CG(2023)44-OJ-prov
23 March 2023

44th Session of the Congress

Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe and European Parliament
21-23 March 2023

AGENDA
PUBLIC MEETING

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the two official languages of the Council of Europe (English and French) and in German, Italian and Turkish except where otherwise indicated.

Information on the provision of additional languages available for sittings (valid on the date shown above) is indicated throughout this agenda and on the timetable of meetings [CG(2023)44-01]

Key:
EN English
FR French
DE German
IT Italian
TR Turkish

Due to renovation of the Council of Europe's Hemicycle, all plenary sittings of the Congress in 2023 will be held in the European Parliament hemicycle.

All other meetings will be held in the Palais de l'Europe.

By taking the floor to speak in the meeting, you agree for your statement to be filmed and recorded.
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Monday 20 March 2023 – *meetings held in the Palais de l'Europe*

Bureaux meetings [*EN/FR/DE/IT*]	
9.30-10.30, Room 6	Bureau of the Chamber of Regions
9.30-10.30, Room 8	Bureau of the Chamber of Local Authorities
10.45-12.15 and 14.00-15.30, Room 9	Bureau of the Congress
Political group meetings - 15.45-17.45	
Room 9	European People's Party Group in the Congress (EPP/CCE) [*EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]*
Room 8	Socialist Group, Greens and Progressive Democrats (SOC/G/PD) [*EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]*
Room 6	Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG) [*EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]*
Room 10	European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR) [*EN/IT/TR]*
Secretaries of national delegations meeting - 15.40-16.20	
Room 11	Information meeting *followed by an informal coffee break with the youth delegates*

Tuesday 21 March 2023 – *Palais de l'Europe*

8.30 ***OPENING in the lobby of the hemicycle of the Palais de l'Europe:***

Solidarity market in aid Türkiye organised jointly with the Parliamentary Assembly and the Staff Amicale of the Council of Europe

Committee meetings *[EN/FR/DE/IT/TR] – meetings held in the Palais de l'Europe*

Monitoring Committee	9.00-11.00, Room 1
Current Affairs Committee	9.00-11.00, Room 9
Governance Committee	9.00-11.00, Room 5

11.10 ***EVENT:*** *Inauguration: Solidarity market for Türkiye (organised jointly with the Parliamentary Assembly and the Staff Amicale)*

Workshop on the revision of the European Urban Charter *[EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]*

11.15-12.30, Room 1

CG-GOV(2023)1-04 ; CG-GOV(2023)1-05

12.30 ***EVENT****: Musical interlude with traditional performers and national pastries on the occasion of Novruz (Permanent Representation of the Republic of Azerbaijan)*

13.00 ***EVENT****: "Role of local and regional authorities in education for democratic citizenship" organised by the Organisation internationale de la francophonie and the Council of Europe - Room 9, Palais de l'Europe (French only)*

Tuesday 21 March 2023 - *meeting held in the European Parliament Hemicycle*

Plenary sitting *[EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]*

14.30-19.00

** Deadline for tabling amendments: 10.00 Tuesday 14 March 2023*

14.30	**Opening of the 44th Session of the Congress by the President** Leendert VERBEEK
14.35	**Verification of new members' credentials** [CG(2023)44-04] Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Xavier CADORET, France (L, SOC/G/PD) and Aleksandra MALETIĆ, Serbia (R, EPP/CCE) Debate and vote on the draft resolution [CG(2023)44-02]*
14.50	**Adoption of the agenda of the 44th Session** [CG(2023)44-OJ] **Adoption of the minutes of the last sitting of the 43rd Session (27 October 2022)** [CG(2022)43-PV-03] **Adoption of the composition of Congress committees** [CG(2023)44-03]
15.00	**Communication by the President** [CG(2023)44-12] Debate
15.30	**Statement by Marija PEJČINOVIĆ-BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe** Questions
16.15	**The Russian Federation's war against Ukraine** Presentation by the rapporteur: Leendert VERBEEK, Netherlands (R, SOC/G/PD) Video message from: - Dmytro LUBINETS, Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights Debate Vote on the amendments [CG(2023)44-16-AMDT] and on the draft declaration [CG(2023)44-16]*
17.45	**Statement by Tiny KOX, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe** Questions
18.30	**Regional Council and District Assembly Elections in Berlin, Germany (12 February 2023)** Presentation by the rapporteur: Vladimir PREBILIC, Slovenia (L, SOC/G/PD) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CG(2023)44-14]*
19.00	**Close of the sitting**
20.00	***EVENT**: Classical music concert under the auspices of the Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers – Notre-Dame Cathedral, Strasbourg (registration required via the link on the Congress session website)*

Wednesday 22 March 2023 *meeting held in the Palais de l'Europe*

Chamber of Local Authorities [*EN/FR/DE/IT/TR*]

9.30-12.30, Room 1

** Deadline for tabling amendments: 10.00 Wednesday 15 March 2023*

9.30	**Opening of the session of the chamber by the President** Bernd VÖHRINGER
9.32	**Adoption of the agenda of the chamber** [CG(2023)44-OJ]
9.34	**Communication by the President** [CPL(2023)44-01]
9.50	**Report on the observation of local elections in the Republic of Slovenia (20 November 2022)** Presentation by the rapporteur: David ERAY, Switzerland, (R, EPP/CCE) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CPL(2023)44-02]*
10.20	**Strong democracies through youth engagement at local level** [CPL(2023)44-03] Statements by: - Hugo BIOLLEY, Mayor of Vinzieux, France - Kerry HOPPE, VOTE 16 Initiative - Despoina PANTELI, Youth delegate, Greece Debate
11.30	**Direct election of mayors** [CPL(2023)44-04] Statements by: - Marianne SCHUURMANS-WIJDEVEN, Mayor of Haarlemmermeer, The Netherlands - Joanne ANDERSON, Mayor of Liverpool, United Kingdom - Konstantinos KOUKAS, Mayor of Mykonos, Greece Debate
12.29	**Adoption of the abridged report of the session of the chamber** [CPL(2023)44-DEC]
12.30	**Close of the session of the chamber by the President**
12.30	***EVENT**: Testimonies of Ukrainian Prisoners of War and their families (Ukrainian national delegation and Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) – Lobby of the hemicycle of the Council of Europe*

Wednesday 22 March 2023 - *meeting held in the Palais de l'Europe*

Chamber of Regions *[EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]*

9.30-12.30**,** Room 9

** Deadline for tabling amendments: 10.00 Wednesday 15 March 2023*

9.30	**Opening of the session of the chamber by the President** Harald SONDEREGGER
9.32	**Adoption of the agenda of the chamber** [CG(2023)44-OJ]
9.34	**Communication by the President** [CPR(2023)44-01]
9.50	**Report on the observation of cantonal elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina (2 October 2022)** Presentation by the rapporteur: Stewart DICKSON, United Kingdom (R, ILDG) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CPR(2023)44-02]*
10.20	**Are regional interests sufficiently represented through the second chamber of parliaments?** [CPR(2023)44-03] Statements by: - Rafael BUSTOS GISBERT, Member of the Venice Commission of the Council of Europe, Spain - Günter KOVACS, President of the Bundesrat, Austria - Vasile DÎNCU, Senator, Chairperson of the European Affairs Committee, Romania - Daría TERRÁDEZ SALOM, Director General for the European Union of the Valencia Region, Spain Debate
11.30	**Regional strategies for the protection of the environment** [CPR(2023)44-03] Statements by: - Levan ZHORZHOLIANI, Co-rapporteur on the green reading of the European Charter of Local Self-Government / on human rights and the environment, Georgia, R (SOC/G/PD) - Pascale GAILLOT, Regional Councilor and President of the Environment Commission of the Grand Est Region, France - Joris BENGEVOORD, Treasurer of the Association of European Border Regions (AEBR), Mayor of Winterswijk, Netherlands - Richárd Levente BAKKAY, Youth delegate, Hungary Debate
12.29	**Adoption of the abridged report of the session of the chamber** [CPR(2023)44-DEC]
12.30	**Close of the session of the chamber by the President**
12.30	***EVENT**: Testimonies of Ukrainian Prisoners of War and their families (Ukrainian national delegation and Ukrainian Ministry of Foreign Affairs) – Lobby of the hemicycle of the Council of Europe*

Wednesday 22 March 2023 - *meeting held in the European Parliament Hemicycle*

Plenary sitting *[EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]*

14.30-19.30

** Deadline for tabling amendments: 10.00 Wednesday 15 March 2023*

14.30	**Adoption of the minutes of the sitting of the Congress on 21 March 2023** [CG(2023)44-PV-01]
14.32	**Adoption of texts approved by the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions** [CG(2023)44-06]
14.35	**Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (9 November 2022 – May 2023)** **Statement by Sigurður Ingi JÓHANNSSON, Minister of Infrastructure, on behalf of the Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers** Questions
15.35	**Embedding democracy at grassroots level: the future of the Council of Europe and the role of the Congress therein. The Congress contribution to the 4th Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe on 16-17 May 2023 in Reykjavik, Iceland** Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE) and Harald SONDEREGGER, Austria (R, EPP/CCE) Debate Vote on the amendments [CG(2023)44-10-AMDT] and on the draft recommendation [CG(2023)44-10]*
16.50	**Statement by Síofra O'LEARY, President of the European Court of Human Rights**
17.20	**Localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)** Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Xavier CADORET, France (L, SOC/G/PD) and Gunn Marit HELGESEN, Norway (R, EPP/CCE) Video message from Maimunah MOHD SHARIF, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat) Statements by: - Armen GEVORGYAN, General Rapporteur on local and regional authorities, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe - Gail MacGREGOR, Councillor, Annandele North Ward Dumfries and Galloway, CEMR spokesperson on Agenda 2030 and SDGs - Abdelaziz DEROUICHE, Prefect of Rabat, President of the Moroccan Association of Presidents of Councils of Prefectures and Provinces, Morocco Debate Vote on the amendments [CG(202344-13-AMDT] and on the draft recommendation [CG(2023)44-13]*
19.30	**Close of the sitting**

Thursday 23 March 2023 - *meeting held in the European Parliament Hemicycle*

Plenary sitting [*EN/FR/DE/IT/TR*]

9.30-13.00

** Deadline for tabling amendments: 10.00 Thursday 16 March 2023*

9.30	**Adoption of the minutes of the sessions of the chambers and of the sitting of the Congress on 22 March 2023** [CPL(2023)44-PV], [CPR(2023)44-PV] and [CG(2023)44-PV-02]
9.35	**Statement by Dagur B. EGGERTSSON, Mayor of Reykjavík, Iceland** Exchange of views
10.25	**Monitoring of the European Charter of Local Self-government in Romania** Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Marc COOLS, Belgium (L, ILDG) and David ERAY, Switzerland (R, EPP/CCE) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CG(2023)44-11]* **Statement by Attila-Zoltán CSEKE, Minister for Development, Public Works and Administration of Romania** Exchange of views
11.25	**Resilience of cities and regions in the face of multiple crises** Presentation by Andrew BOFF, United Kingdom, (R, ECR) Statements by: - Uğur İbrahim ALTAY, Mayor of Konya Metropolitan Municipality, Türkiye, Executive President of United Cities and Local Governments - Marvin REES, Mayor of Bristol, United Kingdom - Dema ELYA, Youth delegate, Netherlands Debate
12.55	**Adoption of the abridged report of the 44th Session** [CG(2023)44-DEC]
13.00	**Close of the 44th Session by the President of the Congress**

MEMBERS' ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO:

- Electronic voting: votes in the plenary sittings (meeting in the hemicycle of the European Parliament) will be held using a nominative badge which will be distributed before the opening of the session to all representatives or duly designated substitutes who registered for the session before 13 March 2023. Votes in the committees and chambers (meeting in the Palais de l'Europe) will be held using the KUDO on-line application.
- Participants are reminded that access to the hemicycle is strictly limited to holders of badges which indicate the specific hemicycle symbol.
- The conditions and deadlines for tabling amendments (congress.session@coe.int): at the latest at **10.00, 7 days before** the day when the texts to which they refer are to be discussed. Amendments must be signed by 5 delegates from at least two delegations for texts debated in plenary sittings or by five delegates from at least two national delegations sitting in a chamber for texts debated in that chamber.
- Registration of speakers : the registration of speakers for the debates should be done directly in Congress Connect or submitted to the Table Office Secretariat seated in front of the President's rostrum
- **Finance Office**: Offices 1035/1040/1033
- **Table office** for any other question: Office 1081
- **SPEAKING TIMES APPLIED IN THE DEBATES -**
  Rule 30 paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Rules and Procedures of the Congress

6. Speaking time for delegates is limited as follows:

   a. Single rapporteurs presenting reports: ten minutes;

   b. Co-rapporteurs presenting reports: six minutes each;

   c. Single rapporteurs replying to debates: five minutes;

   d. Co-rapporteurs replying to debates: three minutes each;

   e. Chairs of committees replying to debates (at their request): three minutes;

   f. Other speakers (except on personal statements; on setting the agenda; on any procedural question or on amendments): three minutes;

   g. Speakers on personal statements; on setting the agenda; on any procedural question or on amendments or sub-amendments: one minute.

7. When sufficient time is not available for all speakers to be heard for the times provided under Rule 30.6, the President may decide that speaking time will be reduced or that not all those who have entered their name in the register may speak.