

17 March 2006
Synopsis No 2006/25

To the Members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 13 March 2006

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 13 March 2006 with Mr Marty (Switzerland, ALDE), in the Chair, as regards:

- **Human rights of members of the armed forces** (*Rapporteur: Mr Arabadjiev, Bulgaria, SOC*): considered and approved a report and adopted a draft recommendation with a view to their presentation at the April 2006 part-session;
 - **Work programme: priorities for 2006**: held an exchange of views and approved a revised memorandum on this subject;
 - **Preserving and strengthening the leading role of the Council of Europe, also in relation to the European Union, in setting basic legal standards within Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC*):
 - held an exchange of views on, inter alia, the proposed Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union, with Mrs Kinga Gál (EPP/CD) and Mr Cem Özdemir (The Greens/European Free Alliance), members of the European Parliament;
 - decided to declassify the part of the draft minutes concerning this exchange of views;
- (item discussed with Mr Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:)
- **Alleged secret detentions in Council of Europe member states** (*Rapporteur: Mr Marty, Switzerland, ALDE*):
 - heard a statement by the Rapporteur and by Mr Terry Davis, Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
 - had an exchange of views with Mr Giovanni Fava, MEP (SOC), Rapporteur of the EP Temporary Committee on the alleged use of European countries by the CIA for the transportation and illegal detention of prisoners (TDIP) ;
 - authorised the Rapporteur to keep certain information he is dealing with confidential;
 - pronounced itself in favour of the presentation of the report at the 3rd part-session in June;
 - **Video surveillance of public areas** (*Rapporteur: Mr Sharandin, Russian Federation, EDG*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and authorised him to undertake fact-finding visits to London, Madrid and Vienna (subject to available Assembly budgetary funds);
 - **European prisons Charter** (*Rapporteur: Mr Hunault, France, EDG*): held a preliminary discussion on a draft report;
 - decided to continue the discussion of the draft report at the 2nd part-session in April, on the basis of a revised draft report;
 - decided to invite a representative of the CPT to participate in this discussion;

- **Social reintegration of prisoners** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Hunault, France, EDG*): considered a report tabled by the Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, heard a statement of the Rapporteur for opinion and instructed him to present an oral opinion at the debate on the report at the 2nd part-session in April;
- **Fair trial issues in criminal cases concerning espionage or divulging state secrets** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/DC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and authorised him to invite to its meeting on 7 June two experts concerning the case of Mr Danilov;
- **Member states' duty to cooperate with the European Court of Human Rights** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and invited him to submit to the Committee, at one of its next meetings, an information memorandum regarding the proposed public hearing;
- **Appointment of a rapporteur**: appointed Mr Andreas Gross (Switzerland, SOC) Rapporteur on *Imvros and Tenedos*;
- **Appointment of representatives of the Committee**: appointed the following representatives:
 - i. Steering Committee on Legal Cooperation (CDCJ) (Strasbourg, 22-24 March 2006): left it to its Chairperson to appoint a representative;
 - ii. Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) (Strasbourg, 4-7 April 2006): Mrs Bemelmans-Videc (Netherlands, EPP/CD);
- **Sub-Committee on Rights of Minorities**: appointed Lord Tomlinson (United Kingdom, SOC) alternate of Mr Lloyd;
- **Next meetings**:

Plenary Committee:

 - Strasbourg, during the 2nd part-session of 2006 (10-13 April)
 - Budapest (Hungary), Thursday 18 May 2006 (Council of Europe Youth Centre)
 - Paris, Wednesday 7 June 2006 at 9 h (Council of Europe office) (*to be confirmed*)

Sub-Committee on the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights:

 - Strasbourg, Monday 10 April 2006 at 13 h 30

Sub-Committee on Human Rights:

 - Strasbourg, during the 2nd part-session of 2006 (10-13 April)

Sub-Committee on Rights of Minorities:

 - Strasbourg, during the 2nd part-session of 2006 (10-13 April)
 - The Hague (Netherlands), 28 April 2006 (morning) (Hearing on the use of minority languages in the broadcast media)
 - Budapest (Hungary), Wednesday 17 May 2006 (Council of Europe Youth Centre)

Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism:

 - Strasbourg, during the 2nd part-session of 2006 (10-13 April)
 - The Hague (Netherlands), 27-28 April 2006 (Hearing on the International Criminal Court)
 - Budapest (Hungary), Wednesday 17 May 2006 (Council of Europe Youth Centre)

Andrew Drzemczewski, Günter Schirmer, Isild Heurtin

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