

44th SESSION
CG(2023)44-PV-02

MINUTES

Second Sitting

Wednesday 22 March 2023

Plenary Sitting

14.30 - 19.30, European Parliament Hemicycle

	<i>Leendert VERBEEK, President of the Congress, took the Chair at 14.33</i>
1.	<p>Adoption of the minutes of the sitting of the Congress on 21 March 2023</p> <p>The minutes of the sitting of the Congress on 21 March 2023, contained in Document CG(2023)44-PV-01, were adopted.</p>
2.	<p>Adoption of texts approved by the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions</p> <p>The texts approved by the Chamber of Local Authorities and Chamber of Regions, contained in Document CG(2023)44-06, were adopted.</p>
3.	<p>Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (9 November 2022 – May 2023)</p> <p>The President welcomed Sigurður Ingi Jóhannsson, Minister of Infrastructure, on behalf of the Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, and invited him to make a statement.</p> <p>Sigurður Ingi Jóhannsson made a statement and replied to the following speakers:</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Günther BERGMANN, Germany (R, EPP/CCE); Gudrun MOSLER-TÖRNSTRÖM, Austria (L, SOC/G/PD); Cemal BAS, Türkiye (L, EPP/CCE); Sergii MAZUR, Ukraine (L, ECR); and Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE).</p>
	<i>Xavier CADORET, 3rd Vice-President of the Congress, took the Chair at 15.23.</i>
4.	<p>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</p> <p>The co-rapporteurs Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE) and Harald SONDEREGGER, Austria (R, EPP/CCE), presented the recommendation contained in the Document CG(2023)44-10 on behalf of the Bureau.</p> <p>The debate was opened.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Sören SCHUMACHER, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD); Harald BERGMANN, Netherlands (L, ILDG); Günther BERGMANN, Germany (R, EPP/CCE); Liliia PASHYNNA, Ukraine (L, ILDG); Anar IBRAHIMOV, Azerbaijan (R, EPP/CCE); Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ,</p>

	<p>Belgium (R, SOC/G/PD); Thibaut GUIGNARD, France (L, EPP/CCE); Eline THOR ELIASSEN, Denmark (Youth Delegate); Zacchaeus HAYWARD, United Kingdom (Youth Delegate); Thomas ANDERSSON, Sweden (R, ILDG); Davit KHAZHAKYAN, Armenia (L, ILDG); Anna MAGYAR, Hungary (R, EPP/CCE); Angela BOYES, United Kingdom (L, ILDG); Mathieu CUIP, France (R, EPP/CCE); Fabio TRAVAGLINI, Italy (L, EPP/CCE); Jorge SEQUEIRA, Portugal (L, SOC/G/PD); Levan ZHORZHOLIANI, Georgia (R, SOC/G/PD); Heiner KLEMP, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD); Marc COOLS, Belgium (L, ILDG); Gunes PEHLIVAN, Türkiye (R, SOC/G/PD); Heida Bjorg HILMISDOTTIR, Iceland (L, NR); and Cecilia DALMAN EEK, Sweden (R, SOC/G/PD).</p> <p>The co-rapporteurs replied to the debate.</p> <p>The debate was closed.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft recommendation, contained in Document CG(2023)44-10, and the amendments tabled to it, contained in Document CG(2023)44-10AMDT.</p> <p>Amendment 1 was withdrawn by Josef FREY.</p> <p>Amendment 2 was presented by co-rapporteur Bernd VÖHRINGER.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed to.</p> <p>Amendment 3 was presented by co-rapporteur Harald SONDEREGGER.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed to.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft recommendation, as amended.</p> <p>The recommendation, as amended, was adopted.</p>
	<p><i>Leendert VERBEEK, President of the Congress, took the Chair at 16.35.</i></p>
5.	<p>Statement by Síofra O'LEARY, President of the European Court of Human Rights</p> <p>The President welcomed Síofra O'LEARY, President of the European Court of Human Rights and invited her to make a statement.</p> <p>Síofra O'LEARY made a statement and replied to the following speakers:</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Gudrun MOSLER-TÖRNSTRÖM, Austria (L, SOC/G/PD); Harald BERGMANN, Netherlands (L, ILDG); and Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE).</p> <p>The President thanked Síofra O'LEARY.</p>
	<p><i>Harald SONDEREGGER, 2nd Vice-President of the Congress, took the Chair at 16.59.</i></p>
6.	<p>Localisation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)</p> <p>The co-rapporteurs Xavier CADORET, France (L, SOC/G/PD) and Gunn Marit HELGESEN, Norway (R, EPP/CCE) presented the recommendation contained in Document CG(2023)44-13, on behalf of the Bureau.</p> <p>The President invited the Congress to watch a video message from Maimunah MOHD SHARIF, Executive Director of the United Nations Human Settlements Programme (UN-Habitat).</p> <p>The President welcomed the following speakers and invited them to make a statement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Armen GEVORGYAN, General Rapporteur on local and regional authorities, Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; • Gail MacGREGOR, Councillor, Annandale North Ward Dumfries and Galloway, CEMR spokesperson on Agenda 2030 and SDGs (via video link); • Abdelaziz DEROUICHE, Prefect of Rabat, President of the Moroccan Association of Presidents of Councils of Prefectures and Provinces, Morocco.

The President thanked Maimunah MOHD SHARIF, Armen GEVORGYAN, Gail MacGREGOR and Abdelaziz DEROUICHE.

The debate opened.

Speakers: Joris BENGEOOD, Netherlands (L, SOC/G/PD); Humbat HUSEYNOV, Azerbaijan (L, EPP/CCE); Heiner KLEMP, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD); Cemal BAS, Türkiye (L, EPP/CCE); Clemens LAMMERSKITTEN, Germany (L, EPP/CCE); Oksana DERKACH, Ukraine (L, EPP/CCE); Tamraz TAGHIYEV, Azerbaijan (L, EPP/CCE); Davit KHAZHAKYAN, Armenia (L, ILDG); Lidija RADZEVICIUTE, Lithuania (Youth Delegate); Walter Fannar KRISTJANSSON, Iceland (L, NR); Angela BOYES, United Kingdom (L, ILDG); Henry KASK, Estonia (Youth Delegate); Fabio TRAVAGLINI, Italy (L, EPP/CCE); Vuk MIRCETIC, Serbia (R, EPP/CCE); Josef FREY, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD); Belinda GOTTARDI, Italy (L, SOC/G/PD); Hilmi GULER, Türkiye (L, EPP/CCE); Reinhart ROHR, Austria (R, SOC/G/PD); Julia ALMEIDA LIMA E SQUEIRA RODRIGUES, Portugal (L, SOC/G/PD); Janos Adam KARACSONY, Hungary (R, ECR); Catarina SEMEDO MADAIL DE OLIVEIRA, Portugal (Youth Delegate); Karin THOMASSON, Sweden (R, SOC/G/PD); and Saija KARNISTO-TOIVONEN, Finland (R, SOC/G/PD).

The co-rapporteurs replied to the debate.

Armen GEVORGYAN and Abdelaziz DEROUICHE replied to the debate.

The debate was closed.

The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft recommendation, contained in Document CG(2023)44-13 and the 6 amendments tabled to it, contained in Document CG(2023)44-13AMDT.

Amendment 1 was presented by Arne BERGSVÅG, Norway, (R, ILDG).

The rapporteurs were in favour.

The amendment was agreed to.

Amendment 2 was presented by Arne BERGSVÅG.

The rapporteurs were in favour.

The amendment was agreed to.

Amendment 3 was presented by Arne BERGSVÅG.

The rapporteurs were in favour.

The amendment was agreed to.

Amendment 4 was presented by Arne BERGSVÅG.

The rapporteurs were in favour.

The amendment was agreed to.

Amendment 5 was presented by Arne BERGSVÅG.

The rapporteurs were in favour.

The amendment was agreed to.

Amendment 6 was presented by Arne BERGSVÅG.

The rapporteurs were in favour.

The amendment was agreed to.

The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft recommendation contained in Document CG(2023)44-13, as amended.

The recommendation, as amended, was adopted.

7.	End of the sitting <i>The sitting was closed at 19.31.</i>
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