

SIDE EVENTS }
DURING THE

22nd

CONGRESS SESSION

20-22
MARCH
2012

The Congress



Le Congrès



COUNCIL OF EUROPE CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

SIDE EVENTS

22nd Congress Session
20–22 March 2012

Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg (France)

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Tuesday 20 March 2012

10 am - The Congress President meets the press



On the occasion of the 22nd Session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Keith Whitmore, President of the Congress, will answer questions from the press.

**Tuesday 20 March 2012 from 10 to 10.30 a.m.
Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France
President's office - 1st floor - Office n°1037**

10 am to 5 pm - Exhibition of paintings by Moldovan artist Adrian Moraru: “The picturesque landscape of Moldova”

The picturesque landscape of Moldova is the theme of the exhibition organised by the Permanent Representation of the Republic of Moldova.

The exhibition comprises a selection of oil on canvas paintings by Moldovan artist Adrian Moraru, presenting the beauty of the Moldovan village, especially its landscape architecture and national winter traditions.



You are invited to visit the exhibition of paintings which is on display in the main entrance hall of the Palais de l'Europe for the duration of the Session.

Moldovan artist Adrian Moraru will be in attendance.

**Tuesday 20 – Thursday 21 March 2012 – 10 am to 5 pm
Main entrance hall, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France**

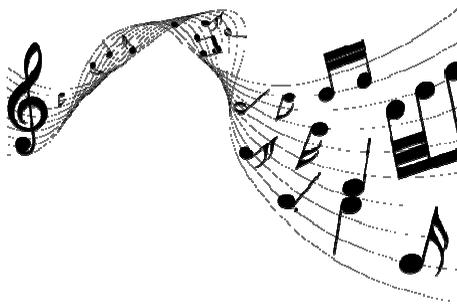
11 am – The European Anthem, sung by the choir of La Krutenau Music School (France)

30 children between the ages of seven and ten from the choir of La Krutenau Music School (Strasbourg, France) will sing the European Anthem in the Council of Europe Assembly Chamber.

La Krutenau Music School is the largest and most well known music school in Strasbourg, attended by over 500 children.

The children will be accompanied by the director of the school, Jean-Jacques Wild, and their singing teacher, Elisabeth Kiertzner.

www.cmk-strasbourg.fr



You are invited to come and listen to
the choir of La Krutenau Music School
singing the European Anthem

Tuesday 20 March 2012 – 11 am
Assembly Chamber, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France

1 pm - Inauguration of the United Kingdom stands

The United Kingdom has the rare distinction of simultaneously holding the Presidency of the Congress and the Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe. This exhibition marks the Chairmanship by providing information on local democracy in the four home nations of the United Kingdom and profiling some of its towns and cities.

Keith Whitmore, President of the Congress, will be led out of the Hemicycle by a Scottish piper to inaugurate the exhibition. This will be followed by a short display of Scottish country dancing. There will also be the opportunity to sample some local produce from Kent, the Garden of England.



Council of Europe
United Kingdom Chairmanship

On the occasion of the 22nd Session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, you are invited to attend the inauguration of the United Kingdom stands, followed by a display of Scottish country dancing .

Tuesday 20 March 2012 at 1 pm
Assembly Chamber lobby, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France

7 pm – Inauguration of the exhibition of “Yaroslavna” Euroregion (Kursk Oblast, Russian Federation and Sumy Oblast, Ukraine)

The “Yaroslavna” Euroregion, with the participation of Kursk Oblast, Russian Federation and Sumy Oblast, Ukraine, is one of the youngest but most successful bilateral Euroregions. It covers the area of 54 thousand square kilometers and has a population of almost 2.5 million people. Since its foundation in 2007, the “Yaroslavna” Euroregion has become a major hub of transfrontier co-operation between Russia and Ukraine in the spheres of economy, education, culture, sport, youth policy etc.



On the occasion of the official opening of the exhibition presenting the “Yaroslavna” Euroregion, the Russian and the Ukrainian delegations to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe cordially invite you to the reception

with performances by popular Russian singers and Ukrainian musicians

Tuesday 20 March at 7.00 pm
Assembly Chamber lobby, Palais de l’Europe, Strasbourg, France

Wednesday 21 March 2012

8.15 am - Breakfast reception: The European Forum for Urban Security (EFUS)

Created in 1987 under the auspices of the Council of Europe, the European Forum for Urban Security (EFUS) is the oldest non-governmental organisation of territorial bodies working in the field of urban security. Today, it brings together 300 members, 22 of which are also members of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. EFUS members share the idea that urban security is the concern of everyone and that it needs to be achieved through prevention, law enforcement and solidarity - a vision that has subsequently become part of the European Urban Charter. The European Forum is a network for inter-city study, for European dialogue and co-operation.



From December 12 to 14 2012, the EFUS network will organise a new international conference on "Security, Democracy and Cities", in Aubervilliers & Saint-Denis (France), to discuss "the future of prevention" and to create a new manifesto on urban security. Get to know the European Forum and learn more about the 2012 conference at its information stand in the foyer of the Palais de l'Europe or under www.efus.eu

The European Urban Forum's breakfast reception
will take place on:

Wednesday 21 March 2012, at 08.15am
Assembly Chamber lobby, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France

12.00 pm - Inauguration of the exhibition “Art Border”

Where a wire-mesh fence used to separate the cities of Constance (Germany) and Kreuzlingen (Switzerland), the world's first Art Border came into being five years ago. 22 sculptures now mark the border between the two cities and the two states.



You are invited to the reception given on the occasion of the inauguration of the exhibition of “Art Border” sculptures

**Wednesday 21 March 2012, at 12.00 p.m.
Assembly Chamber lobby, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France**

www.doerflingerfoundation.org



For the first time a border between two nations is made visible through works of art, thereby transforming a border that divides into a border that unifies: a symbol representing the good relations between two cities and two nations. The political and legal decision-making processes preceding the installation of the Art Border took almost three years. The demolition of the border fence in 2006 and the opening of the Art Border in the spring of 2007 were perceived as historic events and were celebrated by the citizens of both cities with cross-border festivals.

The sculptures carry the names of the "Major Arcana" the Greater Trumps of the Tarot. The origin of the Tarot lies in 15th century Northern Italy. The Tarot figures were originally elements of a celebratory parade integrating elements of a religious procession with those of the theatre and carnival. As a whole they symbolise the human condition. The eight metre high Art Border sculptures are made of stainless steel. Through using a special paint their metallic red colour shifts from pink to dark violet depending on the angle of light. A specially developed lighting concept bestows the Art Border with a night and day countenance.

12.20 pm - Inauguration of the “Romanian Culture and Tradition” exhibition

This exhibition, presented by the North-West Regional Development Agency of Romania, will focus on six Romanian counties: Bihor, Bistrita, Cluj, Maramures, Salaj, and Satu-Mare.

The inauguration of the exhibition will be accompanied by a musical performance and a reception featuring traditional Romanian food.



You are invited to attend the inauguration of the exhibition on Romanian Culture and Tradition, followed by a musical performance and reception

Wednesday 21 March 2012, at 12.20 pm
Ante-room of the Committee of Ministers, Palais de l'Europe,
Strasbourg, France

2 pm – "Speed meeting" - MediaBox, how it works

The Congress's Communication Division invites you to a "Speed meeting" on the MediaBox tool available to Congress members.

This is a mobile multimedia resource studio, to be used for live radio interviews and for making video recordings for the Internet.

The aim is to give a higher profile to the activities and work of Congress members at a European level, vis-à-vis both the media and citizens of municipalities and regions.



From 2 to 2.30 pm Congress staff will be present to give you a five-minute overview of how this communication tool functions. Participants may choose the language they prefer to use: French, English, Italian, German or Russian.

Congress members are invited to participate in the "Speed meeting" on the MediaBox

**Wednesday 21 March 2012, from 2 to 2.30 pm,
at the MediaBox studio**

Assembly Chamber lobby, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France

2.15 pm - Book Launch: “Local Government in Critical Times: Policies for Crisis, Recovery and a Sustainable Future” (CDLR)

The European Committee on Local and Regional Democracy (CDLR) is the Council of Europe body for facilitating discussion of local and regional democracy issues among the member states’ governments and paving the way for greater European co-operation in this area. Jointly managed by the CDLR and the Congress, the Centre of Expertise for Local Government Reform supports member states and their local authorities in the delivery of good governance at local level through its capacity-building programmes.

This Session, you are warmly invited to visit the CDLR stand for copies of recent documents and publications, including the declaration and guidelines adopted by the European Ministers responsible for Local and Regional government at the 17th session of their Council of Europe conference (Kyiv, Ukraine, 3-4 November 2011), the CDLR report on the impact of the economic recession at the local level, and a selection of other studies on issues of interest for local government.

In addition, come and see our recently released 3 minute cartoon for promoting decentralisation, produced as part of the Centre of Expertise's programme to reinforce local government capacity in Ukraine, and available on Youtube.

For further information on our activities, why not follow us on Twitter @coe_cdlr, or visit our website www.coe.int/local

You are invited to attend the book launch and collect your free copy of the book from the CDLR stand

**Wednesday 21 March 2012, at 2.15 pm
Hemicycle Lobby, Palais de l'Europe, Strasbourg, France**

7.30 pm – Ceremony for the "12 star" cities on the occasion of a reception by the City of Strasbourg

On the occasion of the 22nd Session of the Congress, the "12 star" cities will receive a certificate recognising their engagement in the 2011 European Local Democracy Week.



The ceremony will be held at the Strasbourg City Hall during a reception organised in honour of the members of the Congress at the invitation of Roland Ries, Mayor of Strasbourg.

"12 star" city status entails a strong commitment to ELDW, in particular earmarking of a specific budget, a promotion campaign, thematic activities, targeting of a specific audience including young people, and events on a pan-European scale.

The "12 star" cities of the 2011 edition are Brussels and Namur (Belgium), Sisak (Croatia), Strasbourg and Angers (France), Festos and Chania (Greece), Mola di Bari (Italy), Utrecht (Netherlands), Katowice (Poland), Amadora (Portugal), Belgrade (Serbia), Sundbyberg (Sweden), Mugla, Lüleburgaz, Tarsus, Gebze and Gaziantep (Turkey), and Stockton-on-Tees (United Kingdom).

Congress members are invited to the ceremony and reception hosted by the City of Strasbourg

**Wednesday 21 March 2012, at 7.30 pm,
Hôtel de Ville, rue Brûlée, Strasbourg, France**

Thursday 22 March 2012

12.30 am - Meeting in the framework of the Session: Presentation of the Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the Decision-Making process and exchanges of good practice

This meeting is organised by the Conference of INGOs. The objective of this meeting is to introduce the “***Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the Decision-Making process***”, drafted by the Conference of INGOs, to the members of the Congress, but also to collect their practice in citizen and civil participation and identify further dissemination activities and use of the Code at local level.

Raymond SVENSSON, member of the Swedish delegation to the Congress, will share his experience of the implementation of the Code in Sweden.

The meeting will be held only in English. A possible whispered interpretation could be provided for French and Italian.

Congress members are invited to this meeting

**Thursday 22 March 2012, à 12.30
Palais de l'Europe, room 6, Strasbourg, France**

From 20 to 22 March 2012
Information stands

INFORMATION STAND

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe has been the guarantor of local and regional democracy in Europe for over 50 years.

During the Session, the Congress will present its activities through leaflets, documents and various other tools.

Its aim is to increase awareness of its work and activities, such as the monitoring of local democracy, the observation of elections, and the European Local Democracy Week.



INFORMATION STAND

European Local Democracy Week (ELDW)

The “European Local Democracy Week” (ELDW) is an annual event with simultaneous local activities organised by participating local authorities in all Council of Europe member states.

Its aim is to foster the knowledge of local democratic institutions and to strengthen the links between populations and their local representatives.

The leading theme for the 2012 ELDW (15-21 October) is “Human rights make for more inclusive communities”

The stand provides documents and resources about the ELDW and its projects.



www.coe.int/demoweeek

Contact: maria.baroni@coe.int

INFORMATION STAND

The Art of Living in Strasbourg

Strasbourg is famous in France and abroad as regards its quality of life. Moreover it is a cosmopolitan city with a European dimension. The 7th largest French town, “Strasbourg is the biggest of small towns” according to the scenario-writer David-André Lang who lived there for a long time. Indeed, Strasbourg is also an important city as regards its European status, boasting the 2nd largest French harbour after Paris, and spending 26% of its budget on its cultural life.

But Strasbourg still keeps its human dimension, a place where you can easily move from one place to another on foot, by tram or riding your bicycle.

While dealing with the issues of urban development and environmental practices, Strasbourg sees its future with “euro-optimism”, competing in the economic world of today while maintaining the welfare of its inhabitants at the heart of its priorities. In short, the art of living Strasbourg-style which we invite you to discover during the 22nd Congress Session.



www.strasbourg.eu

INFORMATION STAND

One in Five Campaign to stop sexual violence against children

The Council of Europe « One in five Campaign to stop sexual violence against children » reminds us that according to available data, about 1 out of 5 children in Europe is a victim of some form of sexual violence.

The Campaign has two main objectives:

First, to achieve further signature, ratification and implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Convention).

Second, to equip children, their families and societies at large with the knowledge and tools to prevent and report sexual violence.

Local and regional authorities are invited to join the Campaign by undertaking action to fight against sexual abuse, and collaborating for instance with local education and child protection decision-makers.

Council of Europe campaign
to stop sexual violence
against children



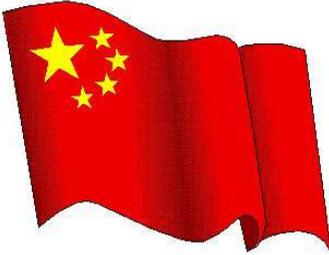
one in five
un sur cinq

Campagne du **Conseil de l'Europe**
contre la violence sexuelle
à l'égard des enfants

www.coe.int/oneinfive

INFORMATION STAND

The China International Friendship Cities Association (CIFCA)



The China International Friendship Cities Association (CIFCA) is a national civil organisation of the People's Republic of China. It was set up in Beijing in March 1992 under the sponsorship of the Chinese People's Association for Friendship with Foreign Countries (CPAFFC). It has more than 300 member cities in China's 31 provinces, autonomous

regions and municipalities directly under the Central Government (not including Taiwan Province, Hong Kong and Macao Special Administrative Regions).

The purposes of the CIFCA, a sister organisation of the CPAFFC, are to promote mutual understanding and friendship between Chinese and foreign cities and to conduct exchange and co-operation between them in the economic, scientific and technological, cultural and other fields with a view to advancing social prosperity and progress and safeguarding world peace.

Since its inception, the CIFCA has worked hard to develop relations of friendship and co-operation with its sister city organisations or relevant institutions in other countries. It has now established such relations with its counterparts in the United States, the United Kingdom, Japan, Russia, Israel, Italy, Australia, the Republic of Korea and other countries, as well as some multilateral international organisations.

<http://english.cifca.org.cn>

INFORMATION STAND

Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)



Interactive, dynamic and innovative - the General Assembly of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) will take place in Cádiz (Spain), on 26, 27 and 28 September 2012, under the theme of innovating in 3D: Decentralisation - Development - Democracy. The innovating in 3D approach will be broken down into specific themes of primary interest for towns, municipalities, provinces and

regions.

In the particular context of Cádiz and its geographic location, sessions will be dedicated to the transitions in the Mediterranean region, and the specific decentralised links between Europe and Latin America, and how very intertwined the 3Ds are in these contexts.

Join the 1000 leading local & regional elected representatives, experts, key partners from the European Institutions and the wider world coming together in Cádiz. The 25th General Assembly of Local and Regional Europe - CEMR is hosted by the city of Cádiz, in cooperation with the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces (FEMP).

Follow the latest news on the Cádiz congress at www.ccre.org.

INFORMATION STAND

The Month of the Other – Alsace Region

What is the Month of the Other?

The Month of the Other is a recognised regional event, which has been running for seven years and whose aim is to make young people in Alsace aware of the need to respect others and all their differences.



Every year in March a large number of Alsace's upper secondary schools and apprentice training centres focus on the subject of the Other. Pupils, apprentices and teaching staff join forces with associations to work on projects, activities and creative works, which explore differences, whether social, cultural, religious or ethnic in nature, or connected with a person's gender or disability.

These activities shake up everyday life in schools but they also shake up people's ways of thinking and help them to live together more harmoniously.

The Month of the Other 2011 in figures

- 17 000 young people – 400 at the closing ceremony;
- 220 projects in 60 schools and training centres;
- Around 30 activities focusing on poverty and social exclusion, which was the main topic this year;
- Over 40 contributions on the theme of social networks, especially Facebook;
- Transfrontier projects in 3 different establishments;
- A regional budget of over €200 000.

www.region-alsace.eu

Contacts

Should you have any question concerning the organisation of side-events during Congress Sessions, please contact:

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