

CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES OF EUROPE

Resolution 144 (2002)¹ on regions with legislative powers – Assessment and prospects of the Conferences of Presidents of regions with legislative powers held in Barcelona (2000) and Liège (2001)

The Congress, bearing in mind the proposal of the Chamber of Regions,

1. Convinced of the importance of the phenomenon of regionalisation in Europe;
2. Dedicated to the principle of subsidiarity as adopted for the first time in an international legal instrument in the European Charter of Local Self-Government (Article 4, paragraph 3);
3. Aware of the specific situation in Europe of regions with legislative power whose prerogatives are very frequently affected by acts of European institutions;
4. Reiterating that this specific situation is in no way incompatible with the necessary solidarity between all European regions constantly stressed within the Chamber of Regions;
5. Aware of the importance of the work carried out by the Working Group on regions with legislative powers since 1999 under the presidency of Mr Llibert Cuatrecasas;
6. Thanking the President of the Generalitat of Catalonia and the Minister-President of the Walloon region as well as the Belgian Presidency of the European Union for their substantial contribution to the success of the first two conferences of Presidents of regions with legislative powers held in Barcelona in November 2000 and in Liège in November 2001;
7. Endorsing the conclusions of those two conferences (CPR (9) 5 addendum);
8. Thanking the region of Tuscany and the *Land* of Salzburg for their invitations to hold the next conferences of Presidents of regions with legislative powers in those regions in 2002 and 2003;

9. Thanking the authorities of the Russian Federation for making it possible to organise a conference in St Petersburg in April 2002 on the distribution of powers between the different levels of public authorities in Russia;

10. Thanking the authorities of Tatarstan for their invitation to hold a conference on the problems of federal entities in 2003;

11. Noting with interest the activities of UniDem (University for Democracy) concerning the role of constitutional courts in resolving conflicts of competence between central government and regions with legislative power;

12. Having regard to the terms of reference of its Working Group on regions with legislative powers;

13. Having regard to the report submitted to the Chamber of Regions at the 9th session of the Congress by Mr Llibert Cuatrecasas (CPR (9) 5 Part II);

14. Instructs its Bureau to extend the terms of reference of its Working Group on regions with legislative powers until the 11th session (2004) in order to:

a. guarantee the co-operation and presence of the Congress for the next two conferences of Presidents of regions with legislative powers scheduled for 2002 in Tuscany and 2003 in Salzburg and prepare the contributions of the Congress to those two conferences;

b. supervise the preparation of the conference proposed by the authorities of Tatarstan on the development of Russia's federal entities (2003);

c. provide a point of liaison with the activities of the UniDem group (University for Democracy) and the Venice Commission concerning the role of constitutional courts in resolving conflicts of competence between central government and regions with legislative power;

d. present a new report on regions with legislative powers to the Chamber of Regions in 2004;

15. Asks in particular that the Working Group's terms of reference provide for liaison with the Institutional Committee of the Chamber of Regions, entailing the presence of three representatives of that committee within the Working Group as well as the participation of representatives of Bosnia and Herzegovina and special guests from the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia.

1. Debated and approved by the Chamber of Regions on 5 June 2002 and adopted by the Standing Committee of the Congress on 6 June 2002 (see Doc. CPR (9) 5, draft resolution presented by Mr L. Cuatrecasas, rapporteur).