

**CG(2025)48-OJ**  
26 February 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

Documents of the session will be accessible via a QR code nearer the date of the session:

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## Monday 24 March 2025

### **Bureaux meetings** [EN/FR/DE/IT]

9.30-10.30, Room 6	Bureau of the Chamber of Regions
9.30-10.30, 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** - 13.15-14.15

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*


10.30	<b>Opening of the 48th Session of the Congress by the President</b> Marc COOLS
10.40	<b>Test vote</b> – reminder of the voting system and the request to speak procedure in the hemicycle
10.45	<b>Verification of new members' credentials</b> [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	<b>Adoption of the agenda of the 48th Session</b> [CG(2025)48-OJ] <b>Adoption of the minutes of the last sitting of the 47th Session (17 October 2024)</b> [CG(2024)47-PV-03] <b>Adoption of the composition of Congress committees</b> [CG(2025)48-03]
10.55	<b>Statement by Bjørn BERGE, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe</b> Questions
11.45	<b>Congress budget for 2026-2027</b> Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Konstantinos KOUKAS, Greece (L, EPP/CCE) and (tbc) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-09]* 
12.10	<b>Statement by Michael O'FLAHERTY, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights</b> Exchange of views
13.00	<b>Suspension of the sitting</b>
13.00	<b>EVENT:</b> <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*

<b>14.30</b>	<b>Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine **</b> <b>Reconstruction of Ukraine</b> Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Representative of the government of Ukraine</li><li>• Davide LA CECILIA, Special Envoy for the Reconstruction of Ukraine, Italy</li></ul> Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG) and Gunn-Marit HELGESEN, Norway (R, EPP/CCE) Debate and vote on the draft declaration: [CG(2025)48-12]* 
<b>16.30</b>	<b>Address</b> <b>H.R.H. The Grand Duchess of Luxembourg</b>
<b>17.00</b>	<b>Violence against women in politics</b> Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flo CLUCAS, Chair of the Standing Committee on Gender Equality of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (CEMR)</li><li>• Fatim DIARRA, member of the Finnish parliament and Councillor of Helsinki City Council, Finland</li><li>• Jaqueline McLAREN, Lord Provost of Glasgow City Council, United Kingdom</li></ul> Debate
<b>18.00</b>	<b>Local and regional democracy around the world</b> Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Chilando CHITANGALA, Mayor of Lusaka, Zambia</li><li>• Balakhsher QAZI, Mayor of Turbat, Pakistan</li><li>• Quentin HART, Mayor of Waterloo, Iowa, United States of America (tbc)</li><li>• Anne HIDALGO, Mayor of Paris, France (tbc)</li><li>• Representative of the city of Tshwane, South Africa, co-host of the Urban20 Summit in 2025 (tbc)</li></ul> Debate
<b>19.30</b>	<b>Close of the sitting</b>
<b>19.30</b>	<b>EVENT:</b> <i>Inauguration of the EU-Belong project and Intercultural Regions Network followed by a reception – Assembly of European Regions (AER) – Lobby of the hemicycle</i>

**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	<b>Opening of the session of the Chamber by the President</b> Bernd VÖHRINGER	
9.05	<b>Adoption of the draft agenda of the Chamber</b> [CG(2025)48-OJ]	
9.10	<b>Election of the 7th Vice-President of the Chamber of Local Authorities</b> <b>[deadline for candidatures: 7.00 Wednesday 26 March 2025]</b> Presentation of the candidate(s) (3 minutes each) Vote Result of the election	
9.20	<b>Communication of the President of the Chamber</b> [CPL(2025)48-01]	
9.35	<b>Monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in Liechtenstein</b> 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]* <b>Statement by a representative of the government of Liechtenstein (tbc)</b> Questions	
	<b>Monitoring of the application of the European Charter of Local Self-Government in San Marino</b> 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]* <b>Statement by Andrea BELLUZZI</b> , Minister for Internal Affairs, Public Function, Institutional Affairs, Relations with the Castello Councils and Regulatory Simplification of San Marino. Questions	
	<b>Thematic debate: Environmental protection: How can local elected representatives make a difference?</b> <i>(working title)</i> [CPL(2025)48-04] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Ivica PULJAK, Mayor of Split, Croatia</li><li>• Guest speakers (tbc)</li><li>• Congress youth delegate (tbc)</li></ul> Debate	
	<b>Observation of local elections in Podgorica, Montenegro (26 September 2024)</b> Presentation by the rapporteur: Randi MONDORF, Denmark (R, ILDG) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CPL(2025)48-05]*	
	<b>Fact-finding mission on electoral matters, Romania (23 October 2024)</b> 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	<b>Adoption of the abridged report of the session of the Chamber</b> [CPL(2025)48-DEC]	
12.30	<b>Close of the session of the chamber by the President</b>	
	<b>EVENT:</b>	

**Wednesday 26 March 2025**

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

9.00-12.30, Room 1

9.00	<b>Opening of the session of the Chamber by the President</b> Cecilia DALMAN EEK, Sweden (SOC/G/PD)
9.05	<b>Adoption of the agenda of the Chamber</b> [CG(2025)48-OJ]
9.10	<b>Election of the 7th Vice-President of the Chamber of Regions</b> <b>[deadline for candidatures: 7.00 Wednesday 26 March 2025]</b> Presentation of the candidate(s) (3 minutes each) Vote  Result of the election
9.20	<b>Communication of the President of the Chamber</b> [CPR(2025)48-01]
	<b>Towards a sound regional fiscal governance</b> [CPR(2025)48-02] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Giovanni VETRITTO, Counsellor, Coordinator of the Office for Urban and Mountain Policies and Institutional Modernization Department of Regional Affairs and Autonomies, Italy</li><li>• Ahmet OĞUZ DEMİR, Councillor for Istanbul Metropolitan Municipality and Şişli Municipality, Türkiye</li><li>• Guest speakers (tbc)</li></ul> Debate
	<b>The role of sub-regional authorities in countries with three levels of sub-national self-government**</b> [CPR(2025)48-02] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Francesco ROBERTI, President of the Molise Region, Italy</li><li>• André VIOLA, President of CEPLI (European Confederation of Local Intermediate Authorities), Councillor of the Aude Provincial Council, France</li><li>• Congress Youth Delegate (tbc)</li><li>• Guest speakers (tbc)</li></ul> Debate
	<b>The role of regions in the process of accession and post-accession to the EU</b> [CPR(2025)48-02] Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Albert CASTELLANOS MADUELL, President of the AER</li><li>• Dušan RAIČEVIĆ, President of the Network of Associations of Local Authorities of South-East Europe (NALAS)</li><li>• Guest speakers (tbc)</li></ul> Debate
12.29	<b>Adoption of the abridged report of the session of the chamber</b> [CPR(2025)48-DEC]
12.30	<b>Close of the session of the chamber by the President</b>
	<b>EVENT:</b>

## 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	<b>Adoption of the minutes of the sitting of the Congress on 25 March 2025</b> [CG(2025)48-PV-01am] [CG(2028)48-PV-01pm]
14.32	<b>Adoption of texts approved by the Chamber of Local Authorities</b> [CG(2025)48-06]
14.35	<b>Luxembourg Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (13 November 2024 - 14 May 2025)</b>  <b>Statement by Léon GLODEN, Minister of the Interior of Luxembourg on behalf of the Presidency of the Committee of Ministers</b> (tbc)  Oral reply to written questions [CG(2025)48-15]  <i>Deadline for tabling written questions: Monday 24 March 2025, 16.00</i>
15.00	<b>The situation of local and regional democracy in Georgia</b>  Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Cecilia DALMAN-EEK, Sweden (R, SOC/G/PD) and Bernd VOEHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE)  Debate and vote on the draft resolution [CG(2025)48-17]*
16.00	<b>Foreign interference in electoral processes at local and regional levels</b>  Presentation by the rapporteur: Stewart DICKSON, United Kingdom (R, ILDG)  Debate and vote on the draft resolution and the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-10]*
17.50	<b>United Nations Second World Summit for Social Development</b>  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]* 
18.30	<b>The role of local and regional authorities in combatting human trafficking for purposes of labour exploitation</b>  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	<b>Close of the sitting</b>
	<b>EVENT:</b>

## 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]

10.00-13.00, Hemicycle

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

10.00	<b>Adoption of the minutes of the sessions of the chambers and of the sitting of the Congress on 26 March 2025</b> [CPL(2025)48-PV], [CPR(2025)48-PV] and [CG(2025)48-PV-02]
10.05	<b>Addressing homelessness in towns and cities</b> ( <i>working title</i> ) Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Olivier DE SCHUTTER, UN Special Rapporteur on extreme poverty and human rights</li><li>• Johannes M. BÖHMER, Vice-Governor for the Social Development Strategy, Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB)</li></ul> Debate
11.15	<b>Water resources under stress: towards better local and regional governance</b> Presentation by the co-rapporteurs: Teuvo HATVA, Finland (R, ILDG) and Heiða Björg HILMISDOTTIR, Iceland (L, SOC/G/PD) Debate and vote on the draft resolution and the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-14]* 
12.15	<b>Observation of local elections in Bosnia and Herzegovina (6 October 2024)</b> Presentation by the rapporteur: Marcin GOLASZEWSKI, Poland (L, EPP/CCE) Debate and vote on the draft recommendation [CG(2025)48-16]* 
12.59	<b>Adoption of the abridged report of the 48th Session</b> [CG(2025)48-DEC]
13.00	<b>Close of the 48th Session by the President of the Congress</b>



## 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](mailto: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 1076, 1078, 1080, 1087
  - **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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