. Chavchavadze ave. 2nd Lane, 3a Building).

Members of the delegation:

Günther Krug, Vice-President, Member of the House of Representatives of Berlin (Germany, SOC, R) – **Head of the delegation and Rapporteur**
Christopher Newbury, Councillor, Wiltshire County Council (United Kingdom, EPP/CD, L)
Gintautas Geguzinskas, Mayor of Pasvalys District (Lithuania, EPP/CD, R)
Sari Ylipulli, Member of Rovaniemi City Council (Finland, NR, R)
Jüri Landberg, Mayor of Rägavere Municipality (Estonia, ILDG, R)
Hana Richtermocova, Deputy Mayor, City of Horice (Czech Republic NR, L)

Congress Secretariat:

Fredrik Holm, Head of the Co-ordination and Management Division of the Congress, Co-ordination of election observation
Martine Schandené, Congress Secretariat

Contacts on the spot:

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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 Milden (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**).