

# The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities



20<sup>th</sup> SESSION

## PRELIMINARY DRAFT AGENDA - CG(20)OJ1PROV

(latest update: 23 March 2011)

PUBLIC MEETING

## 20<sup>th</sup> Session of the Congress

Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe,  
22-24 March 2011

### Members' attention is drawn to:

- The deadlines for tabling **written questions** for oral reply (Office 1081): each member should limit herself/himself to one question to the **Secretary General** (deadline: **Tuesday 22 March at 16.00**) and one question to the **Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers** (deadline: **Tuesday 22 March at 15.00**).
- 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. Amendments must be signed by 5 Representatives (or duly mandated Substitutes) for the texts debated in plenary sittings, or 5 members for those of the Chambers. Each amendment must specify the name of the member who will submit it.
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- **Registration of speakers for the debates:** the form for registration of speakers for the debates must be submitted to the Table Office secretariat seated in front of the President's rostrum.
- **Finance Office** for reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses: Office 1040.
- **Table Office** for any further questions: Office 1081.

# Monday 21 March

Eve of the session

## **BUREAUX MEETINGS**

**Bureau of the Chamber of Regions** (Room 6)

9.00 – 10.00

**Bureau of the Chamber of Local Authorities** (Room 7)

10.00 – 11.00

**Bureau of the Congress** (Room 8)

11.00 – 12.30

14.00 – 16.00

## Tuesday 22 March (morning)

### POLITICAL GROUP MEETINGS

**European People's Party/Christian Democrats Group (EPP/CD)** (Room 9)  
8.30 – 10.30

**Socialist Group (SOC)** (Room 10)  
8.30 – 10.30

**Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG)** (Room 11)  
8.30 – 10.30

Meeting of the **Secretaries of Delegations** (Room 7) – 9.00 – 10.00

## PLENARY SITTING – Hemicycle – 10.45 – 12.45

- **Opening of the 20<sup>th</sup> Session**  
by **Keith WHITMORE**, United Kingdom (L, ILDG), President of the Congress
- **Verification of new members' credentials and new appointment procedures**  
Presentation by the Rapporteurs:  
**Anders KNAPE**, Sweden (L, EPP/CD) and **Ignacio SANCHEZ AMOR**, Spain (R, SOC)  
  
Debate and vote  
[\[CG\(20\)2\] \(RES\)](#)
- **Adoption of the draft agenda of the session**  
[CG(20)OJ1PROV]
- **Debate: human rights action at the local and regional level**  
  
Statement by **Thomas HAMMARBERG**, Commissioner for Human Rights  
  
Statement by **Morten KJAERUM**, Director of the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)  
  
Oral reply to questions put to speakers  
  
Debate

## Tuesday 22 March (afternoon)

### PLENARY SITTING – Hemicycle – 14.45 – 19.00

- **Adoption of the minutes of the last sitting of the 19<sup>th</sup> Session (28 October 2010)**  
[CG(19)PV3 am]  
[CG(19)PV3 pm]

- **Communication by the President of the Congress**  
Presentation by **Keith WHITMORE**, United Kingdom (L, ILDG)

Debate

- **The reform of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities within the Council of Europe reform**

Presentation by the Rapporteurs : **Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ**, Belgium (R, SOC) and **Anders KNAPE**, Sweden (L, EPP/CD)

Statement by:

- **Philippe RICHERT**, Minister, attached to the Minister of the Interior, Overseas France, Local authorities and Immigration, responsible for Local Authorities

Debate and vote  
[CG(20)12] (RES and REC)

- **Current affairs debate : The situation of Roma in Europe – a challenge for local and regional Authorities**

Statements by:

- **Jeroen SCHOKKENBROEK**, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Roma Issues
- **Rudolf SARKÖZI**, President of the Advisory Council of the Roma National Minority and former District Councillor of Vienna
- **Pilar VARELA DIAZ**, Mayor of Avilès, (Spain)
- **John WARMISHAM**, United Kingdom (L, SOC), Thematic Rapporteur on Roma/Travellers Issues

Debate

- **Urgent debate : the changes underway in the Arab countries – a new neighbourhood policy ?**
- **Local and regional democracy in Romania**  
Presentation by the Rapporteur: **Jean-Claude FRECON**, France (L, SOC)

Debate and vote  
[\[CG\(20\)9\] \(REC\)](#)

# Wednesday 23 March (morning)

Meetings – 9.00 – 9.45

Bureau of the Chamber of Regions (Room 8)

Bureau of the Chamber of Local Authorities (Room 6)

## CHAMBER OF REGIONS – Hemicycle – 10.00 – 13.00

- **Opening by the President**  
Herwig VAN STAA, Austria (EPP/CD)
- **Adoption of the draft agenda of the Chamber**  
[\[CPR\(20\)OJ1PROV\]](#)
- **Communication by the President**  
Herwig VAN STAA, Austria (EPP/CD)  
[CPR(20)1]
- **Challenges for Regions in Europe (2011-2020)**

Statement by:

- **Hande Ozsan BOZATLI**, Vice-President of the Assembly of European Regions (AER)

Exchange of views

- **Co-operation between the Congress and associations representing regions in Europe**  
[\[RES 314\(2010\)\]](#)

Statements by:

- **Jean-Luc VANRAES**, President of the Conference of European Regions with Legislative Power (REGLEG), Minister of the Government of the Brussels-Capital Region, responsible for Finance, Budget, Civil Service and Foreign Relations (Belgium)
- **Nazario PAGANO**, President of the Conference of European Regional Legislative Assemblies (CALRE)

Exchange of views on the follow-up to Resolution 314(2010)

- **European Regions with special status: strengths and prospects**

Statements by:

- **João JARDIM**, President of the Regional Government of Madeira (Portugal)
- **Vladimir KONSTANTINOV**, Chairman of the Supreme Council of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea (Ukraine)

Exchange of views on the follow-up to the international Conference (Madeira, Portugal, 15 November 2010)

- **Role of Regional Ombudsmen in Europe**

Statements by:

- **Tom FRAWLEY**, Northern Ireland Ombudsman (United Kingdom)
- **Burgi VOLGGER**, South Tyrol Ombudsperson (Italy)

- **Energy supply and energy efficiency at regional level**

Statement by:

- **Svetlana ORLOVA**, Vice-President of the Congress (Russian Federation)

Exchange of views

- **Closing** by the President

## Wednesday 23 March (morning)

### CHAMBER OF LOCAL AUTHORITIES – Room 1 – 10.00 – 13.00

- **Opening by the President**  
Jean-Claude FRECON, France (SOC)
- **Presentation of the agenda and adoption of the order of business of the Chamber**  
[\[CPL\(20\)OJ1PROV\]](#)
- **Communication by the President**  
Jean-Claude FRECON, France (SOC)  
[CPL(20)1]
- **European Local Democracy Week**  
Presentation by **John WARMISHAM**, United Kingdom (SOC), Co-ordinator of the European Local Democracy Week
- **Meeting the challenge of inter-faith and intercultural tensions at local level**  
Rapporteur: **Esther MAURER**, Switzerland (SOC)  
Presentation of the report: **Sandra BARNES**, United Kingdom (NI)  
  
Debate and vote  
[\[CPL\(20\)2\] \(RES and REC\)](#)
- **Local democracy in Malta**  
Presentation by the Rapporteur: **Emil CALOTA**, Romania (SOC)  
  
Debate and vote  
[\[CPL\(20\)3\] \(REC\)](#)
- **Debate : Protecting cities from natural disasters**
  - Presentation of the “Making Cities Resilient” campaign by **Helena MOLIN-VALDES**, Deputy Director of the United Nations Secretariat of the International Strategy for Disaster Reduction (UNISDR)
  - Presentation by **Stepan KIRICHUK**, President of the Russian National Congress of Municipalities  
Debate
- **Closing** by the President

## Wednesday 23 March (afternoon)

### PLENARY SITTING – Hemicycle – 14.30 – 16.00

- **Adoption of the composition of the Statutory Forum and committees**  
[CG(20)4PROV]

- Statement by **Thorbjørn JAGLAND**,  
**Secretary General** of the Council of Europe

Oral reply to written questions

*Deadline for tabling written questions: Tuesday 22 March at 16.00*

- Statement by **Yavuz Selim KÖŞGER**, Director General, General Directorate of Local Authorities, Ministry of Interior of Turkey, on behalf of the Chairmanship of the **Committee of Ministers** of the Council of Europe

Oral reply to written questions

*Deadline for tabling written questions: Tuesday 22 March at 15.00*

#### COMMITTEE MEETINGS

**Current Affairs Committee** (Room 8)  
16.15 – 19.00

**Governance Committee** (Room 9)  
16.15 – 19.00

**Monitoring Committee** (Room 10)  
16.15 – 19.00

# Thursday 24 March (morning)

Bureau of the Congress – 8.30 – 9.15 (Room 8)

## PLENARY SITTING – Hemicycle – 9.30 – 13.00

- **Formal adoption of texts approved by the Chambers**  
[CG(20)5]

- **Local and regional democracy in Turkey**

Presentation by the Rapporteurs:

**Anders KNAPE**, Sweden (L, EPP/CD) and **Herwig VAN STAA**, Austria (R, EPP/CD)

Debate and vote

[\[CG\(20\)6\] \(REC\)](#)

- **Local and regional democracy in Austria**

Presentation by the Rapporteurs:

**Marc COOLS**, Belgium (L, ILDG) and **Irene LOIZIDOU**, Cyprus (R, EPP/CD)

Debate and vote

[\[CG\(20\)8\] \(REC\)](#)

- **Observation of local elections in Ukraine (31 October 2010)**

Presentation by the Rapporteur: **Nigel MERMAGEN**, United Kingdom (L, ILDG)

Statement by **Brian MEANEY**, on behalf of the members of the Committee of the Regions participating in the observation mission.

Debate and vote

[\[CG\(20\)7\] \(RES and REC\)](#)

- **Strengthening co-operation with the European Union**

Statement by **Johannes HAHN**, European Commissioner responsible for Regional Policy, European Commission of the European Union

Oral reply to questions

Debate

- **Closing of the session by the President of the Congress**