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### **Congress delegation heading for a monitoring mission to assess grassroots democracy in Spain**

Strasbourg, 11.01.2013 - The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe will carry out the second part of its monitoring visit to Spain on 14 January 2013. Congress Rapporteurs Marc COOLS (ILDG, Belgium) and Leen VERBEEK (SOC, The Netherlands) will examine the follow-up to the commitments undertaken by Spain in the field of local and regional democracy with regard to its ratification of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in 1988. This mission follows a first visit carried out in June 2012.

Meetings are scheduled with Antonio Germán BETETA BARREDA, Secretary of State for Public Administration, the Spanish Delegation to the Congress as well as with Iñigo DE LA SERNA HERNÁIZ, President of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP)

A project of recommendation on the situation of local and regional democracy in Spain will be submitted for adoption to the Congress Session in March 2013.

[More information on the previous visit here](#)

[More information on the European Charter of Local Self-Government](#)

#### Contact on the spot:

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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: Herwig Van Staa (Austria, EPP/DC), President of the Chamber of Regions: Nataliya Romanova (Ukraine, IDLG), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities: Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC)  
Political Groups: Socialist Group (SOC), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (EPP/CD), Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG), European Conservatives & Reformists Group (ECR)