

Press Release

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Communication Division

Ref: MA065a09

Tel. +33 (0)3 90 21 49 36

Fax +33 (0)3 88 41 27 51

Internet: www.coe.int/congress

e-mail: congress.com@coe.int



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20.05.2009

Congress to observe municipal election in Yerevan, Armenia

Dates: 27 May – 1 June 2009

Place: Yerevan (Armenia)

Description: A delegation of the Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities will observe the first municipal elections in Yerevan, Armenia, on 31 May. The Congress delegation will be headed by Nigel Mermagen, (UK, ILDG). As part of the co-operation between the Council of Europe and the European Union, the delegation will include three members of the EU Committee of the Regions.

Prior to the election day, the delegation will meet with Armen Gevorgyan, Minister for Territorial Administration and Vice-Prime Minister of Armenia and Garegin Azaryan, Head of the Central Electoral Commission. As a follow-up to the Congress pre-electoral mission (4-6 May 2009), further encounters with candidates running for the post of Mayor of Yerevan are planned. The delegation will receive feedback on latest developments of the electoral campaign from representatives of media (private and state media) as well as from NGOs representatives.

A **press conference** is scheduled for **Monday 1 June at 12.30 pm** (Marriott Hotel, Yerevan).

Members of the delegation:

Congress

- Nigel Mermagen, Councillor, South Somerset District Council, (United Kingdom, L) **Head of the delegation**

- Istvan Borbely, Member of the General Assembly of Fejér County (Hungary, EPP-CD, R)

- Michel Guegan, Mayor of La Chapelle-Caro, (France, NI, L)

- Mihkel Juhkami, Chair, Rakvere City Council (Estonia, EPP-CD, L)

- Paolo Rondelli, Municipal councillor of San Marino, (San Marino, SOC L)

- Joachim Smyla, Head of the County of Lubliniec (Poland, EPP-CD, L)

- Mariacristina Spinosa, Consigliere, Regione Piemonte, (Italy, SOC, R)

- Clotilde Tascon Mennetrier, Vice-Présidente du Conseil Général d'Ile-et-Vilaine, (France, SOC, L)

- Jean-Louis Testud, Deputy mayor of Suresnes (France, EPP-CD, L)

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).

EU Committee of the Regions

- Jozef Chabert (Belgium, EPP-CD)
- Väino Hallikmägi (Estonia, ALDE)
- Uno Silberg (Estonia, UEN-AE)

Congress Secretariat

- Antonella Cagnolati, Congress Director
- Renate Zikmund, Head of the Congress Division of Communication, International Relations and Election Observation
- Nioucha Ziaemoghadam, Assistant

Press contacts

(In Yerevan): **Renate Zikmund**, Head of the Congress Division of Communication, International Relations and Election Observation, tel. +33 6 59 78 64 55;
renate.zikmund@coe.int

Council of Europe Office in Yerevan

tel. +374 10 54 63 22 / 26 / 28 / 29, Fax: +374 10 54 63 19, coe.yerevan@coe.int