



SECRETARIAT

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14 September 2020

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

Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on 11 September 2020

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting by videoconference on 11 September 2020 from 9.30am to 12pm and from 2pm to 4pm, with Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Preventing discrimination caused by the use of artificial intelligence** (*Rapporteur: Mr Christophe Lacroix, Belgium, SOC*): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution as amended and a draft recommendation;
- **Ethnic profiling in Europe: a matter of high concern** (*Rapporteur: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report;
- **The situation of Crimean Tatars** (*Rapporteur: Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Iceland, SOC*): took note of a written communication by the rapporteur and decided to hold a hearing at its next meeting;
- **New challenges to the Istanbul Convention**: held an exchange of views and adopted a statement entitled *PACE Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination reaffirms its support for the Istanbul Convention*;
- **Preserving Europe's linguistic, ethnic, cultural and national diversity** (*Rapporteur: Ms Elvira Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD*): heard a communication by the rapporteur and held a hearing with the participation of Ms Marie Hagsgård, Acting President of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities;
- **Strengthening the fight against so-called "honour" crimes** (*Rapporteur: Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo, Monaco, ALDE*): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Nazir Afzal, former Chief Prosecutor, United Kingdom;
- **Combating Afrophobia in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow, Sweden, UEL*): considered an information memorandum;
- **Gender aspects and human rights implications of pornography** (*Rapporteur: Mr Frank Heinrich, Germany, EPP/CD*): considered an information memorandum;
- **Tackling discrimination based on social origins** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Turkey, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;

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- **Work programme:** decided to ask the Bureau of the Assembly to refer to it for opinion the report on *Should politicians be prosecuted for statements made in the exercise of their mandate?* (rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC);
- **Appointment of a representative:** appointed Mr Fourat Ben Chikha (Belgium, SOC), in his capacity as General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people, to participate in the seminar on *The role of parliamentarians in protection of human rights in Europe* organised by the Polish Parliamentary Intergroup on LGBT Rights, to be held on 30 September 2020 in Warsaw (*subject to the availability of funds*);
- **Other business:** was informed by Ms Maryvonne Blondin (France, SOC) of developments following the adoption of Resolution 2306 (2019) on *Obstetrical and Gynaecological Violence*; was informed by Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow (Sweden, UEL), General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, about recent Islamophobic incidents in Scandinavia;
- **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Strasbourg, during the autumn part-session 2020 of the Assembly (12-16 October) (to be confirmed);
 - Paris, 27 November 2020 (Council of Europe Office).

Penelope Denu, Sarah Burton, Giorgio Loddo, Élodie Fischer

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