

Press Release

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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Ian Micallef on agreement between Croatia and Slovenia: "A step towards further European integration"

Strasbourg, 16.09.2009 – "I welcome the agreement reached between Croatia and Slovenia on solving their territorial dispute that has been simmering since the break-up of Yugoslavia," Ian Micallef, Acting President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, stressed in a statement today.

"This is a move in the right direction which should open a new chapter in relations between these two member states of the Council of Europe, which will certainly have a larger positive impact on the region as a whole. Above all, it presents new opportunities for territorial communities of both countries to engage in cross-border cooperation projects, in the framework of the Council of Europe convention on transfrontier cooperation," he said.

"For Croatia, this is also a step towards further European integration," added Ian Micallef.

Pour Ian Micallef, l'accord entre la Croatie et la Slovénie est un pas de plus vers l'intégration européenne

Strasbourg, 16.09.2009 – Le Président en exercice du Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux de l'Europe, Ian Micallef, a déclaré aujourd'hui : « Je salue l'accord intervenu entre la Croatie et la Slovénie pour résoudre le conflit territorial latent qui les opposait depuis l'éclatement de la Yougoslavie ».

« C'est un pas dans la bonne direction qui devrait ouvrir un nouveau chapitre des relations entre ces deux Etats membres du Conseil de l'Europe et qui aura certainement un effet positif plus large sur toute la région. En outre, cet accord offre de nouvelles occasions aux collectivités territoriales des deux pays de participer à des projets de coopération dans le cadre de la convention du Conseil de l'Europe sur la coopération transfrontalière. »

« Pour la Croatie, c'est aussi un pas de plus vers l'intégration européenne » a ajouté Ian Micallef.

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).