

Press Release

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Communication Division

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Young Europeans meet to discuss climate change and water-related issues

Strasbourg, 13.10.2010 - As part of European Local Democracy Week (ELDW), the Council of Europe's Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, in conjunction with Solidarité Eau Europe and Schiltigheim Municipal Council, is organising a conference on "Young people, climate change and water: challenges for local and regional development and the impact on the most disadvantaged".

Young people and elected representatives from various European countries (Croatia, Moldova, Russia and Lithuania) and Schiltigheim, France, will be meeting to exchange views and experiences and discuss a topical issue chosen by the Congress as the main theme of ELDW 2010: climate change and its environmental and social effects.

The event will take place from 14 to 17 October 2010 at the European Youth Centre in Strasbourg and the Maison du jeune citoyen in Schiltigheim. The official conference will be held at the European Youth Centre on Saturday 16 October with the participation of Ian Micallef, the Congress President in office, Keith Whitmore, Chair of the Congress's Institutional Committee and ELDW co-ordinator, Raphaël Nisand, mayor of Schiltigheim and Andrée Buchmann, Vice-President of Strasbourg Urban Community and new member of the Congress.

Highlights of the Conference will include workshops on "climate change and water: local repercussions" and "Young people and elected representatives, ways of working together", involving both young people and elected representatives and offering them an opportunity to showcase actual examples in their respective countries.

For more information: www.coe.int/demoweeek

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).