Steering Committee on Media and Information Society – CDMSI

COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

2 September 2021

CDMSI(2021)001_1

19th meeting of the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI)

(19-21 May 2021, via videoconference)

Meeting report

The Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI) held its 19th Plenary meeting from 19 to 21 Mai 2021 via videoconference, chaired by Ms Inge Welbergen (the Netherlands), the Committee's Chair. The list of participants and information on gender distribution appear in Appendix 2.

1. Opening of the meeting

Mr Jan Kleijssen, Director of the Information Society - Action against Crime Directorate welcomed the members of the CDMSI and thanked them for their work and commitment. With regards to the future work of the CDMSI, Mr Kleijssen introduced the 4-year Strategic Framework proposed by the Secretary General to the Committee of Ministers for the Organisation and underlined that the key areas of work of the CDMSI are also key priorities in this framework, particularly safety of journalists, hate speech and AI. Mr Kleijssen stressed the importance of the texts in process, such as the future recommendation on combating hate speech, which is a very topical issue and will contribute to standard setting in Europe and to the debate well beyond Europe. Regarding internet governance, Mr Kleijssen also recalled that there was a Memorandum of Understanding between the Council of Europe and the EU since 2011, including an agreement to refer to each other's work as it has become increasingly transversal. Finally, Mr Kleijssen stressed the importance for the Organisation and its member states to reach a consensus on the texts to be submitted to the next Ministerial Conference for adoption, as well as on the various texts being elaborated by the three sister committees MSI-REF, MSI-DIG and ADI/MSI-DIS.

2. Adoption of the agenda

The CDMSI adopted the agenda (Appendix 1), taking note of some changes in the order of business. The Chair recalled that two important outcomes were expected from this meeting: consensus on the texts of the ministerial conference and the (a first) approval of the expert committees' draft documents before public consultation/publication.

3. Recent developments

Mr Patrick Penninckx, Head of the Information Society Department (ISD), elaborated further on the 4-year Strategic Framework proposed by the Secretary General. Mr Penninckx recalled that the Secretary General's

annual report 2020 had found worrying degrees of democratic backsliding and that in the context of the global pandemic, otherwise legitimate action undertaken by national authorities has aggravated the situation in many important areas for the protection and enjoyment of human rights and democratic values. He explained that the strategic vision has been developed with a view for Member States to reverse the trend and ensure that all necessary conditions are in place to allow human rights and rule of law to flourish. In this context, the work of CDMSI's three expert committee was of crucial importance. Mr Penninckx recalled that freedom of expression and freedom of the media are key areas of work for the Council of Europe, not only within the department but also involving other sectors of the organisation such as the Venice Commission. The Council of Europe has also been working closely on these topics with the OSCE, UNESCO and the European Commission, particularly on SLAPPs and the AI package the European Commission is currently working on. Mr Penninckx recalled that a secretariat task force on freedom of expression and media had been tasked inter alia to contribute to the preparation of a new report of the Secretary General addressing freedom of expression issues (SLAPPs, media coverage of public demonstrations, audio-visual bans). Finally, he reiterated the importance of CDMSI members' work in the development of effective policies to tackle these challenges and encouraged the CDMSI to further convey the message to member states' representatives in the upcoming ministerial conference to show a strong commitment to actively contribute to the implementation of the Organisation's goals in the above areas for the years to come.

4. Review of progress

4.1 Follow up to CDMSI previous work

The CDMSI took note of information by the Secretariat on the developments related to the draft recommendation on promoting a favourable environment for quality journalism in the digital age, approved by the CDMSI in December 2019 at its 17th plenary meeting. The CDMSI took note that in March 2020, the rapporteur group of human rights at the Committee of Ministers (GR-H) had recommended that the Committee of Ministers adopt the recommendation but because of a review proposal on the text by one member state, it had been postponed until autumn. The CDMSI noted with regret informed that it was still an ongoing process and that stressed that all efforts should be made to have this text adopted by the Committee of Ministers.

4.2 Co-operation with other relevant Council of Europe bodies and committees

With regards to CAHAI, the CDMSI welcomed the adoption in December 2020 of the *Feasibility study of a legal instrument on artificial intelligence*. The CDMSI members were informed by Ms Clementina Barbaro, Co-Secretary of the CAHAI, that the research points to substantive and procedural gaps, uneven protection levels and uncertainties affecting development and implementation of AI tools, while the main conclusion found that an appropriate legal framework would be a combination between binding and non-binding legal instruments complementing each other. They further took note that at its upcoming plenary meeting, in July 2021, the CAHAI will review the outputs produced by its three sub-working groups CAHAI-LFG, CAHAI-PDG and CAHAI-COG and provide further elements. The CDMSI was informed that a meeting was held with the European Commission on the EC AI package to look at possible overlaps and verify to which extend these two instruments were compatible; it further took note of CAHAI's close cooperation with the OSCE and UNESCO. Mr Patrick Penninckx also informed the CDMSI members of the launch in mid-June of a joint website on all the ongoing work on AI within international organisations. He also informed the CDMSI of the creation, within the Department (ISD), of a digital development unit to coordinate the initiatives taken in the field within the Council of Europe, such as the *Recommendation on the human rights impacts of algorithmic systems* or the 2019 Helsinki conference on the impacts of AI development on human rights, democracy, and the rule of law.

Information on the latest developments on data protection

The CDMSI welcomed the adoption of the *Facial Recognition Guidelines* by 'the Consultative committee of the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regards to automatic processing of personal data (Convention 108) and took note of the Declaration of the Committee of Ministers on the future role of Convention 108, as well as the ratification process of the amending Protocol of the Convention 108, which is to be further advanced. The CDMSI members also took note of the publication of a statement on 3 May 2021 by the Committee of bioethics and the 'data protection Committee' on Covid-19 vaccination, attestations, and data protection.

Information provided by the Secretariat, consultation on issues/documents of relevance to the CDMSI work (GREVIO, PACE)

The CDMSI was informed by the Secretariat of the finalisation of the CDMSI comments on the *Draft General Recommendation on the digital dimension of violence against women*, and their transmission to the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO). The CDMSI was also informed of ongoing work of the PACE on the 'people's right to know', for which the Tromsø Convention is of particular relevance.

5. Prospects for the future work of the CDMSI

The CDMSI was first informed, in relation to the already presented Strategic Framework for 2022-2025 proposed by the Council of Europe's Secretary General, that a longer, four-year period had been introduced as a framework for the programming, with a mid-term review envisaged to allow adjusting according to emerging challenges and/or policy decisions. The strategic Framework was still to be adopted and the final decision was to be taken by the Committee of Ministers in October 2021.

The CDMSI further took note and discussed the information provided by the Secretariat on the ongoing work on the future Terms of Reference of the CDMSI, which will take into account the priorities set for the Council of Europe Strategic Framework for 2022-2025 as well as the proposals received from CDMSI members since the plenary meeting held in November 2020. The delegates exchanged views on their envisaged main areas of work for 2022-2025 and the nature of the future deliverables. The CDMSI members further took note of the adoption of the *Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies*, amending and updating the rules governing the work of intergovernmental committees, and aiming at providing increased clarity with regard to important aspects of their operation.

6. Conference of ministers responsible for media and information society

6.1 Preparations of the Ministerial Conference

The CDMSI took note of the state of preparations for the Conference, to take place online on 10-11 June 2021, and the programme of the event, co-organized by the Council of Europe and the Government of the Republic of Cyprus. They were informed of the high-level participation of the Conference and that it will be broadcasted, except for the ministerial roundtable. The Secretariat further expanded on the detailed programme of the first and second day of the Conference. The delegates exchanged views on ways to ensure the highest level of participation of member states and discussed in detail the expected involvement of ministers and other government representatives in the ministerial round table scheduled on the second day of the conference, as well as in the thematic discussions dedicated to the four main topics of the Conference.

6.2 Documents of the Ministerial Conference

After an exchange on the content of each document, the CDMSI members approved the Draft Resolution on freedom of expression and digital technologies; the Draft Resolution on the changing media and information environment; the Draft Resolution on the safety of journalists. They also revised and approved the Draft Resolution on the impact of the health crisis on freedom of expression and the Draft Final Declaration of the Ministerial Conference.

The CDMSI members agreed to forward the four approved draft resolutions and the Draft Final Declaration to member states in view of their adoption at the Ministerial conference, and noted that, upon adoption of the above documents during the Ministerial conference, an interpretative statement may be made by one member state following its inability to support some provisions of the documents of the Ministerial Conference.

7. Standard setting under the CDMSI

7.1 Expert Committee on Freedom of Expression and Digital Technologies (MSI-DIG)

The CDMSI exchanged views with Mr Viktors Makarovs, Vice-Chair of the Expert Committee on Freedom of Expression and Digital Technologies (MSI-DIG) and took note of information by the Secretariat on the activities of the MSI-DIG, of the report of its 2nd meeting held on 17-18 March 2021 and of the roadmap for future steps. During the meeting, the importance of internal coordination and exchange though regular meetings between the MSI-DIG and its sister committees MSI-REF and ADI/MSI-DIS was stressed, in order to align their approach and avoid possible overlaps.

The CDMSI adopted the *Draft guidance note on best practices towards effective legal and procedural frameworks for self-regulatory and co-regulatory mechanisms of content moderation*, as finalised by MSI-DIG, and gave its agreement for the publication of the document.

The CDMSI further discussed the progress of the Draft recommendation on the impacts of digital technologies on freedom of expression. During the exchange, the committee welcomed the alignment and the complementarity of the Draft recommendation with the work of the European Commission on the Digital Service Act and members were informed that they could provide comments until the 24th of May. The CDMSI agreed to hold a public consultation on the Draft recommendation, before presenting the final revised version for possible approval at the next plenary meeting in December 2021.

7.2 Exchange of views with Mr Triantafillos Loukarelis, Chair of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)

The CDMDI held an exchange of views with Mr Triantafillos Loukarelis, Chair of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI) on the need for a balanced and coordinated response to hate speech, a topic of common interest for both steering committees, under examination by their joint committee on combating hate speech (ADI/MSI-DIS). Mr Triantafillos underlined that the ADI/MSI-DIS's unique set up, bringing together experts from a wide range of expertise, is an opportunity for the Council of Europe to develop a framework to combat hate speech based on the ECtHR case-law, and produce a comprehensive and balanced-based approach to combat hate speech, including in an online environment.

7.3. Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS)

Maria Run Bjarnadottir, Chair of ADI/MSI-DIS, informed the CDMSI on the outcome of the third meeting of the ADI/MSI-DIS held on 12-13 April 2021, where the experts agreed on the revised version of the text based

on the contributions received and the discussions held during the meeting. The experts and participants overall agreed on the structure and principal headlines of the future recommendation while proposing several changes within the chapters. The key issues discussed were the terminologies used throughout the document, the definition of hate speech, and the distinction between hate speech that is illegal and subject to criminal liability, illegal and subject to civil and administrative liability, and hate speech that is not illegal *per se*, but causes prejudice and hate and raises concerns in terms of tolerance, civility and inclusion, and the need to align the forthcoming recommendation with relevant ECtHR's case-law. With respect to online hate speech, the experts raised the importance of ensuring coherence between the draft recommendation and other council of Europe instruments (*CM/Rec(2018)2 on the roles and responsibilities of internet intermediaries*, the upcoming MSI-DIG *Draft Guidance Note on content moderation*), while also taking into consideration EU policy and regulations (such as the proposal for a Digital Services Act of the European Commission) and the practical experiences of Member States.

The CDMSI members were informed that they should seek to preliminarily agree on the draft recommendation text, along with its sister committee CDADI during its next plenary in June, before being launched for publication consultation in the summer. The ADI/MSI-DIS will meet in autumn to agree on the revised text and its explanatory memorandum, before presenting it to the CDMSI and CDADI for approval, and subsequently to the Committee of Ministers for possible adoption.

The CDMSI members discussed the Draft Recommendation and generally expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the text. They held an exchange of views on some specific aspects of the Draft Recommendation, particularly the differences in national legislation on hate speech and the concrete implementation of the recommendation. Other key points discussed included the different levels of hate speech and the question of provisional measures for hate speech. The CDMSI members agreed to hold a public consultation on the Draft recommendation and instructed its Bureau to coordinate with the Bureau of the CDADI and ensure that a consolidated first version of the Draft Recommendation is made available for public consultation.

7.4 Expert committee on Media Environment and reform (MSI-REF)

The CDMSI took note of information by the Secretariat on the latest meetings held by the MSI-REF expert committee in January and end of March 2021. The Secretariat informed the members that the three documents sent to them were the latest version dating from the meeting in March, and that any comments received during this plenary would also be integrated in the current documents. All the documents were therefore work in progress and were not up for adoption during this plenary.

On the *Draft recommendation on principles for media and communication governance*, the CDMSI took note of the information that the approach taken had been to develop principles according to which members states can effectively regulate media and communication offline and online, keeping the human rights standards of the Council of Europe but also considering that the media and communication environment has changed. The CDMSI discussed the document and raised the need to ensure transparency particularly in the context of paid content. The question of the legal value of the document was raised to which the secretariat responded that if and once adopted by the Committee of Ministers, the 15 principles listed in the appendix will acquire legal value while the explanatory memorandum will serve to provide practical advice on how States can ensure compliance and consistency in applying the recommendation.

On the *Draft recommendation on electoral communication and media coverage of election campaigns*, the CDMSI, the Secretariat highlighted several guiding elements in the drafting process, notably the shift of electoral communication to the online environment, the right of people's privacy and protection of data, the potential manipulation of voters through massive use of communication and the need to balance freedom of expression and the right to a free election. The CDMSI members welcomed the progress of the text and exchanged views on the co-regulatory approach in addressing issues of online political advertising. The Secretariat was instructed to ensure coherence and coordination with the EU on online political advertising,

and to refrain from drafting too detailed provisions which could cause difficulties in concrete implementation of the recommendation in national legislations.

The CDMSI agreed to hold a public consultation on the two draft recommendations, before presenting final revised versions for possible approval at the next plenary meeting in December 2021.

In relation to the *Draft guidance note on the prioritisation of public interest content online*, the CDMSI was informed that, during the last MSI-REF meeting in March, the experts had discussed the different approaches when it comes to defining what public interest content means. It was made clear that the expert's intent was not to make a list of public interest content, but rather to give practical tools and good practice examples to States and policy makers that could help them identify what public interest content is.

8. Exchange of views with Mr Alexander Seger, Executive Secretary of the Cybercrime Convention, Head of Cybercrime Division

The CDMSI members welcomed the presentation by Mr Alexander Seger, Executive secretary of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Head of Cybercrime Division, on the state of play of the Cybercrime Convention which criminalise offenses by any means of computers, provide procedural powers with safeguards to investigate cybercrime and collect electronic evidence in relation to any crime, provides for international cooperation on cybercrime and evidence. The CDMSI members welcomed the development of the new protocol to the Convention on enhanced cooperation and disclosure of electronic evidence which was at its final stages of discussion. The CDMSI further took note of the information provided by the secretariat on the capacity building activities by the Cybercrime Programme Office (C-PROC).

9. **Council of Europe Convention on access to official documents**

The CDMSI welcomed the presentation by Ms Elvana Thaçi, Administrator, Human Rights, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, about the provisions of the Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents (CETS No. 205), also known as the Tromsø Convention, the first binding international legal instrument recognising a general right of access to official documents held by public authorities. With regards to the core provisions of the Convention, the CDMSI was informed that they are built on three main principles: transparency of public authorities, self-development of people and the exercise of their fundamental rights and the public's confidence in public authorities. Any limitations to this principle of free access should be necessary and aimed at protecting a legitimate interest such as public security or the protection of the environment.

The CDMSI took note that the Tromsø Convention is open to accession by any State which is not a member of the Council of Europe or any international organisation in accordance with the requirements of Article 17 of the Convention. The Convention entered into force on 1 December 2020 with 11 parties. With regards to the monitoring of its implementation, the CDMSI was informed that two monitoring bodies had been created: the Group of Specialists on Access to Official Documents, which present reports on the adequacy of the measures in law and practice taken by the Parties to give effect to the provisions set out in the Convention and, the Consultation of the Parties which is set to meet at least once every four years to consider the reports, opinions and proposals submitted by the Group of Specialists. The parties of the Convention are currently preparing reports of the legal measures taken to implement its provisions, expected to be finalised by October 29th.

10. Information from Council of Europe institutions and bodies

The CDMSI welcomed the presentation by Ms Maja Cappello, Head of Department for Legal Information of the *European Audiovisual Observatory*, about the institutional changes relating to the Observatory and its

recent work and projects. The CDMSI members took note of information regarding the implementation of the Audiovisual Media Services Directive 2010/13/EU (AVMSD) in the 27 EU member states.

The CDMSI welcomed the information provided by Ms Anne Weber, Adviser to the *Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe*, on the recent work of the Commissioner on freedom of expression and media freedom. The Commissioner wrote a letter in March 2021 to the Prime Minister of Poland, urging the government to ensure that two draft law concerning an 'advertising revenue tax on media outlets' and 'protection of freedom of speech of social media users' respect European human rights standards, as well as a letter inviting the Spanish authorities to amend in a comprehensive manner the Criminal Code to strengthen existing safeguards of the right to freedom of expression. The Commissioner also published a Memorandum on freedom of expression and media freedom in Hungary. Another development was the upcoming participation of the Commissioner in the Conference of Ministers responsible for media and information society. The CDMSI also welcomed the publication of three Human Rights Comments, on SLAPPs and for the entry into force of the Tromsø Convention, and on the protection of journalists covering public assemblies, issued on the occasion of the World Press Freedom Day. The CDMSI members welcomed the information that safety of journalists, freedom of expression in times of Covid and the moderation of online content are among the priority topics of interest of the Commissioner.

11. Internet/digital governance

The CDMSI took note and discussed the information provided by Mr Yannick Meneceur, Head of Digital Development Unit, on the Partnership with relevant business companies and their involvement in various activities of the Council of Europe. During this exchange, CDMSI members stressed that with regards to business partnerships, it is important to take a multistakeholder approach and engage with civil society and academia as well. The CDMSI also welcomed the upcoming launch of the globalpolicy.ai website in September 2021, as a unique source of access to documents produced by international organisations on the regulation of artificial intelligence.

12. Initiatives from Member States

The CDMSI members shared information about initiatives in member states, in particular on the (i) national strategy and legislative work related to hate speech in Armenia presented by Ms Anna Karapetyan; (ii) about the takeaways from the Conference on Artificial Intelligence and the Future of Journalism Today organised by the Portuguese Presidency of the Council of the EU and about relevant legislative developments in Portugal presented by Ms Charlotte Simões; (iii) about the Swiss Covid-19 related media support measures and a new national and international "network for digital self-determination" aiming to overcome the often proclaimed dichotomy between data-driven innovation and the respect for fundamental freedoms, provided by Ms Christiane Erkoreka and Mr Thomas Schneider; and (iv) about a Ukrainian database allowing for content sharing among audiovisual media and the methodology for monitoring gender equality in media provided by Ms Olha Herasymiuk.

13. Participation in relevant meetings and events

The CDMSI took note of the information provided by the secretariat on the events organised as part of Germany's Presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe, in particular the online-conference "Human Rights in the Era of AI - Europe as international Standard Setter for Artificial Intelligence", the Conference "Unboxing Hate Speech: European Impulses for Respect and Solidarity on the Web" and the Webinar on the impact of Covid-19 on media freedom.

On cooperation work with institutions, the secretariat informed the CDMSI of the close cooperation on freedom of expression and media issues with the European Commission, relevant commissions of the European Parliament and the European Council. The Council of Europe is also partner with the Fundamental

Rights Agency (FRA) on the Fundamental rights Forum and joint publications have been have launched on cybercrime and data protection. The CDMSI also welcomed the cooperation with UNESCO and the OSCE Representative on Freedom of Media, including the events with the participation of the Council of Europe representatives, inter-secretariat coordination meetings and conferences held on topics such as press freedom and safety of journalists. The CDMSI was also informed on the cooperation with civil society organisations and academia, and the exchanges within the EuroDIG, with the European Federation of Journalists and the European Broadcasting Union.

14. Other business.

No other issue was raised.

Observer status and application

This item was postponed to the next meeting.

Abridged report

The CDMSI noted the dates of the next Bureau and plenary meetings, set for 26-27 October 2021 and 1-3 December 2021, respectively. Noting the absence of a quorum, the CDMSI finalised the abridged report of the meeting and agreed that in the absence of reactions by 7 June, lunchtime, it would be considered adopted.

APPENDIX 1

19th CDMSI meeting

(19-21 May 2021, 09:30-12:30 and 14:00-17:00)

Via videoconference

Agenda

1. **Opening of the meeting**
2. **Adoption of the agenda**
3. **Recent developments**
   - Council of Europe Strategic Framework for 2022-2025
4. **Review of progress**
   - 4.1. Follow-up to CDMSI previous work

     Draft Recommendation on promoting a favourable environment for quality journalism in the digital age
   - 4.2. Co-operation with other relevant Council of Europe bodies and committees
     - Information on latest developments in the work of CAHAI
     - Information on latest developments in the Council of Europe work on data protection
     - Consultations on issues/documents of relevance to the CDMSI work (GREVIO, PACE)
5. **Prospects for the future work of the CDMSI**
   - 5.1. Future terms of reference of the CDMSI
   - 5.2. In-house consultations on the work of steering and ad-hoc committees: pending revision of the *Resolution CM/Res(2011)24* on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods
6. **Conference of ministers responsible for media and information society**
   - 6.1. Preparations of the Ministerial Conference (10-11 June 2021)
   - 6.2. Documents of the Ministerial Conference
     - *Draft Resolution on freedom of expression and digital technologies*
     - *Draft Resolution on the changing media and information environment*
     - *Draft Resolution on safety of journalists*
     - *Draft Resolution on the impact of the health crisis on freedom of expression*
     - *Draft Final Declaration*
7. **Standard setting under the CDMSI**

7.1. Expert Committee on Freedom of Expression and Digital Technologies (MSI-DIG)

- Report of the 2nd meeting of the MSI-DIG (17-18 March 2021)
- Draft recommendation by the Committee of Ministers to member States on the impacts of digital technologies on freedom of expression
- Draft guidance note on best practices towards effective legal and procedural frameworks for self-regulatory and co-regulatory mechanisms of content moderation

7.2. Exchange of views with Mr Triantafillos Loukarelis, Chair of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)

7.3. Expert Committee on Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS)

- Report of the 2nd and 3rd meetings of the ADI/MSI-DIS (15-16 December 2020; 12-13 April 2021)
- Draft Recommendation on a Comprehensive approach to Combating Hate Speech

7.4. Expert Committee on Media Environment and Reform (MSI-REF)

- Report of the 2nd (19-20 January 2021) and 3rd (31 March -1 April 2021) meetings of the MSI-REF
- Draft recommendation by the Committee of Ministers to member States on principles for media and communication governance
- Draft recommendation by the Committee of Ministers to member States on electoral communication and media coverage of election campaigns
- Guidance note on the prioritisation of public interest content on relevant online platforms

8. Exchange of views with Mr Alexander Seger, Executive Secretary of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Head of Cybercrime Division

9. Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents (CETS No. 205)

10. Information from Council of Europe institutions and bodies

10.1. European Audiovisual Observatory

10.2. Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe

10.3. Latest information from other Council of Europe institutions and bodies

11. Internet/Digital Governance

- Partnership with business: Committee of Ministers exchanges of views with representatives of internet companies/their associations - signatories of the Exchange of Letters with the Council of Europe Secretary General, new accessions
- Recent and upcoming events (IGF 2020, EuroDIG, other)

12. Initiatives in member States (tour de table)

13. Participation in relevant meetings and events

14. Other business

APPENDIX 2

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS / LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

Total number of participants: 110 / Nombre total des participants : 110
Gender distribution: 49 men (45%) / 61 women (55%)
Parité: 49 hommes (45%) / 61 femmes (55%)

ALBANIA / ALBANIE (excused)
Mr Sokol Gjoka
Director of International Organizations /Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs

ARMENIA / ARMENIE
Ms Anna Karpetyan
External Relations Division Ministry of Justice

AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE
Mr Matthias Traimer
Head of department Media and Information Society
Federal Chancellery, Media Affairs and Information Society, Federal Chancellery, Constitutional Service

Mr Andreas Ulrich,
Federal Chancellery – Constitutional Service, Dept V/3 - Media Affairs, Information Society, Law of political parties

AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAÏDJAN
Mr Javid Musayev
Head of Communication Policy Division of the Department for Work with NGOs and Communication of the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Azerbaijan

BELGIUM / BELGIQUE
Mr Johan Bouciqué
Media Advisor
Department of Culture, Youth and Media Flemish Government

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE
Mr Emir Povlakic
Head of Audiovisual and Media Services, Communications Regulatory Agency

BULGARIA / BULGARIE
Ms Nelly Stoyanova
Head of Information Society Policy Department - Ministry of Transport, IT and Communications

Ms Axenia Boneva
State expert, Directorate for International Cooperation, European Programmes and Regional Activities
Ministry of Culture of Republic of Bulgaria

CROATIA / CROATIE
Ms Nives Zvonarić
Head of Media Sector, Independent Media Sector, Ministry of Culture

CYPRUS / CHYPRE
Ms Sunny Papadimitriou Tofa
Press and Information Officer, Ministry of Interior

CZECH REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE (excused)
Mr Artus Rejent
Media and Audio-vision Department, Ministry of Culture

DENMARK / DANEMARK (excused)
Mr Jan Ostrup Poulsen Ministry of Culture

ESTONIA / ESTONIE
Mr Taavo Lumiste
Deputy Permanent Representative
Permanent Representation of Estonia to the Council of Europe

FINLAND / FINLANDE
Mr Juuso Moisander
Market Access Unit (TUO-20)

FRANCE
Mme Louise Boyé
Agent « rédactrice audiovisuel » au Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères français

M. Jérôme Gerbaud Chargé de mission
Secrétariat général – Bureau des affaires européennes Ministère de la Culture

Ms Bénédicte de Boisgelin
Advisor at the Digital platform regulation unit of the Ministry of culture

GEORGIA / GEORGIE (excused)

GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE
Mr Till Mengler
Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media Division K31, International Media Cooperation, Broadcast

Ms Christiane Semar State Chancellery
Representation of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate Policy Officer International and European Media Affairs

Mr Florian Schweyer
Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the European Union Deputy Head of Unit "Political Priorities, Media Policy"

GREECE / GRECE
Mr Iordanis Giamouridis
Head of Department for Audiovisual Media and Internet
Directorate for Media, Secretariat General for Communication & Media

HUNGARY / HONGRIE
Mr György Ocskó
International Legal Adviser, National Media and Infocommunications Authority

ICELAND / ISLANDE (excused)
Ms Elfa Ýr Gylfadóttir
Media Commission, Ministry of Education, Science and Education

IRELAND / IRLANDE
Ms Hannah Graham Broadcasting & Media Division
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

Mr Kevin O'Brien Broadcasting & Media Division
Department of Tourism, Culture, Arts, Gaeltacht, Sport and Media

ITALY / ITALIE
Mr Pierluigi Mazzella
Director General, Agency for the Right to University Education, Professor of Information and Communication, University of Rome

LATVIA / LETTONIE
Mr Andris Mellakauls
Information Space Integration, Ministry of Culture

Ms Paula Feldmane
Desk Officer Information Space Integration Division, Ministry of Culture

LIECHTENSTEIN
Ms Alina Brunhart
Diplomatic Officer
Division for Security and Human Rights

Ms Daniela Sele
Diplomatic Officer
Division for Security and Human Rights
Office for Foreign Affairs of the Principality of Liechtenstein

LITHUANIA / LITUANIE
Ms Rasa Zdanevičiūté
Media and Copyright Policy Division, Ministry of Culture

LUXEMBOURG
Mme Céline Flammang Conseillère
Ministère d'État, Service des médias et des communications

M. Thierry Zeien
Service des médias et des communications Ministère d'État
Le gouvernement du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg

MALTA/MALTE (excused) Ms Marlene Spireti Assistant Director
Ministry for Justice, Equality and Governance

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / REPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA
Ms Tatiana Buraga
Head of Service of External Relations and European Integration
Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Moldova

MONACO (excused)
M. Serge Robillard
Délégation Interministérielle pour la Transition Numérique Chargé des relations institutionnelles,
Principauté de Monaco

MONTENEGRO
Mr Ranko Vujovic
Executive Director, UNEM

THE NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS
Ms Inge Welbergen (Chair) Legal officer Media
Ministry of Education, Culture and Science
Directorate-General of Culture and Media | Media and Creative Industries

Ms Monika Milanovic
Ministry of Interior Affairs

NORTH MACEDONIA / MACÉDOINE DU NORD (excused)
Ms Vesna Poposka
Head of the Government's International PR Department

NORWAY / NORVEGE
Mr Bjørn Eckblad
Senior Advisor, Department of Media and Art Ministry of Culture

POLAND / POLOGNE
Ms Malgorzata Pek
The National Broadcasting Council (KRRiT)

PORTUGAL
Mr Sérgio Gomes da Silva Director
International Relations and Communication Department, General Secretariat of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers

Ms Charlotte Simões Policy officer
International Relations and Communication Department, General Secretariat of the Presidency of the Council of Ministers

ROMANIA / ROUMANIE (excused)
Mr Andrei Dinculescu
IT expert within the Office of the Prime Minister

RUSSIAN FEDERATION / FEDERATION RUSSIE
Mr Ilya Timokhov
Acting Deputy Director of the Department of Information and Press

Mr Alexey Sazhinov
Deputy to the Permanent Representative of Russian Federation to the Council of Europe

SAN MARINO / SAINT MARIN
Ms Beatrice Simoncini Department of Foreign Affairs
Media and Information Department

SERBIA/SERBIE
Ms Maja Zaric
Ministry of Culture and Media

SLOVAK REPUBLIC / REPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE
Ms Viktória Knappová
Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic, advisor at Media, Audiovisual and Copyright Department

SLOVENIA / SLOVENIE
Mr Skender Adem
Undersecretary, Ministry of Culture of Republic of Slovenia

SPAIN / ESPAGNE
Mr Miguel Ovejero Pérez
Subdirectorate General for the Management of Audiovisual Communication Services Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation

SWEDEN / SUEDE
Ms Filippa Arvas Olsson
Division for Media and Film, Ministry of Culture

SWITZERLAND / SUISSE
Mr Thomas Schneider (Vice-Chair),
Ambassador
Director of International Affairs
Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication DETEC Federal Office of Communications OFCOM

Ms Livia Walpen
Advisor International Relations
Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication DETEC Swiss Federal Office of Communications OFCOM

Ms Christiane Erkoreka Jauregi-Fürst Division Media / Section Legal Affairs Media
Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communications DETEC Federal Office of Communications (OFCOM)

TURKEY / TURQUIE
Mr Yusuf Demeirtaş Assistant Expert
Radio Television Supreme Council

Mr Dinser Şahin
Deputy Head-International Relations Department Radio Television Supreme Council

Mr Emel Sapmaz Expert
Radio Television Supreme Council

UKRAINE
Ms Olha Herasymiuk
First Deputy Chair of the National Council of Ukraine for Television and Radio Broadcasting

UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI
Ms Megan Wilson
EU Policy Advisor
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Ms Bianca Strohmann
Head of press policy
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Mr Ed Little
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Ms Laura Bower
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Ms Laurie Scott
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Mr Ben Formela
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Mr Rob Isherwood
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

Ms Morgane Quemener
Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport

* * *

OBSERVERS/PARTICIPANTS

HOLY SEE / SAINT SIEGE
Mr Michael Lukas
Spokesman of the Order of Malta in the Diocese of Hildesheim

MEXICO / MEXIQUE
Ms Citlalli Ivonne García González
Federal Institute of Telecommunications (IFT) Head of the International Relations Department
General Coordination of International Affairs

EUROPEAN UNION / UNION EUROPÉENNE
Ms Yordanka Ivanova
European Commission

Ms Maria Cristina Di Mauro
Legal Affairs Trainee

Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe

MOROCCO / MAROC
Mme El Akrichi Chanaz
Cheffe de division de la Coopération
Ministère de la Culture, de la Jeunesse et des Sports Département de la Communication

Mme Meriem Khatouri
Directrice des études et de développement des médias Ministère de la Culture, de la Jeunesse et des Sports Département de la Communication

HIGH AUTHORITY FOR AUDIO-VISUAL COMMUNICATION /HAUTE AUTORITÉ DE LA COMMUNICATION AUDIOVISUELLE
Mr El Mahdi Aroussi Idrissi
Director of the legal studies Department, focal point, High Authority for Audio-visual Communication (HACA)
Directeur du Département des études juridiques, point focal, Haute Autorité de la Communication Audiovisuelle (HACA)

Mr Othmane Alami Laktib
Executive in the Legal Studies Department, High Authority for Audio-visual Communication (HACA)
Cadre, Département des études juridiques, Haute Autorité de la Communication Audiovisuelle (HACA)

***

ADVISORY COUNCIL ON YOUTH (CCJ)
Ms Emilija Gagrčin
European Federation for Intercultural Learning (EFIL)

Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ)
Mr Eral Knight
Head of Private International Law Negotiations and International Relations International Justice Policy Division

CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONFÉRENCE DES ORGANISATIONS INTERNATIONALES NON GOUVERNEMENTALES DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE
Mr Didier Schretter, INGO representative to the CDMSI

***

ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN JOURNALISTS (AEJ)
Mr William Horsley
Media Freedom representative of the Association of European Journalists
International Director of the Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM) at the University of Sheffield

Mr Krzysztof Bobinski
Member

ARTICLE 19
Ms Sarah Clark
Head of Europe and Central Asia team

COMMITTEE TO PROJECT JOURNALISTS (CPJ)/ COMITE POUR LA PROTECTION DES JOURNALISTES
Mr Tom Gibson EU Representative

PERMANENT CONFERENCE OF THE MEDITERRANEAN AUDIOVISUAL OPERATORS (COPEAM)
Mr Giacomo Mazzone Member

EAVI MEDIA LITERACY FOR CITIZENSHIP
Mr Paolo Celot
Founder and Secretary General

EUROPEAN BROADCASTING UNION (EBU) / UNION EUROPEENNE DE RADIO-TELEVISION
Ms Nicola Frank
Head of Institutional and International Relations

EUROPEAN INTERNET SERVICES PROVIDERS' ASSOCIATION
Mr Michael Rotert

INTERNET RIGHTS AND PRINCIPLES COALITION
Ms Minda Moreira Co-Chair of the IRPC

Ms Marianne Franklin
Member of the Steering Committee

GUESTS / INVITES

Mr Triantafillos Loukarelis
Chair of the Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion (CDADI)

Ms María Rún Bjarnadóttir
Chair of ADI-MSI/DIS Vice-Chair of the Icelandic Media Commission

Mr Viktors Makarovs
Vice-Chair of MSI-DIG Special Envoy on Information Security Issues Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Latvia

Mr Mark Cole
MSI-REF Rapporteur, Professor for Media and Telecommunication Law, University of Luxembourg, Director for Academic Affairs, Institute of European Media Law (EMR), Saarbrücken, Germany

Ms Flutura Kusari, Legal Advisor
European Centre for Press and Media Freedom

* * *

COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

DIRECTORATE GENERAL HUMAN RIGHTS AND RULE OF LAW

Ms Urška Umek, Media and Internet Division, Head of Media Unit, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Rodica Ciochina, Administrator, Media and Internet Division, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Joanna Szelezniak, Assistant, Media and Internet Division, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

***

Mr Jan Kleijssen, Director, Information Society and Action against Crime, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Mr Patrick Penninckx, Head of Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Mr Jens Lorentz, Senior Advisor on Freedom of Expression to the Director General, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Mr Alexander Seger, Executive Secretary of the Cybercrime Convention Committee, Head of Cybercrime Division, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Clementina Barbaro, Co-Secretary of the CAHAI, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Mr Yannick Meneceur, Head of the Digital Development Unit, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Mr Peter Kimpian, Administrator, Data Protection Unit, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Mr Aleksandr Tiulkanov, Administrator, Digital Development Unit, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Elvana Thaçi, Administrator, Human Rights, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Nina Lichtner, Project Officer, Cybercrime Division, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Laetitia Dimanche, Assistant, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Emma Gruden, Trainee, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Felicia Nica, Expert, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

Ms Celine Dewaele, Assistant, Cybercrime Division, Information Society Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law

DIRECTORATE GENERAL OF DEMOCRACY

Mr Hallvard Gorseth, Secretary of the CDADI, Head of Anti-discrimination Department, Directorate General of Democracy

Mr Wolfram Bechtel, Co-Secretary of the CDADI, Anti-discrimination Department

Mr Menno Ettema, Programme manager / Co- secretariat to Committee of Experts on Combating Hate Speech (ADI/MSI-DIS) - Directorate General of Democracy, Anti-Discrimination Department – No Hate Speech and Cooperation unit, Directorate General of Democracy

EUROPEAN AUDIO-VISUAL OBSERVATORY
Ms Susanne Nikoltchev
Executive Director

Ms Maja Cappello
Head of the Department for Legal Information

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
Ms Anne Weber
Adviser

CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES
Mr Roman Chlapak
Secretary, Governance Committee

INTERPRETERS / INTERPRETES

Ms Gillian Wakenhut
Mr Rémy Jain
Ms Clarissa Worsdale
Mr Didier Jungling