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Congress adopts report on trends in regionalisation in Europe

Strasbourg, 21 October 2015 – On 21 October 2015, during its 29th Session, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe adopted a report on trends in regionalisation in Europe. Presented by Marie-Madeleine Mialot Muller (France, SOC), the report reviews the main trends in regionalisation in the Council of Europe member states between 2007 and 2015.

"The strengthening of local and regional democracy is the primary objective of the Congress. We consider the regions and autonomous communities to be true defenders of democracy: they embody and promote cultural diversity in Europe and are key partners in socio-economic development", said Marie-Madeleine Mialot Muller, introducing the report.

The resolution adopted by the Congress emphasises the benefits which regionalisation can bring in terms of quality public services and economic development while noting the trend towards a recentralisation since the economic crisis of 2008.

The Congress recommends that regional authorities keep in mind the need for territorial solidarity within the framework of national States when conducting regional policies. It also restates the need for regions to have a legal status and clearly defined powers anchored in legislation or the Constitution, and resources that they can use freely.

The report compares data for a selection of countries classified under three headings: non-regionalised countries, countries with a limited level of regionalisation and countries with a high level of regionalisation. The data presented concern developments in the institutional and administrative organisation of regions, their competences, financial autonomy, controls, and relations with other levels of government, according to domestic law.

[Presentation by Marie-Madeleine Mialot Muller \(France, SOC\)](#)
[Report CPR/2015\(29\)2PROV](#)
[29th Session file](#)

The Congress has two chambers, the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions. It brings together 324 full and 324 substitute members representing more than 200 000 European territorial communities.

President of the Congress: Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities: Anders Knappe (Sweden, EPP/CCE), President of the Chamber of Regions: Gudrun Mosler-Törnström (Austria, SOC)

Political Groups: Socialist Group (SOC), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (EPP/CD), Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG), European Conservatives & Reformists Group (ECR)