



SECRETARIAT

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29 May 2018

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

Revised Synopsis of the meeting held in Reykjavik, Iceland on 22-23 May 2018

[YELLOW HIGHLIGHTING INDICATES CHANGES SINCE THE LAST ISSUE]

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Reykjavik on 22-23 May 2018, with Mr Frank Schwabe (Germany, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- on Tuesday 22 May 2018 at 2 pm,
- **Opening session:** heard a welcoming address and opening statement by Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir (Iceland, UEL), Chairperson of the Icelandic PACE delegation;
- **Detainees with disabilities in Europe** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Switzerland, SOC*) (*Rapporteur for the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination: Mr Manuel Tornare, Switzerland, SOC*): considered and approved the Committee's opinion;
- **How can inappropriate restrictions on NGO activities in Europe be prevented?** (*Rapporteur: Mr Yves Cruchten, Luxembourg, SOC*): agreed to change the title of the report from "How can inappropriate restrictions on NGO activities in Europe be prevented?" to "New restrictions on NGO activities in Council of Europe member States"; considered a draft report and adopted a draft resolution and unanimously adopted a draft recommendation;
- **Protecting human rights defenders in Council of Europe member States** (*Rapporteur: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD*): considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation. Took note that a dissenting opinion from Mr Mustafa Yeneroğlu (Turkey, FDG) had been received and would be appended to the report;
- **Request for the creation of a General Rapporteurship on the protection of Human Rights Defenders:** held a discussion on the possibility of creating a general rapporteurship and decided to return to the subject during the June part-session;
- **Extradition requests and the abuse of process** (*Rapporteur: Mr Aleksander Pocij, Poland, EPP/CD*): considered an introductory memorandum; authorised the Rapporteur to attend the PC-OC meeting on 20 June 2018 in Strasbourg, the holding of a hearing with experts and an exchange of views with a senior representative of Interpol, all subject to the availability of funds;
- **Ensuring greater follow-up of CPT recommendations: enhanced role of the Parliamentary Assembly and of national parliaments** (*Rapporteur: Mr Damir Arnaut, Bosnia and Herzegovina, EPP/CD*): agreed to the request of the Rapporteur (in absentia) to postpone this item until the June part-session;

- **Protecting human rights during transfers of prisoners** (*Rapporteur: Mr Emmanuel Mallia, Malta, SOC*): agreed to the request of the Rapporteur (in absentia) to postpone the discussion of this item until the June part-session and to authorise the holding of a hearing with experts also in June, subject to the availability of funds, and the circulation of a questionnaire to national parliaments;
- **Other business:**
 - **The legal and practical requirements for extra-territorial processing of asylum claims** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD*): heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest from Mr Vareikis who had been appointed in absentia at the meeting of the Committee on 13 November 2017;
- **on Wednesday 23 May 2018 at 9.30 am,**
- **New challenges in the fight against organised crime and money laundering – the need to improve international co-operation** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mart van de Ven, Netherlands, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum and agreed to the Rapporteur's request to hold a hearing with experts during the June part-session, subject to the availability of funds;
- **Investment migration: trends, advantages, standards**: decided to request the Bureau to be seized for opinion on the report of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons on this topic;
- **Sergei Magnitsky and beyond – fighting impunity by targeted sanctions** (*Rapporteur: Lord Donald Anderson, United Kingdom, SOC*): held an exchange of views with the participation of Senator Raynell Andreychuk, Senate of Canada;
- **Fighting corruption – Iceland's experience of preventing corruption in respect of members of parliament (open to the media)**: held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Sigríður Á Andersen, Minister of Justice, Iceland, Ms Þórhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, member of the Icelandic delegation to PACE, and Mr Jón Ólafsson, Chairperson of Gagnsæi (association against corruption) and Chairperson of a governmental working group on trust in politics and public administration;
- **Ombudsman Institutions in Europe – the need for a set of common standards** (*Rapporteur: Lord Richard Balfe, United Kingdom, EC*): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Tryggvi Gunnarsson, the Althing Ombudsman, and Ms Catherine De Bruecker, Federal Ombudsman of Belgium (French speaking);
- **Next meetings**: took note of the forthcoming meetings:

Plenary Committee:

- Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 3rd part-session of 2018 (25-29 June 2018)
- Paris, 10 September 2018 (Council of Europe Office)
- Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4th part-session of 2018 (8-12 October 2018)
- Paris, 13 December 2018 (Council of Europe Office).

Günter Schirmer, David Milner, Agnieszka Szklanna

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