COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS
COMITÉ DES MINISTRES
COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

MINISTERS' DEPUTIES CM Documents **CM(2022)109** June 2022[1]

1439th meeting, 6 July 2022

4 Human rights

5.1 Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI)

Abridged report of the 21st meeting

Item to be considered by the GR-H at its meeting on 28 June 2022

Meeting details

The Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI) held its 21st meeting in Strasbourg on 1-2 June with Mr Taavo Lumiste as the Chair.

The agenda of the meeting is contained in Appendix 1. The full report of the meeting including the list of participants is available on the CDMSI website.

List of items for decision by the Committee of Ministers

Take note of the abridged report of the 21st plenary meeting of the Steering Committee on media and Information Society (1-2 June 2022).

List of items for information of the Committee of Ministers

The CDMSI:

Regarding standard setting activities:

- **welcomed** the adoption of deliverables from the previous biennium
    - Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on promoting a favourable environment for quality journalism in the digital age
    - Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)11 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on principles for media and communication governance
    - Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)12 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on electoral communication and media coverage of election campaigns
    - Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)13 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the impacts of digital technologies on freedom of expression
    - Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)16 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on combating hate speech;

- **took note** of the Committee of Ministers' call, in the decisions taken at the 132nd Session of the Committee of Ministers, held on 20 May 2022 in Turin, for the effective implementation of these instruments by all member States;

- **took note** of the preparation by the Secretariat of two questionnaires aimed at promoting and facilitating the implementation of Council of Europe standards by member States in the CDMSI's fields of competence, which have/will be circulated among CDMSI members:

[1] This document has been classified restricted until examination by the Committee of Ministers.

1) on collecting good practice for the extension of the Implementation Guide to Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of journalism and safety of journalists and other media actors (deadline for responses extended until end July 2022) and;

2) on the state of implementation of *Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the roles and responsibilities of internet intermediaries, including in light of the developments related to the EU's Digital Services Act package* (deadline for replies: mid-September 2022);

- **took note of** the report of the first meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Integrity of Online Information - MSI-INF (15-16 March 2022) and of the outline for its *draft guidance note on countering the spread of online mis- and disinformation through fact-checking and platform design solutions in a human rights compliant manner*;

- **took note** of the report of the first meeting of the Committee of Experts on Increasing Resilience of Media - MSI-RES (31 March-1 April 2022), of the outline for its draft guidelines on the use of digital tools including artificial intelligence for journalism/by journalists, and of the circulation of a questionnaire on behalf of the MSI-RES regarding the other future deliverable, a *collection of good practice for sustainable media financing (deadline for replies: mid-September 2022)*;

- **took note** of the report of the first meeting of the Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation - MSI-SLP (4-5 April 2022) and the outline for the its *draft recommendation on strategic lawsuits against public participation*.

As regards the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine:

- **expressed support and solidarity** to Ukraine and discussed examples of support action taken by member States, including steps taken to combat disinformation and propaganda;

- **took note of** the Council of Europe's firm position against the Russian aggression in Ukraine and related decisions by the Council of Europe, in particular the cessation of the Council of Europe membership of the Russian Federation in the Council of Europe;

- **held an exchange** on the consequences for the CDMSI and its Committees of experts and took note of the results of elections held to replace the former members elected on behalf of the Russian Federation, with a view to completing the composition of its expert committees: (Ms Anne-Sophie Sirinelli (France) elected as a MSI-SLP member; Ms Solvita Denisa– Liepniece (Latvia) elected as a MSI-RES member);

- **held an exchange** with Ms Olha Herasymiuk, CDMSI member in respect of Ukraine, who provided un update on the situation in Ukraine, including on the specific measures taken to ensure, despite the armed conflict, due access to information for the Ukrainian population.

In light of the issues raised by some member States in recent years regarding the transfrontier provision of audio-visual media services, the CDMSI:

- **held an exchange** on the state of play of the European Convention on Trans-frontier Television and possible ways forward;

- **committed** to collect and provide further information on issues of concern for member States related to the transfrontier provision of audio-visual media services;

- **decided to set up** a reflection group from among its members to examine the relevant issues and members States' positions and prepare the ground for further reflection at the next plenary meeting.

Regarding digital governance:

- **exchanged views** with Ambassador Rasmus Lumi, Council of Europe Thematic Coordinator on Information Policy TC-INF on the Council of Europe's Digital Agenda 2022-2025 "Protecting human rights, democracy and the rule of law in the digital environment" and **took note of** the latest developments regarding the Council of Europe Convention on Access to Official Documents (Trømso, CETS No. 205) and the Council of Europe's co-operation with internet companies;

- **Held an exchange** with Ms Marisa Jimenez, European Public Policy Director, META and Ms Anne Hobson, Policy Manager at Reality Labs, META Platforms on the Metaverse project and the implications of the development of virtual realities from the perspective of the Council of Europe's values and principles (rule of law, human rights, and democracy).

Regarding other developments:

- **took note of and discussed developments** of relevance for the CDMSI's work of other Council of Europe bodies and structures:

    - the Committee on Artificial intelligence (CAI) tasked to prepare a legal instrument on the development, design and application of artificial intelligence systems based on the Council of Europe's standards on human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and conducive to innovation, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the Committee of Ministers;

    - the Data Protection Unit and its call for ratification of the Amending Protocol for the modernisation of Convention 108;

    - the division on Co-operation on Freedom of Expression issues and its work on supporting and promoting the implementation of the Council of Europe standards in the field of freedom of expression, with a focus on the action taken to address the situation in Ukraine resulting from the Russian aggression;

    - the Cybercrime division and the recent opening for signature of the Second Additional Protocol to the Cybercrime Convention (Budapest Convention) on enhanced co-operation and disclosure of electronic evidence;

- **took note** of the information provided by Mr Roberto Fasino, Head of Secretariat, Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly, on the most recent activities of PACE in the area of freedom of expression and information, and the synergies and complementarity of the work between PACE and the CDMSI, including on the issue of SLAPPs.

- **welcomed** the presentation by Mr Stefano Montanari, Head of Communications Unit / Adviser to the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights on the latest developments of relevance for the CDMSI in the Commissioner's work.

- **held a tour de table** on developments in the member States in the areas of relevance for the CDMSI.

Regarding applications for observer status:

- **approved**, following a presentation and an exchange with the organisations' representatives, the applications for observer status to the Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation - MSI-SLP of:
    - **Amnesty International**
    - **The Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)**

Next meeting:

- **agreed** to hold its next plenary meeting on 7-9 December 2022.

Resource implications

None.

Evaluation of completed activities:

The Committee noted with satisfaction that the results expected under the terms of reference for the previous biennium were achieved despite the constraints related to the Covid-19 pandemic. It stressed the importance of implementation, at the domestic level, of the recently adopted instruments, in line with the Turin decisions of the Committee of Ministers, as well as, as ways to enhance their impact, of their wide promotion, including their translation in national and local languages.

Any changes to the composition of the Committee Bureau.

None.

Other observations.

None.

APPENDIX 1

AGENDA

1. **Opening of the meeting**
2. **Adoption of the agenda and order of business**
3. **Freedom of expression in situations of conflict and aggression**
4. **Update on the situation in Ukraine**
5. **Follow-up to the CDMSI's previous work. Prospects for the future work**
   a) Update on the deliverables from the previous biennium
   b) Questionnaire aimed at collecting good practice for the extension of the Implementation Guide to the Recommendation CM/Rec(2016)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of journalism and safety of journalists and other media actors
   c) Questionnaire for assessment of the state of implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2018)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the roles and responsibilities of internet intermediaries
   d) State of play with the European Convention on Transfrontier Television (ECTT)
6. **Standard setting**
   - **6.1 Committee of Experts on Integrity of Online Information (MSI-INF)**
   - **6.2 Committee of Experts on Increasing Media Resilience (MSI-RES)**
   - **6.3 Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation (MSI-SLP)**
7. **Digital Governance**
   - **7.1 Exchange of views with Ambassador Rasmus Lumi, Council of Europe Thematic co-ordinator on Information Policy (TC-INF)**
   - **7.2 Council of Europe involvement in digital governance events (EuroDIG, IGF and other)**
8. **Information on latest developments in the work of the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)**
9. **Recent country-specific developments in the field of freedom of expression - tour de table**
10. **Exchange of views with the European Audiovisual Observatory**
11. **Review of progress**
    - **11.1 Council of Europe work on data protection**
    - **11.2 Council of Europe work on combating cybercrime**
    - **11.3 Council of Europe co-operation activities on freedom of expression**
    - **11.4 The Council of Europe taskforce on freedom of expression**
12. **Information from other Council of Europe institutions and bodies**
    - **12.1 PACE**
    - **12.2 Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights**
    - **12.3 Latest information from other Council of Europe institutions and bodies**
13. **Participation in past and future events of relevance for the CDMSI**

14. Information update from the EBU

15. Exchange of views with META on issues of common interest

16. Applications for observer status

a) Application by Amnesty International

b) Application by the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)

17. Date and place of next meeting

18. Other business

19. Approval of the abridged meeting report

APPENDIX 2

List of participants / *Liste de participants*

Total number of participants: / Nombre total des participants : 100
Gender distribution: 53 men (53%) / 47 women (53%)
Parité entre hommes : 53 hommes (53%) / 47 femmes (47%)

MEMBERS / *MEMBRES*

ALBANIA / *ALBANIE*	**Mr/M. Sokol Gjoka** Director of International Organizations/ *Directeur des organisations internationales* Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs/ *Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères*
ANDORRA / *ANDORRE*	Waiting for a nomination / *en attente d'une nomination*
ARMENIA / *ARMENIE*	**Ms/Mme Anna Karapetyan** Senior Specialist at the International Legal Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia/ *Spécialiste principale au département de la coopération juridique internationale du ministère de la justice de la République d'Arménie*
AUSTRIA / *AUTRICHE*	**Mr/M. Matthias Traimer** Head of Department, Media Affairs and Information Society/*Chef du service Médias et société de l'information* Federal Chancellery, Constitutional Service/ *Chancellerie fédérale, Service constitutionnel*
AZERBAIJAN / *AZERBAÏDJAN*	**Ms/Mme Jamala Aliyeva** Senior Adviser / Department for Work with NGO's and Communication / *Chef de la division de la politique de communication du département du travail avec les ONG et de la communication* Presidential Administration of the Republic of Azerbaijan / *Administration présidentielle de la République d'Azerbaïdjan* **Mr/M. Rasim Baghirov** Specialist on Media Development Issues / *Spécialiste des questions de développement des médias* Head of International Relations and Strategic Planning of the Media Development Agency of the Republic of Azerbaijan / *Chef des relations internationales et de la planification stratégique de l'Agence de développement des médias de la République d'Azerbaïdjan*
BELGIUM / *BELGIQUE*	**Mr/M. Johan Bouciqué** Media Advisor/ *Conseiller médias* Department of Culture, Youth and Media/*Département de la culture, de la jeunesse et des médias* Flemish Government / *Gouvernement flamand* **Mr Nick Socquet** Media Advisor/ Conseiller médias Department of Culture, Youth and Media/Département de la culture, de la jeunesse et des médias Flemish Government / Gouvernement flamand
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / *BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE*	**Mr/M. Emir Povlakic** Head of Audiovisual and Media Services / *Chef des services audiovisuels et médias* Communications Regulatory Agency / *Agence de régulation des communications*

BULGARIA/*BULGARIE*	**Ms/Mme Nelly Stoyanova** Head of Information Society Policy Department/*Chef du département de la politique de la société de l'information* Ministry of Transport, IT and Communications of Republic of Bulgaria/*Ministère des transports, de l'informatique et des communications culture de la République de Bulgarie* **Ms/Mme Axenia Boneva** State expert/Expert d'État Directorate for International Cooperation, European Programmes and Regional Activities/Direction de la coopération internationale, des programmes européens et des activités régionales Ministry of Culture of Republic of Bulgaria/Ministère de la culture de la République de Bulgarie
CROATIA/*CROATIE*	**Ms/Mme Nives Zvonarić** Head of Media Sector / *Cheffe du secteur des médias* Ministry of Culture and Media / *Ministère de la culture et des médias*
CYPRUS/*CHYPRE*	**Ms/Mme Sunny Papadimitriou Tofa** Press and Information Officer/*Attaché de presse et d'information* Ministry of Interior/*Ministère de l'Intérieur*
CZECH REPUBLIC/*REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE*	**Mr/M. Artus Rejent** Director / *Directeur* Media and Audio-Visual Departmen t/ *Département des médias et de l'audiovisuel* Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic/Ministère de la culture de la République Tchèque
DENMARK/*DANEMARK*	**Mr/M. Jan Ostrup Poulsen** Special Consultant / *Conseiller spécial* Ministry of Culture / *Ministère de la culture*
ESTONIA/*ESTONIE*	**Mr/M. Taavo Lumiste (Chair/Président)** Deputy Permanent Representative/ *Représentant permanent adjoint* Permanent Representation of Estonia to the Council of Europe / *Représentation permanente de l'Estonie auprès du Conseil de l'Europe* **Ms/Mme Heili Jõe** EU Advisor / *Conseillère de l'UE* Ministry of Culture / *Ministère de la culture*
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GERMANY/*ALLEMAGNE*	**Mr/M. Till Mengler** Federal Government Commissioner for Culture and the Media / *Commissaire du gouvernement fédéral pour la culture et les médias* Division K31, International Media Cooperation, Broadcast / *Division K31, Coopération internationale des médias, radiodiffusion* **Mr/M. Florian Schweyer** Representation of the Free State of Bavaria to the European Union / *Représentation de l'État libre de Bavière auprès de l'Union européenne* Deputy Head of Unit "Political Priorities, Media Policy" / *Chef adjoint de l'unité "Priorités politiques, politique des médias"* **Ms/Mme Christiane Semar** State Chancellery / *Chancellerie d'État* Representation of the State of Rhineland-Palatinate / *Représentation du Land de Rhénanie-Palatinat* Policy Officer International and European Media Affairs / *Chargé de mission Affaires médiatiques internationales et européennes*
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SWEDEN/*SUEDE*	**Ms/Mme Filippa Arvas Olsson** Senior Advisor / *Conseiller principal* Media Division / *Division des médias* Swedish Ministry of Culture / *Ministère suédois de la culture*
SWITZERLAND/*SUISSE*	**Mr/M. Thomas Schneider** Ambassador / *Ambassadeur* Director of International Affairs /*Directeur des affaires internationales* Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication DETEC / *Département fédéral de l'environnement, des transports, de l'énergie et de la communication DETEC* Federal Office of Communications OFCOM */ Office fédéral de la communication OFCOM* **Mr/M. Oliver Gerber** Federal Office of Communications OFCOM */ Office fédéral de la communication OFCOM*
TURKEY/*TURQUIE*	**Mr/M. Yusuf Demirtaş** Vice Head of Department V / *Vice-chef du département V* Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTUK) / *Conseil suprême de la radio et de la télévision (RTUK)* International Relations Department / *Département des relations internationales* **Mr/M. Atakan Erdem** Expert / *Expert* Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTUK) / *Conseil suprême de la radio et de la télévision (RTUK)* International Relations Department / *Département des relations internationales*
UKRAINE	**Ms/Mme Olha Herasymiuk** Chair / *Présidente* National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine / *Conseil national de la télévision et de la radiodiffusion d'Ukraine*
UNITED KINGDOM/*ROYAUME-UNI*	**Ms/Mme Megan Wilson** Europe Policy Advisor / *Conseiller en politique européenne* Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport/ *Département du numérique, de la culture, des médias et des sports* **Mr/M. Patrick McMahon** Senior Policy Advisor - Film and High-End TV Policy / *Conseiller politique principal - Politique en matière de cinéma et de la télévision haut de gamme* Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport/ *Département du numérique, de la culture, des médias et des sports* **Mr/M. Amit Thapar** Head of Film and High-End TV Policy / Responsable de la politique en matière de cinéma et de télévision haut de gamme Department for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport/ *Département du numérique, de la culture, des médias et des sports*

OBSERVERS AND PARTICIPANTS / *OBSERVATEURS ET PARTICIPANTS*

HOLY SEE / *SAINT SIEGE*	**Mr/M. Michael Lukas** Spokesman of the Order of Malta in the Diocese of Hildesheim / *Porte-parole de l'Ordre de Malte dans le diocèse de Hildesheim*
MOROCCO/*MAROC*	**Ms/Mme El Akrichi Chanaz** Head of Division for Cooperation / *Cheffe de division de la Coopération* Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports / *Ministère de la Culture, de la Jeunesse et des Sports* Department of Communication / *Département de la Communication* **Ms/Mme Meriem Khatouri** Director of Studies and Media Development / *Directrice des études et de développement des médias* Ministry of Culture, Youth and Sports / *Ministère de la Culture, de la Jeunesse et des Sports* Department of Communication / *Département de la Communication*

AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL	**Mr/M. Daniel Joloy** Senior Policy Adviser / *Conseiller principal en matière de politique*
ASSOCIATION OF COMMERCIAL TELEVISION IN EUROPE (ACT) / *ASSOCIATION DES TÉLÉVISIONS COMMERCIALES*	**Mr/M. Sebastiano Bertagni** Junior EU Policy Officer / *Chargé de mission junior pour l'UE*
ASSOCIATION OF EUROPEAN JOURNALISTS (AEJ)/ *ASSOCIATION DES JOURNALISTES EUROPÉENS*	**Mr/M. William Horsley** Media Freedom representative of the Association of European Journalists and International Director of the Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM) at the University of Sheffield / *Représentant pour la liberté des médias de l'Association des journalistes européens et directeur international du Centre pour la liberté des médias (CFOM) de l'université de Sheffield*
COUNCIL OF BARS AND LAW SOCIETIES OF EUROPE (CCBE)	**Ms/Mme Indra Bule** Legal Advisor / *Conseiller juridique*
EAVI MEDIA LITERACY FOR CITIZENSHIP/ *EAVI ÉDUCATION AUX MÉDIAS POUR LA CITOYENNETÉ*	**Mr/M. Paolo Celot** Founder and Secretary General / *Fondateur et secrétaire général*
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