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Ämne: Region Gotland: Invitation to participate Regions for Democracy initiative

Region Gotland, sweden

mr. Filip Reinhag

Dear President,

I hope this message finds you well.

On behalf of the Directorate General for Multilateral Affairs of the Government of Catalonia, I am writing to invite Region Gotland to take part in the ongoing process of building a **Regions for Democracy** network.

The initiative seeks to bring together a **diverse group of regional governments from across the world committed to strengthening democratic governance** and enhancing the capacity of public institutions to respond effectively to contemporary challenges. Through political dialogue and peer exchange, the network aims to foster cooperation on issues such as public trust, citizen engagement, social cohesion and effective policymaking.

Across Europe, democratic systems are facing increasingly complex social, economic and geopolitical challenges. In this context, we believe that **regional governments have an important responsibility in ensuring that democratic institutions remain responsive, effective and capable of delivering results.**

The initiative is founded on the conviction that strengthening democracy requires **not only robust institutions, but also effective cooperation across levels of government.** Regional authorities play a vital role in translating democratic principles into concrete public action, while contributing to social resilience, territorial cohesion and public confidence. We also believe that **the current European context highlights the importance of reinforcing cooperation among democratic governments and supporting a rules-based international order.**

We would be particularly pleased **to count on the participation of Region Gotland, given its longstanding commitment to democratic governance, decentralisation, institutional transparency and effective multilevel cooperation.**

We are currently **consolidating an initial group of interested and committed regional governments from Europe and other parts of the world**, representing a broad range of political traditions and institutional realities. We would be honoured to include Region Gotland in this collective effort.

Should the initiative be of interest, we would be delighted to organise an online meeting with your designated representatives to present the project in greater detail, discuss its current development and explore possible avenues for cooperation. Naturally, such a conversation would entail no commitment on your part.

As another step in this direction, we would also like to anticipate our invitation to the **Regions for Democracy Conference, which will take place in Barcelona this coming November**. The conference will bring together regional leaders from different parts of the world and will be organised in collaboration with foundations, think tanks and organisations working on democratic governance.

Please find attached a short presentation of the initiative with further information on its objectives and planned activities.

We remain at your disposal and look forward to the possibility of engaging with Region Gotland on this initiative.

Yours sincerely,

Direcció General d'Afers Multilaterals / Directorate General for Multilateral Affairs

Departament d'Unió Europea i Acció Exterior / *Ministry for European Union and Foreign Action*

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