HELLENIC REPUBLIC REGION OF CYCLADES



Municipality of Mykonos

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Motivation Letter

Election to the post of Vice-President of the Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.

Candidature of: Konstantinos Koukas, Greece, (PPE/CCE-EPP/CCE) Mayor of Mykonos Island, Head of the Greek Delegation

Dear Executive Secretary of the Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress,

According to the Rules and Procedures of the Congress, I hereby present my motivation letter in relation to my candidature for the position of Vice-President of the Chamber of Local Authorities of the Congress.

Dear colleagues,

I was born and raised in Mykonos Island, a small Greek Cycladic island in the Aegean Sea.

Regarding my education background, I hold two Bachelor degrees from the University of Thrace (Faculty of Law & Department of Language, Literature and Culture of the Black Sea Countries), as well as two Master's degrees, the one in "European and International Studies" from the University of Athens -

School of Law, the other in "Tourism and Business Administration" from the Hellenic Open University. I also speak English and Italian language.

In 2010, I completed my internship – Schuman scholarship – in the European Parliament; Directorate-General for the Presidency, in Brussels, while previously I worked for two years in the Cabinet of the Minister of Interior, having as key administrative and political responsibilities issues in the fields of Public Order and Public Administration. I am currently an Attorney in the Court of Appeal, with my own private law firm in Mykonos and a member of Syros Bar Association.

Concerning my political career until nowadays, I first decided to be actively involved in public life in 2010, when I was elected Regional Councilor of the South Aegean, being the first elected representative in votes of preference in the islands of Cyclades and at the same time, one of youngest elected representatives in Greece. In January 2012, I was elected 'Vice President' of the South Aegean Regional Council.

As I have gained all the necessary efforts from the Regional Council of South Aegean, in 2014, at the age of 32, I got involved in local government and I was elected "Mayor of Mykonos". Shortly after, I was elected as a member of the Board of Mayors at the Regional Association of Southern Aegean Municipalities of Greece.

Following the decision of the Board of Mayors and Local Councilors of the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece (KEDE), I was appointed as a member of the 'Committee of Institutions and Equality' of KEDE and also, a member of the Board of Mayors and Local Councilors of the Institute of Local Administration (ITA), as the only representative- elected Mayor coming from insular Greece in these two bodies.

In June 2019, I was re-elected as Mayor of Mykonos at the national local administration elections. A few months later, In November 2019, I was also elected at the fourth (4th) place in votes in the Board of Mayors and Local Councilors of the Central Union of Municipalities of Greece (KEDE), representing 332 Municipalities. In January 2020, I was unanimously elected by KEDE Board as the Head of the Greek Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, The Congress of the Council of Europe based in Strasbourg, France.

Furthermore, in June 2020,I was appointed by inter-ministerial decision member of the National Cruise Coordinating Committee and in August of the same year a member of the Island Policy Council (SY.NI.PO.) of the Ministry of Shipping and Island Policy.

Driven through my experience in politics so far and my educational background and also being eager to forward the principles of the Congress, I can assure you, although I am a newcomer to the Congress, that I have the proper qualification, motivation and engagement for an active and constructive involvement with the works of our Congress for the next period.

In parallel, it is very important for me to contribute and support the voice of all the South Countries of Mediterranean Sea. This is certain one of the main reasons that urged me and finally I decided to be a candidature. Also, I would like honestly to express you my willingness to be committed to the work of Congress and its priorities and values and to contribute to the increase of the implementation of the European Charter of Local Self- Government.

To this end, I commit myself to work with inspiration and be quite productive and focused for the fulfillment of all the goals alongside with the basic principles of the Council of Europe, and always with the guidance of my personal conviction for a strong European co-operation on a local and regional level of government.

Thank you for your consideration.

Yours Faithfully,

Konstantinos P. Koukas

Mayor of Mykonos

Head of the Greek Delegation to the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

