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The Congress invites 20 young Ukrainian leaders to discuss the practices of local democracy on the occasion of the World Forum for Democracy

Strasbourg, 30.10.2014 - The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe is to take part in several plenary sessions and thematic workshops ("Laboratories" - LABs) during the World Forum for Democracy, which is to take place from 3 to 5 November 2014 at the Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg (France). Focusing on the theme of "*From participation to influence: can youth revitalise democracy?*", the Forum will bring together leaders, opinion shapers, activists from civil society and representatives of firms, universities, media and professional groupings.

In this context, the Congress is organising a study visit, from 3 to 7 November 2014, for 20 young Ukrainian leaders who will be attending the Forum and meeting local elected representatives of the City of Strasbourg and the towns of Saverne in France and Kehl and Kappelrodeck in Germany.

Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC), President of the Congress, will take part on 3 November in the round table session on "Young people – actors of global change?" and on 4 November in the plenary session of the Forum on the theme of "Youth empowerment for democratic transformation?".

In addition, on 4 November, several members of the Congress will be speaking at different LABs: Natalia Pilius (Russia, ILDG), Head of the Shchekino municipal district, Tula region, is to address LAB 20 on "Young Mayor Programme", Tracey Simpson-Laing (United Kingdom, SOC), a city councillor from York, will speak at LAB 10 on "Structures for Youth Advocacy", and Dobrica Milovanovic (Serbia, EPP/CCE), is to speak at LAB 15 on "Youth in Global Summits".

The Congress is also sponsoring three LABs which are to take place on 4 November: LAB 6 on "Democracy Watchdogs", LAB 16 on "Youth Participation in Elections" and LAB 20 on the "Young Mayor Programme", which will be moderated by, respectively, Andrée Buchmann (France, SOC), a member of Alsace Regional Council and a member of the Congress, Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress, and Jean-Philippe Bozouls, Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Local Authorities.

Venue: Palais de l'Europe (Strasbourg, France)

World Forum for Democracy:

[Programme of the Forum](#)

[Forum website](#)

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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: Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities: Anders Knappe (Sweden, EPP/CCE), President of the Chamber of Regions: Gudrun Mosler-Törnström (Austria, 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)