



T +33(0)390214895

www.coe.int/congress

congress.web@coe.int

Ref. CG-PR 034 (2014)

Congress President condemns attack on Malaysia Airlines civilian flight MH17

Odessa, 18 July 2014 – At a press conference in Odessa at the close of a high-level visit to Ukraine, the President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Herwig van Staa, made the following statement on the attack upon flight MH17, which killed 298 people: "This attack is a horrifying criminal act. In the name of the Congress I join the international community in its unanimous condemnation of this act. The criminals who committed this despicable act must be identified and brought to justice without delay."

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 Local Authorities: Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC), President of the Chamber of Regions: Nataliya Romanova (Ukraine, IDLG)

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)