

CONGRESS THEMATIC ACTIVITIES

contributing to the UN Agenda 2030



Human Rights and Anti-discrimination

- ▶ Human rights at local and regional levels
- ▶ Gender Equality
- ▶ Youth
- ▶ Children's rights
- ▶ Inclusive societies

Good Governance

- ▶ Local and regional governance
- ▶ Citizen participation
- ▶ Regionalisation
- ▶ Preventing Corruption
- ▶ E-Democracy
- ▶ Fighting radicalisation
- ▶ Environment

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of
the Council of Europe



Thematic Activities of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

Contributing to the UN Agenda 2030

Download the electronic version with links to the individual documents:

www.coe.int/congress-themes



Layout: Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe

Print: Council of Europe

Edition : May 2024

Table of content

Introduction	7
HUMAN RIGHTS AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION	_9
HUMAN RIGHTS AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS	11
Congress texts	11
Publications	12
Other texts	13
GENDER EQUALITY	14
Congress texts on women's rights and equality between men and women	14
YOUTH	15
Charter	15
Congress texts	15
Publications	16
CHILDREN'S RIGHTS	17
Council of Europe Convention	17
Council of Europe Strategy	17
Congress pact to stop sexual violence against children	17
Congress texts	18
INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES	19
Council of Europe Action plans	19
Conventions	19
Declarations	19
European Alliance of Cities and Regions for Roma Inclusion	20
Congress texts	20
Other texts	23
GOOD GOVERNANCE	24
LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE	26

Congress texts _____	26
Other texts _____	29
CITIZEN PARTICIPATION _____	31
Congress texts _____	31
REGIONALISATION _____	32
Conventions and Preparatory texts _____	32
Congress texts _____	32
Other texts _____	33
PREVENTING CORRUPTION AND PROMOTING PUBLIC ETHICS _____	34
Congress texts _____	34
Articles and speeches on corruption _____	35
E-DEMOCRACY AND E-GOVERNANCE _____	37
Congress texts _____	37
Debates _____	37
Other Council of Europe texts _____	38
FIGHTING RADICALISATION _____	40
Council of Europe Action Plans _____	40
Congress texts _____	40
Other texts _____	41
ENVIRONMENT _____	42
Congress texts _____	42

Introduction

The **United Nations Agenda 2030** for Sustainable Development lists 17 objectives to be achieved to build a socially inclusive, environmentally sustainable and economically prosperous society.

The **Council of Europe** contributes to its implementation through a human rights-based approach based on its pan-European dimension, institutions, normative framework and capacity for action.

Thanks to its expertise and proximity to the citizens, the **Congress of Local and Regional Authorities** carries the territorial dimension of the SDGs, contributing, through a wide range of activities on the ground, to building inclusive, resilient and sustainable societies. The Congress's work addresses 12 of the 17 objectives defined in the United Nations Agenda 2030.

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities debated and voted on a recommendation calling on national governments to step up the localisation of the [UN Sustainable Development Goals \(SDGs\)](#). The Congress emphasises how urgent it is to provide local and regional authorities with the freedom to act and proper means to implement the SDGs.

The Congress's approach is based on three key principles:

- Achieving SDGs is the shared responsibility of all levels of government: international, national, regional and local;
- Local and regional authorities must have proper competences and financial autonomy to achieve the goals in their respective areas, thus enabling national governments to positively report to the UN;
- Citizens must always remain at the heart of the action.

This publication provides a compilation of the Congress's thematic activities which contribute to the achievement of the SDGs and lists the most relevant Congress and Council of Europe tools and texts.

HUMAN RIGHTS AND ANTI-DISCRIMINATION

HUMAN RIGHTS AT LOCAL AND REGIONAL LEVELS



SDG 16

Congress texts

- Local and regional media: watchdogs of democracy, guardians of community cohesion
 - [Report CG\(2023\)45-11](#) - [Resolution 496 \(2023\)](#)
[Recommendation 498 \(2023\)](#)
- Delivering on the Reykjavik summit: revised Congress priorities, working procedures and structures
 - [Resolution 493 \(2023\)](#)
- Human Rights Handbook for local and regional authorities Volume III-Environment and sustainable development
 - [Report CG \(2022\)43-20](#) - [Resolution 490\(2022\)](#)
- Protection of LGBTI people in the context of rising anti-LGBTI hate speech and discrimination: the role of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG\(2021\)40-18](#) - [Resolution 470 \(2021\)](#) - [Recommendation 458 \(2021\)](#)
- The role of local authorities with regard to the situation and rights of LGBTI people in Poland
 - [Report CG\(2021\)40-19](#) - [Resolution 471 \(2021\)](#)
- Human Rights Handbook for local and regional authorities Volume II-Social Rights
 - [Report CG-FORUM\(2020\)07](#) - [Resolution 461\(2020\)](#)

- Congress resolution to endorse the Principles on the Protection and Promotion of the Ombudsman Institution (“The Venice Principles”)
 - [Resolution 451 \(2019\)](#)
- Human Rights Handbook for local and regional authorities
Volume I – Fighting against discrimination.
 - [Report CG34\(2018\)10 - Resolution 427 \(2018\)](#)
- Revised Charter of European Political Parties for a Non-Racist Society
 - [Report CG32\(2017\)17 - Resolution 415 \(2017\)](#)
- Best practices of implementation of human rights at local and regional level in member states of the Council of Europe and other countries
 - [Report CG\(26\)5 - Resolution 365 \(2014\)](#)
- Developing indicators to raise awareness of human rights at local and regional level
 - [Report CG\(21\)10 - Resolution 334 \(2011\)](#)
- Intercultural cities
 - [Report CPL\(16\)1 - Resolution 280 \(2009\)](#)

Publications

- [“Human Rights handbook for local and regional authorities”](#)
- Vol. 3
- [“Human Rights handbook for local and regional authorities”](#)
- Vol. 2
- [“Human Rights handbook for local and regional authorities”](#)
- Vol. 1

- Compendium “[Promoting human rights at local and regional level](#)”

Other texts

- Congress Human Rights Action Plan 2016-2017
 - [Action plan - Human Rights at local and regional level](#)

GENDER EQUALITY



SDG 5

Congress texts on women's rights and equality between men and women

- Fighting sexist violence against women in politics at local and regional level
 - [Report CG-FORUM\(2020\)02-04 - Resolution 459 \(2020\)](#) - [Recommendation 449 \(2020\)](#)
- Gender budgeting
 - [Report CG31\(2016\)10](#) - [Resolution 405 \(2016\)](#)
- Women's participation in public life at local and regional levels
 - [Report CG31\(2016\)09](#) - [Resolution 404 \(2016\)](#);
[Recommendation 390 \(2016\)](#)
- Fighting the increasing poverty of women: the responsibility of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG/2015\(29\)9](#) - [Resolution 391 \(2015\)](#);
[Recommendation 381 \(2015\)](#)
- Achieving sustainable gender equality in local and regional political life
 - [Resolution 303 \(2010\)](#); [Recommendation 288 \(2010\)](#)
- Combating domestic violence against women
 - [Report CG\(16\)7](#) - [Resolution 279 \(2009\)](#);
[Recommendation 260 \(2009\)](#)

YOUTH



SDG 4, 8

Charter

- [Revised European Charter on the Participation of Young People in Local and Regional Life \(2003\)](#)

Congress texts

- The future of youth in rural areas: responsibilities of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG\(2022\)42-15 - Resolution 481 \(2022\); Recommendation 473 \(2022\)](#)
- Children and sustainable cities: guidelines and booklet for local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG\(2022\)42-10 - Resolution 478](#)
- Youth work: the role of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG-FORUM\(2021\)01-02 - Resolution 463 \(2021\) - Recommendation 450 \(2021\)](#)
- Social rights of young people: the role of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG36\(2019\)12 - Resolution 442 \(2019\); Recommendation 433 \(2019\)](#)
- Forever young? The role of youth policies and youth work at local and regional levels in supporting young people's transition to autonomy and working life
 - [Report CG32\(2017\)11 - Resolution 414 \(2017\)](#)

- Voting at 16 – Consequences on youth participation at local and regional level
 - [Report CG/2015\(29\)8](#) - [Resolution 387 \(2015\)](#)
- Bringing down barriers to youth participation: adopting a lingua franca for local and regional authorities and young people
 - [Report CG/2015\(29\)7](#) - [Resolution 386 \(2015\)](#); [Recommendation 376 \(2015\)](#)
- Empowering Roma youth through participation: effective policy design at local and regional levels
 - [Report CG\(26\)8](#) - [Resolution 366 \(2014\)](#); [Recommendation 354 \(2014\)](#)
- Youth and democracy: the changing face of youth political engagement
 - [Report CG\(23\)9](#) - [Resolution 346 \(2012\)](#); [Recommendation 327 \(2012\)](#)
- Integration of young people from disadvantaged neighbourhoods
 - [Report CG\(19\)15](#) - [Resolution 319 \(2010\)](#)

Publications

- [How to make your town a better place](#) (2021)

CHILDREN'S RIGHTS



SDG 1, 4

Council of Europe Convention

- Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse ([Lanzarote Convention](#))

Council of Europe Strategy

- [Strategy for the Rights of the Child \(2016-2021\)](#)

Congress pact to stop sexual violence against children

- Seminar on the pact of towns and regions to stop sexual violence against children (13 June 2017, Belgrade, Serbia)
 - [Conclusions](#)
- Seminar on the pact of towns and regions to stop sexual violence against children (30 June 2015, Hertogenbosch, Netherlands)
 - [Conclusions](#)
- Towns and regions: a pact to stop sexual violence against children - A contribution of the Congress to the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE campaign
 - [Pact to stop sexual violence against children](#)
- The local and regional dimensions of the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign to stop sexual violence against children
 - [A Strategic Action Plan for the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities](#)

Congress texts

- Unaccompanied refugee children: the role and responsibilities of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG34\(2018\)13](#) - [Resolution 428 \(2018\)](#);
[Recommendation 414 \(2018\)](#)
 - Championing children's rights in times of austerity:
[Report CG/2015\(29\)10](#) - [Resolution 392 \(2015\)](#);
[Recommendation 382 \(2015\)](#)
- Regional legislation and action to combat sexual exploitation and abuse of children
 - [Report CPR\(23\)3](#) - [Resolution 350 \(2012\)](#);
[Recommendation 332 \(2012\)](#)
- Preventing violence against children
 - [Report CG\(17\)9](#) - [Resolution 289 \(2009\)](#);
[Recommendation 272 \(2009\)](#)

INCLUSIVE SOCIETIES



SDG 8, 10, 11

Council of Europe Action plans

- Action plan on building inclusive societies (2016-2019)
 - [CM\(2016\)25](#)
- Thematic Action Plan on the Inclusion of Roma and Travellers (2016-2019)
 - [SG/Inf\(2015\)38](#)
- Roma Youth Action Plan: Combating discrimination and supporting the participation of Roma young people (2016-2020)
 - [Roma Youth Action Plan](#)
 - [Guidelines for implementation of the Roma Youth Action Plan](#)

Conventions

- Convention on the participation of foreigners in public life at local level
 - [CETS No.144](#)

Declarations

- The reception of refugees in Europe
 - [Declaration 4 \(2015\)](#)

European Alliance of Cities and Regions for Roma Inclusion

- [Strategic guidelines 2016-2019](#)
- Declaration of mayors and elected local and regional representatives of Council of Europe member States against anti-Gypsyism
 - [Declaration against anti-Gypsyism](#)
- Charter of European political parties for a non-racist society
 - [Report CG32\(2017\)17](#) – [Resolution 415 \(2017\)](#)
- Summit of mayors on Roma – Building mutual trust at the grassroots (Strasbourg, France, 22 September 2011)
 - [Final declaration](#)

Congress texts

- Regional identities: promoting dialogue and diversity in unity
 - [Report CPR\(2022\)43-02](#) - [Resolution 488 \(2022\)](#) - [Recommendation 483 \(2022\)](#)
- Reception of women and children refugees in Europe's cities and regions
 - [Report CG\(2022\)43-14](#) - [Resolution 487 \(2022\)](#) - [Recommendation 481\(2022\)](#)
- The role of local and regional governments in protecting internally displaced persons (IDPs)
 - [Report CG37\(2019\)09](#) - [Resolution 448 \(2019\)](#); [Recommendation 437 \(2019\)](#)
- Border regions facing the migration phenomenon
 - [Report CPR35\(2018\)02](#) - [Resolution 432 \(2018\)](#); [Recommendation 422 \(2018\)](#)

- Voting rights at local level as an element of successful long-term integration of migrants and IDPs in Europe's municipalities and regions
 - [Report CG35\(2018\)17](#) - [Resolution 431 \(2018\)](#); [Recommendation 419 \(2018\)](#)
- Unaccompanied refugee children: the role and responsibilities of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG34\(2018\)13](#) - [Resolution 428 \(2018\)](#); [Recommendation 414 \(2018\)](#)
- Regional and minority languages in Europe today
 - [Report CPR33\(2017\)02](#) - [Resolution 424 \(2017\)](#); [Recommendation 410 \(2017\)](#)
- From reception to integration: the role of local and regional authorities facing migration
 - [Report CG32\(2017\)07](#) - [Resolution 411 \(2017\)](#); [Recommendation 394 \(2017\)](#)
- The situation of Roma and Travellers in the context of rising extremism, xenophobia and the refugee crisis in Europe
 - [Report CPL31\(2016\)03](#) - [Resolution 403 \(2016\)](#); [Recommendation 388 \(2016\)](#)
- Organising intercultural and interreligious activities: a toolkit for the use of the local authorities
 - [Report CG30\(2016\)04](#) - [Resolution 397 \(2016\)](#)
- Promoting diversity through intercultural education and communication strategies
 - [Report CG\(27\)6](#) - [Resolution 375 \(2014\)](#); [Recommendation 365 \(2014\)](#)

- Empowering Roma youth through participation: effective policy design at local and regional levels
 - [Report CG\(26\)8](#) - [Resolution 366 \(2014\)](#);
[Recommendation 354 \(2014\)](#)
- Migrants' access to regional labour markets
 - [Report CPR\(25\)3](#) - [Resolution 362 \(2013\)](#);
[Recommendation 347 \(2013\)](#)
- Integration through self-employment: promoting migrant entrepreneurship in European municipalities
 - [Report CPL\(25\)2](#) - [Resolution 358 \(2013\)](#);
[Recommendation 343 \(2013\)](#)
- The situation of Roma in Europe: a challenge for local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG\(21\)8](#) - [Resolution 333 \(2011\)](#);
[Recommendation 315 \(2011\)](#)
- Education for democratic citizenship: tools for cities
 - [Report CPL\(21\)6](#) - [Resolution 332 \(2011\)](#)
- Meeting the challenge of interfaith and intercultural tensions at local level
 - [Report CPL\(20\)2](#) - [Resolution 323 \(2011\)](#);
[Recommendation 304 \(2011\)](#)
- Cultural integration of Muslim women in European cities
 - [Report CG\(19\)12](#) - [Resolution 318 \(2010\)](#)
- Minority languages – an asset for regional development
 - [Report CPR\(18\)3](#) - [Resolution 301 \(2010\)](#);
[Recommendation 286 \(2010\)](#)

- Intercultural cities
 - [Report CPL\(16\)1 - Resolution 280 \(2009\); Recommendation 261 \(2009\)](#)
- The need for regional cultural identity
 - [Report CPR\(15\)4 - Resolution 268 \(2008\); Recommendation 250 \(2008\)](#)

Other texts

- Protection of migrants and asylum seekers: States' main legal obligations under the Council of Europe Conventions
 - [Background paper, Letter by Thorbjørn Jagland](#)
- The European migrant crisis: a global issue, a territorial issue
 - [Speech by Gundrun Mosler Törnström at CALRE 2016 General Assembly](#)
- Debate on Migration: continuing challenges for cities and regions
 - [Speech by Eirini Douru, Rapporteur on migration issues](#)

GOOD GOVERNANCE

LOCAL AND REGIONAL GOVERNANCE



SDG 8, 11, 13, 16

Congress texts

- Local and Regional Authorities as Actors and Guarantors of the Rule of Law
 - [Recommendation 502 \(2024\)](#)
[Resolution 499 \(2024\)](#)
- Are regional interests sufficiently represented by the second chambers of parliament?
 - [CPR \(2023\)44-03](#)
- Direct election of mayors
 - [CPL \(2023\)44-04](#)
- The situation of independent candidates and the opposition in local and regional elections
 - [Report CG\(2022\)42-13](#) - [Resolution 482 \(2022\)](#) - [Recommendation 476 \(2022\)](#)
- Recurring issues based on assessments resulting from Congress monitoring of the European Charter of Local Self-Government and election observation missions (reference period 2017-2020)
 - [Report CG\(2021\)40-10](#) - [Resolution 467 \(2021\)](#) - [Recommendation 455 \(2021\)](#)

- The post-COVID city - the impacts of the pandemic on socio-political and democratic processes in Europe's cities and towns
 - [CPL\(2021\)40-03](#)

- Role of regions in ensuring a citizen-centred response to Covid-19 and post-crisis recovery
 - [CPR\(2021\)40-03](#)

- Ensuring respect for the European Charter of Local Self-Government in major crisis situations
 - [Report CG\(2021\)40-07](#) - [Resolution 466 \(2021\)](#) - [Recommendation 453 \(2021\)](#)

- The status of capital cities
 - [Report CG-FORUM\(2021\)01-04](#) - [Recommendation 452 \(2021\)](#)

- Developing urban-rural interplay
 - [Report CG-FORUM\(2020\)02-03](#) - [Resolution 458 \(2020\)](#) - [Recommendation 448 \(2020\)](#)

- Local and regional elections in major crisis situations
 - [Report CG-FORUM\(2020\)01-05](#) - [Resolution 455 \(2020\)](#) - [Recommendation 444 \(2020\)](#)

- The use of languages by local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG37\(2019\)17](#) - [Resolution 453 \(2019\)](#); [Recommendation 441 \(2019\)](#)

- Fair distribution of taxes in transfrontier areas. Potential conflicts and possibilities for compromise

- [Report CG37\(2019\)10](#) - [Resolution 449 \(2019\)](#);
[Recommendation 438 \(2019\)](#)
- Financial compensation of local and regional elected representatives in the exercise of their office
 - [Report CG36\(2019\)10](#) - [Resolution 443 \(2019\)](#) ;
[Recommendation 434 \(2019\)](#)
- Coping with the debt burden: local authorities in financial difficulty
 - [Report CG35\(2018\)21](#) - [Resolution 438 \(2018\)](#);
[Recommendation 427 \(2018\)](#)
- The consultation of local authorities by higher levels of government
 - [Report CG35\(2018\)20](#) - [Resolution 437 \(2018\)](#)
- The functioning of the organs of local democracy in a context of linguistic diversity in the communes “with facilities” around Brussels in the Flemish region
 - [Report CPL33\(2017\)02](#) - [Recommendation 409 \(2017\)](#)
- A better future for Europe’s rural areas
 - [Report CG33\(2017\)16](#) - [Resolution 422 \(2017\)](#);
[Recommendation 406 \(2017\)](#)
- Recurring issues based on assessments resulting from Congress monitoring and election observation missions (reference period 2010-2016)
 - [Report CG32\(2017\)19](#) - [Resolution 412 \(2017\)](#);
[Recommendation 395 \(2017\)](#)
- Autonomy and borders in an evolving Europe

- [Report CPR30\(2016\)02](#) - [Resolution 398 \(2016\)](#);
[Recommendation 385 \(2016\)](#)
- E-media: Game changer for local and regional politicians
 - [Report CG/2015\(29\)14](#) - [Resolution 394 \(2015\)](#)
- Conditions of office for elected representatives
 - [Report CG/2015\(29\)15](#) - [Resolution 393 \(2015\)](#);
[Recommendation 383 \(2015\)](#)
- Trends in regionalisation in Council of Europe member States
 - [Report CPR/2015\(29\)2](#) - [Resolution 390 \(2015\)](#)
- New forms of local governance
 - [Report CPL/2015\(29\)4](#) - [Resolution 389 \(2015\)](#)
- Adequate financial resources for local authorities
 - [Report CPL\(27\)2](#) - [Resolution 372 \(2014\)](#);
[Recommendation 362 \(2014\)](#)
- Strategy on the right of local authorities to be consulted by other levels of government
 - [Report CG\(26\)9](#) - [Resolution 368 \(2014\)](#)

Other texts

- European Urban Charter I and II - Manifesto for a new urbanity (1992, 2008)
 - [European Urban Charter I](#)
 - [European Urban Charter II - Manifesto for a new urbanity](#)
- European Urban Charter III (2023): Urban living in the era of transformations

– [Report CG\(2023\)45-20](#) - [Resolution 495 \(2023\)](#)

- Regionalisation trends in European countries 2007-2015
 - [Study, Group of independent Experts](#)
- Reference framework for regional democracy (2009)
 - [Council of Europe Reference Framework for Regional Democracy](#)

CITIZEN PARTICIPATION



SDG 11, 16, 17

- Revised Code of Good Practice for Civil Participation in the Decision-making Process
 - [Report CG37\(2019\)16](#) - [Resolution 452 \(2019\)](#)

Congress texts

- Beyond elections: The use of deliberative methods in European municipalities and regions
 - [Report CG\(2022\)42-12](#) - [Resolution 480](#) - [Recommendation 472](#)
- Education for democratic citizenship: tools for cities
 - [Report CPL\(21\)6](#) - [Resolution 332 \(2011\)](#)
- European Urban Charter I and II - Manifesto for a new urbanity (1992, 2008)
 - [European Urban Charter I](#)
 - [European Urban Charter II - Manifesto for a new urbanity](#)
- European Urban Charter III (2023): Urban living in the era of transformations
 - [Report CG\(2023\)45-20](#) - [Resolution 495 \(2023\)](#)

REGIONALISATION



SDG 4, 8, 9

Conventions and Preparatory texts

- [Reference framework for regional democracy](#)
(16-17 November 2009)
- [European Charter for regional or minority languages](#)
(1998 - ETS. N°148)
- [Convention on transfrontier cooperation](#) (1980 – ETS. N°106)
 - [Additional Protocol](#) (ETS N°159)
 - [Protocol n°2](#) (ETS N°169)
 - [Protocol n°3](#) (ETS N°206)
 - [Model inter-states Agreements](#)
 - [Outline Agreements, Statutes and Contracts](#)

Congress texts

- Autonomy and borders in an evolving Europe
 - [Report CPR30\(2016\)02](#) - [Resolution 398 \(2016\)](#);
[Recommendation 385 \(2016\)](#)
- Trends in regionalisation in Council of Europe member States
 - [Report CPR/2015\(29\)2](#) - [Resolution 390 \(2015\)](#)
- Inter-regional cooperation in Europe: trends and prospects
 - [Report CPR\(27\)2](#) - [Resolution 373 \(2014\)](#) ;
[Recommendation 363 \(2014\)](#)

- Regions and territories with special status in Europe
 - [Report CPR\(25\)2 - Resolution 361 \(2013\)](#);
[Recommendation 346 \(2013\)](#)
- The governance of macro-regions in Europe
 - [Report CPR\(23\)2 - Resolution 349 \(2012\)](#);
[Recommendation 331 \(2012\)](#)
- Regions with legislative powers: towards multi-level governance
 - [Report CPR\(17\)2 - Resolution 293 \(2009\)](#);
[Recommendation 278 \(2009\)](#)

Other texts

- Reference framework for regional democracy (2009)
 - [Council of Europe Reference Framework for Regional Democracy](#)
- Regionalisation trends in European countries (2016)
 - [Study, Group of independent Experts](#)
- Debates in the Chamber of Regions
 - [Regionalisation in Europe: a stalled process](#)
 - [Effects of the economic crisis on regionalisation](#)
 - [Regionalisation and devolution in Europe in a context of economic crisis](#)
- Achievement of the Chamber of Regions – a need for regionalization (23 March 2016)
 - [Speech by Gudrun Mosler-Toernstroem](#)
- Reinforcing Regionalism and Regionalisation in Europe
 - [CALRE 2015 Plenary Assembly \(Intervention by Clemens Lammerskitten\)](#)

PREVENTING CORRUPTION AND PROMOTING PUBLIC ETHICS



SDG 16

Congress texts

- Revised Code of Good Practice on Referendums (adopted by the Council for Democratic Elections and the Venice Commission)
 - [Report CG\(2022\)43-21](#) - [Resolution 484 \(2022\)](#)
- The protection of whistleblowers - Challenges and opportunities for local and regional government
 - [Report CG36\(2019\)14](#) - [Resolution 444 \(2019\)](#); [Recommandation 435 \(2019\)](#)
- Fighting nepotism within local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG36\(2019\)16](#) - [Resolution 441 \(2019\)](#); [Recommandation 428 \(2019\)](#)
- Transparency and open government
 - [Report CG35\(2018\)14](#) - [Resolution 435 \(2018\)](#); [Recommendation 424 \(2018\)](#)
- Conflicts of interest at local and regional level
 - [Report CG35\(2018\)13](#) - [Resolution 434 \(2018\)](#); [Recommendation 423 \(2018\)](#)
- European Code of Conduct for all Persons Involved in Local and Regional Governance
 - [Report CG35\(2018\)12](#) - [Resolution 433 \(2018\)](#)
- Making public procurement transparent at local and regional levels

- [Report CG33\(2017\)13](#) - [Resolution 421 \(2017\)](#); [Recommendation 405 \(2017\)](#)
- The misuse of administrative resources during electoral processes: the role of local and regional elected representatives and public officials
 - [Report CG31\(2016\)07](#) - [Resolution 402 \(2016\)](#)
- Preventing corruption and promoting public ethics at local and regional levels
 - [Report CG31\(2016\)06](#) - [Resolution 401 \(2016\)](#)
- Tasks and duties, to be fulfilled by local and regional elected representatives, that may involve corruption risks and/or affect ethical behaviour (2010)
 - [Background Paper CG/GT/CDR\(19\)2](#) (only available in French)
- Rights and duties of local and regional elected representatives: the risks of corruption
 - [Report CG\(19\)10](#) - [Resolution 316 \(2010\)](#)

Articles and speeches on corruption

- The Congress adopts a roadmap against corruption at local and regional levels: Debates (31st Congress Session, 19-21 October 2016)
 - [Article](#)

- Debates on “Ethics and transparency at local and regional levels” (30th Congress Session, 22-24 March 2016)
 - Speeches by [Elizabeth Dávid-Barrett](#), [Marin Mrčela](#) and [Imrich Žigo](#)
- Debate on “Corruption corrodes democracy” (27th Congress Session, 14-16 October 2014)
 - [Article](#), [Conclusions](#)
- Debate on “The fight against corruption: pointers for action at local and regional levels” (24th Congress Session, 19-21 March 2013)
 - [Article](#)

E-DEMOCRACY AND E-GOVERNANCE



SDG 9

Congress texts

- Smart cities and regions – prospects for a human rights-based governance approach
 - [Report CG\(2022\)43-13](#) - [Resolution 486 \(2022\)](#) - [Recommendation 480 \(2022\)](#)
- Open data for better public services
 - [Report CG32\(2017\)15](#) - [Resolution 417 \(2017\)](#); [Recommendation 398 \(2017\)](#)
- E-media: game changer for local and regional politicians
 - [Report CG/2015\(29\)14](#) - [Resolution 394 \(2015\)](#)
- E-democracy: opportunities and risks for local authorities
 - [Report CPL\(17\)2](#) - [Resolution 290 \(2009\)](#); [Recommendation 274 \(2009\)](#)
- Digital divide and e-inclusion in the regions
 - [Report CPR\(16\)1](#) - [Resolution 282 \(2009\)](#);
 - [Recommendation 263 \(2009\)](#)

Debates

- Deepening democracy with e-media (27 March 2014)
 - [Summary of debate](#)
- Digital media and urban mobilisation (26 March 2014)
 - [Speech by Jan Hanrath](#)

- Smart Cities: new technologies serving democracy (20 March 2013)
 - [Session file](#)

Other Council of Europe texts

Committee of Ministers

- Internet Governance - Council of Europe Strategy 2016-2019
 - [Report CM\(2016\)10](#)
- Internet freedom
 - [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2016\)5](#)
- Internet of citizens
 - [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2016\)2](#)
- The free, transboundary flow of information on the Internet
 - [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2015\)6](#)
- A guide to human rights for Internet users
 - [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2014\)6](#)
- The protection and promotion of the universality, integrity and openness of the Internet
 - [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2011\)8](#)
- Electronic democracy (E-democracy)
 - [Recommendation CM/Rec \(2009\)1](#)

Parliamentary Assembly

- Internet and politics: the impact of new information and communication technology on democracy
 - [Resolution 1970 \(2014\)](#); [Recommendation 2033 \(2014\)](#)

Venice Commission

- 13th European Conference "New Technologies in Elections: Public Trust and Challenges for Electoral Management Bodies" (Bucharest, 14-15 April 2016)
 - [Conclusions](#)

FIGHTING RADICALISATION



SDG 10, 11

Council of Europe Action Plans

- The fight against violent extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism - Action plan 2015-2017
 - [Report CM\(2015\)74](#)

Congress texts

- Hate speech and fake news: the impact on working conditions of local and regional elected representatives
 - [Report CG\(2022\)43-11](#) - [Resolution 485 \(2022\)](#) - [Recommendation 478 \(2022\)](#)
- Guidelines for local and regional authorities on preventing radicalisation and manifestations of hate at grassroots level
 - [Report CG/2015\(29\)5](#) - [Resolution 384 \(2015\)](#)
- Combatting radicalisation at grassroots level: the role of local and regional authorities
 - [Report CG/2015\(28\)14](#) - [Resolution 381 \(2015\)](#); [Recommendation 371 \(2015\)](#)
- Congress strategy to combat radicalisation at grass-roots level
 - [CG/BUR/2015\(27\)22](#)

Other texts

- Summit of Mayors “Alliance of European cities against violent extremism”
 - [Barcelona declaration](#) (Barcelona, Spain, 15 November 2017)
 - [Rotterdam declaration](#) (Rotterdam, Netherlands, 9 November 2016)
 - [Aarhus declaration](#) (Aarhus, Denmark, 18 November 2015)

ENVIRONMENT



SDG 13

Congress texts

- A fundamental right to the environment: a matter for local and regional authorities - Towards a green reading of the European Charter of Local Self-Government
 - [Report CG\(2022\)43-15](#) - [Resolution 489 \(2022\)](#) - [Recommendation 484\(2022\)](#)
- [Human Rights Handbook for local and regional authorities Volume III-Environment and sustainable development](#)
- The UN Pact for the Future: The essential role of local and regional authorities in global sustainable development -[Recommendation 511 \(2024\)](#)
- Local and regional responses to natural disasters and climate hazards: from risk preparedness to resilience -[Report CG\(2024\)46-17](#) – [Resolution 500 \(2024\)](#) – [Recommendation 510 \(2024\)](#)

The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe provides a political platform to reflect on the role of local and regional authorities and to take action with regard to the major challenges of modern society, through the work of its members and its committees.

Over the past two decades, the Congress has developed its activities in areas such as the promotion of human rights, the fight against discrimination, gender equality, local and regional governance, public ethics, citizen participation, migration management and social inclusion.

The work of the Congress is part of the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) of the United Nations Agenda 2030, with an approach based on three key principles: the achievement of the SDGs is a shared responsibility of all levels of government; local and regional authorities must have the necessary competences and financial autonomy; citizens must always remain at the heart of the action.

This publication provides a compilation of the most relevant Congress and Council of Europe tools and texts. All these documents can be accessed from the electronic version of this compilation and can be downloaded via the link below or using the flash code.



To download:

www.coe.int/congress-themes

Website: www.coe.int/congress

www.coe.int

The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member States, including all members of the European Union. The Congress of Local and Regional Authorities is an institution of the Council of Europe, responsible for strengthening local and regional democracy in its 46 member states. Composed of two chambers – the Chamber of Local Authorities and the Chamber of Regions – and three committees, it brings together 612 elected officials representing more than 130 000 local and regional authorities.

