



SECRETARIAT

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20 January 2021

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

### Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on 19 January 2021

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting by videoconference on 19 January 2021, with Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Emergence of lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS) and their necessary apprehension through European human rights law** (*Rapporteur: Mr Fabien Gouttefarde, France, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum and agreed to the Rapporteur's request for a hearing with up to three experts at a future meeting, subject to the availability of funds, and his intention to consult other experts bilaterally;
- **Appointment of rapporteurs**: appointed Mr Vladimir Vardanyan (Armenia, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur for opinion on "Track and trace applications: ethical, cultural and educational challenges" (Rapporteur for the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: Mr Duncan Baker (United Kingdom, EC/DA)) and heard from Mr Vardanyan a statement of no conflict of interest;
- **Poisoning of Alexei Navalny** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jacques Maire, France, ALDE*): held a [hearing](#) with the participation of:

Mr Leonid Volkov, Campaign Manager for Mr Alexi Navalny, Founder of the Anti-corruption Foundation,  
Mr Christo Grozev, Lead investigator, Bellingcat,

authorised the rapporteur to conduct a fact-finding visit to the Russian Federation, and asked the Chair to send a letter to the President requesting an urgent debate during the January part-session 2021 on "The arrest and detention of Alexei Navalny in January 2021";

- **Addressing issues of criminal and civil liability in the context of climate change** (*Rapporteur: Mr Ziya Altunyaliz, Turkey, NR*): held a hearing with the participation of:

Ms Sibel Kulaksiz, Senior Economist and Task Team Leader, World Bank,  
Professor Marta Torre-Schaub, Research Director, *Institut des sciences juridique et philosophique de la Sorbonne, Université Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne*,  
Mr Jesper Hjørttenberg Chair of the Council of Europe's European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC);

– **Next meetings**

*Plenary Committee:*

- 25 January 2021 and 27 January 2021, during the Assembly's 1<sup>st</sup> part-session of 2021 (25-28 January 2021)
- 11 March 2021, t.b.c.
- during the Assembly's 2<sup>nd</sup> part-session of 2021 (19-23 April 2021)
- 10 May 2021, t.b.c.
- during the Assembly's 3<sup>rd</sup> part-session of 2021 (21-25 June 2021)
- 14 September 2021, t.b.c.
- during the Assembly's 4<sup>th</sup> part-session of 2021 (27 September - 1 October 2021)
- 5 November 2021, t.b.c.
- 7 December 2021, t.b.c.

Günter Schirmer, David Milner, Agnieszka Szklanna, Marina Makarova

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director 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