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Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI people in Europe

Terms of Reference¹

¹ Adopted unanimously by the Committee on 26 April 2022 and approved by the Bureau on 28 April 2022.

Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI people in Europe

1. The Parliamentary Platform for the Rights of LGBTI People in Europe (“the Platform”) shall be established under the auspices of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, in accordance with Assembly [Resolution 2417 \(2022\)](#) “Combating rising hate against LGBTI people in Europe”.

Aim of the Platform

2. In accordance with the above resolution, it is the task of the Platform “to facilitate co-operation between national parliaments aimed at promoting full and effective equality for LGBTI people throughout the continent”.

Composition of the Platform

3. The Platform shall be composed of:

3.1. In respect of Council of Europe member States: for each unicameral parliament, one titular and one substitute member of parliament, appointed by the national parliament; for each for bicameral parliament, one titular and one substitute member of each chamber of the parliament, appointed by their chamber;

3.2. In respect of the parliaments with Observer or Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: for each unicameral parliament, one member of parliament, appointed by the national parliament; for each for bicameral parliament, one member of each chamber of the parliament, appointed by their chamber;;

3.3. One member each appointed by the following committees of the Assembly:

- Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy;
- Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights;
- Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development;
- Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons;
- Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media;
- Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee);

3.4. One associate member appointed by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.

4. The members of the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination shall be *ex officio* members of the Platform.

5. The Platform may invite members of other similar interparliamentary networks to participate in its work.

Working methods of the Platform

6. All members of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination shall be entitled to attend the meetings of the Platform.

7. The working languages of the Platform shall be English and French.

8. The Platform shall be coordinated and its meetings chaired by the General Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI people. In the absence of the General Rapporteur, a meeting of the Platform may exceptionally be chaired by a member of the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, or, in their absence, by the oldest member present.

9. The Platform shall submit to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for approval and transmission to the Bureau of the Assembly any decisions that may have consequences for the ordinary budget of the Assembly.

10. Except where alternative arrangements are expressly made, the costs of participation of members of the Platform in its events shall be borne by their national parliaments.

11. In fulfilling its task set out in paragraph 1 of these terms of reference, the Platform shall be inspired by the European Convention on Human Rights and other relevant international and European treaties, texts adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly, as well as by other relevant international declarations and reports.
12. The Platform may co-operate with parliamentarians and national parliaments outside of Europe, as well as with parliamentary networks and regional and international parliamentary assemblies.
13. The dissolution of the Platform shall be subject to a decision of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and to the latter's approval by the Bureau.