

# THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

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## **Recommendation 371 (2015)<sup>1</sup> Combatting radicalisation at grass-roots level: the role of local and regional authorities**

1. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe refers to its Resolution 381 (2015) on combatting radicalisation at grass-roots level: the role of local and regional authorities, in which it underlines the importance of concerted action, at all levels of governance, for the prevention of radicalisation which might lead to terrorism and the specific role of territorial bodies in this respect.

2. The Congress considers that the presence, in Europe's cities and regions, of inclusive communities grounded in pluralistic democracy, intercultural and interfaith dialogue at local level, the fight against racism and education for democratic citizenship is particularly relevant in this context. At the same time, it attaches great importance to crime

prevention and inclusive urban development. While protecting human rights and fundamental freedoms, the overall aim is to foster solidarity, diversity and security in Europe's cities and regions and identify the causes of extremism and radicalisation which might lead to terrorism.

3. The Congress therefore invites the Committee of Ministers to:

*a.* foster co-operation and concerted action between all levels of government for the conception, preparation and implementation of anti-radicalisation policies and the fight against terrorism, taking specific note of Congress Resolution 381 (2015);

*b.* allocate complementary appropriate means and resources for the implementation, at local and regional level, of the Council of Europe Action Plan 2015-2017 on the fight against violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism;

*c.* take into account, in the framework of national action against extremism and radicalisation which might lead to terrorism, the specific role and added value of local and regional authorities for security at grass-roots level.

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1. Debated and adopted by the Congress on 25 March 2015, 2nd Sitting (see Document CG/2015(28)14FINAL) rapporteur: Leen Verbeek, Netherlands (R, SOC).