

CG-BUR(2022)43-DEC
11 February 2022

**Meeting of the Bureau of the Congress
Remote, Friday 11 February 2022**

Abridged report – List of items discussed and decisions taken

1. The President of the Congress, Mr Leendert VERBEEK, opened the meeting. The list of participants is set out in Appendix 1.
2. The Bureau adopted the agenda as set out in Appendix 2.
3. The Bureau took note of the communication by the President of the Congress and agreed to invite the Congress Spokesperson on Human Rights to analyse the Selected judgements of the European Court of Human Rights concerning local and regional authorities with a view to raising Congress members' awareness of their responsibilities in this area; it further agreed to invite the Congress Spokesperson on Human Rights and the Chair of the Current Affairs Committee to consider the issues raised in the Council of Europe's Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) statement of 4 November 2021 and report back.
4. The Bureau took note of the communication by the Secretary General of the Congress.
5. The Bureau took note of information on the meetings of the Bureau of the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Bureau of the Chamber of Regions held on 11 February 2022.
6. The Bureau took note of the information on the implementation of the budget for 2021 and 2022.
7. The Bureau took note of the replies to the President's call to delegations for seconded staff and voluntary contributions to the Congress by letter of 20 December 2021 and of the state of reflection on the functioning and working methods of the Congress as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-04 and agreed to pursue its reflection focusing on the key areas underlined in the above-mentioned document while involving and mobilising national delegations to the Congress, national associations and political groups and report to the Bureau with a view to drawing conclusions at the Bureau meeting in June 2022.
8. The Bureau took note of the changes in the composition and leadership of the political groups as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-05.
9. The Bureau approved the changes in the composition of the national delegations as set out in Documents CG-BUR(2022)43-07 and CG-BUR(2022)43-07ADD and changes to the United Kingdom's official appointment procedure as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-16.
10. The Bureau took note of the timetable of meetings and adopted the draft agenda of the 42nd Session of the Congress as set out in Documents CG(2022)42-01 and CG(2022)42-OJ. The Bureau entrusted the President and the presidents of the chambers with deciding on the format of the session in light of prevailing sanitary conditions and with informing Congress members by 22 February 2022. The Bureau also took note of the list of youth delegates for 2022 and approved the proposed side events as set out in Documents CG-BUR(2022)43-08 and CG-BUR(2022)43-14 respectively.
11. The Bureau took note of information on the meeting of the Monitoring Committee, which took place on Thursday 10 February 2022 remotely, as set out in Document CG/MON(2022)1-DEC, and of the activities of the other committees.
12. The Bureau took note of the list of Bureau rapporteurs and representatives in outside bodies, as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-09 and, in addition appointed the following:
 - a. Co-rapporteur on the Budget and Resources of the Congress:
Konstaninos KOUKAS, Greece (L, EPP/CCE)
 - b. Co-rapporteur on the Congress Charter and Congress Rules and Procedures:
John WARMISHAM, United Kingdom (L, SOC/G/PD)

13. The Bureau appointed the following Congress thematic spokespersons:
- a. Congress Spokesperson on Gender Equality:
Eirini DOUROU, Greece (R, SOC/G/PD)
 - b. Congress Spokesperson on Youth:
Laura LAURO, Italy (R, PPE/CCE)
 - c. Congress Spokesperson on Ethics and Prevention of Corruption:
Vladimir PREBILIC, Slovenia (L, SOC/G/PD)
 - d. Congress Spokesperson on the Environment and Climate Change:
Cemal BAS (Turkey, EPP/CCE)
Deputy Congress Spokesperson on the Environment and Climate Change:
Amelie TARSHYS INGRE (Sweden, ILDG)

14. The Bureau took note of the calendar of local and regional elections as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-11 and approved the remote observation of the municipal by-elections in Albania on 6 March 2022 and the onsite observation of local elections in Belgrade, Serbia on 3 April 2022 subject to invitation and prevailing sanitary conditions.

15. The Bureau took note of the post-monitoring visit on the situation of local and regional democracy in the Republic of Moldova on 3 February 2022.

The Bureau also took note of the situation of Nurhayat ALTUN and Leyla GÜVEN, former members of the Turkish delegation to the Congress.

16. The Bureau approved the candidatures for the title of Partner of the European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) 2021, as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-12.

17. The Bureau took note of the information on the January 2022 part-session of the Parliamentary Assembly and of the communication by Benedetto DELLA VEDOVA, Undersecretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation of Italy, on behalf of the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers.

The Bureau accepted the invitation by the Parliamentary Assembly to participate in the Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment and nominated the Congress Spokesperson on the Environment and Climate Change (see paragraph 13) to represent the Congress.

18. The Bureau took note of the Congress' political dialogue with the Committee of Ministers since 2016 as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-19. The Bureau also took note of the Committee of Ministers' replies to Congress recommendations as set out in Document CM/Del/Dec(2021)1420/12.1. With regard to intergovernmental committees of the Council of Europe, the Bureau took note of the terms of reference as set out in Document CM(2021)131-final and agreed on the committees where there should be Congress participation as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-20.

19. The Bureau approved the list of Congress meetings in 2022 as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-13.

20. The Bureau adopted the present Abridged report of the meeting – List of items discussed and decisions taken as set out in Document CG-BUR(2022)43-DEC.

Appendix 1 – List of participants

Members of the Bureau

Leendert VERBEEK, Netherlands, (R, SOC/G/PD), President of the Congress - in person
 Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany, (L, EPP/CCE), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities - online
 Harald SONDEREGGER, Austria, (R, EPP/CCE), President of the Chamber of Regions - in person
 Xavier CADORET, France, (L, SOC/G/PD) - online
 Gunn Marit HELGESEN, Norway (R, EPP/CCE) - online
 Konstantinos KOUKAS, Greece, (L, EPP/CCE) - online
 Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg, (L, ILDG) - in person
 Emin YERITSYAN, Armenia (L, EPP/CCE) - online
 Sevdia UGREKHELIDZE, Georgia, (L, EPP/CCE) - online
 John WARMISHAM, United Kingdom (L, SOC/G/PD) – online
 Cecilia DALMAN EEK, Sweden, (R, SOC/G/PD) - online
 Oksana DERKACH, Ukraine (L, EPP/CCE) - online
 Alexander DROZDENKO, Russian Federation, (R, EPP/CCE) - online

Chairs of committees

Thomas ANDERSSON, Sweden, (R, ILDG), Current Affairs Committee - online
 Jelena DRENJANIN, Sweden (L, EPP/CCE), Governance Committee - online
 Gudrun MOSLER-TÖRNSTRÖM, Austria, (L, SOC/G/PD), Monitoring Committee – online

Outgoing President

Anders KNAPE, Sweden, (L, EPP/CCE) - online

Presidents of Congress political groups

Anders KNAPE, Sweden, (L, EPP/CCE) - online
 Marc COOLS, Belgium, (L, ILDG) - online
 Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ, Belgium, (R, SOC/G/PD) – online
 Svitlana BOHATYRCHUK KRYVKO, Ukraine, (R, ECR) - online

Secretariat

Andreas KIEFER, Secretary General of the Congress
 Rafael BENITEZ, Director of the Congress
 Dolores RÍOS TURÓN, Head of the Table Office and Secretary of the Bureau
 Renate ZIKMUND, Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Local Authorities
 Dmitri MARCHENKOV, Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Regions
 Stephanie POIREL, Head of the Division of Statutory Activities
 Fatima NOUICER, Co-Secretary to the Bureau
 Katyana VASILEVA, Assistant to the Bureau

Appendix 2 – Agenda

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| 1. | Opening of the meeting | | |
| 2. | Adoption of the draft agenda | CG-BUR(2022)43-OJprov | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 3. | Communication by the President of the Congress | CG-BUR(2022)43-01
ref: #7148891 – ECHR report | <i>Info.</i> |
| | Missions and meetings of the President of the Congress | | |
| 4. | Communication by the Secretary General of the Congress | CG-BUR(2022)43-02 | <i>Info.</i> |
| | Missions and meetings of the Secretary General of the Congress | | |
| 5. | Bureaux of the chambers – meetings of 11 February 2022 | CPR-BUR(2022)32-OJ
CPL-BUR(2022)32-OJ | <i>Info.</i> |
| 8/02 | | | |
| 6. | Budget of the Congress
Implementation of the Budget for 2021
Implementation of the Budget for 2022 | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 7. | Follow-up to the brainstorming on the functioning and working methods of the Congress | CG-BUR(2022)43-03 | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 8/02 | | CG-BUR(2022)43-04 | <i>Info.</i> |
| 8. | Composition and leadership of political groups | CG-BUR(2022)43-05 | <i>Info.</i> |
| 9. | National delegations
Rapporteurs :
Xavier CADORET, France (L, SOC/G/PD) and
Aleksandra MALETIĆ, Serbia (R, EPP/CCE) | | |
| 7/02 | Changes in the composition of the national delegations | CG-BUR(2022)43-07REV | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 10/02 | | CG-BUR(2022)43-07ADD | <i>Dec.</i> |
| | Official appointment procedure – United Kingdom | CG-BUR(2022)43-16 | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 10. | 42nd Session of the Congress | | |
| 10.1 | Schedule of meetings | CG(2022)42-01 | <i>Info.</i> |
| 10.2 | Adoption of the draft agenda | CG(2022)42-OJ | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 10.3 | Youth delegates for 2022 | CG-BUR(2022)43-08 | <i>Info.</i> |

10.4	Side events	CG-BUR(2022)43-14	<i>Dec.</i>
11.	Activities of the committees		
	Meetings of committees	CG-MON(2022)OJ	<i>Info.</i>
12.	Bureau rapporteurs and representatives in outside bodies	CG-BUR(2022)43-09	<i>Dec.</i>
13.	Congress thematic spokespersons	CG-BUR(2022)43-10	<i>Dec.</i>
14.	Local and regional elections	CG-BUR(2022)43-11	<i>Info.</i>
14.1	By-elections in Albania (6 March 2022)		<i>Dec.</i>
14.2	Local elections in Serbia (2 April 2022)		<i>Dec.</i>
15.	Local and regional democracy		
15.1	Post-monitoring visit on the situation of local and regional democracy in the Republic of Moldova (3 February 2022)	News	<i>Info.</i>
15.2	Local and regional democracy in Turkey Situation of Nurhayat Altun and Leyla Güven	News	<i>Info.</i>
16.	European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) Partner of the European Local Democracy Week 2021 - candidatures	CG-BUR(2022)43-12	<i>Dec.</i>
17.	Parliamentary Assembly (PACE)		
17.1	Communication by Benedetto DELLA VEDOVA, Undersecretary of State of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Co-operation of Italy, on behalf of the Italian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers	Link	<i>Info.</i>
17.2	Letter from the Chair of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, Parliamentary Assembly	CG-BUR(2022)43-17REV	<i>Dec.</i>
7/02			
18.	Intergovernmental sector		
18.1	Political dialogue with the Committee of Ministers	CG-BUR(2022)43-19	<i>Info.</i>
18.2	Committee of Ministers' replies to texts adopted by the Congress	CM/Del/Dec(2021)1420/12.1	<i>Info.</i>
18.3	Intergovernmental committees	CG-BUR(2022)43-20	<i>Dec.</i>
7/02			

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| | | CM(2021)131-final | <i>Info.</i> |
| 19. | Congress meetings | CG-BUR(2022)43-13 | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 20. | Other business | | |
| 21. | Adoption of the abridged report of the meeting | CG-BUR(2022)43-DEC | <i>Dec.</i> |

Close of the meeting

Date of the next meeting: Monday 21 March 2022

to contact the Congress Bureau Secretariat
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