

# **The Congress** of Local and Regional Authorities

The Congress  
  
Le Congrès



**CG(24)OJ1PROV**  
18 March 2013

## **24th Session of the Congress**

Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe,  
19-21 March 2013

**DRAFT AGENDA**  
**PUBLIC MEETING**

**THEME FOR 2013:**  
**EUROPE IN CRISIS – CHALLENGES**  
**TO LOCAL AND REGIONAL DEMOCRACY**

**Members' attention is drawn to:**

- Deadline for submission of candidatures: election of the vice-chair of the Current Affairs Committee and of the Governance Committee: at the latest by **18.00 on 18 March**.
- Electronic voting on texts will take place in the hemicycle and in Room 1. The voting handsets will be distributed at the entrance to the meeting rooms upon signature of the attendance register. [  ]
- Participants are reminded that access to the hemicycle is strictly limited to holders of badges which indicate the specific hemicycle symbol. Seating in the hemicycle and Room 1 will be allocated according to the seating plans available for consultation at the entrance to the meeting rooms.
- Tabling written questions for oral reply (Office 1081): each member should limit herself/himself to one question to the Secretary General (deadline: **Monday 18 March at 15.00**), one question to the First Deputy-Minister for Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia (deadline: **Monday 18 March at 10.00**), one question to the Chairperson of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation (deadline: **Tuesday 19 March at 10.00**) and one question to the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (deadline: **Wednesday 20 March at 10.00**).
- The conditions and deadlines for tabling amendments (Office 1081): at the latest at **10.00** on the eve of the day when the texts to which they refer are to be discussed except for texts to be debated on Tuesday 19 March for which the deadline is **16.00 on Monday 18 March**. Amendments must be signed by 5 delegates from at least two delegations for texts debated in plenary sittings or in the chambers. Each amendment must specify the name of the delegate who will submit it.
- Registration of speakers for the debates: the form for registration of speakers for the debates, available at the entrance of the hemicycle, must be submitted to the Table Office secretariat seated in front of the President's rostrum.
- **Finance Office:** Office 1040.
- **Table Office** for any further questions: Office 1081.

## **Monday 18 March 2013 (eve of the session)**

### **Bureaux meetings**

9.30-10.30, Room 6	Bureau of the Chamber of Local Authorities
9.30-10.30, Room 7	Bureau of the Chamber of Regions
10.30-12.30 and 14.00-16.00, Room 8	Bureau of the Congress

### **Seminar on election observation and monitoring missions 13.30 – 16.00**

Room 1	Open to all members of the Congress, secretaries of delegation and advisers
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### **Political group meetings 16.30 – 18.30**

Room 6	European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR)
Room 9	European People's Party Group in the Congress (EPP/CCE)
Room 10	Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG)
Room 11	Socialist Group (SOC)

<b>Tuesday 19 March 2013</b>	
<b>Committee meetings</b>	
8.30 – 10.45	
Room 6	Current Affairs Committee (vote in Room 7)
Room 8	Governance Committee (vote in Room 9)

<b>Tuesday 19 March 2013</b>	
11.00 – 12.30, Hemicycle	
<b>Plenary Sitting</b>	
11.00	<b>Opening of the 24th Session of the Congress by the President of the Congress</b> Herwig VAN STAA, Austria, (R, EPP/CCE)
	<b>Verification of new members' credentials</b> [CG(24)2] (RES) Presentation by the rapporteurs: Anders KNAPE, Sweden (L, EPP/CCE) and Ludmila SFIRLOAGA, Romania (R, SOC) <b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by 16.00 Monday 18 March</i>
	<b>Adoption of the draft agenda of the session</b> [CG(24)OJ1PROV] <b>Adoption of the draft minutes of the last sitting of the 23rd Session (18 October 2012)</b> [CG(23)PV3]
	<b>Adoption of the composition of the Congress committees</b> [CG(24)3]
	<b>Communication by the President of the Congress</b> <b>Debate</b>
	<b>Statement by Thorbjørn JAGLAND</b> Secretary General of the Council of Europe <b>Oral reply to written questions</b> <i>Deadline for tabling written questions: Monday 18 March at 15.00</i>
12.30	<b>Suspension of the sitting</b>
<b>At the close of the sitting:</b>	<b>EVENT:</b> <b>“Andorra’s parishes: land, country, state”, Inauguration of an exhibition presented by the Permanent Representation of Andorra</b> <b>In the lobby of the Hemicycle</b>

Tuesday 19 March 2013

14.30 – 18.30 Hemicycle

## Plenary Sitting

14.30	 <p><b>Local and regional democracy in Georgia</b> [CG(24)10PROV] (REC) For information: <b>Report on the fact-finding mission to Georgia on 27-28 February 2013</b> [CG(24)11] Presentation by the rapporteurs: Nigel MERMAGEN, United Kingdom (L, ILDG) and Helena PIHLAJASAARI, Finland (R, SOC) <b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by 16.00 Monday 18 March</i> Statement by Tengiz SHERGELASHVILI, First Deputy-Minister for Regional Development and Infrastructure of Georgia <b>Oral reply to written questions</b> <i>Deadline for tabling written questions: Monday 18 March at 10.00</i></p>
	 <p><b>The budget and resources of the Congress in 2014-2015</b> [CG(24)5PROV] (REC) Presentation by the rapporteurs: Jean-Claude FRECON, France (L, SOC) and Svetlana ORLOVA, Russian Federation (R, EPP/CCE) <b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by 16.00 Monday 18 March</i></p>
	 <p><b>Local and regional democracy in Spain</b> [CG(24)6PROV] (REC) Presentation by the rapporteurs: Marc COOLS, Belgium (L, ILDG) and Leen VERBEEK, Netherlands (R, SOC) <b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by 16.00 Monday 18 March</i></p>
	 <p><b>Local and regional democracy in Italy</b> [CG(24)8PROV] (REC) Presentation by the rapporteurs: Knud ANDERSEN, Denmark (R, ILDG) and Marina BESPALOVA, Russian Federation (L, EPP/CCE) <b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by 16.00 Monday 18 March</i></p>
	<p><b>Fostering active citizenship</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Making local democracy thrive</b></li></ul> <p>Statements by: Blanca SOLANS GARCÍA, General Director of Citizen's Participation, External Activities and Co-operation, Government of Aragón, Spain Katharina WALLENBORG, Municipal commissioner with responsibility for democracy and equality, Huddinge (12-star city), Sweden</p> <p><b>Debate</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <b>Involving the community: new forms of democratic participation</b></li></ul> <p>Statements by: Joe IRVIN, Chief Executive of NAVCA (National Association for Voluntary and Community Action), United Kingdom Fionn GREIG, youth worker and participant in the Enter! long-term training course, United Kingdom</p> <p><b>Debate</b></p>
18.30	<b>End of the sitting</b>
<b>At the close of the sitting</b>	<p><b>EVENT:</b> <b>Reception and musical event to launch an exhibition on the XXVII Summer Universiade (Student Olympic Games) in Kazan, Tatarstan (Russian Federation)</b> <b>In the lobby of the Hemicycle</b></p>

**Wednesday 20 March 2013**

**Chamber of Regions**

9.00 - 12.00, Hemicycle

9.00	<b>Opening by the President of the Chamber</b> Nataliya ROMANOVA, Ukraine (ILDG)
	<b>Adoption of the draft agenda of the Chamber [CPR(24)OJ1PROV]</b>
	<b>Communication by the President of the Chamber [CPR(24)1]</b>
	<b>Round table on: “Regionalisation and devolution in Europe in a context of economic crisis”</b>  Introduction by:  Herwig VAN STAA, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Austria (R, EPP/CEE)  Ulrike GUEROT, Director of the Bureau in Berlin of the European Council on Foreign Relations, Germany  Statements by: Michèle SABBAN, President of the Assembly of European Regions, France  Françoise DUPUIS President of the Conference of European Regional Legislative Assemblies (CALRE), Belgium  Jean-Marie BELLIARD, President of the Commission of Cross-border and Decentralised Co-operation of the Regional Council of Alsace, France  Bruno MARZIANO, Member of the Regional Assembly of Sicily, Italy  Marie-Madeleine MIALOT MULLER, Vice-President of the Regional Council of the Région Centre, Congress rapporteur on regionalisation, France
12.00	<b>Close by the President of the Chamber</b>

**Wednesday 20 March 2013**

**Chamber of Local Authorities**

9.00 - 12.00, Room 1

9.00	<b>Opening by the President of the Chamber</b> Jean-Claude FRECON, France (SOC)
	<b>Adoption of the draft agenda of the Chamber</b> [CPL(24)OJ1PROV]
	<b>Communication by the President of the Chamber</b> [CPL(24)1]
	<b>Local by-elections in Armenia</b> [CPL(24)2PROV] (RES and REC) Presentation by the rapporteur: Henry FERAL, France (L, EPP/CCE) Statement by Brian MEANEY, on behalf of the members of the Committee of the Regions participating in the observation mission <b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by 10.00 Tuesday 19 March</i>
	<b>Local elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina</b> [CPL(24)3PROV] (RES and REC) Presentation by the rapporteur: Amy KOOPMANSCHAP, Netherlands (L, SOC) Statement by Uno SILBERG, on behalf of the members of the Committee of the Regions participating in the observation mission <b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by 10.00 Tuesday 19 March</i>
	<b>Smart cities: new technologies serving democracy</b> Statements by: Raimond TAMM, Deputy Mayor of Tartu, Estonia Ilmar REEPALU, Mayor of Malmö, Sweden <b>Debate</b>
12.00	<b>Close by the President of the Chamber</b>
12.30	<b>EVENT:</b> <b><i>“Smile – a real value of life”: the delegation of the Republic of Moldova presents an exhibition of caricatures of the heads of delegation of the Congress</i></b> <b><i>In the entrance hall of the Palais</i></b>

## Wednesday 20 March 2013

14.30 – 19.00, Hemicycle

### Plenary Sitting

14.30	<p><b>Russia-Council of Europe: Building a Europe of democracy and prosperity together</b></p> <p>Statement by Valentina MATVIENKO, Chairperson of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation</p> <p><b>Oral reply to written questions</b></p> <p><i>Deadline for tabling written questions: Tuesday 19 March at 10.00</i></p>
	<p><b>Congress post-monitoring and post-observation of elections : Developing political dialogue [CG(24)7PROV] (RES)</b></p> <p>Presentation by the rapporteur: Jean-Marie BELLIARD, France (R, EPP/CCE)</p> <p><b>Debate and vote</b> <i>amendments tabled by Tuesday 19 March at 10.00</i></p>
	<p><b>The situation of local and regional politicians in Turkey [CG(24)17] (DEC)</b></p> <p><b>Debate and vote</b></p>
	<p><b>Combating social exclusion</b></p> <p>Statements by:</p> <p>Maria ANDRIKOPOULOU-ROUVALI, Deputy-Mayor of Patras, Greece</p> <p>Damien EGAN, Cabinet Member for Strategy and Communications, Lewisham Council, United Kingdom</p> <p>Bernard MULLER, Mayor of Commercy, France</p> <p><b>Debate</b></p> <p><b>Launch of the European Alliance of Cities and Regions for Roma Inclusion</b></p> <p><i>[see separate programme]</i></p>
	<p><b>Adoption of the draft minutes of the sittings of the Congress of 19 March 2013 [CG(24)PV1am] and [CG(24)PV1pm]</b></p>
	<p><b>Ceremony awarding the Congress Medal to honorary members:</b></p> <p>Valery KADOKHOV, Russian Federation, former member of the Congress</p> <p>Fabio PELLEGRINI, Italy, former Vice-President of the Congress</p> <p>Keith WHITMORE, United Kingdom, former President of the Congress</p>
19.00	<p><b>End of the sitting</b></p>
20.00	<p><b>EVENT:</b></p> <p><i>Reception given by the City of Strasbourg and the Conseil Général du Bas-Rhin, at the Hôtel de Ville, Place Broglie (departure by shuttle bus to the Hôtel de Ville at 19.30 and 19.45)</i></p>

## Thursday 21 March 2013

Bureau meeting

8.30 - 9.15, Room 8

Bureau of the Congress

## Thursday 21 March 2013

9.30 - 12.00, Hemicycle

### Plenary Sitting

9.30	<b>Formal adoption of texts approved by the chambers</b> [CG(24)9]
	<b>Adoption of the draft minutes of the sittings of the Congress and of the chambers on 20 March 2013</b> [CG(24)PV2, CPL(24)PV1 and CPR(24)PV1]
	<b>Andorran Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (November 2012-May 2013)</b> Statement by Gilbert SABOYA SUNYÉ, Minister for Foreign Affairs, Andorra <b>Oral reply to written questions</b> <i>Deadline for tabling written questions: Wednesday 20 March at 10.00</i>
	<b>Promoting ethics, preventing corruption</b> Statements by: Marin MRČELA, President of the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) of the Council of Europe Jean-Pierre GUIZ, President of ANTICOR, Association of elected representatives and citizens against corruption, France Petra KNEUER, Director of Investigations of the European Anti-Fraud Office, European Commission, (OLAF) Sir Alan MEALE, General Rapporteur on Local and Regional Authorities, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe <b>Debate</b>
12.00	<b>Close of the 24th Session by the President of the Congress</b>