



TO THE MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON LEGAL AFFAIRS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

Synopsis No 2002/093

5 September 2002

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 2 September 2002 with Mr Lintner (Germany, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- *Danger of bilateral immunity agreements for the International Criminal Court*: decided to make a request for an urgent debate on this matter and appointed Mr Marty (Switzerland, LDR) Rapporteur, should the Bureau accede to this request;
- *Legal situation of Roma in Europe*: decided to declassify the minutes of the hearing held on 4 March 2002 in Paris;
- *Preferential treatment of national minorities by their kin-state: the case of the Hungarian Status Law of 19 June 2001* (Rapporteur: Mr Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC): held an exchange of views and decided to consider a new revised draft report at a forthcoming meeting;
- *Protection of minorities in Belgium* (Rapporteur: Mrs Nabholz-Haidegger, Switzerland, LDR): considered and adopted a draft resolution and a draft order submitted by the Rapporteur;
- *Implementation by Turkey of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights* (Rapporteur: Mr Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC): considered and adopted a draft resolution and considered, amended and adopted a draft recommendation submitted by the Rapporteur;
- *Draft additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems*: appointed Mr Guardans (Spain, LDR) as its Rapporteur, and considered, amended and adopted a draft opinion submitted by the Rapporteur;
- *Racism, xenophobia and intolerance: the rise of far right-wing political parties in Europe* (Rapporteur: Mr McNamara, United Kingdom, SOC): considered an introductory memorandum submitted by the Rapporteur and considered changing the title of the report;
- *Situation in Belarus*: decided to postpone the appointment of a rapporteur for opinion to replace Mr Svoboda, and decided to set up a sub-committee to clarify the circumstances of disappearances for allegedly political reasons in Belarus composed as follows: Mr Akçali (Turkey, EDG), Mr Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC), Mr Clerfayt (Belgium, LDR), Mr de Aristegui (Spain, EPP/CD), Mr Kovalev (Russia, LDR), Mr Lippelt (Germany, LDR), Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC), Mr Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD), Mr Shybko (Ukraine, SOC) et Mr Stankevič (Lithuania, LDR);
- *Federal Republic of Yugoslavia's request for membership of the Council of Europe* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Lippelt, Germany, LDR): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, and was informed by Mr Prica (special guest, FRY) about the political situation in FRY, and particularly in Serbia;

- *Appointment of representatives:*
 - International Seminar to assess the more enduring negative consequences and new opportunities for Human Rights Defenders after 11 September 2001 (Crete (Greece), 18-21 September 2002), organised by the Martin Ennals Foundation for Human Rights Defenders: Mr Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD);
 - 5th meeting of the Exploratory Group for a European Roma Forum, Strasbourg, 19-20 September 2002: Mr Tabajdi (Hungary, SOC);
 - Conference on "The media in a democratic society: reconciling freedom of expression with the protection of human rights", organised by the Luxembourg Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers, Mondorf-les-Bains (Luxembourg), 30 September – 1 October 2002: Mr Olteanu (Romania, SOC);
 - 14th meeting of the Special Group of Roma/Gypsies (MG-S-ROM) and Seminar on Travellers, Dublin (Ireland), 14-16 October 2002: Mr Tabajdi (Hungary, SOC);
 - Parliamentary Conference on Minorities in the Enlarged European Union, organised by the Danish Parliament, Copenhagen, 6-7 November 2002: Mr Bindig (Germany, SOC) and Mr Budin (Italy, SOC) as replacement if Mr Bindig is unable;
- *Appointment of Rapporteurs:*
 - i. Reinforcing the common legal area of Greater Europe: Mr Olteanu (Romania, SOC);
 - ii. Establishment of an international criminal court to try persons responsible for acts of terrorism: Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC);
 - iii. Internet and the law: Mr Guardans (Spain, LDR);
 - iv. Eliminating excessively restrictive practices for issuing visas to citizens of East European States: Mr Shybko (Ukraine, SOC);
 - v. "Sexual exploitation of children: zero tolerance" (for opinion): Mr Piscitello (Italy, LDR)
- *Sub-Committee on Human Rights:* took note that Mr Demetriou (Cyprus, EPP/CD) had been replaced by Mr Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD) as a member;
- *Parliamentary Conference on the Stability Pact (Tirana, 14-16 October 2002):* decided to be represented at the Conference by its Sub-Committee on Penal Law and Criminology;
- *Next meetings:*
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's September 2002 part-session
 - . Paris, Monday 28 October 2002 at 9 h 30 (Council of Europe Office)
 - . Paris, Monday 25 November 2002 at 9 h 30 (Council of Europe Office) and Tuesday 26 November 2002 (Colloquy on "Areas where the European Convention on Human Rights cannot be implemented")
 - . Paris, Monday 16 December 2002 at 9 h 30 (Council of Europe Office)

Danielle Coin, Petr Sich, David Čupina, David Milner

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
 Director General to the Assembly
 Director and staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
 Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
 Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Directors General
 Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General
 Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
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