25 October 2026
Strasbourg

To: Secretariat of the Committee on Governance

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Dear Secretary,

I hereby submit my candidature for the position of 5th Vice-Chair of the Committee on Governance.

I am a representative of Türkiye in the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and a member of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR).

I strongly believe in the importance of effective, accountable and democratically responsible local and regional government. Strong democratic institutions depend upon transparency, respect for the rule of law and the ability of elected representatives to respond to the needs of the communities they serve.

The Committee on Governance has an important role in strengthening these principles across Europe, encouraging the exchange of good practice and supporting the capacity of local and regional authorities to fulfil their democratic responsibilities.

If elected, I would seek to contribute positively to the Committee's work, cooperate with colleagues from across the Congress and support the Chair in ensuring that the Committee continues to provide practical and constructive leadership.

Please accept this letter as my formal declaration of candidature.

Yours sincerely,

Ümit ALTUNTAŞ
Türkiye
European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR)

CURRICULUM VITAE

Ümit ALTUNTAŞ



Country: Türkiye
Political affiliation: Nationalist Movement Party (MHP)
Congress political group: European Conservatives and Reformists Group (ECR)
Candidature: 5th Vice-Chair, Committee on Governance
Place and date of birth: Ankara, 13 July 1976

CURRENT POLITICAL AND PUBLIC OFFICES

- Member of Altındağ Municipal Council, Ankara.
- Member of Ankara Metropolitan Municipal Council.
- Representative of Türkiye in the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.
- Member of the Chamber of Regions.
- Member of the European Conservatives and Reformists Group.

CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

Ümit Altuntaş has represented Türkiye in the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities for several years. His experience includes:

- Participation in the Chamber of Regions.
- Membership of the Congress Committee on Governance.
- Engagement in discussions concerning local self-government, regional democracy and relations between central and local authorities.
- Cooperation with elected representatives from across Europe in support of effective democratic governance.

EXPERIENCE IN LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Altındağ Municipal Council and Ankara Metropolitan Municipal Council

As an elected municipal councillor, Ümit Altuntaş has gained practical experience of local government in Türkiye's capital region. His responsibilities and experience include:

- Municipal policy and decision-making.
- Urban and metropolitan governance.
- Public administration and local service delivery.
- European and international relations.
- Historical and cultural heritage matters.

He has served on Ankara Metropolitan Municipality's committees dealing with European Union and foreign relations, and research into Ankara's history and culture.

POLITICAL AND ORGANISATIONAL EXPERIENCE

Nationalist Movement Party (MHP)

Member and elected municipal representative.

Previous political experience

Earlier responsibilities in Ankara's political organisations included:

- Deputy Provincial Chair.
- Provincial General Secretary.
- Provincial Executive Board member.
- Coordination responsibilities across several districts of Ankara.

EDUCATION

Bilkent University, Ankara
Master's degree in Business Administration (MBA), 2025.

Hacettepe University, Ankara
Master's degree in International Relations, 2003.
Dissertation: *Oil and Natural Gas in the Caspian Sea: Türkiye's Energy Security.*

Bilkent University, Ankara
Bachelor's degree in International Relations, 2000. Graduated with academic honours.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE

Business management — Finance and construction
Professional experience in the management of businesses operating in the finance and construction sectors in Ankara. This work has provided experience of organisational management, commercial decision-making and the relationship between public administration and economic development.

LANGUAGES

- Turkish — Native.
- English — Advanced proficiency.

AREAS OF EXPERTISE

- Local and regional democratic governance.
- Metropolitan administration and municipal decision-making.
- International relations and European cooperation.
- Local government accountability and institutional effectiveness.
- Economic development and infrastructure.
- Relations between national, regional and local authorities.

CONTRIBUTION TO THE GOVERNANCE COMMITTEE

Ümit Altuntaş brings together practical municipal experience, an academic background in international relations and business administration, and longstanding involvement in the Congress. His experience in Ankara's local government institutions provides a practical understanding of the challenges facing metropolitan and municipal authorities.

If elected as Vice-Chair, he would seek to strengthen cooperation between Congress members, support the implementation of the European Charter of Local Self-Government, and contribute to effective, transparent and accountable governance across Europe.

Ümit ALTUNTAŞ
Turkish National Delegation
Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe
25 October 2026