

Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire



9 October 2007
Synopsis No 2007/40

To the Members of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 1 and 4 October 2007

The Committee on Culture, Science and Education meeting in Strasbourg on 1 and 4 October, 2007 with Mr Legendre in the chair:

- adopted its contribution for the debate on the **activities of the OECD** (Rapporteur: Baroness Hooper, United Kingdom, EDG);
- held a **Teleconference on “Realising the full potential of e-learning at all levels of education”** with direct links to Germany, Italy, Japan and Poland (Rapporteur: Mr Fischer, Germany, EPP/CD);
- took position on amendments to the draft resolution on the **dangers of creationism in education** (Rapporteur: Mrs Brasseur, Luxembourg, ALDE);
- continued discussion of **cultural heritage in the South Caucasus** following the collapse of the study visit by the General Rapporteur (Mr O'Hara, United Kingdom, SOC);
- prepared the colloquy on the **teaching of European literature** to be held in Paris on 11 December 2007 (Rapporteur: Mr Legendre, France, EPP/CD);
- was informed on the preparation of the **White Paper on Intercultural Dialogue** including the Regional Ministerial Conference to be held in Belgrade on 8-9 November 2007;
- discussed its participation in the **conference on “The role of education and the mass media in intercultural dialogue”**, organised by the Italian parliament in Rome on 14 November 2007;
- was informed by Mr Pollozhani on the **Conference of the Parliamentary Troika of the Stability Pact** on Parliamentary co-operation and democratic development in South-East Europe (29-30 September, 2007, Portoroz, Slovenia) and on the session he had chaired on education as a basis for security;
- **appointed the following rapporteurs:**
 - Mr Laukkanen, Finland, ALDE, for a report on the funding of public service broadcasting (Doc. 11328);
 - Mr Wodarg, Germany, SOC, for an opinion for the Committee of Ministers on the draft additional Protocol on genetic testing for health purposes;
 - Mr Pollozhani, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, SOC, for an opinion on minority protection in Europe (Doc. 11261 rev.);

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
The Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication and Research
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- **appointed representatives** for forthcoming meetings;
- took note of the **reply from the Committee of Ministers** to Recommendation 1762(2006) on academic freedom and university autonomy;
- took note of the **motions, sent for information**, on protecting Europe's historic urban landscapes from new tall buildings (Doc. 11336) and on guaranteeing a right to schooling for children with illnesses or disabilities (Doc. 11342);
- was informed on the **meetings of the Sub-Committee on Cultural Heritage** held in Belgrade on 21-22 September and to be held in Vilnius on 11-13 October 2007;
- was informed by Mr Walter on the meeting of the **Sub-Committee on Media** held in Strasbourg on 2 October and agreed to appoint Mr. McIntosh standing rapporteur on the follow-up to Resolution 1535(2007) on threats to the lives and freedom of expression of journalists, and to inform the Bureau accordingly;
- decided on the following changes in **Sub-Committee membership**:
 - Mr R. Hovannisian (Armenia) and Mr Kozma (Hungary) as new members of the Sub-Committee on the Media
 - Mr V. Hovhannisyan (Armenia) and Mr Olsson (Sweden) as new members of the Sub-Committee on Youth and Sport;
- confirmed its decision to hold its **next meetings** as follows:
 - Rome, 14 November 2007
 - Paris (Council of Europe office), afternoon of Monday, 10 December and (Senate), Tuesday, 11 December 2007 – Colloquy on the teaching of European literature.
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The **Sub-Committee on the Media**, meeting in Strasbourg on 2 October 2007 with Mr Walter in the chair:

- held an exchange of views with Mr Mogens Bjerregard of the International Federation of Journalists and (by telephone link to Vienna) Mr David Dudge of the International Press Institute on possible **follow-up to** paragraph 14 of Assembly **Resolution 1535 (2007)** on threats to the lives and freedom of expression of journalists (Rapporteur: Mr McIntosh, United Kingdom, SOC);
- concluded that there was a value-added factor in involving the Parliamentary Assembly in the **monitoring** of this subject and asked the rapporteur to follow the question with media NGOs, the OSCE Representative on Freedom of the Media and the CDMC;
- held an exchange of views with representatives of the Belarusian Association of Journalists and civil society from **Belarus** and agreed to keep this item on its agenda on a regular basis and suggested a conference on media freedom in Belarus in an adjacent country in 2008;
- took note of the **replies from the Committee of Ministers** to Recommendation 1783(2007) on threats to the lives and freedom of expression of journalists and Recommendation 1789(2007) on professional education and training of journalists;
- decided to hold its **next meeting** in Paris on 10 December 2007.

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