

The Bureau of the Congress

To all members of the Congress

Meeting of the Bureau of the Congress Wednesday 24 March 2021

Remote meeting

Summary of decisions CG-BUR(2021)37-DEC¹ 31 March 2021

The Bureau of the Congress,

meeting via videoconference on 24 March 2021 with Leendert Verbeek, President of the Congress, in the chair, considered the following items:

- **Draft agenda:** adopted the agenda [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-OJprov](#)].
- **Decisions taken by the Bureau: remote meeting (12 February 2021):** took note of the decisions of the remote Bureau meeting of 12 February which had been adopted by written procedure on 26 February 2021 [[CG-BUR\(2021\)36-DEC](#)].
- **Communication by the President of the Congress:**
 - took note of the communication of the President.
- **Communication by the outgoing President of the Congress:**
 - took note of the representation in missions and meetings of the outgoing President, Anders KNAPE (06.02.2021-17.03.2021)-[[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF14](#)].
- **Composition of the new Bureau of the Congress:**
 - took note of the results of the elections carried out via the ScytI platform on 23 March 2021 for the 14 positions of vice-presidents of the Congress [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF20](#)] and agreed to make this document available to the Congress at the plenary to be held on 24 March 2021 at 10.30;
 - took note of the results of the elections carried out via the ScytI platform on 23 March 2021 for the positions of the 2nd,3rd,4th and 5th vice-chairs of the Monitoring and Current Affairs committees [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF21](#)];
 - with regard to the Governance Committee, established the final list of the committee chairs and vice-chairs having drawn lots to establish the order of precedence due to a tie between candidates for the positions of 3rd and 4th vice-chair;
 - agreed to make this document available to the Congress at the plenary to be held on 24 March 2021 at 10.30;
 - took note of the list of participants in the Bureau of the Congress [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF22](#)];
 - agreed to make this document available to the Congress at the plenary to be held on 24 March 2021 at 10.30;

¹ Adopted by the Bureau of the Congress on the 6th of April 2021 by written procedure (e-mail).

- took note of the composition of the political groups: chairmanships, 1st Vice-Chairs, Treasurers and Secretaries [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF16](#)];
- took note of the amended Rules of Procedure of the Independent and Liberal Democratic Group of the Congress [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF18](#)].
- **Bureau meetings – Information for members and participants:** took note of the information for members and participants of the Bureau [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF13](#)].
- **Communication by the Secretary General of the Congress:**
 - took note of the of the communication by the Secretary General of the Congress [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF15](#)];
 - instructed the secretariat to prepare a proposal for adopting the decisions at the end of Bureau meetings.
- **Chairing of the plenary sitting of 24 March 2021:** took note of the chairing of the plenary sitting of 24 March 2021 [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF17](#)].
- **Local and regional elections:**
 - approved the request of the Chairman of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova to observe the elections of the deputies to the Popular Assembly of the Territorial Administrative Unit of Gagauzia in the Republic of Moldova, to be held on 16 May 2021, which will be organised remotely, in line with Congress Resolution 455(2020) [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-11](#)];
 - took note of the calendar for the 2021 local and regional elections [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-INF23](#)].
- **Congress meetings in 2021:**
 - approved the proposals for Congress meetings in 2021 [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-10](#)];
 - approved the meeting schedule of the Second part-session of the 40th Session of the Congress (15-17 June 2021) [[CG\(2021\)40-15](#)];
 - took note that the agenda will be approved by the Bureau at its meeting in May 2021.
- **European Local Democracy Week (ELDW):** approved the proposed theme for the 2021-2022 edition of the European Local Democracy Week: “Protecting the environment: local communities take action” [[CG-BUR\(2021\)37-12](#)].
- **Committee of Ministers (CM):** took note of the Activity report presented by the Secretary General of the Congress at the 1397th meeting of the Ministers’ Deputies on 3 March 2021 [[CG\(2021\)40-14](#)].
- **European Committee of the Regions – meeting of the CoR/Congress High-level Group (22 or 23.04.2021):** took note of the draft concept paper and draft agenda for the High-level meeting between the European Committee of the Regions and the Congress [[Draft concept paper](#)] [[Draft agenda](#)].

The next meeting of the Bureau of the Congress will be held remotely on Wednesday 26 May 2021.

Copy for information:

Secretariat: Director of the Private Office, Miroslav PAPA; Gianluca ESPOSITO
 Secretariat of the Committee of Ministers: Geneviève MAYER; Katherine ANDERSON
 Parliamentary Assembly: Secretary General; Private Office of the President; AS/Soc Committee
 Directors General
 Secretaries of the national delegations and political groups of the Congress
 Congress Secretariat
 Brussels Office
 Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

List of participants**Members of the Bureau:**

Leendert VERBEEK, Netherlands, (R, SOC/G/PD), President of the Congress
 Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany, (L, EPP/CCE), President of the Chamber of Local Authorities
 Harald SONDEREGGER, Austria, (R, EPP/CCE), President of the Chamber of Regions
 John WARMISHAM, United Kingdom, (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Gunn Marit HELGESEN, Norway, (R, EPP/CCE)
 Xavier CADORET, France, (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Aleksandra MALETIĆ, Serbia, (R, EPP/CCE)
 Konstantinos KOUKAS, Greece, (L, EPP/CCE)
 Andrei NOVIKOV, Estonia, (R, ILDG)
 Antonija JOZIC, Croatia, (L, EPP/CCE)
 Mustafa Tunç SOYER, Turkey (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg, (L, ILDG)
 Lia MONTALTI, Italy, (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Emin YERITSYAN, Armenia, (L, EPP/CCE)
 Cecilia DALMAN EEK, Sweden, (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Sevdia UGREKHELIDZE, Georgia, L, EPP/CCE)
 Alexander DROZDENKO, Russian Federation, (R, EPP/CCE)

Outgoing President:

Anders KNAPE, Sweden, (L, EPP/CCE)

Chairs of committees:

Gudrun MÖSLER-TÖRNSTRÖM, Austria, (L, SOC/G/PD), Monitoring Committee
 Jelena DRENJANIN, Sweden, (L, EPP/CCE), Governance Committee
 Thomas ANDERSSON, Sweden, (R, ILDG), Current Affairs Committee

Chairs of Congress political groups:

Anders KNAPE, Sweden, (L, EPP/CCE), *ad interim*
 Karl-Heinz LAMBERTZ, Belgium, (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Marc COOLS, Belgium, (L, ILDG)
 Svitlana BOHATYRCHUK KRYVKO, Ukraine, (R, ECR)

Statutory partners:

Assembly of European Regions (AER): Christian SPAHR, Secretary General
 Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR): Carol Thomas, Adviser - Governance and Institutional Relations

Advisors:

Alain HUBERS (advisor to Leendert VERBEEK)
 Laura KAMISLI (advisor to Bernd VOEHRINGER)
 Andreas GREITER (advisor to Harald SONDEREGGER)
 Dominique Faymonville (advisor to Cecilia DALMAN EEK)
 Eleonore PARK-EDSTRÖM (advisor to Anders KNAPE)
 Marcus HOLMBERG (advisor to Anders KNAPE)
 Erdem GUNEY (advisor to Tunç SOYER)
 Knut HJORTH-JOHANSEN (advisor to Gunn Marit HELGESEN)
 Maria BIGDAY (advisor to Marc COOLS)
 Richard KITT (advisor to John WARMISHAM)

Congress secretariat:

Andreas KIEFER, Secretary General of the Congress
Rafael BENITEZ, Director of the Congress
Dolores RÍOS TURÓN, Head of the Table Office and Secretary of the Bureau
Renate ZIKMUND, Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Local Authorities
Dmitri MARCHENKOV, Acting Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Regions
Fatima NOUICER, Co-Secretary to the Bureau
Cécile CHEVALIER-LAIGNEL, Assistant to the Bureau
Sedef CANKOCAK, Secretary of the Current Affairs Committee
Roman CHLAPAK, Secretary of the Governance Committee
Stéphanie POIREL, Secretary of the Monitoring Committee
Giampaolo CORDIALE, Head of the External relations
Marité MORAS, Head of Co-operation Activities
Sabine ZIMMER, Head of the President Office
Michael LARSEN, Financial Officer
Delphine WEISSHAUPT, National delegations Officer
Imogen HATTENVILLE, Assistant to the Table Office
Adam DRNOVSKY, Observation of election Officer
Jovana VUJANOVIC, Observation of election Officer
Ayben OKKALI-AKTAS, External Relations and Co-operation Activities Officer
Célia CHARRE, External Relations and Co-operation Activities Officer
Laura ESSELIN, External Relations and Co-operation Activities Officer
Manon LUTHY, Co-operation Activities Officer
Ekaterina KOTNOVA, Assistant to the Monitoring Committee and Observation of local and regional elections
Anna ONIPENKO, Assistant to External Relations and Co-operation Activities
Svitlana PEREVERTEN, Co-Secretary of the Monitoring Committee and Observation of local and regional elections
Martine ROUDOLFF, Assistant to the Department of Statutory Activities, External Relations and Co-operation (SAERC)
Cristina GRUAU, Assistant to the Monitoring Committee
Hawa DIALLO, Assistant to the Institutional Communication Unit
Inge HANNON, Co-Secretary of the Current Affairs Committee
Mira MASTRONARDI KORSOS, Assistant to the Financial Unit
Anne-Marie KLEIN, Assistant to the Financial Unit
Nata CHIKOVANI, Assistant to the Table Office