

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

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

Synopsis No 2004/49
23 April 2004

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 21 April 2004 with Mr Marty (Switzerland, LDR), 1st Vice-Chairperson, and then Mr Jaskiernia (Poland, SOC), 2nd Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- *Draft Protocol No 14 to the European Convention on Human Rights, amending the control system of the Convention*: appointed Mr McNamara (United Kingdom, SOC) as Rapporteur and adopted a draft opinion;
- *Abolition of the death penalty in Council of Europe observer states* (Rapporteur: Mrs Wohlwend, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD): decided to invite the President of the Assembly to rejoin, on behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly, the EU *amicus curiae* brief in the US Supreme Court case of *Roper v. Simmons* and to ask the EU coordinator to attach the Statement of Interest adopted by the Committee. The Committee further decided to invite the President of the Assembly to contact the Chair of the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe to propose a joint transmission of these documents on behalf of the Council of Europe as a whole;
- *Areas where the European Convention on Human Rights cannot be implemented* (Rapporteur: Mr Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD): had a preliminary consideration of the Committee of Ministers' reply to Recommendation 1606 (2003);
- *Meeting in Berlin*: took note of the draft programme for the meeting to be held in Berlin on 7-8 June 2004;
- *Disappeared persons in Belarus* (Rapporteur: Mr Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD): decided to invite Mr Vassiliy Leonov to the meeting of the Committee during the April part-session at which the issue will be discussed, and to inform representatives of Belarusian political parties then present in Strasbourg of the Committee's work and of the above-mentioned meeting;

- *European Federation of Research and Information Centres on Sectarism (FECRIS) (request for consultative status with the Council of Europe)* (Rapporteur: Mr Marty, Switzerland, SOC): held a preliminary discussion on a draft report and decided to continue consideration of it at a meeting during the April part-session;
- *Next meetings:*
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's April 2004 part-session
 - . Berlin (Germany), Monday 7 and Tuesday 8 June 2004
 - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's June 2004 part-session

Danielle Coin, Günter Schirmer, David Milner

cc: Secretary General and 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 of the Council of Europe
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication and Research

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe