



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

SECRETARIAT

18 November 2011
Synopsis AS/Jur No 2011/08

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 16 November 2011

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 16 November 2011 with Mr Christos Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD) in the Chair and subsequently Mr Serhiy Holovaty (Ukraine, ALDE), as regards:

- **Guaranteeing the authority and effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Videc, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to presenting them at the Assembly's first part-session in January 2012;
- **International Convention for the Protection of all Persons from Enforced Disappearances** (*Rapporteur: Mr Christos Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation;
- **Drafting an additional protocol to the European Convention for Human Rights: basic standards for national minorities** (*Rapporteur: Mr György Frunda, Romania, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a draft report and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation and decided to change the title of the report to "An additional protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights on national minorities";
- **Ad Hoc judges at the European Court of Human Rights: an overview** (*Rapporteur: Mrs Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Videc, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): considered and approved an information report and decided to declassify it;
- **Protection orders for victims of domestic violence** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Arcadio Díaz Tejera, Spain, SOC*): considered and approved unanimously the Committee's opinion with a view to presenting it at the debate at the Standing Committee in Edinburgh on 25 November 2011;
- **Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism**: heard a report on the meeting held in Belgrade (Serbia), on 28 October 2011, by the Vice-Chair of the Sub-Committee, Mr Tuğrul Türkeş (Turkey, EDG);
- **Appointment of rapporteurs**
 - **The accession of non-member states to the Council of Europe conventions**: appointed Mr Rafael Huseynov (Azerbaijan, ALDE);
 - **The European Convention on Nationality: application and solution proposals**: appointed Ms Elsa Papadimitriou (Greece, EPP/CD);
 - **Securing the fundamental right to equality between women and men in the European Convention on Human Rights (for opinion)**: appointed Mr György Frunda, (Romania, EPP/CD);

- **Situation of Roma in Bulgaria:** heard a statement by the Vice-Chairperson of the Bulgarian Delegation of the Parliamentary Assembly, Mr Krasimir Minchev (Bulgaria, EPP/CD) and held an exchange of views with the participation of a representative of the European Roma and Traveller's forum, Mr Robert Rustem;
- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to recommendations emanating from the Committee:** took note of two replies from the Committee of Ministers relating to "*The European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages*" and "*Human rights and business*";
- **Other business:**
 - Agreed to the participation of Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC) in the "Forum on Minority Issues", organised by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Geneva, 29-30 November 2011, subject to the availability of funds;
 - Agreed on a proposal by the Chair of the Sub-Committee on Human Rights, Mrs Bemelmans-Videc (Netherlands, EPP/CD) concerning the procedure to be followed at the meeting of the Sub-Committee on 13 December 2011, regarding the interviews for the post of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights.
- **Next meetings**

Plenary Committee:

 - Paris, 13 December 2011, 9am-1pm (Council of Europe Office)
 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's first part session of 2012 (23-27 January 2012)

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

 - Paris, 12 December 2011, 4pm-6.30 pm (Council of Europe Office)

Sub-Committee on Human Rights:

 - Paris, 13 December 2011, 2.30-5.30pm (Council of Europe Office)

Andrew Drzemczewski, Günter Schirmer, Agnieszka Szklanna, Roland Klages

- cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
 Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
 Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
 Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
 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
 Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe