



SECRETARIAT

AS/Cult (2022) CB 06
17 October 2022

To the members of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 11 and 13 October 2022

The **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media**, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday 11 October 2022 from 2 pm to 3.30 pm, Thursday 13 October 2022 from 8.30 am to 10 am and Thursday 13 October 2022 from 2 pm to 3.30 pm, with Lord Alexander Dundee (United Kingdom, EC/DA) in the chair,

Tuesday 11 October 2022 from 2 pm to 3.30 pm, as regards:

- ***Track and trace applications: ethical, cultural and educational challenges*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Duncan Baker, United Kingdom, EC/DA*): approved the rapporteur's request to change the title in English to ***Contact tracing applications: ethical, cultural and educational challenges***, took note of the explanatory memorandum and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, thereby approving the report;
- ***Building the Open Council of Europe Academic Networks (OCEAN)*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Marta Grande, Italy, NR*): considered a preliminary draft report and held an exchange of views with the participation of Professor Michele Nicoletti, European Academic Coordinator of the Open Council of Europe Academic Networks and former President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- ***Countering SLAPPs: an imperative for a democratic society*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum and took note of the rapporteur's proposals therein, on which it agreed;
- ***Museum Prize of the Council of Europe***: reappointed Mr Roberto Rampi (Italy, SOC) as the representative of the committee for the Museum Prize 2023, and heard his declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- ***World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 7-9 November 2022)***: proposed as additional members of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly: Mr Roland Rino Büchel (Switzerland, ALDE), Ms Nina Kasimati (Greece, UEL) and Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC);
- ***Composition of the sub-committees***: approved the following changes:

Sub-committee on Media and Information Society:

- Mr Alberto Ribolla (Italy, EC/DA) becomes an alternate of Mr Francesco BERTI;

Sub-committee on Education, Youth and Sport:

- Mr Chris Bonnet (Malta, SOC) becomes a full member;
- Ms Linda Hofstad Helleland (Norway, EPP/CD) becomes a full member;

Thursday 13 October 2022 from 8.30 am to 10 am, as regards:

- ***Sports governance and social rights: the protection of workers' rights in Qatar***: held a joint hearing with the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development with the participation of: Mr Bjørn Berge, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe; Mr Alasdair Bell, Deputy Secretary General, FIFA; Ms Lise Klaveness, President of the Norwegian Football Federation; Mr Mahmoud Qutub, Senior Advisor, Office of the Secretary General and Executive Director, Workers' Welfare & Labour Rights, Supreme Committee for Delivery and Legacy, Qatar; Mr Dietmar Schäfers, Deputy President of Building and Wood Workers' International (BWI); Mr Max Tunon, Head of the ILO Office in Doha;

Thursday 13 October 2022 from 2 pm to 3.30 pm, as regards:

- ***Other business***: took note of a request from Ms Fiona O'Loughlin (Ireland, ALDE), newly appointed Chairperson of the Sub-committee on Education Youth and Sport, to attend the 17th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport on 26 October 2022 in Antalya, Türkiye, and agreed to ask the Bureau to designate her as a member of the Ad-hoc Committee which will participate in the Conference;
- ***The Cultural Routes: a platform for intercultural dialogue*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andries Gryffroy, Belgium, NR*): considered a preliminary draft report;
- ***Reports on recent meetings***: heard from Mr Constantinos Efstathiou (Cyprus, SOC) on the meeting of the 11th Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe Annual Advisory Forum, on the theme "*Safeguarding European Values, Heritage, and Dialogue*" which took place in Chania, Greece on 5-7 October 2022;
- ***Guaranteeing media freedom and the safety of journalists: an obligation of member States*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mogens Jensen, Denmark, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum and took note of the rapporteur's proposals therein, on which it agreed;
- ***World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 7-9 November 2022)***: proposed as an additional member of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly, Mr Paolo Grimoldi (Italy EC/DA);
- ***Working methods of the Parliamentary Assembly***: took note of the letter from Ms Dalloz, Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of procedures, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, and considered and approved the proposals for possible improvements of the Assembly's procedures and practices (Appendix 1), which the Committee Chairperson will transmit to Ms Dalloz;
- ***Committee work programme***

References to the committee and appointment of rapporteurs:

- postponed until the next meeting the appointment of a rapporteur on "Propaganda and freedom of speech in Europe" ([Doc. 15594](#));
- appointed Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) rapporteur for an opinion on "Threats to life and safety of journalists and human rights defenders in Azerbaijan" ([Doc. 15521](#));
- took note of the motion "Providing a comprehensive response to the SLAPPs issue" ([Doc. 15482](#)), which will be taken into account in the framework of the report "Countering SLAPPs: an imperative for a democratic society";
- took note of the motion on "Public regulation of the freedom of expression in digital platforms" ([Doc. 15555](#)) tabled by Mr George Katrougalos and other members of the Assembly, referred to the Committee for consultation, and entrusted the Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society to examine it and advise the committee on the follow-up to be given;

Appointment of representatives for forthcoming events:

took note that the Chairperson had appointed, subject to the availability of funds, Mr Stefan Schennach, rapporteur on “Countering SLAPPs: An Imperative for a Democratic Society” to participate in the first European Anti-SLAPP Conference on 20 October 2022, in Strasbourg, and was informed that he could no longer take part in the conference;

- appointed, at no costs for the Assembly:

Mr Stefan Schennach, former rapporteur on “Ethics in science and technology: a new culture of public dialogue” to participate in the meeting of the Steering Committee on Bioethics on “Dialogue amongst the public, practitioners and policy makers to ensure that patient and public interests is a key priority in the developments and regulation of genomic medicine”, to be held online on 10 November 2022;

- **Draft motions for a resolution and a recommendation:** took note of and expressed support for a motion for a resolution on “Risks and opportunities of the Metaverse” drafted by Mr Olivier Français (Switzerland, ALDE);
- **Sub-committees:**

was informed by Ms Foteini Pipili (Greece, EPP/CD) of the official invitation from the Greek Delegation to hold a meeting of the Sub-committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage on the theme of “cultural heritage and water” in Olympia, Greece on 21-22 February 2023, and accepted this invitation subject to authorisation by the Bureau;

- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers:**
 - took note of the reply from the Committee of Ministers ([Doc. 15589](#)) to [Recommendation 2217 \(2021\)](#) The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on education and culture AS/Cult (2021) 19 and asked the rapporteur, Mr Constantinos Efstathiou (Cyprus, SOC), and the Sub-committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage to prepare an analysis with, if necessary, proposals for follow-up, and to report back to the committee;
 - took note of the reply from the Committee of Ministers ([Doc.15596](#)) to [Recommendation 2221 \(2022\)](#) on “Football governance: business and values” AS/Cult (2021) 26 and asked the rapporteur, Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC) and the Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport to prepare an analysis with, if necessary, proposals for follow-up, and to report back to the committee;
- **Communications from the Chairperson of the committee:** took note of three letters from Mr. Ruben Rubinyan, Chairperson of the Armenian Delegation;
- **Next meetings:**

took note that the next meeting of the committee will be on: 5-6 December, Paris

took note that the next meeting of the Sub-committee on Media and Information Society will be on 21-22 November, in Vilnius (Lithuania).

The Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media), meeting in Strasbourg on Wednesday 12 October 2022 from 2 pm to 3.30 pm, with Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC), the oldest member present, then Ms Fiona O’Loughlin (Ireland, ALDE) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee:** elected by acclamation:
 - Ms Fiona O’Loughlin (Ireland, ALDE), Chairperson,
 - Ms Nicole Duranton (France, ALDE), Vice-Chairperson;

- **Follow-up of the Replies from the Committee of Ministers:** considered the analysis of the reply from the Committee of Ministers (Doc. 15116) to the Recommendation 2178 (2020) “Time to act: Europe’s political response to fighting the manipulation of sports competitions” and decided to submit proposals of follow-up to the committee;

- **Emerging issues and priorities in the domains of Education, Youth and Sport:**

held an exchange of views with the participation of:

- Ms Francine Raveney, Deputy Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), Directorate of Anti-discrimination, DG II: Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe;
- Ms Ruxandra Pandea, co-ordinator of the youth campaign Democracy Here | Democracy Now of the Council of Europe;
- Mr Villano Qiriazzi, Head of the Education Department, Directorate of Democratic Participation, DG II: Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe.

Roberto Fasino, Dana Karanjac, Silvia Arzilli, Marc Gruber

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

Appendix 1:**Proposals by the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media on the Assembly's procedures and working methods****1. Proposals concerning the organisation of part-sessions and the running of plenary sittings**

1.1. The *deadline for tabling amendments* established by Rule 34.6 should be harmonised with the one stipulated for hybrid or online meetings by Rule 67.4.d, which provides that "amendments shall be tabled at least two working days before the opening of the sitting concerned".

1.2. Concerning the *discussion of amendments in plenary sitting*, the provision according to which "if a committee has not been able to adopt a position on amendments to its report that have been tabled, the floor shall be given to the rapporteur" (Rule 67.4.d) should also be applied when sessions are held under ordinary conditions.

1.3. The overall *speaking time allocated to rapporteurs during sittings* to present their report and to reply to speakers' statements should be not less than 12 minutes. It should not be established that this time is split in 7 minutes for the presentation and 5 minutes for the replies; the committee considers that the rapporteurs must be free to allocate the time which they have been given for their presentation and replies as they deem appropriate, as long as they do not exceed it.

1.4. The arrangement to close *online registration* 24 hours before the beginning of each sitting should be maintained, to allow notification of late changes while ensuring that lists of speakers and voters can be properly managed. However, a deadline of three days before the opening of a part-session must be maintained for sittings on Tuesday mornings and Wednesday mornings where electronic voting is to be used for elections.

2. Proposals concerning the functioning of committees and the running of their meetings

2.1. The possibility to take certain decisions by written consultation of the members via e-mail should be preserved. This could apply for example to procedural steps such as authorising the rapporteur to organise hearings or exchanges of views, or to be assisted by an expert for the drafting of a report. The Committee suggests, however, that decisions adopted by written consultation should in principle be consensual and that, if objections are raised, only in the case of real urgency, a majority decision could be adopted by written consultation.

2.2. Concerning the modalities of examination of draft reports and, in particular, as regards the presentation and consideration of amendments to preliminary draft texts which are submitted to the committee for adoption, as a general rule, these should be communicated in writing to the rapporteur, through the Secretariat, with short explanations (e.g. as provided by Rule 34.3) not less than 24 hours before the opening of the committee sitting when the preliminary draft texts should be discussed and adopted. This should not hamper, however, the possibility for the committee to consider simpler proposals which aim at improving the clarity of the text or proposals which the rapporteur might wish to introduce or to endorse.

2.3. The voting procedure for the adoption of individual paragraphs and sub-paragraphs of a draft text should be systematically simplified, and individual paragraphs and sub-paragraphs of a draft text should be considered agreed on by consensus if no one asks for the floor when they are called one by one by the chairperson. Explicit votes should take place only if there are amendments or objections, and on the text as a whole.

2.4. Concerning the modalities of examination of amendments to a text adopted by the committee and submitted to the Assembly (draft resolutions / draft recommendations), the committee should be entitled to express its position on amendments that have been tabled also proceeding as follows:

- grouping amendments supported by the rapporteur and consider that the position "in favour" is expressed by consensus, if no objections are raised;
- grouping amendments which the rapporteur does not support if they are interconnected, so that a coherent position (in favour or against) could be taken by a single vote on all of them considered together;
- consider that an amendment is withdrawn and falls down if no initiator or committee member takes the floor to introduce or support it when the committee is called to take position on it.