



SECRETARIAT

AS/Ega (2019) CB 06
16 September 2019

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 12 September 2019

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Paris on 12 September 2019, with Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Obstetrical and gynaecological violence** (*Rapporteur: Ms Maryvonne Blondin, France, SOC*): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
- **The situation of Crimean Tatars** (*Rapporteur: Mr Manuel Tornare, Switzerland, SOC*): following a vote, decided to postpone the examination of a draft report to a future meeting;
- **Empowering women: promoting access to contraception in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Petra Bayr, Austria, SOC*): considered an information memorandum and authorised the rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Finland in the framework of the preparation of her report (*subject to the availability of funds*);
- **Ethnic profiling in Europe: a matter of high concern** (*Rapporteur: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC*): considered an information memorandum and held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Ms Aydan Iyguengoer, Head of Sector Awareness Raising, Technical Assistance & Capacity Building, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Vienna;
 - Mr Tamás Kádár, Deputy Director, European Network of Equality Bodies (Equinet), Brussels;
- **Preventing discrimination caused by the use of artificial intelligence** (*Rapporteur: Mr Christophe Lacroix, Belgium, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum and held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Ms Alice Coucke, Senior Machine Learning Scientist, Snips, Paris;
 - Ms Aydan Iyguengoer, Head of Sector Awareness Raising, Technical Assistance & Capacity Building, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Vienna;
- **Appointment of a rapporteur**: appointed Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC) as rapporteur for report on *Alleged violations of LGBTI+ rights in the Caucasus region* and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- **Reporting back**: heard a report by Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC) on his participation in the conference organised by the Open Society Justice Initiative on *The struggle against ethnic profiling in Europe: Lessons learned, good practices and future developments*, held in Valencia (Spain) on 28-30 June 2019;

- **Appointment of representative(s):** appointed:
 - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), in her capacity as General Rapporteur on Violence Against Women, to participate in the meeting of the Regional Steering Committee of the South Programme III of the Council of Europe and European Union on *Ensuring Sustainable Democratic Governance and Human Rights in the Southern Mediterranean*, to be held on 16 September 2019 in Brussels (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - Ms Violeta Tomić (Slovenia, UEL), in her capacity as General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people, to participate in the high-level conference organised by the Finnish Presidency of the Council of the European Union on *Advancing LGBTI Equality in the EU from 2020 and beyond*, on 23-24 September 2019 in Brussels; and in the *Round Table on homophobic and transphobic hate speech* organised under the French Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers and in parallel with the 25th anniversary of the European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance, on 26 September 2019 in Paris (*subject to the availability of funds*);
 - Ms Deborah Bergamini (Italy, EPP/CD) to participate in the Conference entitled *European experience with the Istanbul Convention*, organised by the Office of the Government of the Czech Republic, on 7 October 2019 in Prague (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC) to participate in the 5th IPCAN Seminar (Independent Police Complaints Authorities' Network), on 17 and 18 October 2019 in Paris (*subject to the availability of funds*);
 - left it to the Chairperson to appoint a representative to participate in the 25th meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings, on 18 October 2019 in Strasbourg;
- **OECD Global Parliamentary Network (Paris, 10-11 October 2019):** took note of the draft programme of the meeting of the OECD Global Parliamentary Network and added Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC) to the list of its representatives to the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in this event;
- **Activities of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance:** took note of the draft programme of the Parliamentary Conference on *Counterstrategies against hate speech – Where are we at and what is our goal?*, to be held in Berlin on 14 October 2019;
- **Activities of the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence:** took note of the draft programmes of the Parity debate *#NotInMyParliament: National and regional strategies*, to be held during the forthcoming IPU session in Belgrade on 16 October 2019, and of the Regional parliamentary seminar on *Sexism and violence against women*, to be held in Vilnius on 4 November 2019;
- **Revised Handbook for Parliamentarians on the Istanbul Convention:** took note of progress with the publication of the Handbook;
- **Next meetings:**
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th part-session 2019 of the Assembly (30 September - 4 October);
 - Paris, 4 December 2019 (Council of Europe Office).

Liri Kopaçi-Di Michele, Sarah Burton, Elodie Fischer

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