

SECRETARIAT

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28 June 2019

To the members of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg from 24 to 27 June 2019

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg from 24 to 27 June 2019, with Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **Monday 24 June 2019, from 2.30 to 3.30 pm**, as regards:
 - **Discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity: situation of LGBTI persons in Europe**: held an exchange of views on the situation of LGBTI persons in Europe in the light of the work of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) on the second review cycle of CM/Rec (2010)5, with the participation of:
 - Mr Morten Ruud, Vice-Chairperson of the CDDH and
 - Ms Katrin Hugendubel, Advocacy Director, ILGA-Europe;
 - **Sub-Committees**: approved changes in the composition of the Sub-Committee on Gender Equality, concerning Mr Pere López (Andorra, SOC) becoming a full member, and of the Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination, concerning Ms Eva López (Andorra, ALDE) becoming a full member;
- **Tuesday 25 June 2019, from 8.30 to 9.45 am**, as regards:
 - **Obstetrical and gynaecological violence** (*Rapporteur: Ms Maryvonne Blondin, France, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report;
 - **Ethnic profiling in Europe: a matter of high concern** (*Rapporteur: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC*): considered an information memorandum;
 - **Preserving Europe's linguistic, ethnic, cultural and national diversity** (*Rapporteur: Ms Miren Edurne Gorrotxategui, Spain, UEL*): considered an introductory memorandum;
 - **Work programme**: considered the work programme.
 - **Appointment of rapporteurs**:
 - appointed Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC) as rapporteur for report on *Preventing discrimination caused by the use of artificial intelligence* and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;

- appointed Mr Frank Heinrich (Germany, EPP/CD) as rapporteur for report on *Gender aspects and human rights implications of pornography* and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interests from Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) for her appointment as rapporteur for report on *Strengthening the fight against so-called "honour" crimes*;
- **Reporting back:** heard a report by Mr František Kopřiva (Czech Republic, ALDE) on his participation in the meeting of the Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller issues (CAHROM) on 11-14 June 2019 in Toulouse, France;
- **Tuesday 25 June 2019, from 2 to 3.30pm**, as regards:
 - **The Istanbul Convention on violence against women: achievements and challenges** (*Rapporteur: Ms Zita Gurmai, Hungary, SOC*): took position on the three amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution;
 - **The situation of Crimean Tatars** (*Rapporteur: Mr Manuel Tornare, Switzerland, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report;
 - **Combating Afrophobia in Europe:** considered and adopted a motion for a resolution on the above-mentioned topic, to be tabled on behalf of the Committee;
 - **Reply from the Committee of Ministers:** took note of the reply of the Committee of Ministers to Assembly Recommendation 2143 (2018) on *Protecting and promoting sign languages in Europe*;
 - **Preventing and combatting sexism:** held an exchange of views with Mr Charles Ramsden, Chair of the Gender Equality Commission of the Council of Europe (GEC) on Recommendation CM/Rec (2019)1 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on preventing and combating sexism, and on the implementation by member States of the Council of Europe Gender Equality Strategy 2018-2023;
 - **World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 6-8 November 2019):** added Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE) to the list of its representatives to the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the World Forum for Democracy (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - **OECD Global Parliamentary Network (Paris, 10 October 2019):** appointed Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC), M. Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE) and Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC) as members of the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the OECD Global Parliamentary Network (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - **Appointment of representatives** (*subject to the availability of funds*): appointed:
 - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), in her capacity as General Rapporteur on violence against women, to speak at the Conference of high representatives of Interior Ministers on Combating domestic violence on 24-25 September 2019 in Strasbourg;
 - Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) and Mr Damien Thiéry (Belgium, ALDE), to participate in the High-Level Conference organised on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), under the French Presidency of the Council of Europe Committee of Ministers, on 26-27 September 2019 in Paris;
 - **North-South Prize:** took note of the letter of the Chair of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre addressed to the President of the Assembly inviting members to propose nominations for this year's North-South Prize before 30 September 2019;
 - **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Paris, 12 September 2019 (Council of Europe Office);
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th part-session 2019 of the Assembly (30 September - 4 October);
 - Paris, 4 December 2019 (Council of Europe Office).

- **Wednesday 26 June 2019, holding a joint meeting with the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance from 3 to 3.30pm**, as regards:
 - **Parliamentary conference on “Counterstrategies against hate speech – Where are we and what is our goal?” to be held in Berlin on 14 October 2019**: heard a statement by Ms Gabriela Heinrich (Germany, SOC), General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, on the forthcoming parliamentary conference;
 - **Discrimination against Roma and Travellers in the field of housing** (*Rapporteur: Mr František Kopřiva, Czech Republic, ALDE*): held a hearing on the situation of Travellers as regards the right of housing, with the participation of:
 - Ms Marie Pichault, *Centre de Médiation des Gens du voyage et des Roms*, Belgium;
 - Mr Martin Collins, Co-Director, Pavee Point Traveller and Roma Centre, Ireland;
 - Mr Adrian Jones, National Federation of Gypsy Liaison Groups, United Kingdom;
- **Thursday 27 June 2019, holding a joint meeting with the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons from 8.45 to 10am**, with Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) and Ms Doris Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE), Chairperson of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, in the Chair, as regards:
 - **Concerted action against human trafficking** (*Rapporteur for report: Mr Vernon Coaker, United Kingdom, SOC; Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Isabelle Rauch, France, NR*): held a hearing on the gender dimension of the fight against human trafficking, with the participation of:
 - Mr Davor Derenčinović, President, Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA), Croatia;
 - Ms Annabel Canzian, Lawyer, Committee against Modern Slavery, France;
 - Ms Odette Herijgers, medical doctor, Advocacy for Refugee Rights in Greece, Eindhoven, Netherlands.

The Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg on 25 June 2019 from 9.45 to 10am with Mr Manuel Tornare (Switzerland, SOC), oldest member present, and then Ms Sanja Pavičević (Montenegro, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau**: elected by acclamation Ms Sanja Pavičević (Montenegro, SOC) as Chairperson, and postponed the election of the Vice-Chairperson to its next meeting;
- **Next meeting**: left it to its Chairperson to propose the date and place of the next meeting.

Liri Kopaçi-Di Michele, Sarah Burton, Giorgio Loddo, Elodie Fischer

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