

The Bureau of the Congress

CG-BUR(2025)67-DEC
27 and 30 October 2025

Meeting of the Bureau of the Congress Strasbourg, France Monday 27 October and Thursday 30 October 2025

Abridged report – List of items discussed and decisions taken

Monday 27 October

1. The President of the Congress, Mr Marc COOLS, opened the meeting. The list of participants is set out in Appendix 1.
2. The Bureau adopted the agenda as set out in Appendix 2.
3. The Bureau took note of the communication by the President of the Congress.
4. The Bureau took note of the communication by the Secretary General of the Congress.
5. The Bureau took note of the information on progress in reflections with respect to relations with former Congress members.
6. The Bureau took note of the oral reports by the Chamber Presidents of the meetings of the Chamber Bureaux held on 27 October 2025.
7. The Bureau took note of the information on the budget of the Congress.
8. The Bureau took note of the timetable and deadlines for elections during the session, schedule of meetings as set out in document CG(2025)49-01, chairing of the plenary sittings as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-70REV, the side-events as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-65 and the list of youth delegates as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-73.

It decided not to hold an urgent debate at this session and approved the revised agenda of the Session as set out in document CG(2025)49-OJrev.
9. The Bureau approved the changes in the composition of the national delegations as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-64 and adopted the draft resolution on the verification of new members' credentials, as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-72. The Bureau took note of information concerning the preparation of the next renewal session, which would take place in March 2026.
10. The Bureau pursued its discussion on the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine and took note of the update on recent developments.
11. The Bureau took note of the information regarding Congress activities in respect of local and regional elections set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-71REV and decided to accept the invitation to observe the forthcoming presidential elections in the Republika Sprska, Bosnia and Herzegovina.
12. The Bureau took note of the information on the situation in Cyprus, Georgia and Türkiye.
13. The Bureau took note of the communication of the Congress standing rapporteur and deputy standing rapporteur on human rights, as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-66, and held an

exchange of views with the standing rapporteur on human rights, Gudrun Mosler-Törnström, Austria (L, SOC/G/PD).

14. The Bureau took note of the co-operation activities of the Congress in member States and neighbouring regions.

15. The Bureau took note of the information regarding the World Forum for Democracy to be held in Strasbourg on 5-7 November 2025 and of the composition of the Congress delegation as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-69REV.

16. The Bureau took note of the draft Outcome Document of the 5th Forum of Mayors, United Nations, held in Geneva, Switzerland on 6-7 October 2025.

17. The Bureau took note of the communication on the activities of the Committee of Ministers presented to the Parliamentary Assembly on 30 September 2025 by Mr Ian Borg, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of Malta.

18. The Bureau took note of the Committee of Ministers' reply to Congress Recommendation 525 (2025) "Foreign interference in electoral processes at local and regional levels". It also took note of the information provided concerning the work of the CDDEM.

Thursday 30 October

19. The Bureau appointed Konstantinos KOUKAS, Greece (L, EPP/CCE) as Rapporteur on the New Democratic Pact for Europe.

20. The Bureau took note of the activities of the committees. It approved the new terms of reference for Committee activities of the Monitoring Committee, as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-74.

21. The Bureau held a session debriefing. It welcomed a highly successful session, took note of members' wish to give more visibility during sessions to youth delegates' grassroots and decided to pursue its reflexions on side-events during sessions.

22. The Bureau took note of the Calendar of Bureau meetings and sessions in 2025 and 2026, as set out in documents CG-BUR(2025)67-67 and CG-BUR(2025)67-68.

23. The Bureau heard additional information about the current situation in Georgia.

24. The Bureau adopted the present abridged report of the meeting, as set out in document CG-BUR(2025)67-DECprov.

Appendix 1 – List of participants

Members of the Bureau

Marc COOLS, Belgium (L, ILDG), President of the Congress
 Cecilia DALMAN EEK, (R, SOC/G/PD), President of the Chamber of Regions
 Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE) President of the Chamber of Local Authorities (only on 27 October)
 Gunn Marit HELGESEN, Norway (R, EPP/CCE) (only on 27 October)
 Xavier CADORET, France (L, SOC/G/PD)
 David ERAY, Switzerland (R, EPP/CCE)
 Jani KOKKO, Finland (L, SOC/G/PD) (only on 27 October)
 Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG)
 Randi MONDORF, Denmark (R, ILDG) (only on 27 October)
 Harald SONDEREGGER, Austria (R, EPP/CCE)
 Sevdia UGREKHELIDZE, Georgia (L, EPP/CCE)
 Andrew BOFF, United Kingdom (R, ECR)
 Oksana DERKACH, Ukraine (L, EPP/CCE)
 Güneş PEHLIVAN, Türkiye (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Konstantinos KOUKAS, Greece (L, EPP/CCE)
 Stephen SULTANA, Malta (R, SOC/G/PD) (only on 30 October)
 Alexander BOOMGAARS, Netherlands (L, SOC/G/PD) (only on 30 October)

Chairs of committees

Thibaut GUIGNARD, France (L, EPP/CCE), Chair of the Monitoring Committee (only on 30 October)
 Soeren SCHUMACHER, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD), 1st Vice Chair of the Monitoring Committee (only on 27 October)
 Paolo BELTRAMINELLI, Switzerland (L, PPE/CCE), 1st Vice Chair of the Governance Committee (only on 30 October)
 Nazia REHMAN, United Kingdom (R, SOC/G/PD), Chair of the Committee on Social Inclusion and Human Dignity (only on 30 October)

Presidents of Congress political groups

Anders KNAPE, Sweden (L, EPP/CCE)
 Bryony RUDKIN, United Kingdom (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Stewart DICKSON, United Kingdom (L, ILDG)
 Svitlana BOHATYRCHUK KRYVKO, Ukraine (R, CRE/ECR)

Secretariat

Mathieu MORI, Secretary General of the Congress
 Claudia LUCIANI, Director of the Congress
 Daniel POPESCU, Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Regions
 Stéphanie POIREL, Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Local Authorities
 Sarah BURTON, Head of the Table Office and Secretary of the Bureau
 Euan RODDIN, Head of the Statutory Activities Division
 Katyana VASILEVA, Assistant to the Table Office
 Sanja LESKOVAC, Assistant to the Table Office

Appendix 2 – Agenda**[Monday 27 October 2025]**

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|-----------|--|---|-----------------------|
| 1. | Opening of the meeting | | |
| 2. | Adoption of the agenda | CG-BUR(2025)67-OJ
CG-BUR(2025)66-DEC | <i>Dec.
Info.</i> |
| 3. | Communication by the President of the Congress | | |
| | Missions and meetings of the President of the Congress | 21.10 CG-BUR(2025)67-62REV | <i>Info.</i> |
| 4. | Communication by the Secretary General of the Congress | | |
| 4.1 | Missions and meetings of the Secretary General of the Congress | CG-BUR(2025)67-63 | <i>Info.</i> |
| 4.2 | New Democratic Pact | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 4.3 | Partner and observer status | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 5. | 27.10 Relations with former Congress members | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 6. | Chamber sessions: meetings of 27 October 2025 | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 7. | Budget of the Congress | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 8. | 49th Session of the Congress, 28-30 October 2025 | | |
| 8.1 | Elections during the session | Timetable of elections | <i>Info.</i> |
| 8.2 | Schedule of meetings | CG(2025)49-01 | <i>Info.</i> |
| 8.3 | Possible urgent debate | | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 8.4 | Approval of the draft agenda | CG(2025)49-OJ | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 8.5 | Chairing of the plenary sittings | 23.10 CG-BUR(2025)67-70REV | <i>Info.</i> |
| 8.6 | Side events | CG-BUR(2025)67-65 | <i>Info.</i> |
| 8.7 | Youth delegates | CG-BUR(2025)67-73 | <i>Info.</i> |

9. National delegations

Rapporteurs:
 Andrew BOFF, United Kingdom (R, ECR)
 Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG)

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|---|---|---|------------------------------|
| 9.1 | Modifications of the composition of national delegations | CG-BUR(2025)67-64 | <i>Dec</i> |
| 9.2 | Preliminary draft resolution on the verification of new members' credentials and new appointment procedures | CG-BUR(2025)67-72 | <i>Dec.</i> |
| 9.3 | Preparation of renewal session, March 2026 | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 10. Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine | | | |
| | Recent developments | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 11. | Local and regional elections | 23.10 CG-BUR(2025)67-71REV
23.10 Invitation letter | <i>Info.</i>
<i>Dec.</i> |
| 12. | Local and regional democracy | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 12.1 | Cyprus | | |
| 12.2 | Georgia | | |
| 12.3 | Türkiye | | |
| 13. | [14:00]
Exchange of views with the Standing Rapporteur on Human Rights, Gudrun MOSLER-TÖRNSTRÖM, Austria (L, SOC/G/PD) | CG-BUR(2025)67-66 | <i>Info.</i> |
| 14. | Co-operation activities of the Congress in member States and neighbouring regions | | <i>Info.</i> |
| 15. | World Forum for Democracy (5-7 November 2025) | | |
| | Programme and composition of Congress delegation | Programme
21.10 CG-BUR(2025)67-69REV | <i>Info.</i>
<i>Info.</i> |
| 16. | 5th Forum of Mayors, United Nations, Geneva, Switzerland (6-7 October 2025) | 24.10 Outcome Document | <i>Info.</i> |
| 17. | Parliamentary Assembly | Communication on the activities of the Committee of Ministers | <i>Info.</i> |

18. Intergovernmental sector

Committee of Ministers' reply to texts adopted by the Congress

[CM/Cong\(2025\)Rec525-final](#)

Info.

[Thursday 30 October 2025]

19. Appointment of a Congress rapporteur on the New Democratic Pact

Dec.

20. Activities of the Committees

[CG-MON\(2025\)04-OJprov](#)
[CG-SOC\(2025\)3-OJprov](#)
[CG-GOV\(2025\)3-OJprov](#)
28.10 [CG-BUR\(2025\)67-74](#)

Info.
Info.
Info.
Dec.

21. Session debriefing

Info.

22. Congress sessions and Bureau meetings

Calendar of sessions and Bureau meetings in 2025 and 2026

[CG-BUR\(2025\)67-67](#)
[CG-BUR\(2025\)67-68](#)

Info.
Info.

23. Other business

Info.

24. Adoption of the abridged report of the meeting

CG-BUR(2025)67-DEC

Dec.

Close of the meeting

Date and place of next meeting:
Paris, Monday 15 December 2025

to contact the Congress Bureau Secretariat
 ➔ congress.bureau@coe.int