

THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

The work of the Congress is organised in three Committees:

MONITORING

GOVERNANCE

CURRENT AFFAIRS



The Congress of Local and Regional
Authorities of the Council of Europe

Le Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et
régionaux du Conseil de l'Europe



GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

- Responsible for legal and political issues relating to the development of good governance and democracy at local and regional levels.
- We focus on the implementation and development of the Council of Europe's legal instruments and recommendations in the field of local and regional democracy.



We also look at questions related to governance and the functioning of local and regional authorities such as:

- Citizen participation
- Public finance
- Cross-border cooperation
- Interregional co-operation
- e-democracy
- cybersecurity



COMMITTEE SECRETARIAT

Committee Secretary (a.i.)

Kjartan MAGNUSSON



Assistant



Catherine LIGIER



DELEGATION COMPOSITION



Chair of the Committee

Robert-Csongor GRUMAN (Romania, PPE/CCE)
Vice-President, Covasna County Council

Vice-Chairs

1ST

Mr Matija KOVAC
SERBIA



2nd

Mrs Amelie TARSCHYS INGRE
Sweden



3th

Mrs Manuela BORA
Italy



4th

Mr Tamas Gergo SAMU
Hungary



5th

Mr Andrew DAWSON
UNITED KINGDOM



89 full members and 89 alternates from
the 47 Member States
the Chamber of Local and regional authorities and the Chamber of Regions



Meetings

- The Committee usually holds three meetings a year.
- Two meetings are held in conjunction with the Congress Sessions in spring and autumn.
- In addition there is a full day meeting in May or June. These full-day meetings are often followed by a conference on specific topics of interest for local and regional politicians.



June 2019: Conference in Várpalota, Hungary, on “Smart Cities: democratic and inclusive cities”.



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Governance Committee

- The Committee participates in the work of the relevant Council of Europe structures and bodies and the relevant subsidiary bodies of the Committees of Ministers.
- The most important - for our committee - is the European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG). We have recently been working with this committee on public ethics and e-democracy.
- The Committee has been working to improve governance and democracy in local and regional government across Europe. This task is of great importance since increased share of public system is carried out by local and regional authorities.



Reports

In the framework of its mandate, and in accordance with the Congress priorities, the Committee prepares reports, including resolutions and recommendations for adoption by the Congress.



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Working methods



The Committee **PROPOSES** a subject



The Congress Bureau **APPROVES** the subject



One or two **rapporteurs ARE DESIGNATED** to draft the report and present it



The Committee **ADOPTS** the draft report



The Congress **ADOPTS**
a recommendation and/or a resolution, during its plenary Session



Recent reports - A brief overview

- The use of languages by local and regional authorities
- Fair distribution of taxes in transfrontier areas
- Whistle-blowing
- Financial compensation of local and regional elected representatives and public officials in exercise of their office
- Nepotism



Reports in progress - Status of Capital Cities

Capital cities play a distinguished role of their respective countries, of which they are often the economic, cultural intellectual and political centres. The report will provide guidelines to local, regional and national governments to guarantee that capital cities' authorities' right to self-government is legally protected and that public responsibilities are managed by democratically elected representatives



Reports in progress - Smart cities: the challenges for democracy

More and more cities are turning towards the Internet of Things to transform and improve the lives of citizens, by improving mobility, transport, security, pollution control and making cities more ecological. However, the benefits for local democracy, in terms of human rights, governance, accountability and citizen participation, are hard to gauge. How are European cities adopting smart-city technologies to improve the lives of their citizens and how are they coping with these challenges?



Reports in progress - Home sharing platforms: challenges and opportunities for municipalities

The importance of the sharing economy has been increasing in recent years, with the growth of information technology, such as dedicated websites and mobile apps. This emerging sector of the economy presents both challenges and opportunities to local authorities. The report will examine best practice initiatives that enable municipalities to harness the positive potential of the home sharing economy and limit the negative effects, to the benefit of their citizens.



Reports in progress - Developing urban-rural interplay

In recent years, local and regional governments have been facing numerous challenges resulting from the changing interplay between urban and rural areas, notably the demographic challenges resulting from progressive urbanization. The report will provide guidelines for regional policy-makers for effective strategies and instruments to better integrate rural and urban areas, to bridge the gap between them and to achieve economic, social and environmental benefits for both.



Reports in progress - Territorial solidarity and justice: towards better burden-sharing between regions

The economic, social, cultural and environmental challenges that member States face are affecting the traditional economic and social ties between and within regions. The need for better territorial cohesion policy and greater territorial solidarity and justice is becoming critical, notably between the central and peripheral regions of member States.



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