



SECRETARIAT

AS/Ega/CB (2021) 03

17 March 2021

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

### Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on 15 March 2021

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting by videoconference on 15 March 2021, from 9.45am to 12.15pm and from 1.45pm to 4pm, with Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Combating Afrophobia in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow, Sweden, UEL*): considered and approved a draft report, decided to change the title of the report to *Combating Afrophobia, or anti-Black racism, in Europe*, unanimously adopted a draft resolution, and accepted the proposal of the rapporteur to ask the Bureau of the Assembly that Ms E.Tendayi Achiume, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Contemporary forms of racism, be invited for the debate on his report;
- **Enhancing participation of women from under-represented groups in political and public decision-making** (*Rapporteur: Ms Eglantina Gjermeni, Albania, SOC*):
  - heard a communication from the rapporteur on the remote bilateral meetings held on 8, 9 and 16 February 2021 with representatives of the Netherlands;
  - considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
- **Gender aspects and human rights implications of pornography** (*Rapporteur: Mr Frank Heinrich, Germany, EPP/CD*): held a hearing with the participation of:
  - Prof. Clare McGlynn, Durham University Law School, United Kingdom,
  - Prof. Dr. Klaus M. Beier, Director, Institute of Sexology and Sexual Medicine, Charité University, Berlin;
- **Draft motions for a resolution**: adopted motions for a resolution on the following subjects, for tabling in the name of the committee:
  - For a fairer future: building on the lessons of the Covid-19 pandemic to promote equality in Europe;
  - The need to address discrimination on the basis of political opinion;
  - Sexual and reproductive health and rights;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2021: call for nominations**: took note of the procedure and the deadline of 30 April 2021 for the submission of nominations as well as the relevant information available on the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize website;
- **Tackling discrimination based on social origins** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Turkey, SOC*): approved a questionnaire to be addressed to national parliaments;

This document is available on the Parliamentary Assembly Extranet website (restricted area for PACE Members)

<http://assembly.coe.int/extranet>

- **Stopping harassment of women and men speaking out for the right to abort** (*Rapporteur: Ms Margreet De Boer, Netherlands, SOC*): considered an information document compiling replies to a questionnaire prepared by the rapporteur; held a hearing with the participation of:
  - Ms Rebecca Gomperts, Founder and Director, Women on Waves, Amsterdam;
  - Ms Vanessa Mendoza Cortés, President, Stop Violències, Andorra La Vella;
  - Ms Clara Serra Baiget, Human Rights Lawyer, Barcelona, Spain;
  - Ms Marta Lempart, Founder, All-Poland Women's Strike, Warsaw;
- **Justice and security for women in peace reconciliation** (*Rapporteur: Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk, Ukraine, ALDE*): held a hearing with the participation of:
  - Mr Fabián Salvioli, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion of truth, justice, reparation and guarantees of non-recurrence;
  - Mr Kevin Schumacher Deputy Executive Director, Women for Afghan Women Organisation (WAW).
- **Generation Equality Forum 2021, UN Women, 30 June to 2 July 2021, Paris**: was informed about the event planned in the runup to the Generation Equality Forum, to be organised by the committee and the French Permanent Representation to the Council of Europe, with the cooperation of the Council of Europe's Violence against Women Division, either during its meeting on 14 April 2021 or at a meeting during the PACE spring session;
- **World Forum for Democracy**: took note of two online events to take place in March in the framework of the 2021 World Forum for Democracy's "12 Months, 1 Question" campaign, on the theme for that month of "Inequality, democracy and climate change": an event on *Environmental rights and climate change in Europe: Hearing the voices of minorities and indigenous peoples*, co-organised by the Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities and the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance, to be held on 29 March 2021, and an event on *Unequal access to a safe, healthy and clean environment – a perfectly intersectional storm*, organised by the Sub-Committee on Gender Equality (date to be confirmed);
- **Appointment of a rapporteur**: appointed Ms Sena Nur Çelik (Turkey, NR) as rapporteur for opinion on *Gender mainstreaming of migration policies* and heard her declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
- **Next meetings**: confirmed its next meetings as follows:

*Committee:*

- Videoconference, 14 April 2021;
- Strasbourg, during the second part-session 2021 of the Assembly (19 to 23 April 2021);
- Paris, 18 May 2021 (Council of Europe Office) (*place and format to be confirmed*);
- Strasbourg, during the third part-session 2021 of the Assembly (21 to 25 June 2021);
- Paris, 15 September 2021 (Council of Europe Office) (*place and format to be confirmed*);
- Strasbourg, during the fourth part-session 2021 of the Assembly (27 September to 1 October 2021);
- Paris, 30 November 2021 (Council of Europe Office) (*place and format to be confirmed*).

*No Hate Parliamentary Alliance:*

- Stockholm, 2021, date to be confirmed.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Sub-Committee on Gender Equality and the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence**, meeting by videoconference on 15 March 2021 from 4.30pm to 5.45pm, with Ms Eglantina Gjermeni (Albania, SOC), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee and Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC), Coordinator of the Network, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Violence against women in the public and private spheres: measure it to end it. The importance of data collection and research in combating violence against women:** took part in the side-event organised jointly by the Sub-Committee and the Network in cooperation with Switzerland, during the 65<sup>th</sup> Committee of the Status of Women (CSW), with the participation of:
  - Ms Hanen Benzarti, Academic expert in gender-based violence, Ministry of Women, Family, Childhood and Seniors, Tunisia;
  - Ms Clara Cabrera Brasero, Ambassador-at-large for Gender Equality in Foreign Policy, Spain;
  - Ms Hilde Barstad, State Secretary for the Minister of Justice and Public Security, Norway;
  - Ms Sylvie Durrer, Director, Federal Office for Gender Equality, Switzerland;
  - Ms Åsa Regnér, Deputy Executive Director, Intergovernmental Support and Strategic Partnerships, UN Women (pre-recorded video);
  - Ms Delphine O, Ambassador, Secretary General of the Generation Equality Forum 2021, Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs, France;
  - Ms Cristina Fabre, Team Leader, Gender Based Violence, European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE);
  - Ms Petra Bayr, Chairperson of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination (moderator).

Penelope Denu, Sarah Burton, Giorgio Loddo, Élodie Fischer, Solène Falk

---

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director 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