

# Media Advisory

## Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Communication Division

Ref: MA112b09

Tel. +33 (0)3 90 21 50 86

Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 27 51

Internet: [www.coe.int/congress](http://www.coe.int/congress)

e-mail: [congress.com@coe.int](mailto:congress.com@coe.int)



Strasbourg, 12.10.2009

### 47 member States

Albania  
Andorra  
Armenia  
Austria  
Azerbaijan  
Belgium  
Bosnia and Herzegovina  
Bulgaria  
Croatia  
Cyprus  
Czech Republic  
Denmark  
Estonia  
Finland  
France  
Georgia  
Germany  
Greece  
Hungary  
Iceland  
Ireland  
Italy  
Latvia  
Liechtenstein  
Lithuania  
Luxembourg  
Malta  
Moldova  
Monaco  
Montenegro  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Poland  
Portugal  
Romania  
Russia  
San Marino  
Serbia  
Slovakia  
Slovenia  
Spain  
Sweden  
Switzerland  
"The former Yugoslav  
Republic of  
Macedonia"  
Turkey  
Ukraine  
United Kingdom

## New Council of Europe Secretary General to address Congress Plenary Session

**Date:** Tuesday 13 October, 2.30 pm

**Place:** Council of Europe Assembly Chamber, Strasbourg

**Description:** Thorbjørn Jagland, the newly elected Secretary General of the Council of Europe, will address the Congress, an assembly of local and regional representatives from 47 member states, gathered in Strasbourg this week.

Mr Jagland will focus on the role of the Congress as watchdog for territorial democracy in Europe. He will present his view of Congress contribution to the Council of Europe's major fields of activities; democracy, rule of law and human rights.

During his political career in Norway, Thorbjørn Jagland has had first-hand experience in local authorities, as a member of the Buskerud County Council.

The Secretary General's speech will be live broadcast at <http://tv.coe.int/webcast>.

A video will be available at [www.coe.int/congress-session](http://www.coe.int/congress-session) at least two hours after the end of his speech.

## Le nouveau Secrétaire Général du Conseil de l'Europe interviendra lors de la Session plénière du Congrès

**Date :** Mardi 13 octobre, 14h30

**Lieu :** Hémicycle du Conseil de l'Europe, Strasbourg

**Description :** Thorbjørn Jagland, Secrétaire Général nouvellement élu du Conseil de l'Europe, interviendra devant le Congrès, assemblée d'élus locaux et régionaux des 47 Etats membres, qui se réunit à Strasbourg cette semaine.

M. Jagland évoquera le rôle du Congrès en tant que gardien de la démocratie territoriale en Europe, et présentera sa vision de la place du Congrès dans les grands domaines d'activité du Conseil de l'Europe, qui sont la démocratie, la prééminence du droit et les droits de l'homme.

Durant sa carrière politique en Norvège, Thorbjørn Jagland a fait l'expérience directe de la démocratie locale, en tant que membre du Conseil du comté de Buskerud.

L'allocation du Secrétaire Général sera retransmise en direct sur <http://tv.coe.int/webcast>

Une vidéo sera disponible sous le lien [www.coe.int/congress-session](http://www.coe.int/congress-session) deux heures au moins après la fin de l'allocation.

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).