## To the Secretary of the Current Affairs committee Council of Europe - Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

## Candidacy for Vice-chair of the Current Affairs Committee

Dear Colleagues,

I hereby declare my candidacy for the position of Vice-chair of the Current Affairs Committee.

Promoting grassroots democracy, the human rights and the rule of law through the deepening of multi-level governance, during the aftermath of the pandemic, is the current challenge that the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities is called to face. The Current Affairs Committee will have to promote local and regional democracy in accordance to the new priorities set by the Congress in relation to the core values of the Council of Europe. This will be the common task of all the members of our Committee, for democratic, resilient, cohesive, sustainable and digital societies, tackling inequalities, fighting the health and climate crisis, during those unprecedented covid-19 times we all live in.

thens 17 March 2021 Rena I

## **Rena Dourou CV**



Rena Dourou is Deputy head of the Greek Delegation of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities. She is regional councelor and leader of the Opposition Party of the Attica Region, the most important Region of Greece.

She is Representative of the Chamber of Regions and a full member in the Current Affairs Committee since 2014.

In November 2018 R. Dourou was the Rapporteur of the Current Affairs Committee Report on "Border regions facing the migration phenomenon". Actually she is corapporteur, with Barbara Toce, of the Current Affairs Committee Report on "Culture without borders: Cultural heritage management for local and regional development". Rena Dourou was born in Egaleo, Athens, Greece, and has worked as a publisher consultant. She received a teacher's degree from the University of Athens and pursued post-graduate studies in France, Turkey and Great Britain. She holds a Master's degree in Political Science.

Rena Dourou is fluent in English, French and Turkish. Her interviews, articles and books have been published in Greek and foreign media.

She is the author of three books: "5 speeches on the Holocaust of the Greek Jews" (Athens 2019), "Talking with Glezos" (Athens, 2014), "The enjoyment of nationalism" (Athens, 2007) and has contributed to numerous collective publications. In May 2014, following the regional elections, she became the first elected woman Governor of the Attica Region.

She was elected twice as an MP with SYRIZA. As an MP, she participated in the Committee for Women's Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly for the Mediterranean Union. She was the first woman elected as an Alternate Secretary-General of the Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy. As a SYRIZA MP, she was also a member of the Council of Europe, participating in the Committee on Migration and the Committee on Culture of the Parliamentary Assembly.