



SECRETARIAT

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4 October 2019

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg from 30 September to 3 October 2019

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg from 30 September to 3 October 2019:

- **Monday 30 September, from 2 to 2.50 pm, holding a joint meeting with the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable development** with Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, and Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, in the Chair, as regards:
 - **“Life after treatment” (for breast cancer)**: held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Ms Liz Egan, Team leader, Macmillan Working Through Cancer Programme, United Kingdom;
 - Ms Julie Daul, Occupational psychologist, *Ligue nationale contre le cancer*, Strasbourg;
- **Tuesday 1 October, from 8.30 to 10am**, with Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:
 - **Election of the Bureau of the Committee**: elected by acclamation Ms Feleknaş Uca (Turkey, UEL) as 3rd Vice-Chairperson, following the departure from the Assembly of the previous incumbent;
 - **The gender dimension of foreign policy** (*Rapporteur: Ms Petra Stienen, Netherlands, ALDE*): considered an information memorandum and held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Ms Nina Nordström, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Finland to the Council of Europe;
 - Ms Simone Filippini, President of the Leadership4SDGs Foundation, The Hague;
 - Ms Marie-Cécile Naves, PhD in Political Science, Director of the Gender and Geopolitics Observatory at the French Institute for International and Strategic Affairs (IRIS), Paris;
 - **Gender aspects and human rights implications of pornography** (*Rapporteur: Mr Frank Heinrich, Germany, EPP/CD*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Wednesday 2 October, from 2 to 3.30pm**, as regards:
 - **Discrimination against Roma and Travellers in the field of housing** (*Rapporteur: Mr František Kopřiva, Czech Republic, ALDE*): considered an information memorandum;

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- **Appointment of rapporteurs:** appointed:
 - Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow (Sweden, UEL) as rapporteur for report on *Combating Afrophobia in Europe* and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
 - Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), as rapporteur for report on *Preserving Europe's linguistic, ethnic, cultural and national diversity*, following the departure from the Assembly of the previous rapporteur, and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
 - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) as General Rapporteur on violence against women and heard from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
 - Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow (Sweden, UEL) as General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- **Composition of Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:
 - *Sub-Committee on Gender Equality:* Ms Els van Hoof (Belgium, EPP/CD) joining the Sub-Committee as a full member (instead of Ms Karin Brouwers) and Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC) as her alternate; Mr George Papandreou (Greece, SOC) joining the Sub-Committee as a full member and Mr Dimitrios Kairidis (Greece, EPP/CD) as his alternate; Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC) joining the Sub-Committee as a full member;
 - *Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities:* Ms Daria Safai (Belgium, NR) joining the Sub-Committee as a full member; Mr Dimitrios Kairidis (Greece, EPP/CD) joining the Sub-Committee as a full member and Mr Anastasios Chatzivasileiou (Greece, EPP/CD) as his alternate;
 - *Sub-Committee on Disability, Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination:* Ms Els van Hoof (Belgium, EPP/CD) joining the Sub-Committee as a full member (instead of Ms Karin Brouwers) and Mr Fourat Ben Chikha (Belgium, SOC) as her alternate; Ms Nina Kasimati (Greece, UEL) joining the Sub-Committee as a full member and Mr Anastasios Chatzivasileiou (Greece, EPP/CD) as her alternate;
- **Reply from the Committee of Ministers:** took note of the reply of the Committee of Ministers to Assembly Recommendation 2152 (2019) on *Promoting parliaments free of sexism and sexual harassment*;
- **Reporting back:** heard reports from:
 - Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC) on her participation in the afternoon session of the meeting of the Current Affairs Committee of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe, held in Stuttgart (Germany) on 28 June 2019;
 - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) and Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC) on their participation in the joint side event with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on Sexism, Harassment and Violence against Women Parliamentarians, held in Geneva (Switzerland) on 10 July 2019;
 - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) on her participation 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, held on 16 September 2019 in Brussels;
 - Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC) on her participation in the panel discussion on violence against women politicians, organised by the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) and the League of Women Voters on 19 September 2019, in Washington DC, USA;
 - Ms Violeta Tomić (Slovenia, UEL) on her participation 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, held on 23-24 September 2019 in Brussels;
 - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) on her participation in the Conference of High Representatives of Interior Ministers on Combating domestic violence on 24-25 September 2019 in Strasbourg;
 - Ms Violeta Tomić (Slovenia, UEL) on her participation 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;

- Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) on her participation 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;
- **Thursday, 3 October, from 8.30 to 9.15pm**, as regards:
 - **Obstetrical and gynaecological violence** (*Rapporteur: Ms Maryvonne Blondin, France, SOC*): took position on the 6 amendments tabled to the draft resolution and asked its Chairperson to propose that the amendment unanimously approved be declared as adopted by the Assembly under Rule 34.11 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure;
 - **Strengthening the fight against so-called "honour" crimes** (*Rapporteur: Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo, Monaco, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum;
 - **Appointment of representatives**: appointed:
 - Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow (Sweden, UEL) to participate in the 5th IPCAN Seminar (Independent Police Complaints Authorities' Network) on 17 and 18 October 2019 in Paris (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - Ms Jette Christensen (Norway, SOC) to participate in the Seminar on *Taking action to improve women's participation in public and political decision making*, organised by the Council of Europe and the Ministry of Labour and Social Protection of the Russian Federation, the Office of High Commissioner of Human Rights in the Russian Federation and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation, to be held in Sochi (Russian Federation), on 17 and 18 October 2019 (*subject to the availability of funds*);
 - 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 23rd ILGA-Europe Annual Conference, to be held on 23-26 October 2019 in Prague (*subject to the availability of funds*);
 - Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE) to participate in the 18th plenary meeting of the Ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (CAHROM), to be held on 28-31 October 2019 in Strasbourg (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC) to participate in a workshop organised by the Parliamentary Assembly during the 25th Lisbon Forum on *Parliamentary contribution towards achieving the UN Sustainable Development Goals: special focus on Gender Equality and Children's Rights*, to be held on 25 November 2019 in Lisbon (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - Ms Dubravka Filipovski (Serbia, EPP/CD) to participate in the Council of Europe contact visit to Armenia on the Istanbul Convention, from 31 October to 2 November 2019 (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - **Next meeting**: confirmed its next meeting as follows:
 - Paris, 4 December 2019 (Council of Europe Office).

The Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg on 3 October 2019 from 9.15 to 10am with Ms Sanja Pavičević (Montenegro, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Intersectional discrimination**: held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Ms Sarah Chander, Senior Advocacy Officer, European Network Against Racism (ENAR), Brussels;
 - Ms Hanane Karimi, Sociologist - University of Strasbourg, Associated expert - Centre for Intersectional Justice (CIJ), Strasbourg;
- **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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