



AS/Soc (2021) CB 08

10 September 2021

## To the members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

### Synopsis

#### of the meeting held in a hybrid manner on 9 September 2021

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting on Thursday, 9 September 2021, with Mr Luís Leite Ramos (Portugal, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Anchoring the right to a healthy environment: need for enhanced action by the Council of Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Simon Moutquin, Belgium, SOC*): considered a draft report and adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation with a view to presenting the report for debate during the autumn part-session 2021;
- **Socio-economic inequalities in Europe: time to restore social trust by strengthening social rights** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Turkey, SOC*): considered a draft report, adopted a draft resolution as amended and unanimously adopted a draft recommendation with a view to presenting the report for debate in the autumn part-session 2021, and welcomed the invitation of Mr Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network, to speak in this debate;
- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
- appointed Committee representatives to external events, as follows:
  - ✓ 33<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Committee), 21-22 September 2021, KUDO platform: Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
  - ✓ General Assembly and Youth Meeting 2021, Association of Towns Awarded the Europe Prize, 21-22 September 2021, Ivano-Frankivsk, Ukraine: Mr Kęstutis Masiulis (Lithuania, EPP/CD)
  - ✓ 19<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO), 2-5 November 2021: Ms Reina de Bruijn-Wezeman (Netherlands, ALDE), and (*subject to the availability of funds*) Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
- took note of the Committee of Ministers' reply to the Assembly's Recommendation 2186 (2020) on "Artificial intelligence and labour markets: friend or foe?"
- heard back from Committee representatives to external events, as follows:
  - ✓ 32<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Committee), 28-30 June 2021, KUDO platform: Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE);
- **"Long Covid"** (*as a follow-up to Resolution 2373 (2021) on "Discrimination against persons dealing with chronic and long-term illnesses", former Rapporteur: Ms Martine Wonner, France, ALDE*): held a public hearing with the participation of:
  - ✓ Ms Laurence Trastour-Isnart, member of the Committee (France, EPP/CD)
  - ✓ Mr Risto O. Roine, Professor of Neurology, Turku University Hospital and Chair of the Board, Finnish Brain Council (leading the Finnish Long Covid expert group)
  - ✓ Mr Daniel Altmann, Professor of Immunology leading the research team on Long Covid, Imperial College London
- **Giving a voice to every child: promoting child participation as a foundation for democratic societies** (*Rapporteur: Baroness Doreen E. Massey, United Kingdom, SOC*): considered a preliminary draft report, decided to change the title of the report to "Listening to children: child participation, a foundation for democratic societies", declassified the preliminary draft report and authorised the

Rapporteur's fact-finding visit to European Union institutions (Brussels/Strasbourg) (*subject to the availability of funds*);

- **Vaccine hesitancy: a major public health issue** (Rapporteur: Mr Vladimir Kruglyi, Russian Federation, NR): heard a report back from the Rapporteur's fact-finding visit to WHO headquarters in Geneva in July 2021;
- **Sub-Committee on Children**: heard a report from Ms Martine Wonner (France, ALDE), the Sub-Committee Chairperson, on the meeting held on 25 June 2021;
- **Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter**: heard a report from the Committee Chairperson on the meeting held on 9 September 2021;
- **Breast cancer awareness-raising event**: decided to organise an event on Monday 27 September, at the end of the sitting, to mark the lighting up of the *Palais de l'Europe* in pink, with the participation of the President of the Assembly, EU Commissioner on Health and Food Safety, Ms Stella Kyriakides, and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **Date and place of next meetings:**

*Plenary Committee*

- Autumn part-session 2021 of the Assembly, 27-30 September 2021, meeting to be held in a hybrid manner (Strasbourg/KUDO Platform)
- Wednesday, 1 December 2021, meeting to be held in a hybrid manner (Strasbourg/KUDO Platform)

*Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize*

- 23-24 September 2021, Khmelnytskyi, Ukraine, meeting of the Sub-Committee and official award ceremony for the Europe Prize 2021
- Thursday 30 September 2021 at 2 pm, Sub-Committee meeting and presentation ceremony of the European Diplomas, meeting to be held in a hybrid manner (Strasbourg/KUDO Platform)

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**The Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter**, meeting on Thursday, 9 September 2021, with Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Turkey, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- elected by acclamation Ms Nina Kasimati (Greece, UEL), Vice-Chairperson
- **Work programme**: took note of the Sub-Committee priorities and work programme
- **Date and place of the next meeting**: (*to be decided*)

Tanja Kleinsorge, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Yulia Pererva, Anita Gholami

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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