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cdpc/docs 2011/cdpc (2011) 23 - e

CDPC (2011) 23

EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS
(CDPC)

**DRAFT OPINION OF THE EUROPEAN COMMITTEE ON CRIME PROBLEMS (CDPC)
ON PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY RECOMMENDATION 1981 (2011) ON
VIOLENT AND EXTREME PORNOGRAPHY**

Document prepared by the CDPC Secretariat
Directorate General I – Human Rights and Rule of Law

CDPC website: www.coe.int/cdpc
CDPC e-mail: dgi.cdpc@coe.int

Draft Opinion on Parliamentary Assembly of Recommendation 1981 (2011)

1. Following the adoption by the Parliamentary Assembly of Recommendation 1981 (2011) on violent and extreme pornography, the Committee of Ministers decided to send it to the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC) for information and possible comments. The CDPC examined the above recommendation with great interest. This recommendation covers many multi-disciplinary aspects of the issue, including several important criminal law issues notably with regard to the public's increased accessibility (especially via the Internet) to violent and extreme pornographic material.
2. The CDPC takes note of the Parliamentary Assembly's concerns on the negative impact of violent and extreme pornography on women's and children's dignity and their right to live free from sexual violence. Accordingly, the CDPC welcomes the call of the Parliamentary Assembly on Council of Europe member and observer states which have not yet done so to sign and ratify the Council of Europe Conventions on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (CETS No. 210), on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (CETS No. 201), and on Cybercrime (CETS No. 185).
3. The CDPC welcomes the Parliamentary Assembly's initiative to carry out a comparative study on legislation and regulations applying to forms of violent and extreme pornography in member states. In this regard, the CDPC, by reiterating its strong support to the work already carried out by the Council of Europe on preventing and combating any forms of violence and sexual abuse against women and children - namely through the adoption of the three above-mentioned conventions - expressed its readiness to contribute to any future activities on this topic by making available its expertise in the criminal law field.