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

Strasbourg, 20 September 2013 - The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe will carry out a monitoring visit to Sweden from 23 to 25 September 2013. Congress Rapporteurs Luzette Wagenaar-Kroon (the Netherlands, EPP/ECC) and Gudrun Mosler-Törnström (Austria, SOC) will examine the follow-up to the commitments undertaken in the field of territorial democracy and decentralisation, with regard to Sweden's ratification of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in 1989.

On 24 September, high level meetings are scheduled with the Minister for Financial Markets and for Local Government Peter Norman and the Minister for Public Administration and Housing Stefan Attefall, as well as the President of the Supreme Administrative Court of Sweden, Mats Melin, and representatives of the Swedish Parliamentary Ombudsman Office.

Rapporteurs will also hold meetings with the Mayors and/or representatives of the cities of Stockholm, Norrköping and Flen as well as with members of the Swedish Delegation to the Congress and representatives of the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (SALAR).

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)