

Latest News (Site updated Tuesday, August 26, 2014 | 16:30)



Dobrica Milovanovic: "Interculturalism is the best policy to achieve sustainable urban development"

[18/08/2014 16:00:00] "The Congress believes that interculturalism is the best policy approach to achieve social cohesion and sustainable urban development, as it actively promotes pluralism,

justice and equal opportunities within local communities", underlined Dobrica Milovanovic (Serbia, EPP/CCE), Congress member, addressing the Summer Academy of the Assembly of European Regions in Novi Sad, Serbia on 18 August 2014. "Over the past two decades, the Congress has adopted a wealth of proposals for intercultural action at the grassroots and has been actively involved in promoting multi- or intercultural and plurilingual societies," he added. "The Congress basis its action on the premise that, for democracy and for economic prosperity, we must find ways of living together that unite us while recognising our diversity – and we must do this starting at local and regional levels," he concluded.

- ▶ [Speech](#)
- ▶ [Video](#)
- ▶ [Website](#)



ONE in FIVE Campaign: a campaign toolkit in 22 language versions to combat sexual violence against children

[14/08/2014 10:30:00] The Congress has produced a campaign toolkit in 22 language versions to encourage local and regional authorities in Europe to sign up to the Pact of Towns and Regions to Stop Sexual Violence against

Children and take measures at local and regional level. The Pact comprises a list of initiatives and policies to prevent sexual abuse of children, protect victims, prosecute perpetrators and ensure the full participation of children. It is part of the Council of Europe's ONE in FIVE campaign to encourage signature of the Lanzarote Convention – the benchmark legal instrument to protect children from exploitation and sexual abuse. The campaign toolkit can be downloaded from the Congress website or a paper version can be obtained on request from the following e-mail address: congress.oneinfive@coe.int.

- ▶ [Download the ONE in FIVE Toolkit](#)
- ▶ [Congress contribution to the ONE in FIVE Campaign](#)
- ▶ [Sign up for the "Pact of Cities and Regions"](#)



Combating violence against women: Istanbul Convention now in force

[06/08/2014 12:00:00] "The coming into force of the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence means much better protection for women's rights in

Europe", according to Herwig van Staa, President of the Congress, speaking on 6 August 2014. "The Congress has, since 2006, very actively supported the drafting of this legal instrument and the taking of practical measures at local and regional level. Now local and regional elected representatives should continue to urge those governments which have not yet done so to make a commitment to signing and ratifying the Convention", he added.

- ▶ [Press release of the Council of Europe](#)
- ▶ [Website of the Convention](#)
- ▶ [Recommendation 260 \(2009\)](#)
- ▶ [Resolution 279 \(2009\)](#)



Congress President condemns attacks on Ukrainian mayors

[29/07/2014 09:30:00] Congress President Herwig van Staa condemned the recent attacks against two Ukrainian mayors which led to the death of one of them, Oleg Babayev from Kremenchuk. Another attack was carried out against the Mayor of Lviv, Andriy Sadovy, whose house was struck by an anti-tank missile. Having met with several Mayors of Ukrainian cities in Odessa several days ago during a high level visit Mr van Staa paid tribute to the firm position several of them had taken against the ultimatums from separatist forces calling upon them to resign and to support the self-proclaimed separatist leaders. He called for investigations to identify those responsible for the attacks and to bring them to justice.

- ▶ [More Information about the Congress mission to Ukraine](#)
- ▶ [Special file on "Congress and Ukraine"](#)



European Local Democracy Week: ALDA Summer School on "Europe, Participation, Remembrance"

[31/07/2014 09:00:00] The European Association for Local Democracy (ALDA) launches its Summer School on "Europe, Participation, Remembrance", which will take place in Asiago (VI), Italy, from 1 to 6 September 2014. It

aims at deepening the knowledge about Europe and its milestones in 2014, in particular: the new European era after the elections to the European Parliament in May 2014, the new programming period 2014-2020, and the celebration of the 100th anniversary of the First World War. This event is

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The agenda in brief



28 August - Meeting « Development of Congress tools for local and regional political decision-makers » / *Strasbourg, FRANCE*

- ▶ [Calendar of events](#)
- ▶ [Calendar of local and regional elections in COE member states](#)



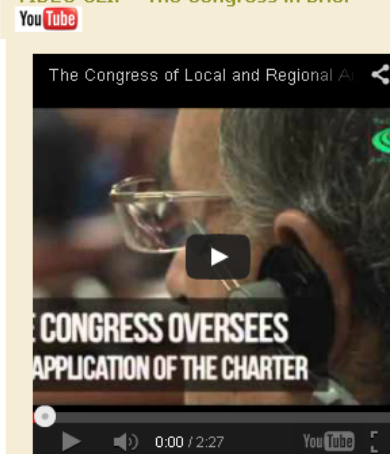
Special file Ukraine

Publications



- ▶ [State of the Congress 2013 - \[PDF - 40 pages\]](#)
- ▶ [20 years of the Congress - \[pdf - 16 pages\]](#)
- ▶ [Special File - 20 years to promote local and regional democracy](#)

VIDEO CLIP - The Congress in brief



Political dialogue with governments

- ▶ [File](#)



Azerbaijani Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers

- ▶ [File](#)

Join the ONE in FIVE campaign!



**Council of Europe ONE in FIVE
campaign to stop sexual violence
against children**

Contribution of the Congress of Local
and Regional Authorities

- ▶ [Register here for the Pact of Towns and Regions](#)
- ▶ [File "ONE in FIVE Campaign"](#)