

THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

Resolution 397 (2016)¹ Organising intercultural and interreligious activities: a toolkit for local authorities

1. One of the priorities set out in the Congress strategy to combat radicalisation at grass-roots level adopted in February 2015 is to combat religious radicalisation and to stimulate and encourage the development of intercultural and interreligious activities at the local level. The aim is to promote the values of the Council of Europe and especially the need to respect cultural and religious pluralism and diversity, and to be aware of their value for social cohesion.

2. The Congress has committed itself to developing a toolkit for local authorities that will equip them to organise such activities.

3. To this end the Congress:

a. instructs its secretariat to produce such a toolkit based on the elements set out in the explanatory memorandum to this resolution;

b. resolves to disseminate this toolkit as widely as possible;

c. asks the national (and regional) associations of local and regional authorities to support this initiative, in particular by providing translations in their language and disseminating the toolkit;

d. invites the Congress Spokesperson on Human Rights to include this dimension and the toolkit in his work to raise awareness among local authorities on human rights.

1. Debated and adopted by the Congress on 22 March 2016, 1st Sitting (see Document CG30(2016)04-final, explanatory memorandum), co-rapporteurs: Bert Bouwmeester, Netherlands (L, ILDG) and Josef Neumann, Germany (R, SOC).