

Media Advisory

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Strasbourg, 15.09.2009

International Seminar on "Diverse cities, creative cities"

Date: 19 September 2009

Location: Ignacy Jan Paderewski Pomeranian Philharmonic ul. Andrzeja Szwalbego 6 - 85-080 Bydgoszcz (Poland)

Organized by: the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe and the City of Bydgoszcz

Description: The concept of creative city celebrates cultural diversity through the promotion of local heritage. It is based on the idea that culture can play an important role in urban renewal and improvement of daily life. Several European cities have used creativity in favor of economic and social development through cultural projects ambitious and inclusive of different levels of the population. Notably, the process of reflection and cooperation which is triggered by the application of a city to the European Capital of Culture has positive effects on its creativity, even if the application is not accepted.

Representatives from the cities of Bydgoszcz, Linz (Austria), Vilnius (Lithuania), Patras (Greece) and the Country of Wales will also share the achievements and discuss the various possibilities to change the perception of cities.

The seminar will be opened by Konstanty Dombrowicz, Mayor of Bydgoszcz and Karl-Heinz Lambertz (Belgium, SOC), Chairman of the Committee on Culture and Education Congress.

A report on this subject is included in the agenda of the meeting of the Congress Committee on Education and Culture which will be held in Bydgoszcz, on the eve of the seminar.

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).