

# Media Advisory

## Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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29.09.2010

## Involving citizens to preserve historic sites: A Congress symposium to discuss management plans of historic towns

**Date:** 1-2 October 2010

**Location:** Kayseri (Turkey)

**Description:** The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, in co-operation with the Turkish national authorities, the Kayseri Municipality, the European Association of Historic Towns and Regions (EAHTR) and the Turkish Union of Historic Towns (TUHT), is organising an International Symposium on integrated management plans in historic towns – involving the citizen.

The Symposium will focus on citizens' participation in various schemes for managing historic sites, including local innovative approaches and consultations with local residents. Examples from Istanbul, Edirne and Alanya in Turkey, as well as case studies of Valetta (Malta), Poitiers (France) and Lublin (Poland) will be presented.

In the presence of the President of the Republic of Turkey, Abdullah Gül, who will also speak on this occasion, Ian Micallef, acting President of the Congress, and Mehmet Özhaseki, Mayor of Kayseri and TUHT President, will open the Symposium on 1 October. Farid Mukhametshin, Regional Chair of the Congress Committee on Culture and Education, and EAHTR President Louis Roppe will be among the key speakers on 2 October.

The Symposium will be preceded by a meeting of the Committee on Culture and Education which will discuss reports on: the integration of young people in disadvantaged areas, by Véronique Moreira (France, R, NR); on the cultural integration of Muslim women in European cities, by Amy Koopmanschap (Netherlands, L, SOC); and on the education for democratic citizenship – tools for cities, by Dario Ghisletta (Switzerland, L, SOC). The meeting will also be an occasion for an exchange of views on the Congress' reform and priorities, in the light of the forthcoming session in October 2010.

For more information: [www.coe.int/congress](http://www.coe.int/congress)

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).