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Congress delegation heading for a monitoring mission to assess grassroots democracy in Ukraine

Strasbourg, 22.04.2013 - The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe will carry out a second monitoring visit to Ukraine from 22 to 23 April 2013. Congress Rapporteurs Marc Cools (Belgium, ILDG) and Pascal Mangin (France, EPP/CCE) will examine the follow-up to the commitments undertaken in the field of territorial democracy and decentralisation, with regard to Ukraine's ratification of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in 1997. This visit complements a mission carried out from 21 to 23 May 2012.

High level meetings are scheduled with representatives of the government namely the Minister for Regional Development, Building and Housing, Hennady Temnyk, the Deputy Minister of Finance Sergiy Rybak as well as with the Presidents of the Constitutional Court of Ukraine and the Accounting Chamber of Ukraine.

The delegation will also hold meetings with representatives of the parliament and of the administration of the President of Ukraine, and the Ombudsman.

Finally the delegation will also meet with Members of Kyiv City Council, members of the Ukrainian delegation to the Congress as well as members of the associations of local and regional authorities and representatives of the international community.

The report on local and regional democracy in Ukraine should be discussed at the next Congress session in October 2013.

Contact on the spot: Sedef Cankocak, Secretariat of the Congress, + 33 (0) 6 50 39 10

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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)