

Press Release



Communication Unit of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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Congress delegation on monitoring visit to Turkey

47 members

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"the former Yugoslav
Republic of
Macedonia"
Turkey
Ukraine
United Kingdom

Strasbourg, 25.02.2008 – Anders Knappe (Sweden, EPP/CD) and Hans-Ulrich Stöckling (Switzerland, ILDG), Co-rapporteurs of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on local and regional democracy in Turkey, are paying a monitoring visit to Ankara from 25 to 27 February 2008.

The programme of the visit, which is part of the Congress' evaluation of the implementation of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in member states, will begin on Monday 25 February with meetings with representatives of the Turkish Union of Municipalities and members of the Turkish delegation to the Congress.

On Tuesday 26 February, the co-rapporteurs will meet Tevfik Ziyaeddin Akbulut, Chairman of the Internal Affairs Committee of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey; Eren Emrullah, President of the Provincial Council of Ankara; Abdullah Demirbas, former Mayor of Sur, and Gultan Kisanak, Member of Parliament from Diyarbakir; as well as with Ali Baskaraagac, Mayor of Ayas, and Latif Celebi, Headman of the village of Pinaryaka.

The Congress delegation will meet the press on **Wednesday 27 February at 10.00 am in the Midas Hotel** (Tunus Caddesi No 20 Kavaklidere, Ankara).

Congress delegation:

Anders KNAPE
Hans-Ulrich STÖCKLING
Prof. Chris HIMSWORTH

Sweden, EPP/CD, Chamber of Local Authorities
Switzerland, ILDG, Chamber of Regions
United Kingdom, Consultant, member of the Group of
Independent Experts on the European Charter of
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Almut SCHRÖDER

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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 Halvdan Skard (Norway, SOC), President of the Chamber of Regions: Yavuz Mildon (EPP/CD, Turkey),
President of the Chamber of Local Authorities : Ian Micallef (Malta, EPP/CD).
Political Groups : Socialist Group (**SO**C), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (**EPP/CD**),
Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (**ILDG**).