

CG(2025)48-OJ

27 March 2025

48th Session of the Congress

Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe
25-27 March 2025

DRAFT AGENDA PUBLIC MEETING

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in the two official languages of the Council of Europe (English and French) and in German and Italian except where otherwise indicated.

Information on the provision of additional languages available for sittings (valid on the date shown above) is indicated throughout this agenda and on the timetable of meetings [[CG\(2025\)48-01](#)].

Key:

EN English

FR French

DE German

IT Italian

TR Turkish

UKR Ukrainian

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Monday 24 March 2025

Bureaux meetings [EN/FR/DE/IT]

9.45-10.30, Room 6	Bureau of the Chamber of Regions
9.45-10.30, Room 8	Bureau of the Chamber of Local Authorities
10.45-12.15 and 14.00-15.30, Room 10	Bureau of the Congress

Seminar for new Congress members - 13.00-14.00

Room 6	Information meeting open to all Congress members, national delegation secretaries and advisors [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]
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Political group meetings - 15.45-17.45

Room 1	European People's Party Group in the Congress (EPP/CCE) [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]
Room 8	Group of Socialists, Greens and Progressive Democrats (SOC/G/PD) [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]
Room 6	Independent and Liberal Democrat Group (ILDG) [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]
Room 10	European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR) [EN/DE/IT/TR]

Secretaries of national delegations meeting - 15.40-16.20

Room 11	Information meeting <i>followed by a coffee break with the youth delegates</i>
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Tuesday 25 March 2025 - Committee meetings [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]

Monitoring Committee	8.45-10.00, Room 1
Social Inclusion Committee	8.45-10.00, Room 6
Governance Committee	8.45-10.00, Room 10

Tuesday 25 March 2025

Plenary sitting [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]

10.30-13.00, Hemicycle

* *Deadline for tabling amendments: Tuesday 18 March 2025, 10.00*

** *Deadline for tabling amendments: Friday 21 March 2025, 10.00*

10.30	Opening of the 48th Session of the Congress by the President Marc COOLS
10.40	Test vote – reminder of the voting system and the request to speak procedure in the hemicycle
10.45	Verification of new members' credentials [CG(2025)48-04] Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Andrew BOFF, United Kingdom (R, ECR) and Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG) Debate and vote on the draft resolution [CG(2025)48-02] * 
10.50	Adoption of the agenda of the 48th Session [CG(2025)48-OJ] Adoption of the minutes of the last sitting of the 47th Session (17 October 2024) [CG(2024)47-PV-03] Adoption of the composition of Congress committees [CG(2025)48-03]
10.55	Statement by Bjørn BERGE, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe Questions
11.45	Congress budget for 2026-2027 Presentation by the rapporteur: Konstantinos KOUKAS, Greece (L, EPP/CCE) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-09] ** 
12.10	Statement by Michael O'FLAHERTY, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights Exchange of views
12.55	Suspension of the sitting
13.00	EVENT: <i>Inauguration of an exhibition on Luxembourgish language(s) - Permanent Representation of Luxembourg - Lobby of the hemicycle</i>



Tuesday 25 March 2025

Plenary sitting [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR/**UKR]

14.30-19.30, Hemicycle

* *Deadline for tabling amendments: Tuesday 18 March 2025, 10.00*

*** *Deadline for tabling amendments: Friday 21 March 2025, 10.00*

14.30	Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine ** Recovery and reconstruction of Ukraine Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Oleksii RIABYKIN, Deputy Minister of Communities and Territories Development, Ukraine• Vitalii BEZGHIN, Member of Parliament, Chair of the Parliamentary Subcommittee on Administrative and Territorial Organisation and Local Self-Government, Parliamentary Committee on Organisation of State Power, Local Self-Government, Regional Development and Urban Planning, Ukraine• Davide LA CECILIA, Special Envoy for the Reconstruction of Ukraine, Italy (on-line participation) Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG) and Gunn-Marit HELGESEN, Norway (R, EPP/CCE) Debate Vote on the amendments [CG(2025)48-12-AMDT] and on the draft declaration: [CG(2025)48-12]*** 
16.00	United Nations Second World Summit for Social Development Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG) and Harald SONDEREGGER, Austria (R, EPP/CCE) Statement by Bob RAE, President of the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) (video message) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-11]* 
16.30	Sexual violence in conflict zones H.R.H. the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg in dialogue with Chékéba HACHEMI, President of "Afghanistan Libre" association, and co-founder of "Stand Speak Rise Up!" Questions
17.15	"Thinking of You" Art Installation: Ceremony to launch the Strasbourg iteration <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Presentation by the artist, Alketa XHAFRA MRIPA• Donation of "Stand, Speak, Rise Up!" association T-shirt by H.R.H. the Grand Duchess of Luxembourg• Donation of a dress by the President of the Congress
17.25	Violence against women in politics Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Jaqueline McLAREN, Lord Provost of Glasgow City Council, United Kingdom• Flo CLUCAS, Chair of the Standing Committee on Gender Equality of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR) Debate
18.30	Local and regional democracy around the world Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Chilando CHITANGALA, Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia• Balakhsher BALOCH, Mayor of Turbat, Pakistan Debate
19.30	Close of the sitting
19.30	EVENT: Inauguration: EU-Belong project and Intercultural Regions Network followed by a reception – Assembly of European Regions (AER) – Lobby of the hemicycle

Wednesday 26 March 2025

Chamber of Local Authorities [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]

9.00-12.30, Hemicycle

* *Deadline for tabling amendments: Wednesday 19 March 2025, 10.00*

9.00	Opening of the session of the Chamber by the President Bernd VÖHRINGER	
9.05	Adoption of the draft agenda of the Chamber [CG(2025)48-OJ]	
9.10	Election of the 7th Vice-President of the Chamber of Local Authorities [deadline for candidatures: 7.00 Wednesday 26 March 2025] Presentation of the candidate(s) (3 minutes each) Vote Result of the election	
9.20	Communication of the President of the Chamber [CPL(2025)48-01]	
9.30	Monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in Liechtenstein Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Xavier CADORET, France (L, SOC/G/PD) and Marjorie CROVETTO, Monaco (L, NR) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CPL(2025)48-02]*	
9.45	Monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in San Marino Co-rapporteurs: Alexander BOOMGAARS, Netherlands (L, SOC/G/PD) and Tanja JOONA, Finland (L, ILDG) Presentation by: Tanja JOONA, Finland (L, ILDG) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CPL(2025)48-03]* Statement by Andrea BELLUZZI , Minister for Internal Affairs, Public Function, Institutional Affairs, Relations with the Castello Councils and Regulatory Simplification of San Marino Questions	
10.20	Thematic debate: Environmental protection: How can local elected representatives make a difference? [CPL(2025)48-04] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Ivica PULJAK, Mayor of Split, CroatiaMeropi-Spyridoula YDRAIOU, Congress thematic spokesperson on environment and climate change, Greece (L, EPP/CCE),Roxana-Maria CHIRIȚOIU, Congress youth delegate, Romania Debate	
11.30	Observation of local elections in Podgorica, Montenegro (26 September 2024) Presentation by the rapporteur: Randi MONDORF, Denmark (R, ILDG) Debate and vote on the draft resolution and the draft recommendation [CPL(2025)48-05]*	
11.50	Fact-finding mission on electoral matters, Romania (23 October 2024) Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Jorge SEQUEIRA, Portugal (L, SOC/G/PD) and Randi MONDORF, Denmark (R, ILDG) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CPL(2025)48-06]*	
12.29	Adoption of the abridged report of the session of the Chamber [CPL(2025)48-DEC]	
12.30	Close of the session of the chamber by the President	
12.30	EVENT: Inauguration: photo exhibition on Post-War Reconstruction in Ukraine – Permanent Representation of Ukraine – Lobby of the hemicycle	
12.45	EVENT: Meeting on “Education for citizenship in influence-prone democracies: prevention and action” (event in French only) - National delegation of France to the Congress – Room 6 (2nd floor of the Palais)	

Wednesday 26 March 2025

Chamber of Regions [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR/**UKR]

9.00-12.30, Room 1

9.00	Opening of the session of the Chamber by the President Cecilia DALMAN EEK, Sweden (SOC/G/PD)
9.05	Adoption of the agenda of the Chamber [CG(2025)48-OJ]
9.10	Election of the 7th Vice-President of the Chamber of Regions [deadline for candidatures: 7.00 Wednesday 26 March 2025] Presentation of the candidate(s) (3 minutes each) Vote Result of the election
9.20	Communication of the President of the Chamber [CPR(2025)48-01]
9.30	Towards a sound regional financial governance [CPR(2025)48-02] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Oleksii RIABYKIN, Deputy Minister of Communities and Territories Development, UkraineSean DOUGHERTY, Senior Advisor and Head of Secretariat, OECD Network on Fiscal Relations Debate
10.10	The role of sub-regional authorities in countries with three levels of sub-national self-government** [CPR(2025)48-02] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">André VIOLA, President of CEPLI (European Confederation of Local Intermediate Authorities), Councillor of the Aude Provincial Council, FranceTetiana YEHOOROVA-LUTSENKO, President of the Ukrainian Association of District and Regional Councils; Chair of Kharkiv Regional Council, UkraineYelyzaveta KAIDASH, Congress youth delegate, Ukraine Debate
11.10	The role of regions in the process of accession and post-accession to the EU [CPR(2025)48-02] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">Marta KOS, EU Commissioner for Enlargement (video message)Vitalii BEZGHIN, Member of the Parliament, Chair of the Parliamentary Subcommittee on Administrative and Territorial Organisation and Local Self-government of the Parliamentary Committee on Organisation of State Power, Local Self-Government, Regional Development and Urban Planning, UkraineAlbert CASTELLANOS, President of the Assembly of European Regions (AER)Dušan RAIČEVIĆ, President of the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS) Debate
12.20	Presentation of the President of the Chamber's conclusions [CPR(2025)48-03] Discussion
12.29	Adoption of the abridged report of the session of the Chamber [CPR(2025)48-DEC]
12.30	Close of the session of the chamber by the President
12.30	EVENT: Inauguration: photo exhibition on Post-War Reconstruction in Ukraine – Permanent Representation of Ukraine – Lobby of the hemicycle
12.45	EVENT: Meeting on “Education for citizenship in influence-prone democracies: prevention and action” (event in French only) - National delegation of France to the Congress – Room 6 (2nd floor of the Palais)

Wednesday 26 March 2025

Plenary sitting [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]

14.30-19.30, Hemicycle

* Deadline for tabling amendments: Wednesday 19 March 2025, 10.00

14.30	Adoption of the minutes of the sitting of the Congress on 25 March 2025 [CG(2025)48-PV-01am] [CG(2025)48-PV-01pm]
14.32	Adoption of texts approved by the Chamber of Local Authorities [CG(2025)48-06]
14.35	Luxembourg Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (13 November 2024 - 14 May 2025) Statement by Léon GLODEN, Minister of the Interior of Luxembourg on behalf of the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers Oral reply to written questions [CG(2025)48-15] <i>Deadline for tabling written questions: Monday 24 March 2025, 16.00</i>
15.00	The situation of local and regional democracy in Georgia Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Cecilia DALMAN-EEK, Sweden (R, SOC/G/PD) and Bernd VOEHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE) Statement by Claire BAZY MALAURIE, President of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) Debate and vote on the draft resolution and draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-17] * 
16.15	Foreign interference in electoral processes at local and regional levels Presentation by the rapporteur: Stewart DICKSON, United Kingdom (R, ILDG) Statement by Dionisie TERNOVSCHI, President of the Ungheni District Council, Republic of Moldova Debate and vote on the draft resolution and the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-10] * 
17.45	Water resources under stress: towards better local and regional governance Co-rapporteurs: Teuvo HATVA, Finland (R, ILDG) and Heiða Björg HILMISDOTTIR, Iceland (L, SOC/G/PD) Presentation by Teuvo HATVA, Finland (R, ILDG) Statement by Theodoros TZOUMAS, Mayor of Skiathos island, Greece Debate and vote on the draft resolution and the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-14] * 
18.30	The role of local and regional authorities in combatting human trafficking for purposes of labour exploitation Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Cecilia DALMAN EEK, Sweden (R, SOC/G/PD) and Martine DIESCHBURG NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG) Statement by Venla ROTH, Anti-Trafficking Coordinator at the Ministry of Justice, Finland Debate and vote on the draft resolution and the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-13] * 
19.30	Close of the sitting

Thursday 27 March 2025

Meeting of the Bureau of the Congress

8.30-9.15, Room 10 [EN/FR/DE/IT]



Thursday 27 March 2025

Plenary sitting [EN/FR/DE/IT/TR]

9.30-13.00, Hemicycle

* *Deadline for tabling amendments: Thursday 20 March 2025, 10.00*

** *Deadline for tabling amendments: Wednesday 26 March 2025, 10.00*

9.30	Adoption of the minutes of the sessions of the chambers and of the sitting of the Congress on 26 March 2025 [CPL(2025)48-PV] [CPR(2025)48-PV] and [CG(2025)48-PV-02]
9.35	Addressing homelessness in towns and cities Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Olivier DE SCHUTTER, UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights• Johannes M. BÖHMER, Vice-Governor for the Social Development Strategy, Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB) Debate
10.45	Debate under urgent procedure: Dismissals of mayors in Türkiye Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: David ERAY, Switzerland (R, EPP/CCE) and Briony RUDKIN, United Kingdom (L, SOC/G/PD) Debate Vote on the amendments [CG(2025)48-18-AMDT] and on the draft declaration [CG(2025)48-18] ^{1**} 
12.30	Observation of local elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina (6 October 2024) Presentation by the rapporteur: Marcin GOLASZEWSKI, Poland (L, EPP/CCE) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-16]* 
12.59	Adoption of the abridged report of the 48th Session [CG(2025)48-DEC]
13.00	Close of the 48th Session by the President of the Congress

MEMBERS' ATTENTION IS DRAWN TO:

- Electronic voting: votes in the plenary sittings will be held using the electronic voting system for all representatives or duly designated substitutes who registered for the session before **14 March 2025**.
 - Participants are reminded that access to the hemicycle is strictly limited to holders of badges which indicate the specific hemicycle symbol.
 - The conditions and deadlines for tabling amendments (congress.session@coe.int): at the latest at **10.00, 7 days before** the day when the texts to which they refer are to be discussed. Amendments must be signed by 5 delegates from at least two delegations for texts debated in plenary sittings or by five delegates from at least two national delegations sitting in a chamber for texts debated in that chamber.
 - Registration of speakers: the registration of speakers for the debates should be done directly in Congress Connect.
 - **Finance Office:** Office 1140
 - **Table office** for any other question: Offices 1155
 - **SPEAKING TIMES APPLIED IN THE DEBATES - Rule 30 paragraphs 6 and 7 of the Rules and Procedures of the Congress**
6. Speaking time for delegates is limited as follows:
- a. Single rapporteurs presenting reports: ten minutes;
 - b. Co-rapporteurs presenting reports: six minutes each;
 - c. Single rapporteurs replying to debates: five minutes;
 - d. Co-rapporteurs replying to debates: three minutes each;
 - e. Chairs of committees replying to debates (at their request): three minutes;
 - f. Other speakers (except on personal statements; on setting the agenda; on any procedural question or on amendments): three minutes;
 - g. Speakers on personal statements; on setting the agenda; on any procedural question or on amendments or sub-amendments: one minute.
7. When sufficient time is not available for all speakers to be heard for the times provided under Rule 30.6, the President may decide that speaking time will be reduced or that not all those who have entered their name in the register may speak.
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