

# **Interparliamentary Conference on Cultural Heritage and the Identity of National Communities**

Budapest, 4-5 December 2024

## **Programme**

#### **4 December 2024, Wednesday**

##### Arrival of the delegations

17:15 *Participants of the Conference leave for the building of the Hungarian National Assembly  
Transfer provided by the organisers  
Entrance to the Parliament through Gate XII*

18:00 **Dinner offered by the Hungarian National Assembly**  
*Venue: Hunters' Hall*  
*During the reception: Photo exhibition by Botond Dávid*  
*Venue: Upper Chamber lounge*

19:30-20:00 *Departure of the delegations  
Transfer to the hotel (if needed), provided by the organisers*

#### **5 December 2024, Thursday**

08:15 *Participants of the Conference leave for the building of the Hungarian National Assembly  
Transfer provided by the organisers  
Entrance to the Parliament through Gate XII*

09:00-10:15 **Opening of the Conference**  
*Venue: Upper Chamber Session Hall*  
Welcome address: *Mr. László KÖVÉR*, Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly  
  
Keynote speakers:  
*Mr. Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS*, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe  
*Mr. Nicolas LEVRAT*, United Nations Special Rapporteur on minority issues  
*Mr. Loránt VINCZE*, Member of the European Parliament, President of the Federal Union of European Nationalities  
*Ms. Elisabeth SÁNDOR-SZALAY*, Deputy Commissioner for Fundamental Rights, Ombudsman for the Rights of National Minorities  
  
Chaired by: *Mr. Ferenc András KALMÁR*, Special Envoy, former Member of the Hungarian parliamentary delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

10:15-10:25 **Family photo**  
*Venue: The Grand Staircase*

10:25-10:45

**Coffee break**

10:45-12:30

**Thematic Session: Cultural heritage and protection of national minorities**

*Venue: Upper Chamber Session Hall*

Speakers:

*Mr. Zsolt NÉMETH*, Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the Hungarian National Assembly, Head of the Hungarian parliamentary delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe

*Mr. Javier MAROTO*, Deputy Speaker, Senate of Spain

*Ms. Elvira KOVÁCS*, Deputy Speaker, National Assembly of the Republic of Serbia

Chaired by: *Mr. Károly PÁNCZÉL*, Chair of the Committee on National Cohesion of the Hungarian National Assembly

*Exchange of views*

12:30-13:45

**Panel discussion: Good practices - the national minority rights scene in Europe**

*Venue: Upper Chamber Session Hall*

Speakers:

*Mr. Paul VIDESOTT*, university professor, Free University of Bozen-Bolzano

*Ms. Madlena MAHLING*, Commissioner for Sorbian Affairs, Saxon State Ministry for Science, Culture and Tourism

*Mr. Tuomas Aslak JUUSO*, Vice President of the Sámi Parliament of Finland

*Ms. Erika KISS-KÖLES*, Slovene national minority advocate, Vice Chairman of the Committee on Nationalities in Hungary, Hungarian National Assembly

*Mr. Lőrinc NACSA*, State Secretary for Hungarian Communities Abroad

Moderated by: *Ms Katalin SZILI*, Chief Advisor to the Prime Minister and former Speaker of the Hungarian National Assembly

*Exchange of views*

13:45-13:55

**Information on the Hungarian EU Presidency**

*Mr. Barna Pál ZSIGMOND*, Deputy Minister for European Union Affairs of Hungary

- 13:55-14:00      **Closing of the conference**  
*Mr. Károly PÁNCZÉL, Chair of the Committee on National Cohesion of the Hungarian National Assembly*
- 14:00-15:00      **Buffet lunch offered by the Hungarian National Assembly**  
*Venue: Hunters' Hall*
- 15:00              *Optional guided tour in the building of the Hungarian National Assembly (in English and French)*
- 15:30              *Departure of the delegations*  
*Transfer to the hotel (if needed), provided by the organisers*