



Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme

SECRETARIAT

2 June 2010
Synopsis AS/Jur No 2010/04

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

Synopsis of the meetings held in Paris on 31 May 2010

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 31 May 2010 with Mr Christos Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Legal remedies for human rights violations in the North-Caucasus Region** (*Rapporteur: Mr Dick Marty, Switzerland, ALDE*): considered and approved a report and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to presenting them at the Assembly's June 2010 part-session;
- **Fight against extremism: achievements, deficiencies and failures** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Pietro Marcenaro, Italy, SOC*): in the absence of the rapporteur, considered a report tabled by the Political Affairs Committee, and approved an opinion and five amendments to the draft resolution and recommendation;
- **The protection of witnesses as a cornerstone for justice and reconciliation in the Balkans** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto, Monaco, EPP/CD*): considered a preliminary draft explanatory memorandum;
- **Consideration of a motion for a resolution sent to the Committee for consultation on possible follow-up:**
 - *Identity documents and databases*: decided to recommend to the Bureau that this motion be referred to the Committee for information;
- **Appointment of rapporteurs :**
 - *Islam, Islamism and Islamophobia in Europe (for opinion)*: Mr Rafael Huseynov (Azerbaijan, ALDE)
- **Human rights and business** (*Rapporteur: Mr Holger Haibach, Germany, EPP/CD*): held a hearing with the participation of:
 - Professor Emmanuel Decaux, Vice-Chair of the French National Consultative Commission on Human Rights (Paris)
 - Professor David Kinley, Chair in Human Rights Law, University of Sydney (Australia)
 - Dr Jernej Letnar Čerňič, European University Institute (Italy)
 - Dr René Schmidpeter, Project Manager, Corporate Social Responsibility Programme, Bertelsmann Stiftung (Germany)

- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to recommendations emanating from the Committee:**
took note of the following replies:
 - The protection of human rights in emergency situations (Recommendation 1865 (2009))
 - The situation of human rights defenders in Council of Europe member states (Recommendation 1866 (2009))
 - The state of human rights in Europe: the need to eradicate impunity (Recommendation 1876 (2009))
- **Appointment of representatives of the Committee:**
 - Conference on the integration of national minorities in Europe (Skopje (“the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”), 7-8 June 2010): Mr Boriss Cilevics (Latvia, SOC) (*at no cost to the Assembly*)
- **The obligation of member states of the Council of Europe to co-operate in prosecution of war crimes** (*Rapporteur: Mr Miljenko Dorić, Croatia, ALDE*): declassified an introductory memorandum by the rapporteur (document AS/Jur (2010) 14);
- **Request for an investigation to clarify the allegedly suspicious death of former President Boris Trajkovski of "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC*): decided to ask the Bureau for a new extension of the mandate until 31 December 2010;
- **The follow-up to the issue of political prisoners in Azerbaijan and The definition of political prisoners** (*Rapporteur: Mr Christoph Strässer, Germany, SOC*): decided to hold a hearing, with the participation of experts, at a forthcoming meeting;
- **Drafting an additional protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights: basic standards for national minorities** (*Rapporteur: Mr György Frunda, Romania, EPP/CD*): authorised the rapporteur to call upon an expert to assist him with the preparation of his report;
- **Next meetings:**

Plenary Committee:

 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 3rd part-session of 2010 (21-25 June 2010)
 - Georgia, Thursday 16 and Friday 17 September 2010
 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4th part-session of 2010 (4-8 October 2010)

Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights:

 - Paris, Wednesday 8 September 2010 (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)

The Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), meeting in Paris on 31 May 2010, with Ms Renate Wohlwend (Liechtenstein, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Hearings:** held hearings with the candidates to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Germany and Malta and adopted its recommendations for the attention of the Bureau of the Assembly with respect to the candidates from these countries;
- **Next meeting:**
 - Paris, Wednesday 8 September 2010 (Council of Europe Office) *(to be confirmed)*

Andrew Drzemczewski, Mario Heinrich, Agnieszka Szklanna, Grégory Thuan

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
 Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
 Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
 Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
 Observers to the Assembly

Secretary General of the Congress
 Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
 Directors General
 Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisational Development and Reform
 Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
 Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
 Director of Communication

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