



SECRETARIAT

AS/Ega/CB (2021) 09

17 September 2021

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in a hybrid manner on 15 September 2021

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting on 15 September 2021 from 10am to 12.30pm and from 2pm to 4.30pm in Strasbourg and by videoconference, with Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC) in the Chair as regards:

- **Combating rising hate against LGBTI people in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Fourat Ben Chikha, Belgium, SOC*): decided to request the opinion of the Venice Commission on the compatibility with international human rights standards of Act LXXIX of 2021 enacted by the Hungarian Parliament on 15 June 2021, in particular where it amends the following Acts: Act XXXI of 1997, Act XLVIII of 2008, Act CLXXXV of 2010, Act CCXI of 2011 and Act CXC of 2011, and notably as concerns its impact on the freedom to receive and impart information on subjects dealing with sexual orientation and gender identity and on other rights and freedoms of LGBTI people; considered and approved a draft report and adopted a draft resolution, as amended, and a draft recommendation;
- **Gender representation in the Parliamentary Assembly** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Petra Bayr, Austria, SOC; Rapporteur of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs: Ms Nicole Trisse, France, ALDE*): unanimously adopted an opinion including 12 amendments to the draft resolution;
- **Combating antisemitism in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Petra Bayr, Austria, SOC*): considered an information memorandum and held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Mr Michael Whine, ECRI member in respect of the United Kingdom, Chair of ECRI's Working Group on the fight against antisemitism;
 - Ms Karin Stögner, Professor and Chair of Sociology at the University of Passau;
 - Mr Elias Dray, President of the European Union of Jewish Students;
- **Discrimination against Roma and Travellers in the field of housing** (*Rapporteur: Mr František Kopřiva, Czech Republic, ALDE*): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended;
- **Gender aspects and human rights implications of pornography** (*Rapporteur: Mr Frank Heinrich, Germany, EPP/CD*): considered a draft report;
- **The Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (Istanbul Convention)**: heard a communication by Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC), General Rapporteur on violence against women on the follow up to the high-level panel and debate held by the Assembly on 23 June 2021 and the Gender Equality Forum held in Paris from 30 June to 2 July 2021;

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- **Stopping harassment of women and men speaking out for the right to abort** (*Rapporteur: Ms Margreet De Boer, Netherlands, SOC*): considered an information memorandum;
- **Closing the digital divide: promoting equal access to digital technologies** (*Rapporteur: Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Protecting the rights of Afghan women and girls**: heard a communication by Ms Isabelle Rauch (France, ALDE);
- **Appointment of representatives** (*subject to the availability of funds*): appointed:
 - Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC) to participate in the Kyiv Global Summit 2021 “Women. Trust. Peace” to be held in Kyiv and by videoconference, on 5 October 2021;
 - Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC) to participate in the International conference on *Women’s Access to Justice: Moving closer to full ratification and implementation of the Istanbul Convention*, organised by the joint EU-Council of Europe Programme Partnership for Good Governance II, in hybrid format, on 7-8 October 2021;
 - Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) to participate in the Conference on *The role of foreign policy in advancing gender equality: Addressing the challenges, pushbacks and obstacles faced by women*, organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Republic of Cyprus in partnership with the Council of Europe, in Nicosia, on 26 October 2021;
 - left it to its Chairperson to appoint a member to participate in the Conference on shared parenting organised by the World Parents Organisation, hosted by the Norwegian Government, in Oslo, on 19 November 2021;
- **World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 8 to 10 November 2021)**: appointed Ms Liliana Tanguy (France, ALDE) as member of the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the World Forum for Democracy, in addition to the members previously appointed by the committee (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
- **Reporting back**: heard a report by Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC) on her participation in the 7th Global Forum for Combating Antisemitism, organised by the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Israel, from 13 to 15 July 2021 in Jerusalem;
- **WorldPride in Copenhagen, 12 to 22 August 2021**: heard a communication by Mr Fourat Ben Chikha (Belgium, SOC), General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) people;
- **Next meetings**: confirmed its next meetings as follows:

Committee

- Strasbourg, during the 4th part of the 2021 session of the Assembly (27-30 September 2021);
- 30 November 2021, in Strasbourg and by videoconference.

No Hate Parliamentary Alliance

- Paris, 25 October 2021.

Penelope Denu, Sarah Burton, Giorgio Loddo, Élodie Fischer

Copy to:

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