

Media Advisory

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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05.11.2010

Monitoring of local and regional democracy in Slovenia

Dates: from 8 to 10 November 2010

Location: Ljubljana

Description: The Council of Europe Congress of Local and Regional Authorities will carry out a general monitoring mission to assess the situation of local and regional democracy in Slovenia. This visit is part of the Congress' procedure for monitoring the implementation of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, which Slovenia ratified in 1996.

Congress Rapporteurs Jos Wienen (Netherlands, EPP/CD) and Merita Jegeni Yildiz (Turkey, EPP/CD) will meet Minister for Local Self-Government and Regional Policy Henrik Gjerkeš, Finance Minister Franc Križanič and Human Rights Ombudsman Zdenka Čebašek-Travnik, as well as Mayor of Ljubljana Zoran Janković, Mayor of Murska Sobota Anton Štihec and Mayor of Benedikt Milan Gumzar.

In the Slovenian Parliament, the delegation will meet Pavel Gantar, President of the National Assembly; Vili Trofenik, Chair of the Assembly's Committee on Local Self-Government and Regional Development; Darko Fras and Jernej Verbič, President and Vice-President of the Commission for Local Self-Government and Regional Development of the National Council (upper chamber); and Milan Ozimič, Leader of the Interest Group of Local Interests.

Meetings are also scheduled with President of the Constitutional Court Jože Tratnik and Judge Ernest Petric, President of the Court of Audit Igor Šoltes and Supreme State Auditor Mojca Planinšec, as well as with the Slovenian delegation to the Congress and representatives of the Association of Municipalities and Towns of Slovenia (SOS) and the Association of Municipalities of Slovenia (ZOS).

Following the visit, a report will be submitted to the Congress' Monitoring Committee.

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The Congress' latest recommendation on the situation of local and regional democracy in Slovenia was adopted in May 2001.

Contact in Ljubljana:

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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: Keith Whitmore (United Kingdom, ILDG), President of the Chamber of Regions: Herwig van Staa (Austria, EPP/CD), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities: Jean-Claude Frécon (France, SOC) Political Groups: Socialist Group (SOC), Group of the European People's Party – Christian Democrats (EPP/CD), Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG).