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REPUBLIK ÖSTERREICH
Bundesrat
Die Vizepräsidentin

Mr.
László BORBÉLY
Head of the Romanian Delegation

ROMANIA

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**Meeting of the General Committee on Cultural Affairs
of the Parliamentary Dimension
of the Central European Initiative**

Salzburg, 17/18 September 2009

Members of the General Committee on Cultural Affairs met on 17 and 18 September 2009 in Salzburg to discuss the topic of „Renovation and use of historic buildings“. The meeting was held on the premises of the Regional Diet of Salzburg.

Parliamentarians from Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Italy, Macedonia, Romania, the Slovak Republic and Ukraine participated in the meeting. The Hungarian Parliament was represented at official level. The deputy Secretary General of the CEI Executive Secretariat also participated in the meeting.

After a welcome speech by the Chairwoman of the General Committee the Speaker of the Regional Diet of Salzburg, Mr. Simon Illmer, welcomed the participants and informed about the province of Salzburg.

In an introductory statement Mr. Ronald Gobiet, head of the Salzburg office of the Federal Office

for the Protection of Monuments, explained the legal foundations for the protection and renovation of historic buildings. In the following presentation Mr. Viktor Brojatsch, executive secretary of the Committee of Experts, dwelled on the role of the municipality of Salzburg in matters of restoration.

After the two introductory statements a lively discussion on various questions of restoration was held. Topics ranged from state or provincial funding for restoration efforts to economic repercussions of such works. The question of traffic on historic towns as well as the effects of renovation on tourism were also debated.

In the afternoon of the first day participants visited the Kolpingheim Hallein. In Hallein, a complex of seven medieval houses was recently restored and now serves as a dormitory for students. The manager of the Kolpingheim as well as the architect informed about the renovation works and the current usage of these buildings.

On the second day of the meeting participants visited the University of Salzburg. Various entities of the university are housed in historic edifices that were adapted to fulfil modern needs. Finally, the participants visited the Kollegienkirche where they were informed about renovations works in sacral buildings.



(Susanne Neuwirth)

Chairwoman of the General Committee on Cultural Affairs
of the Parliamentary Dimension
of the Central European Initiative