



# **2<sup>nd</sup>** European Congress of Local Governments

Kraków, 5<sup>th</sup> – 6<sup>th</sup> April **2016**



## 2<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Local Governments

**5<sup>th</sup>– 6<sup>th</sup> April 2016, ICE Kraków Congress Centre**

**Day 1:** Plenary session  
Thematic blocks  
Debates  
Workshops  
Lectures, presentations  
Awards Ceremony  
Reception

**Day 2:** Plenary session  
Thematic blocks  
Debates  
Workshops  
Lectures, presentations  
Reception

### Local Government Today – People, Cooperation, Innovations



Jacek Majchrowski  
Mayor of the City of Krakow

*Modern local governments are currently facing completely different challenges than just a couple of years ago. If they plan to revitalise, modernise or create a new space, they cannot make arbitrary decisions.*

*The city space is a social space and it is not enough to think about it in terms of scenery. You should also see it as a powerful tool of shaping the quality of life. The main role of local governments is to inspire the citizens and give them the opportunity for self-fulfillment and a sense of security.*

*Krakow, like other cities with great history and as an aspiring metropolis, has to face a difficult task of combining tradition with modern solutions. The goal here is to both revitalise and rearrange the city space, as well as motivate the citizens and create areas for development.*

*People, their needs and aspirations, are the main pillar of creating the landscape of cities and regions. Their activity and commitment to transforming the environment constitute the nature, public utility and harmony of space. Partner dialogue is therefore the only key to improving the quality of life; the key to creating cities and regions of the future.*

### European Congress of Local Governments



Zygmunt Berdychowski  
Chairman  
Economic Forum Programme Council

*More than a thousand participants, plenary sessions, dozens of debates, workshops and presentations – such was the first European Congress of Local Governments in 2015. The event showed the importance of the dialogue between local leaders and regional elites, central government, NGOs and business.*

*People know best what they need in their village or town, so the more responsibility for the fate of the local actions handed to the municipality, district or province, the more maturity in taking decisions in order to solve the local issues. The role local governments is growing every year - they take on more and more tasks and they are responsible in a higher measure for quality of life of the citizens, for spatial planning, for the local economy and culture. Across Europe, local governments play a huge role in education, health care or environmental protection. Extending cooperation between them seems natural, especially when it results in a more efficient use of money – not only their own, but also the EU's. The European*

*Congress of Local Governments is the right place to look for the most effective solutions and models of cooperation.*



**Juliusz Braun**, President of Polish Television TVP S.A. (2011-2015), Poland; **Jacek Majchrowski**, Mayor, City of Krakow, Poland; **Markku Markkula**, President, EU Committee of the Regions

## Draft Agenda of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congress

The programme of the European Congress of Local Governments will consist of seven thematic tracks:

### FINANCE

- When EU Funds Run Out...
- The Significance of CJEU's Judgment Regarding VAT for Taxes and Local Contributions
- Programmes Stimulating the Economic Development of Cities and Regions
- The Role of Financial Institutions in the Implementation of EU Funds
- Over 10 Years of EU Funds. What Was Successful and What Could Be Done Better?
- Financing of Education vs. Educational Reforms
- Challenges for Public Procurement – Innovation, Partnership, Sustainability

### ENVIRONMENT

- Clean Cities: Common Responsibility of Local Governments, Businesses and Residents
- The World Without Smog? Air Quality Improvement as a Challenge of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century



**Kristina Miskiniene**, Chairwoman of the Committee on Social Affairs and Labour, Seimas, Lithuania; **Angelica Schwall-Dueren**, Minister, State Chancellery of North Rhine-Westphalia, Germany



**Malgorzata Skucha**, President of the Management Board (2013-2015), National Fund for Environmental Protection and Water Management, Poland; **Vladimir Frantisek Mana**, Deputy Minister, Director General of the Directorate of State Administration, Ministry of Environment, Czech Republic; **Jacek Chrzanowski**, President of Board, The Regional Fund for Environmental Protection & Water Management in Szczecin, Poland



**Tatiana Malakhova**, Editor in Chief, Journal "Region Development", Russia; **Dusan Kulka**, Managing Partner, Berman Group, Czech Republic; **Vytautas Kleiva**, Mayor, City of Telsiai, Lithuania; **Jacek Krupa**, Marshal, Malopolska Region, Poland

## Draft Agenda of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congress



**Denitsa Nikolova**, Deputy Minister, Ministry of Regional Development and Public Works, Bulgaria

- Green Municipality and the Development of Eco-Friendly Investments
- Sustainable Development: How to Improve Life Quality?
- How to Restore the Order and Harmony in Cities?
- Transport and Mobility for Modern Municipalities

### ECONOMY

- Trail of Regional Specialties – Local Products and Promotion of the Region.
- How to Attract Key Investments to the Region?
- Entrepreneurship, Agrotourism and PPP – Development Opportunities for Rural Areas
- The Role of Local Governments in Reducing Energy Poverty
- Invest or Demolish? The Future of Brownfields
- Planning Regional Strategies in Healthcare
- Do Local Festivals Increase the Attractiveness of Regions?
- The Benefits of Investing in Sports Infrastructure

### SOCIETY

- Cities of the 21st Century. Can Mayors Make the World a Better Place?
- Local Identity versus Political, Economic and Social Changes



**Nikola Dobroslavic**, President, Dubrovnik-Neretva Region, Croatia; **Christophe Chaillou**, Director General, French Association of the Council of European Municipalities and Regions (AFCCRE), France



**Marc Bovenschulte**, Director, Institute for Innovation and Technology, Germany; **Yordanka Chobanova**, Presidential Advisor for European Affairs, Office of the President of the Republic of Bulgaria, Bulgaria; **Carine Saloff-Coste**, Director of the Economic Development Department, City of Paris, France; **Zygmunt Frankiewicz**, Mayor, City of Gliwice, Poland; **Eryk Mistewicz**, President, The New Media Institute, Poland

## Draft Agenda of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congress

- Creating a Local Brand. How to Become Recognisable in Europe?
- Migration Crisis – Will Local Governments Live Up to the Challenge?
- How to Make the City More Bicycle-Friendly?
- Ageing Societies – Are States and Local Governments Ready for This Challenge?
- Sharing Economy – Earn by Sharing, Share Your Earnings
- Presentations of European Regions

### □ INNOVATIONS

- Innovative Public Administration – Local Government Closer to the Citizen
- Smart Commune - How to Build Intelligent Urban-Rural Areas?
- Polish Design Inspires Others. The Future of Europe's Creative Industries
- Innovations in the Region: Clusters, Technological Parks And Start-Ups
- On The Way to the City of the Future - Smart City Between Vision and Reality
- How Will Big Data Change the Local Government?
- Internet of Things - How Does Technology Change The Face of the City?



**Solomon Ginzburg**, Deputy Head of the Committee for International and Interregional Relations and Regulations, Parliament of Kaliningrad Region, Russia



**Roma Zakaitiene**, Director, Association of Local Authorities in Lithuania, Lithuania; **Helena Titheridge**, Senior Lecturer, University College London, United Kingdom



**Martin Cresswell**, Chief Executive, iMPOWER, United Kingdom; **Wojciech Szczurek**, Mayor, City of Gdynia, Poland; **Francesco Tufarelli**, Director General of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers, Italian Government, Italy

## Draft Agenda of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Congress

The 2016 edition of the European Congress of Local Governments will be enriched to two new thematic tracks:

### REVITALIZATION

- “Man in the city” – revitalisation as a social process. The new definition of revitalisation
- Revitalisation as a city management strategy
- Revitalisation: a local phenomenon or a global fashion? Can local governments afford revitalisation?

### ECONOMIC SELF-GOVERNMENT

- Business interests or common goals? Economic self-government and its role in contemporary Europe
- Public functions of the economic self-government amid the ever-changing economic conditions.
- What economic self-government does a strong economy need? Legal, financial, functional and political dilemmas



Guests of the European Congress of Local Governments



Juliusz Braun, President of Polish Television TVP S.A. (2011-2015), Poland; Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor, City of Krakow, Poland; Markku Markkula, President, EU Committee of the Regions; Davit Narmania, Mayor, City of Tbilisi, Georgia; Zbigniew Jagiello, President of the Management Board, PKO Bank Polski SA, Poland; Gudrun Mosler-Tornstrom, President of the Chamber of Regions, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Council of Europe

## About the 1<sup>st</sup> Edition of the European Congress of Local Governments

Talking about regions becomes crucial in the context of allocation of resources in the new EU financial perspective for 2014-2020. The most important challenge local governments are facing is the effective use of EU funds, while maintaining budgetary discipline – that was the message of last year's European Congress of Local Governments.

Over 1,000 participants: representatives of central and local governments, business, presidents of regions and mayors of big European cities took part in the two-day conference last year.

The inaugurating plenary session was titled "Europe of the Regions – a New Opening". **Markku Markkula**, Chairman of the Committee of the Regions of the European Union, estimated that the role of local governments in the EU is constantly changing. In his opinion, the financial crisis that led to the "re-nationalisation of EU policies" in many European countries caused great damage to the development of regions. *"On the other hand, we are talking about the new opening and new opportunities for local governments. It is us, decision makers at local government level, who should have a greater voice on the future of the EU,"* Markkula said.

The Mayor of Krakow, **Jacek Majchrowski**, emphasised the responsibility inherent in the new tranche of EU funds. *"We have two main goals. We want innovation to become everyday bread for us. We also want to spend EU funds on improving the quality of life of residents of the city and the region,"* Majchrowski explained.



**Luiz de Mello**, Deputy Director of the Public Governance and Territorial Development Directorate, Organization for Economic Co-Operation and Development (OECD), France



**Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz**, Mayor of the City of Warsaw, Poland



**Emil Boc**, Mayor of Cluj-Napoca, Prime Minister (2008-2012), Romania

*“Financial support from the European Union should contribute to the economic development and life quality improvement, but when distributing and receiving money from the EU, we cannot forget the fundamentals: democracy, human rights, ethnic and cultural diversity,”* emphasized **Gudrun Mosler-Törnström**, President of the Chamber of Regions of the Council of Europe. *“The need to support democracy resulted in local government reforms in Georgia. We drew on Polish experience,”* said **Davit Narmania**, the Mayor of Tbilisi. **Zbigniew Jagiello**, President of PKO BP SA, argued that we need a Metropolitan Act. *“In the Katowice agglomeration, the common urban space exceeds its administrative boundaries, the same as in the Tri-City and suburban areas of big cities,”* stressed the president of the largest Polish bank.

#### **A New Plan for Europe**

Participants of the plenary session “New Plan for Europe” talked about the impact of the European Strategic Investment Fund (EFIS) on the economy of the Old Continent. The EFIS is the initiative of the European Commission President Jean-Claude Juncker. *“Europe and the world need new investments, especially that their pace has slowed in recent years, that is why we should carry out new tasks. Juncker’s plan is therefore a significant step forward,”* said **Luiz de Mello**, Deputy Director Public Governance and Territorial Development in the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD).

*“We will see how it is going to work in practice,”* said Mayor of Warsaw **Hanna Gronkiewicz-Waltz**. *“Juncker’s plan is likely to serve its purpose as long as it doesn’t encroach on the Cohesion Fund, from which we gain funds for investments carried out today. But let’s wait for more detailed information,”* said the mayor of the capital of Poland. *“Open competition is a good thing,”* said **Emil Boc**, Mayor of Cluj Napoca and former Prime Minister of Romania. *“We want to invest in research and development, in innovation-based cities and new workplaces. Juncker’s plan can help us in the implementation of such projects,”* Boc said.





Edyta Przybylska, Director, Malopolska Region; Waldemar Jerzy Godlewski, Mayor of Gliniojeck, Poland;  
Piotr Krasko, Editor in Chief, Wiadomości TVP (2012-2016)

## Top Local Government's Leaders Awarded

The first day of the Congress culminated with the gala “Local Government’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Leader”. It awarded the best local councillors of the past quarter-century. The competition organised by “Rzeczpospolita” daily and the Institute for Eastern Studies recognised the best mayors of cities, towns and rural counties. For over 15 years, “Rzeczpospolita” has systematically followed the development of local governments in Poland, while compiling their prestigious Local Governments Ranking. For the last 5 years, together with the Institute for Eastern Studies and during the Regions’ Forum in Krynica-Zdrój, it has been rewarding local government leaders, summing up the past year of their work. A natural consequence of this was the announcement of the Local Government’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Leader during the European Congress of Local Governments. The candidates were chosen from among rural leaders and mayors who served for at least 4 terms in office and whose local governments obtained the best economic results, as assessed on the basis of the data from the Ministry of Finance and the Central Statistical Office, and were the most efficient in the use of EU funds.

The title of the Local Government’s 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Leader went to **Grzegorz Czapla**, Mayor of Ozarowice, **Waldemar Jerzy Godlewski**, Mayor of Gliniojeck and **Tomasz Malepszy**, Mayor of Leszno (1998-2014).



Tomasz Malepszy, Mayor of Leszno (1998-2014)  
Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of the City of Krakow



Jean-Michel Berlemont, Municipal Councilor, Urban Community Grand Nancy, France; Katarzyna Kaczkowska, Head of the Department, Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, Poland; Iwona Wendel, Undersecretary of State (2011-2015), Ministry of Infrastructure and Development, Poland; Grzegorz Wolszczak, Consultant, The World Bank, Poland

## Media on the European Congress of Local Governments



*"Europe of Regions: a New Opening" was the leading theme of the inaugurating session of the European Congress of Local Governments in Krakow. "The role of local governments is changing. In some countries, the crisis led to re-nationalization of politics, and regions lost their influence", said Markku Markkula, Chairman of the Committee of the Regions.*



*According to Jacek Majchrowski, Mayor of Krakow, the capital of Malopolska is a particular city that combines centuries-old history and tradition with development and innovation. - We would like innovation to become our second nature and in time to be part of our normality - he emphasised.*



*"The role of regions has changed all over Europe since the opening of borders. The state is responsible for economic and defense policy, but regions grow in importance at the international level", reminded Juliusz Braun, President of the Polish Television. "Across Europe, regional governments are in charge of education, health care and the protection of the environment", he added.*



*However, many mayors consider that their power is too limited. During the debates of the European Congress of Local Governments, the term "radny bezradny" was used to describe the low scope of competence of councilors and the lack of willingness to cooperate with executive bodies at the regional level, namely with mayors.*



*The economy and financial resources are significant when it comes to improving the lives of EU citizens. Thus, we need to remember about the regional pillars: strengthening democracy, respect for the law and protection of human rights. These pillars are needed to build a civil society.*



Host City





## The 2<sup>nd</sup> European Congress of Local Governments

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- The most important meeting place for European local authorities
- Over 1,200 participants – local leaders, scientists, businessmen and representatives of public administration
- An opulent and diversified programme – more than 50 events will be held around 7 thematic paths

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