

REVISED STATUTE AND INTERNAL RULES OF PROCEDURE

Pompidou Group

Pompidou Group
Council of Europe International
Cooperation Group on
Drugs and Addictions



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Introduction

With the adoption of the revised statute by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on 16 June 2021, the Council of Europe's drug policy cooperation platform the "Pompidou Group" has a renewed foundation to shape its future as the key international reference point for human rights in drug policies. Ambassador Harry Alex Ruzs welcomed the adoption of the statute on behalf of the Hungarian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, stressing that "this decision provides a strong political impetus for the Pompidou Group's present and future action, 50 years after its creation."

Council of Europe Secretary General Marija Pejčinović Burić emphasised the need to promote an approach based on Council of Europe values to address drug challenges. "By adopting the revised Statute of the Pompidou Group, the Committee of Ministers has given the Group the adequate political and legal framework to make the voice of the Council of Europe heard and to stimulate its action in this field."

Portugal, which holds the Presidency of the Pompidou Group during the period 2019-2022, and who was also holding the EU Council Presidency from January until June 2021, issued a statement praising the new opportunities offered by this landmark reform. João Goulão, the Portuguese President of the Pompidou Group, noted that the revised statute would "strengthen cooperation between the Pompidou Group and the European Union, including the possibility for the latter to become a member of the Group." Attracting new partnerships and members while acting as an open platform that brings together key partners inside and outside the Council of Europe, including civil society organisations, to shape the future of drug policy is one of the main targets of the PG's renewed political and legal framework.

An important substantive realignment of the new statute is the extension of the Group's mandate to include addictive behaviours related to licit substances (such as alcohol or tobacco) and new forms of addictions (such as Internet gambling and gaming), as well as the strong focus on human rights, while reaffirming the need for a multidisciplinary approach to addressing the drug challenge which can only be tackled effectively if policy, practice, and science are linked. To better reflect both its identity as a Council of Europe entity and its broadened mandate, the Group changed its official name from the "Cooperation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Drug Trafficking" to the "Council of Europe International Cooperation Group on Drugs and Addiction."

After two years of intensive work among the Group's Permanent Correspondents, which led to the approval of a draft revised statute on 19 November 2020, the decision of Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe has been the culmination of a statutory revision process that was launched at the Stavanger ministerial conference in November 2018. It involved thorough discussions among the 41 member states of the Pompidou Group, as well as numerous consultations with the Group's main partners, both within and outside the Council of Europe, including major civil society organisations or platforms.

Revised Statute of the Council of Europe International Cooperation Group on Drugs and Addictions (Pompidou Group)

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES

Resolutions

CM/Res(2021)4

16 June 2021

Resolution CM/Res(2021)4 of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on the Council of Europe International Co-operation Group on Drugs and Addictions (Pompidou Group)

*(Adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 June 2021
at the 1407th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies)*

The Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in its composition restricted to the member States of the Pompidou Group,¹

Having regard to the Statute of the Council of Europe (ETS No. 1), and in particular Article 1.a thereof whereby member States undertake to “realise the ideals and principles which are their common heritage and [facilitate] their economic and social progress”;

Having regard to Statutory Resolution Res(93)28 on partial and enlarged agreements, and Resolution Res(96)36 establishing the criteria for partial and enlarged agreements of the Council of Europe;

Having regard to the international conventions on human rights adopted in the framework of the United Nations and the Council of Europe;

Recalling the letter of 6 August 1971 from the President of the French Republic addressed to the Prime Ministers of Belgium, Germany, Italy, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom, which is at the origin of the establishment of the Pompidou Group;

Having regard to Resolution Res(80)2 of 27 March 1980 on setting up, within the Council of Europe, a Co-operation Group to Combat Drug Abuse and Illicit Trafficking in Drugs (Pompidou Group), in the form of an enlarged partial agreement, amended by Resolution Res(80)15 of 17 September 1980;

Recalling the decisions taken at the 17th Ministerial Conference of the Pompidou Group, held in Stavanger (Norway) on 27 and 28 November 2018, and its own decisions on the follow-up to the conference dated 30 January 2019, which led to the launch of a statutory review process within the group on its terms of reference, functioning and working methods, with the participation of interested non-member States and the group's main partners on the international scene;

¹. Armenia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, France, Georgia, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malta, Republic of Moldova, Monaco, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Russian Federation, San Marino, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, Turkey.

Acting on the basis of the work carried out on this subject throughout 2019 and 2020 by the Pompidou Group's Committee of Permanent Correspondents, which resulted in the drawing up of a draft statute transmitted to the Committee of Ministers on 23 November 2020;

Having obtained thereby the favourable opinion of the member States of the Pompidou Group which are not members of the Council of Europe, namely Israel, Mexico and Morocco.

Bearing in mind the recent positions taken by the Parliamentary Assembly in the field of drug policies, in particular its Resolution 2335 (2020) and Recommendation 2177 (2020) entitled "Drug policy and human rights in Europe: a baseline study";

Welcoming the development of the Pompidou Group throughout its fifty years of existence, as evidenced by the fact that the group now has 41 members, including 3 non-European States;

Welcoming also the fact that the Pompidou Group has developed its activities beyond the circle of its member States, by setting up regional networks, in particular in the Mediterranean, and by contributing to Council of Europe action plans or co-operation programmes in third countries;

Convinced that the adoption of a revised Statute, reflecting the developments in the field of drug policies over the last forty years² and the challenges to be faced today at national, European and international levels, while strengthening its identity as a Council of Europe body and consequently its added value on the international scene, will bring a new dynamic to the group and enhance its relevance in Europe and beyond,

Adopts the appended Statute, which sets out the political and legal framework within which the Pompidou Group will henceforth operate and interact with its partners on the international scene. This revised Statute shall enter into force upon adoption of this resolution.

Appendix to Resolution CM/Res(2021)4

Revised Statute of the Council of Europe International Co-operation Group on Drugs and Addictions (Pompidou Group)

Article 1 – Role and objectives

The Pompidou Group is a platform for intergovernmental co-operation, acting within the institutional framework of the Council of Europe, the Europe-wide reference source for human rights, and pursuing the following objectives:

- to provide its members with a forum for open dialogue, exchange of good practice and sharing of experience on their drug policies. The challenges relating to other addictions may also be addressed, wherever relevant;
- to promote respect for human rights in the framing, adoption, implementation and evaluation of drug and addiction policies;
- to develop understanding of and responses to the challenges posed by drugs and addictions, focusing public health, safety and security, while pursuing a multidisciplinary, balanced, gender-sensitive and integrated approach based on scientific evidence and best practices within all areas of the drug problem, with full respect of human rights;

² The original statute of the Pompidou Group was adopted in 1980.

- to establish links between research, policy and practice in order to provide its members with tools for decision making and evaluation based on scientific evidence and/or best practices;
- to increase international co-operation to prevent and counter illicit production and trafficking in drugs and the diversion of drug precursors, as well as drug related crime, and enhance co-operation between different sectors of law enforcement as well as other relevant sectors, with full respect of human rights;
- to support full conformity of national drug policies with relevant international law.

Article 2 – Added value

The Pompidou Group shall provide added value to its members through:

- a global vision and understanding of drug and addiction policies, taking into account existing international commitments to address and counter the world drug problem;
- targeted information on new findings from research, policy and practice in the field of drugs and addictions;
- multilateral support for the framing of policies, strategies and action plans on drugs and addictions;
- international visibility and recognition for national policies and interventions based on scientific evidence and best practices;
- a rapid-response capacity enabling the formulation of tailor-made responses to unexpected situations or emerging phenomena;
- access to co-operation platforms and specialist professional networks;
- a capacity for collective reflection on and innovation in the framing, implementation and evaluation of policies, taking into account members' specific needs.

Article 3 – Composition

As an enlarged partial agreement of the Council of Europe, the Pompidou Group is open to the participation of member States of the Organisation, which may join it by simple notification to the Secretary General, and to non-member States which share the values of the Council of Europe. The latter shall join – following an opinion from the Committee of Permanent Correspondents – at the invitation of the Committee of Ministers, deciding by unanimous vote in its composition restricted to representatives of member States of the Pompidou Group.

The European Union may join the Pompidou Group according to modalities to be defined by the Committee of Ministers.

Member or observer States to the Council of Europe which are not members of the Pompidou Group may participate in the statutory meetings and other work of the Pompidou Group as observers (with no right to vote) by simple notification to the Secretary General. Other States, in particular countries with which the Council of Europe has a structured co-operation relationship,³ may also benefit from

³ For example, the countries which benefit from the status of partner for democracy to the Parliamentary Assembly and/or the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, or those with which the Council of Europe has concluded a co-operation agreement within its neighbourhood policy.

the same entitlement by decision of the Committee of Ministers, following an opinion from the Committee of Permanent Correspondents.

The participation of States as observers to the Pompidou Group shall be possible only for a limited period of time, at the end of which the States concerned shall decide whether or not to join the group. This period shall in principle be two years.

Article 4 – Governance

The Pompidou Group shall be governed by the following bodies:

- the Ministerial Conference, which brings together the relevant political authorities of its members every four years: it shall define the strategic direction and priorities of the group for the following four years, adopt a corresponding pluriannual work programme, elect the president and vice-president and endorse the composition of the bureau;
- the Committee of Permanent Correspondents, comprising one representative from each member, is the group's decision-making body between two ministerial conferences and in principle shall meet twice a year. Governments may designate additional representatives to the Committee. Each member of the Committee shall have one vote. Where a government designates more than one member, only one of them (head of the delegation) is entitled to take part in the voting;
- the Bureau of Permanent Correspondents, which shall oversee the group's activities between the meetings of the committee: it will be made up of representatives of the countries holding the presidency and vice-presidency of the group, and other members elected by their peers, with the proviso that the number of bureau members, in principle, must not exceed one quarter of the total number of the group's members;
- the presidency, which ensures the political representation of the group externally and co-ordinates its work internally, including by overseeing the activities of the secretariat: it is supported (and replaced, if need be or upon request by the presidency) by the vice-presidency.

Members shall aim to ensure a gender balance in the statutory bodies of the Pompidou Group.

Article 5 – Synergies

The Pompidou Group shall seek to develop all mutually beneficial synergies in order to avoid duplication and give maximum efficiency and impact to its work, taking into account that the Pompidou Group constitutes a unique pan-European mechanism for intergovernmental co-operation in the field of drug policies:

- externally, it shall work closely with the main relevant international intergovernmental organisations and agencies at global and regional levels. The latter may be invited, by decision of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents, to attend its statutory meetings as observers and take part in the group's other work;
- internally, it shall establish mutually beneficial co-operation with all relevant Council of Europe entities. Where appropriate, representatives of the entities concerned may be invited to attend its statutory meetings and take part in the group's work on an ad hoc or more permanent basis;
- synergies shall also be actively sought with civil society, which plays an important role in the development and implementation of policies and activities at local, national and international levels. As appropriate, non-governmental organisations with due competence

in areas under consideration may also be invited, by decision of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents, to attend its statutory meetings as observers and take part in the group's other work.

Article 6 – Budget

The budget of the Pompidou Group shall be financed by mandatory contributions from its members. It shall be adopted each year by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in its composition restricted to representatives of member States of the Pompidou Group, in accordance with the rules and procedures in force within the Organisation.

Members shall be encouraged, insofar as their possibilities and interests allow, to make voluntary contributions to provide additional resources for the Pompidou Group, to which may be added, where appropriate, resources from the Council of Europe's co-operation programmes.

The implementation of the ordinary budget and the use of extra-budgetary resources shall be supervised by the Committee of Permanent Correspondents and its bureau.

Article 7 – Secretariat

The secretariat of the Pompidou Group is an integral part of the Secretariat of the Council of Europe; its functioning is governed by the rules and procedures in force within the Organisation.

It is headed by an Executive Secretary, appointed by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and responsible, among other things, for the proper management of the financial and human resources made available to the group.

Specifically, the secretariat's functions are to:

- support the presidency and the vice-presidency;
- manage the Pompidou Group's budget, that is, provide regular updates on the use of the resources put at the group's disposal;
- facilitate the implementation of activities;
- contribute to the quality of the Pompidou Group's activities through effective organisation;
- facilitate evaluation of the activities by the Permanent Correspondents;
- communicate and inform about developments in the field of drugs and addictions and the results of the group's work.

The work of the secretariat is carried out within the administrative framework of the Council of Europe, under the authority of the Secretary General. It is overseen by the presidency, acting in the framework of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents and its bureau.

Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents

INTRODUCTION

In anticipation to the adoption of the revised statute of the Pompidou Group by the Committee of Ministers, which took place on 16 June 2021, the Bureau had identified the need to prepare draft rules of procedure for the Committee of Permanent Correspondents, based on the document "The Pompidou Group: mission, organisation, governance and working methods", adopted by the PCs in 2018 and subsequently endorsed at the Stavanger Ministerial Conference.

The adoption of the draft rules of procedure took place at the 88th PCs meeting (29-30 June 2021). A number of issues remained open (in particular the possibility for the Pompidou Group to become observer in several Council of Europe steering committees, subject to reciprocity), and the Secretariat was entrusted to take the necessary contacts.

In light of these contacts, it appears that there is no necessity for the Pompidou Group to seek for a permanent observer status in the relevant Council of Europe bodies: it would suffice to entrust the Secretariat to follow their work and ensure that relevant synergies are put in place. The only exception is the Gender Equality Commission (GEC), which has appointed a member to follow the work of the Pompidou Group. Reciprocally, the gender rapporteur will be entrusted to represent the Pompidou Group at the GEC.

In parallel, a decision has been taken by the Permanent Correspondents (in November 2021) to respond positively to the request of the INGO Conference to become a permanent observer in the Pompidou Group statutory bodies, and the same status was also granted to the World Health Organization (in December 2021).

Another issue emerged in February/March 2022 from the discussions within the group of "Friends of the Chair" on the future work programme: it was to adapt the existing practice concerning the minimum number of member states whose support would be necessary to decide on the launching of a new activity. This number has been fixed to $\frac{1}{4}$ of the total number of member states.

The final version of the rules of procedure has been adopted by the Permanent Correspondents at their 90th meeting in Rome on 17 May 2022.

I. COMPOSITION OF THE POMPIDOU GROUP

Having status of an enlarged Partial Agreement at the Council of Europe, the Pompidou Group is open to accession by member states as well as non-member states of the Council of Europe that share its values.

The European Union has also the possibility to join the Pompidou Group.

The Pompidou Group may also have observer States for a limited period of time (in principle two years). At the end of this period, the States in question will have to decide on their membership of the Group.

The international inter-state organisations with which the Group cooperates closely, particularly in the framework of broader partnerships with the Council of Europe, also have permanent observer status, with no time limit. These are :

- The European Commission;
- The European Monitoring Centre for Drugs and Drug Addiction (EMCDDA);
- The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC);
- The Inter-American Drug Abuse Control Commission (CICAD);
- The World Health Organization.

Permanent observer status has also be granted to the Conference of INGO of the Council of Europe, as a follow-up to its request made on 15 October 2020.

II. PARTICIPATION AND COOPERATION

The Pompidou Group welcomes the participation, on an ad hoc basis, of non-member states, in line with the priorities set up in the work programme. These include :

- Council of Europe member states which are not (or no longer) members of the Group;
- States which enjoy observer status with the Council of Europe;
- States with which the Group has established structured cooperation (MedNET);
- Member States of regional organizations with which the Group has concluded a partnership agreement (CICAD/OAS).

Beyond these respective circles, the participation of a non-member State in an activity of the Group is subject to a favourable decision by the Presidency, based on a proposal from the Chair of the relevant working group or the Bureau member responsible for the activity.

Non-Member States of the Group may be required to make a financial contribution to participate in certain working groups or activities, upon a decision of the Bureau following a proposal from the chair of the working group or the Bureau member responsible for the activity concerned.

The Pompidou Group actively seeks cooperation with other European and International Organisations and Agencies to avoid overlap and increase synergies. In addition to organisations with permanent observer status, it cooperates with, among others : EUROPOL; Eurojust, the Maritime Analysis and Operations Centre – Narcotics (MAOC-N), the Organisation for Cooperation and Security in Europe (OSCE); the International Narcotics Control Board (INCB); the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); Eurojust; UNAIDS; UNDP; the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI); as well as the World Customs Organisation (WCO) and Interpol.

The Pompidou Group is developing synergies with the relevant entities of the Council of Europe. It maintains close relations with its political bodies, the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary

Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, as well as with the Secretary General and the Commissioner for Human Rights. It acts within the Council of Europe pluriannual strategic framework and contributes to the extent of its competence to the strategies, action plans and cooperation programmes set up by the Organisation.

The Pompidou Group establishes a structured cooperation with the Gender Equality Commission (GEC). To this effect, each party will appoint a member to follow the work of the other party and propose synergies. This role will be entrusted, within the Pompidou Group, to the gender rapporteur appointed by the Bureau.

In addition, the Secretariat is entrusted to follow the work of intergovernmental committees which are of particular interest, such as:

- The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)
- The Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI)
- The Steering Committee of the Rights of the Child (CDENF)
- The Steering Committee on Anti-discrimination, diversity and inclusion (CDADI)
- The Steering Committee on Criminal Problems (CDPC).

The Secretariat is also entrusted to follow the work of monitoring bodies set up under key Council of Europe conventions, such as:

- The European Convention on Human Rights (Department on the Execution of the judgements of the European Court of Human Rights)
- The Istanbul Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence (GREVIO)
- The Warsaw Convention on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings (GRETA)
- The Budapest Convention on Cybercrime
- The Convention on the Counterfeiting of Medical Products and Similar Crimes involving Threats to Public Health (MEDICRIME)
- The Committee of Experts on the Evaluation of Anti-Money Laundering Measures and the Financing of Terrorism (MONEYVAL).

The Secretariat is entrusted to report on the work of the mentioned (and possibly other) bodies as relevant and seek to establish synergies to make the best use of the Council of Europe expertise in the different activities of the Pompidou Group.

The Pompidou Group recognises the importance of civil society participation in the democratic process. It encourages civil society participation in the development and implementation of policies, programmes, projects and activities, as described in the Pompidou Group policy paper on 'government interaction with civil society on drug policy issues: Principles, ways and means, opportunities and challenges'.

The Pompidou Group cooperates with civil society actors in various ways. In particular, it maintains privileged working relations with the main civil society international platforms, to be defined by the Presidency in consultation with the Bureau.

The documents of the Pompidou Group are, as a general rule, accessible to the public, in accordance with the general policy of the Council of Europe (Resolution (2001)6 of the Committee of Ministers on access to Council of Europe documents).

For all Pompidou Group activities, the need for and value added (on both sides) of civil society consultation, dialogue and/or partnership, is considered and followed up.

The Pompidou Group reviews its cooperation with civil society at regular intervals.

Civil society organizations are invited to give input to the Pompidou Group work programmes.

III. GOVERNANCE

The Pompidou Group's governance is organized on four levels: the Ministerial Conference, the Presidency and Vice-Presidency, the Committee of Permanent Correspondents, and the Bureau of the Permanent Correspondents.

These different levels of governance operate with the support of a Secretariat which is an integral part of the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe.

1. The Ministerial Conference :

The Ministerial Conference is the political authority of the Pompidou Group. It is the high-level political forum of the Pompidou Group where Ministers responsible for drug policies meet.

As the political authority for the Pompidou Group, the role of the Ministerial Conference is to formulate the strategic direction of, and priorities for, the Pompidou Group's work. The Ministers consider a report by the Permanent Correspondents on the activities of the past four years and the messages for policy makers that it contains, followed by the adoption of the work programme for the next four-year period. The final declaration adopted by the Ministers at the end of the Ministerial Conference, based on the results and conclusions from the Permanent Correspondents' work, defines the political orientation to the work of the Group in the years to come.

The Ministerial Conferences are held every four years unless otherwise decided by the Permanent Correspondents and endorsed by the Committee of Ministers.

The Ministerial Conference elects a Presidency and Vice-Presidency for the next four-year work cycle. The Presidency and Vice-Presidency are held by countries and are not nominative to individual country representatives.

Ministers from non-Member States may also attend, subject to a specific decision being taken by the Permanent Correspondents to that end.

2. Presidency and Vice-presidency :

The Presidency and Vice-Presidency are elected by the Ministerial Conference for a period until the end of the next Ministerial Conference. The Presidency and Vice-Presidency are held by a member State.

The Presidency is the main representation of the Pompidou Group on the political level with governments of member and non-member states, as well as international organisations.

Contacts with states that are not Members of the Pompidou Group are supervised by the Presidency in close cooperation with the Bureau and the Secretariat, on the basis of the priorities set out in the work programme.

The Presidency nominates the Chairperson of the Permanent Correspondents and the Vice-Presidency the Vice-Chairperson. The Member State holding the Presidency can nominate an additional representative as Permanent Correspondent.

The Presidency hosts the next Ministerial Conference at the Council of Europe headquarters or in its country.

The Member State holding the Vice-Presidency assumes the responsibilities of the Presidency when the latter is unable to do so or chooses to delegate its responsibility, including for meetings of the Permanent Correspondents.

The Chairperson or the Acting Chairperson are entitled to the reimbursement of travel and subsistence expenses for certain additional duties performed in office, based on the rules of the Council of Europe, and within the limits of the budget provision for this purpose.

The Presidency is the key interlocutor for the Secretariat between meetings of the Permanent Correspondents and of the Bureau.

The Presidency takes primary responsibility for supervising the Pompidou Group's work, in particular recommendations, policy papers, guidelines, examples of best practice, operational conclusions of scientific studies and analyses of field, in so far as to meet policy makers' needs in the most appropriate manner.

The Presidency and the Vice-Presidency take responsibility to ensure that appropriate evaluations are conducted (*see Evaluation section below*).

3. The Committee of Permanent Correspondents:

The Permanent Correspondents are the officials from each Member State of the Pompidou Group who formally represent their government. They constitute the main decision-making body during the work programme cycle between Ministerial Conferences and resume a steering role as regards the Group's activities. Besides preparing the draft work programmes and the Ministerial Conferences, the Permanent Correspondents have the supervision over all the activities and budgets. They mandate the Secretariat with the execution of tasks. Permanent Correspondents elect the Bureau members and nominate experts for participation in activities.

Travel and subsistence expenses are to be covered by member States. Exceptionally participation of nominated experts from member States can be funded by the Pompidou Group following specific justified requests (budgetary constraints, austerity measures) from the Permanent Correspondent.

In principle Permanent Correspondents hold two meetings a year. The meetings are attended by the Permanent Correspondents and the observers to the Pompidou Group. Extraordinary meetings may be called for.

The meetings of the Permanent Correspondents are essentially the forum of open debate where policy advisors come together to discuss effective responses to drugs problems based in particular on the results generated by the activities. Bringing to bear their knowledge and expertise on the drugs policies, practices and situations in their home countries, their specific tasks are to:

- elect a Bureau ;
- organise their regular meetings as a forum for decision and open discussions;
- agree on topics for thematic debate;
- adopt ad hoc activities ;
- set up adopted activities by:
 - issuing specific terms of reference for activities;
 - proposing suitable members for activities following an agreed profile;
 - agreeing on membership and participation;
 - review the results and products emerging from the activities;
 - receive updates on the progress of the Pompidou Group's activities under the existing work programme;
 - adopt conclusions, recommendations and guidelines;
 - prepare the Ministerial Conferences, in particular: elaborate the Conference programme, prepare the documentation on activities and results, draft the work programme, and identify elements for the draft declaration;
 - ensure that the outcome of the Pompidou Group's work is adequately communicated to their own authorities, so that they may inspire the formulation of policy and practice as individual Governments and practitioners;
 - supervise contacts with third countries, and **as relevant** give a mandate to approach specific countries on the possibility of future accession to the Pompidou Group.

Decisions in the Committee of Permanent Correspondents are taken in principle by consensus. If this is not possible, the Presidency may have a vote taken on the basis of the qualified majority provided for in the Statute of the Council of Europe⁴.

4. The Bureau of the Permanent Correspondents:

The Bureau of the Permanent Correspondents consists of the Chairperson of the Permanent Correspondents and the Vice-chairperson as well as other members elected by and from among the Permanent Correspondents, keeping in mind that the number of members of the Bureau must not exceed ¼ of the total number of members of the Group.

The Bureau coordinates and supervises the implementation of the activities of the Pompidou Group, ensures cooperation across sectors, as well as attention to transversal issues. Furthermore the Bureau prepares the meetings of Permanent Correspondents. The Bureau informs Permanent Correspondents of decisions taken.

⁴ Double majority of 2/3 of the members having participated in the vote and half of the members having the right to vote.

Once the Bureau is set up, its members agree on who takes up responsibilities to act as coordinator for a specific area of work or a set of activities.

The Bureau's tasks further include taking necessary decisions between meetings of Permanent Correspondents, specifically in respect to:

- ensuring the cooperation within the Pompidou Group and between activities where appropriate;
- supervising the implementation of activities;
- proposing terms of reference for agreed activities to Permanent Correspondents;
- reporting to Permanent Correspondents on the progress of work;
- preparing the meetings of the Permanent Correspondents and supervising their follow-up.

In principle the Bureau meets twice a year.

The Bureau can, at any time when it deems it necessary, initiate a written consultation to seek a decision by all Permanent Correspondents based on electronic procedure.

5. The Secretariat :

The Secretariat provides the Pompidou Group with the support for the preparation, implementation and management of the Group's work. It is headed by the Executive Secretary of the Pompidou Group who is in charge of its daily management.

Within the institutional framework of the Council of Europe the Secretariat assists in the preparation, implementation and facilitation of the Pompidou Group's activities and organises its meetings. It reports to the Bureau and the Permanent Correspondents. The Secretariat, where necessary engages consultants for the provision of services on the basis of the rules of the Council of Europe. Such service include in particular: written reports and advice, studies or expertises, oral presentations at conferences, provision of technical services, training courses and other activities. The choice of consultants is made, where appropriate, in consultations with the chairs of the relevant expert group or the Bureau member responsible for the activity in which context a consult is sought for.

The Secretariat stimulates synergies with other activities within the Council of Europe. It is an integral part of the General Secretariat of the Council of Europe (Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law) and thus governed by the Council of Europe's Staff Regulations.

IV. WORKING METHODS

1. Work programme:

The Pompidou Group conducts its work in four year cycles between Ministerial Conferences under a work programme which sets the framework for its activities.

The work programme formulates the strategic direction of, and priorities for, the Pompidou Group's activities. It ensures sufficient flexibility to take account of unforeseen developments and emerging priorities.

Activities are implemented on the context of permanent activity formats or time-limited activities. The format and timespan of activities depends on the expected results and the available resources and are defined in specific terms of reference adopted by Permanent Correspondents, which include:

- expected results and outputs;
- composition;
- delivery date;
- working methods and structures;
- financing and resources provided;
- consideration of civil society cooperation.

2. Activities:

Permanent activity formats have evolved over a longer period of time and are recognised as Pompidou Group hallmark activities. They address on-going issues which are of significant interest member States.

Other activities can be adopted and implemented as time-limited activities of the Pompidou Group.

Activities may be proposed by Permanent Correspondents. The Secretariat may propose participation in Action Plans or other activities by Council of Europe entities relating to the Pompidou Group's work.

Activities may be included in the work programme and may also be proposed at any time for adoption by Permanent Correspondents. They should be relevant to the aims and the thematic priorities or emerging needs and concrete in terms of scope, purpose, expected outcome and timespan. The decision-making process should follow clear criteria, including the following:

- Proposal to be supported by at least ¼ of the total number of members;
- Complementarity to the work of other European or international institutions;
- Relevance of and/or interest for the proposal to member states;
- Consistency with the thematic direction of the work programme;
- Potential for transversality and synergies with other activities;
- Proximity to Council of Europe priorities;
- Usefulness of expected outcomes and products to member States;
- Cost-benefit considerations including achieving results in expected time.

3. Results and outputs:

The expected results from the work of the Pompidou Group are primarily aimed at serving governments and policymakers' needs, but are also addressed to researchers and professionals. Expected results include:

- A better understanding of different drug policy concepts across Europe;
- New insights from research and practice on psychoactive substance abuse;
- Enhanced capacity and competences of prevention and care services to deal with drug abuse;
- Enhanced capacity and competence in addressing drug-related organised crime and illicit drug trafficking;
- Cooperation strengthened with third countries within and outside Europe, which are not members of the Pompidou Group in accordance with the priorities set in the work programme;
- Enhanced competences for more effective cooperation across sectors and among stakeholders, including with and among civil society actors and regional and international organisations and agencies;
- Increased professional capacities for developing, implementing and managing drug policies;
- Understanding increasing poly-drug use patterns and comorbidities with other addictive behaviours and their relevance for drug policies.

All activities are expected to achieve results that provide added value for member States by producing outputs that facilitate practical support in developing, implementing and evaluating their drug policies. These include:

- Expert recommendations and proposals for guidelines;
- Policy papers proposing intervention models and strategies;
- Inventories of best practices;
- Capacity building and training seminars;
- Analytical and comparative studies and expert reports;
- On-line resources;
- Educational and Communication Tools;
- Study visits and Exchange Programmes.

Any document produced in the course of an activity can be published by the Pompidou Group as a Pompidou Group document or an ISBN publication. Reports by expert groups are published and disseminated by the Pompidou Group but in the name of the authors. Before their publication they are submitted to Permanent Correspondents for comments. The publications state that the content reflects the opinions of the authors.

The findings and conclusions from expert groups and other activities can serve as inspiration for the adoption of statements and other documents by the Permanent Correspondents.

4. Evaluation:

The Bureau with the support of the Secretariat will conduct on-going progress monitoring and regularly seek feedback from experts and Permanent Correspondents to evaluate the work and activities of the Pompidou Group. The impact of activities is subject to an initial evaluation.

The Presidency and the Vice-Presidency ensure that appropriate end-of-term and mid-term evaluations are conducted to assess the implementation of the work programme in conformity with the expressed expectations and needs of policy makers.

V. FINANCES

All members pay an annual contribution set by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe which composes the Pompidou Group's annual budget. In addition, Members cover the costs for the participation of their representatives, in particular their Permanent Correspondents, and nominated national experts in meetings and activities, unless otherwise stipulated under specific terms of reference for certain Pompidou Group activities. Under certain circumstances, in particular in situations of budgetary austerity and upon specific request, exemptions can be made and participation costs may be covered exceptionally on the basis of the financial rules of the Council of Europe.

Members, Observers, foundations and other public and private entities can make voluntary contributions towards fulfilling the work programme of the Pompidou Group. The expenditure of voluntary contributions is subject to the financial regulations of the Council of Europe. Voluntary contributions are managed under special accounts set up for this purpose. Special Accounts are not restricted to one budgetary year. 7 % of each voluntary contribution is retained by the Council of Europe for administrative overheads. Generally, voluntary contributions should allow for the employment of staff for the implementation of the activities involved, bearing in mind Committee of Ministers guidelines in respect of staff to activity expenditure ratios.

The Pompidou Group budget is adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in its composition restricted to the Member States of the Pompidou Group, and managed by the Executive Secretary in conformity with the financial rules and regulations of the Council of Europe.

The Council of Europe's International Cooperation Group on Drugs and Addictions («Pompidou Group») has a long and rich history dating back to 6 August 1971, when French President Georges Pompidou alerted the Prime Ministers of the other five European Community countries at the time, as well as that of the United Kingdom, to the dangers of the growing use of drugs, particularly among young people, and proposed that a European framework for cooperation be set up to combat the burgeoning trade.

Fifty years later, the Group still proudly bears the name of its founder, and on 16 June 2021, the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe adopted the revised statute for the Pompidou Group, who's geographical scope now covers 41 states, beyond the borders of Europe. This publication brings together the revised statute of the Pompidou Group and the Rules of Procedure of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents.

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The Council of Europe is the continent's leading human rights organisation. It comprises 46 member states, including all members of the European Union. All Council of Europe member states have signed up to the European Convention on Human Rights, a treaty designed to protect human rights, democracy, and the rule of law. The European Court of Human Rights oversees the implementation of the Convention in the member states.