



CONFERENCE OF INGOs  
OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONFERENCE DES OING DU  
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

## **STANDING COMMITTEE**

CONF/SC(2014)SYN5

Strasbourg, 23 September 2014

### **MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE**

#### **DRAFT SYNOPSIS OF THE MEETING HELD ON 25 JUNE 2014**

1. Opening of the meeting by Jean-Marie Heydt, President of the Conference of INGOs
2. The agenda [[CONF/SC\(2014\)OJ5](#)] was adopted.
3. Anna Rurka was appointed rapporteur for the meeting.
4. Preparation of the Conference meeting:
  - Given that the General Assembly of INGO-Service had been postponed, the meeting of the Conference of INGOs would carry on until 1 pm. It would therefore be possible to extend the debate on the Contribution of the Conference of INGOs to creating an enabling environment in central and east European countries and to give the floor to Rémi Berthier on behalf of the Verification and Dispute Committee to explain the reasons for the cancellation of Liviu Oltenau's candidature.
  - Texts to be adopted
    - 1 and 2. Recommendation on Gender-Based Violence as a Political Weapon and Recommendation on Combating Anti-Semitism in Europe, both of which had been adopted at the meeting of the Human Rights Committee.
    - 3. Recommendation on Protection of Human Rights Defenders in Europe. This recommendation had not been discussed at the meeting of the Human Rights Committee. The text did not add any new information apart from the fact that it referred to the latest developments in Belarus which demanded a rapid response from the Conference.

The Standing Committee drew attention to the procedure, which was that each text to be adopted had to be discussed and adopted by the relevant committee beforehand.

Cyril Ritchie, President of the Expert Council on NGO Law, said that, in his statement to the Conference, he would underline that the Conference welcomed the release of Aliaksandr Bialiatiski, but that did not mean that the situation of human rights defenders had improved.

**Decision:** The Human Rights Committee would discuss the matter in January. The text was not ready for use as a recommendation, but the President of the Expert Council would take up some of the points in it.

- Position paper on climate and human rights adopted by the Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Challenges Committee. The intention of the Committee Chair was to project around ten slides at the Conference meeting to present the document. Given the limited time remaining until the meeting, the Secretariat proposed distributing copies of the document.

As the Conference of INGOs only adopts resolutions and recommendations, it was proposed that the Conference gave its support to the text.

## 5. Other business

The outgoing members of the Standing Committee were thanked for the work done together.