

THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

Resolution 250 (2008)¹ Integration through sport

The Congress

1. Emphasises the fact that:

a. any local or regional policy that uses sport as a way of promoting integration must also be mindful of the limitations of this approach;

b. without the help of other partners, such as schools, universities, immigrants' associations, religious leaders and local and regional authorities, that is to say, a vibrant, interactive civil society, no single pillar, not even a very attractive one such as sport, can resolve all the problems encountered by new arrivals seeking to become integrated;

2. Invites its Committee on Culture and Education to regularly assess the role and responsibilities of local authorities in implementing the principles set out in Recommendation No.233 (2008);

3. Asks members of the Congress to indicate any good practice adopted by their municipalities and regions with regard to integration through sport in order to share it with all members of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;

4. Hopes that the "European capitals of sport" network will serve as a source of inspiration to other towns wishing to promote sport as a way of facilitating integration;

5. Invites municipalities and towns that are members of the Congress to support any policy that aims to make sport more accessible to as many people as possible, while at the same time safeguarding the quality of the services provided to the public, irrespective of age, gender, religion or social background.

1. Debated and approved by the Standing Committee of the Chamber of Local Authorities on 13 March 2008 and adopted by the Standing Committee of the Congress on 14 March 2008 (see Document CPL(14)9RES, draft resolution presented by H. Zach (Austria, L, EPP/CD) on behalf of W. Schuster (Germany, R, EPP/CD), rapporteur).