



SECRETARIAT

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3 June 2019

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 28-29 May 2019

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 28 May 2019 at 2pm, with Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- ***The need to shed light on the background of the murder of Boris Nemtsov*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Emanuelis Zingeris, Lithuania, EPP/CD*): considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution; changed the title of the report to: “Shedding light on the murder of Boris Nemtsov”.
- ***Human rights and climate change***: postponed until the June part-session 2019;
- ***Drug policy and human rights in Europe: a baseline study*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Hannah Bardell, United Kingdom, NR*): considered an introductory memorandum and watched a video recorded in a drug consumption room in Strasbourg; authorised fact-finding visits to Portugal, Scotland and the drug consumption room in Strasbourg with only the visit to Portugal being at cost to the Assembly and subject to the availability of funds;
- ***The protection of freedom of religion or belief in the workplace*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Davor Stier, Croatia, EPP/CD*): considered an introductory memorandum; agreed to send a questionnaire to national parliaments and to authorise a hearing with a maximum of three experts, subject to the availability of funds;
- **on Wednesday 29 May 2019 at 9.30am** as regards:
 - ***Daphne Caruana Galizia’s assassination and the rule of law, in Malta and beyond: ensuring that the whole truth emerges*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pieter Omtzigt, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): considered a draft report and adopted a draft resolution; took note of the intention of Mr Emmanuel Mallia (Malta, SOC) to submit a dissenting opinion to the report;
 - ***Improving the protection of whistleblowers all over Europe (open to the public)*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Sylvain Waserman France, ALDE*): held a public hearing with the participation of:

Ms Virginie Rozière, European Parliament rapporteur on the European Union whistle-blower directive, Group of the Progressive Alliance of Socialists and Democrats (S&D) in the European Parliament, France;

Ms Nicole-Marie Meyer, Whistleblower and Director of Ethics Alerts, Transparency International France;
Mr Jean-Philippe Foegle, *Maison des Lanceurs d’Alertes* (association for the protection of whistleblowers), France;

- **Ombudsman Institutions in Europe – the need for a set of common standards** (*open to the public*) (*Rapporteur: Lord Richard Balfe, United Kingdom, EC*): held a public exchange of views with Mr Igli Totozani, former People’s Advocate of Albania and expert of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission);

- **Appointment of rapporteurs:**

- **For report:**

- **The human being-machine connection: new rights or new threats to fundamental freedoms?:** appointed Mr Olivier Becht (France, ALDE) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- **To put an end to enforced disappearances on the territory of the Council of Europe:** appointed Mr André Gattolin (France, NR) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- **Legal aspects of “autonomous” vehicles:** appointed Mr Ziya Altunyaldiz (Turkey, NR) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- **How to put confiscated criminal assets to good use?:** appointed Mr André Vallini (France, SOC) in absentia, subject to his making a declaration of absence of conflict of interest at a future meeting;

- **For opinion:**

- **Investment migration: trends, advantages, standards:** appointed Mr Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands, EPP/CD) and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interests; (*Rapporteur for the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons: Mr Aleksander Pocij, Poland, EPP/C*);

- **Work Programme:** postponed until the June part-session 2019;

- **Hearings during the next meeting:** decided to open the following hearings foreseen for the next meeting during the June part-session to the public:

- **The continuing need to restore human rights and the rule of law in the North Caucasus region** (*Rapporteur: Mr Frank Schwabe, Germany, SOC*)
- **Human rights and business – what follow-up to Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)3?** (*Rapporteur: Mr Elshad Hasanov, Azerbaijan, FDG*);

- **Other business:**

- **“European Dialogue on Internet Governance (EuroDIG)”, The Hague, Netherlands on 19-20 June 2019:** agreed to authorise the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Lord Balfe (United Kingdom, EC) and its Vice-Chair, Mr Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands, EPP/CD) to attend, at no cost to the Assembly;
- **“Global Conference for Media Freedom” organised by the Government of the United Kingdom in London on 10-11 July 2019:** agreed to authorise the attendance of Mr Emanuelis Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD) at this event, at no cost to the Assembly;

- **Next meetings:**

Plenary Committee:

- Strasbourg, during the Assembly’s 3rd part-session of 2019 (24-28 June 2019)
- Strasbourg, during the Assembly’s 4th part-session of 2019 (30 September - 4 October 2019)
- Berlin, 14-15 November 2019
- Paris, 10 December 2019 (Council of Europe Office) (to be confirmed)

The Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), meeting in Paris on Wednesday 29 May 2019 at 3pm, with Lord Balfe (United Kingdom, EC), in the Chair and with Mr Yannick Meneceur (Council of Europe Policy Advisor on Artificial Intelligence) as moderator, as regards:

- **Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights:** held a hearing on the following aspects of the subject with the participation of :
 - **General introduction to artificial intelligence:**
Dr Claude Castelluccia, Head of the Privatics Group, National Institute for computer science and applied mathematics (INRIA), France
 - **Artificial intelligence in judicial systems:**
Prof. Giuseppe Contissa, Department of Legal Studies, University of Bologna, Italy
 - **Ethical issues and regulation of artificial intelligence**
Prof. Karen Yeung, Birmingham Law School and School of Computer Science, University of Birmingham, UK (live video conference)
 - **Council of Europe – current and future activities concerning artificial intelligence**
Ambassador Corina Călugăru, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Moldova, Committee of Ministers' Thematic Co-ordinator on Information Policy (TC-INF), Council of Europe
 - **Conclusions**
Mr Yannick Meneceur, Council of Europe Policy Advisor on Artificial Intelligence
Lord Richard Balfe, Chairperson of the Sub-committee
- **Next meeting:** left it up to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

Günter Schirmer, David Milner, Agnieszka Szklanna

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
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
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