



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

### Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

Synopsis No 2002/113  
2 October 2002

**The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights**, meeting in Strasbourg from 23 to 26 September 2002, with first Mr Magnusson (Sweden, SOC), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson, then Mr Lintner (Germany, EPP) in the Chair, as regards:

- *Implementation by Turkey of decisions of the European Court of Human Rights* (Rapporteur: Mr Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC) took position on the amendments tabled to the draft resolution and draft recommendation;
- *Appointment of rapporteurs:*
  - i. Ensuring human rights in the Kaliningrad region in the context of European Union enlargement (for opinion): Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC);
  - ii. Situation in Belarus (for opinion): Mr Stankevič (Lithuania, LDR);
- decided to invite *Mr Sulygov, Special Representative of the President of the Russian Federation for Human Rights in Chechnya*, to its meeting on Tuesday 24 September 2002 at 14 h;

continuing its meeting on 24 September 2002,

- *Risks for the integrity of the International Criminal Court* (Rapporteur: Mr Marty, Switzerland, LDR): considered, amended and adopted a draft resolution, and considered and adopted a draft recommendation submitted by the Rapporteur;
- *Areas where the European Convention on Human Rights cannot be implemented* (Rapporteur: Mr Magnusson, Sweden, SOC): considered and approved a draft programme for the Colloquy to take place in Paris on 26 November 2002;
- *Sexual exploitation of children: zero tolerance* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Piscitello, Italy, LDR): considered a draft resolution tabled by the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, and considered, amended and approved an opinion submitted by the Rapporteur;
- *Ensuring human rights in the Kaliningrad region in the context of European Union enlargement* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr McNamara, United Kingdom, SOC): considered a draft resolution tabled by the Political Affairs Committee and considered and approved an opinion submitted by the Rapporteur;

continuing its meeting on 25 September 2002 with Mr Lintner in the Chair,

- *Situation in Belarus* (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Stankevič, Lithuania, LDR): considered a report tabled by the Political Affairs Committee, and considered and approved a draft opinion and amendments submitted by the Rapporteur;
- *Fundamental rights and freedoms of the Greek Cypriots and the Maronites living in the northern area of Cyprus* (Rapporteur: Mr Marty, Switzerland, LDR): considered a draft resolution submitted by the Rapporteur, and agreed to postpone its adoption to a forthcoming meeting of the Committee;

continuing its meeting on 26 September 2002,

- *Protection of minorities in Belgium* (Rapporteur: Mrs Nabholz-Haidegger, Switzerland, LDR): took position on amendments to the draft resolution;
- *Draft additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime concerning the criminalisation of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems* (Rapporteur: Mr Guardans, Spain, LDR): authorised the Chairperson, in the absence of the Rapporteur, to present the report before the Assembly and take position on amendments on behalf of the Committee;
- *Protection of sign languages in member States* (Rapporteur: Mr Bruce, United Kingdom, LDR): considered a draft recommendation submitted by the Rapporteur, and authorised the Rapporteur to visit Finland, the Czech Republic and/or Slovakia to assist in completion of his report;
- *References to the Committee*: considered a list of references which were due to lapse and authorised the Chairperson to apply for their prolongation;
- *Appointment of rapporteurs*:
  - i. Ombudsman institution: Mrs Nabholz-Haidegger (Switzerland, LDR);
  - ii. The United States of America and international law: Mr Lloyd (United Kingdom, SOC)
  - iii. Videosurveillance in public areas: Mr Guardans (Spain, LDR)
  - iv. Serious violations of law in the case of Mr Slobodan Milosevic: asked the Chairperson to write to the Bureau stating that the Committee did not think it appropriate that a parliamentary body should be interfering in pending judicial proceedings, that it thought a more appropriate title would state that the "serious violations" were "alleged", and calling on the Bureau to withdraw the proposed report;
- *Appointment of representatives to conferences, meetings, seminars, etc.:*
  - i. Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) (Strasbourg, 1-4 October 2002): Mr Olteanu (Romania, SOC);
  - ii. Meeting of the Group of States Against Corruption (GRECO) (Strasbourg, 15-17 October 2002): Mr Berisha (Albania, EPP);
  - iii. 3<sup>rd</sup> Meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections (of the Venice Commission) (Venice, 16 October 2002) and meeting of the European Commission for Democracy through Law ("Venice Commission") (Venice, 18-19 October 2002): Mr Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC);
  - iv. Seminar "Roma participation in Europe – The way forward" (Strasbourg, 21 October 2002): Mr Tabajdi (Hungary, SOC)
  - v. Hearing on euthanasia, organised by the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee (Paris, 25 October 2002): Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC);

- *Reports on conferences, meetings, seminars, etc:*
  - . European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) (Strasbourg, 25-28 June 2002): heard a report from its representative Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC);
- *Next meetings:*
  - . Paris, Monday 28 October 2002 at 9 h 30 (French National Assembly)
  - . 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") (World Bank)
  - . Paris, Monday 16 December 2002 at 9 h 30 (Council of Europe Office)
  - . Paris, Friday 10 January 2003 at 9 h 30 (Council of Europe Office)

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**Ad hoc Sub-Committee to clarify the circumstances of disappearances for allegedly political reasons in Belarus**, meeting in Strasbourg on 24 and 26 September 2002 with Mr Mr Akçali, oldest member present, in the Chair:

- elected by acclamation Mr S. Kovalev (Russia, SOC) *Chairperson*;
- then, continuing its meeting with Mr Kovalev in the Chair,
- elected by acclamation Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC) *Vice-Chairperson*;
  - decided to officially inform the Belarus authorities of its existence, ask the government of Belarus to reply to a list of questions, and to consider the replies to those questions at its next meeting;
  - *Next meeting:*
    - . Paris, Wednesday 27 November 2002 at 9 h (Council of Europe Office)

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**Sub-Committee on Human Rights, of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights**, meeting in Strasbourg on 26 September 2002 with Mrs Wohlwend (Luxembourg, EPP), then Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC), Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

- held an *exchange of views with the Chairperson of the Ministers' Deputies, Ambassador Gérard Philipps, and with the Chairperson of the Rapporteur Group on Human Rights of Ministers' Deputies, Ambassador Justin Harman*;
- *European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT)*: considered the list of candidates to the CPT on behalf of Liechtenstein;
- *Abolition of the death penalty in Council of Europe observer States* (Rapporteur: Mrs Wohlwend, Liechtenstein, EPP): heard a report on the preparation of the Seminar on the death penalty in the United States of America;
- *Next meeting:*
  - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's January 2003 part-session

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**Sub-Committee on Penal Law and Criminology**, of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Strasbourg on 23 September 2002 with Mr Akçali (Turkey, EDG), oldest member present, in the Chair:

- elected by acclamation Mr Jaskiernia (Poland, SOC) *Chairperson* ;

then, continuing its meeting with Mr Jaskiernia in the Chair,

- elected by acclamation Mr Olteanu (Romania, SOC) *Vice-Chairperson*;
- *Parliamentary Conference on the Stability Pact (Tirana, 14-16 October 2002)*: took note of a programme for the Conference, and decided to hold its next meeting on the occasion of the Conference;
- *Next meeting*:  
. Tirana (Albania), 14-16 October 2002

Danielle Coin, Petr Sich, David Čupina, David Milner

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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  
Director of Communication and Research  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe