



## STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

**CDCPP-Bu(2014)16 rev.**

Strasbourg, 3 November 2014

**6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Bureau  
Strasbourg, 4-5 (morning) November 2014**

**Palais de l'Europe, Room 17**

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### **CONSIDERATION OF THE CDCPP'S WORK BY THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS**

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#### **DOCUMENT FOR INFORMATION**

Item 3.2 of the draft Agenda

The Bureau is invited to:

- take note that:
  - the CDCPP approved by written consultation the comments concerning Recommendation 2049 (2014) – “Identities and diversity within intercultural societies” that appear in the Appendix to this document;
  - the CDCPP Secretariat sent these comments for the attention of the Committee of Ministers' Secretariat on 22 October 2014;
- take note of Recommendation 365 (2014) – Recommendation 365 (2014) – “Promoting diversity through intercultural education and communication strategies” and prepare in the event of a request for comments by the Committee of Ministers, draft comments that would be submitted to members of the CDCPP by written consultation.

**Introduction**

This document provides information regarding the consideration of the CDCPP's work by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe (CM).

**Action required**

The Bureau is invited to take note of the information provided.

## DECISIONS TAKEN BY THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS

Meeting and date	CM decision in respect of the CDCPP	Reference document	Action by the CDCPP
<p>1205<sup>th</sup> CM meeting 9 July 2014</p>	<p><b><i>Decisions of the Committee of Ministers' Deputies</i></b></p> <p><i>"4. concerning Recommendation 2049 (2014) – "Identities and diversity within intercultural societies" (see below)</i></p> <p><i>a. agreed to communicate it to the <u>Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)</u>, the <u>Steering Committee for Educational Policy and Practice (CDPPE)</u>, the <u>Joint Council on Youth (CMJ)</u>, to the <u>European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity (North-South Centre)</u> and the <u>European Audiovisual Observatory for information and possible comments by 31 October 2014;</u></i></p> <p><i>b. in the light of possible comments, invited their Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C) to prepare a draft reply for adoption at one of their forthcoming meetings;"</i></p> <p style="text-align: center;">-----</p> <p><b>Recommendation 2049 (2014) of the Parliamentary Assembly adopted on 25 June 2014 on Identities and diversity within intercultural societies</b></p> <p>1. The Parliamentary Assembly, referring to its <a href="#">Resolution 2005 (2014)</a> on identities and diversity within intercultural societies, reaffirms the need to preserve democratic stability in Europe by cultivating open, vibrant, culturally diverse and cohesive societies.</p> <p>2. In this respect, the Assembly fully supports the Council of Europe intergovernmental work on developing a "soft power" policy and information tools to assist member States in shaping new intercultural processes, mechanisms and relationships that are needed to address the compelling diversity challenges in Europe and, on a wider scale, in the neighbouring regions. It particularly values the implementation of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights (2010), the activities of the Intercultural Cities Network and the ongoing "Media in Europe for Diversity Inclusiveness" Programme (Mediane).</p>	<p><b>Link : "<a href="#">Identities and diversity within intercultural societies</a>"</b></p>	<p>The CDCPP approved by written consultation the comments concerning Recommendation 2049 (2014) – "Identities and diversity within intercultural societies" that appear in the Appendix to this document. The CDCPP Secretariat sent these comments for the attention of the Committee of Ministers' Secretariat on 22 October 2014.</p>

Meeting and date	CM decision in respect of the CDCPP	Reference document	Action by the CDCPP
<p>[1211<sup>th</sup> CM meeting 12 November 2014]</p>	<p>3. Accordingly, the Assembly recommends that the Committee of Ministers:</p> <p>3.1. encourage integrated activities between different sectors of the Council of Europe to develop innovative approaches to diversity management and, in this framework, hold with different stakeholders in the member States “thematic” biennial platforms to discuss and advance policy orientations and exchange best practices; and in support to this process:</p> <p>3.2.</p> <p>3.2.1. review existing Council of Europe action on diversity with a view to engaging in long-term activities to promote respect for cultural diversity through development of policy guidance and tools, which address both national policies and specific urban intercultural strategies;</p> <p>3.2.2. seek better co-ordination between the existing monitoring and information data base systems (the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe, HEREIN and the European Audiovisual Observatory) with a view to establishing a comprehensive research and monitoring approach; and use the available tools to develop an “early warning system” to help avoid culture-related conflicts and to address topical issues;</p> <p>3.2.3. seek synergy with the European Union to support regional initiatives promoting the intercultural agenda in northern, western, eastern and southern Europe, to address regional specificities, to strengthen transnational co-operation and to help develop tailored intercultural strategies and pilot projects.</p> <p><a href="http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-EN.asp?fileid=21066&amp;lang=en">http://assembly.coe.int/nw/xml/XRef/Xref-XML2HTML-EN.asp?fileid=21066&amp;lang=en</a></p> <p style="text-align: center;">***</p> <p><b>Recommendation 365 (2014) – “Promoting diversity through intercultural education and communication strategies”</b> (see Appendix 2) was discussed at the 27<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe which took place on 14-16 October 2014.</p> <p>[It is likely that the Committee of Ministers will ask for the recommendation to be brought to the attention of the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) for information and possible comments by 31 January 2015.]</p>		<p>[The CDCPP could be called upon to prepare comments by 31 January 2015].</p>

## APPENDIX 1

### COMMENTS FROM THE STEERING COMMITTEE FOR CULTURE, HERITAGE AND LANDSCAPE (CDCPP)

*for the attention of the Rapporteur Group on Education, Culture, Sport, Youth and Environment (GR-C) on Recommendation 2049 (2014) "Identities and diversity within intercultural societies" of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe adopted on 25 June 2014*

1. The Committee of Ministers has invited the Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP) to comment on Recommendation 2049 (2014) of the Parliamentary Assembly "Identities and diversity within intercultural societies".

2. As the CDCPP only meets once a year, the following comments have been prepared by the CDCPP Bureau and approved by written procedure by the Committee members.

3. The CDCPP refers in particular to paragraphs 3.2.1, 3.2.2 and 3.2.3 of the Recommendation.

4. Under 3.2.1, the Parliamentary Assembly invites the Committee of Ministers to "review existing Council of Europe action on diversity". The CDCPP points out that the Council of Europe's Intergovernmental Programme of Activities for the biennium 2014-2015 foresees that "an overview of existing Council of Europe action on diversity is prepared for the Committee of Ministers" (*Building Capacities for Dialogue* Programme, Expected result 1, Document CM(2014)1, page 121). For its part, the CDCPP is ready to contribute to establishing such an overview, should the Committee of Ministers so wish. The White Paper on Intercultural dialogue, the follow-up to the 2013 Ministerial Conference on Culture and the 2014 Baku Platform on Culture and Digitalisation represent innovative and transversal achievements for managing cultural diversity.

5. Under item 3.2.2, the Parliamentary Assembly recommends to the Committee of Ministers to "seek better coordination between the existing data base systems" such as the Compendium of Cultural Policies and Trends in Europe, HEREIN and the European Audiovisual Observatory "with a view to establishing a comprehensive research and monitoring approach". As regards the fields of culture, heritage and landscape, the CDCPP recalls that the Compendium and HEREIN and, more recently, ELC L6 for the implementation of the European Landscape Convention, were created to also meet the specific needs of different audiences. Links exist between the three instruments but the CDCPP considers that it is important for them to retain their distinctive identities, in particular to allow them to play their role as thematic instruments.

6. The Compendium System already includes a targeted thematic part on diversity and cultural identity, providing information on policies and support strategies for member States in this area, policies and strategies to major national minority groups, language issues, media pluralism and diversity of themes, cultural and creative industries, gender equality and a database of best practices concerning cultural activities on dialogue. The research and systematic monitoring function is integrated into the System through annual updates of country profiles. Summaries of country practice could also be drafted.

Moreover, work is currently underway in order to develop HEREIN from a database into a more dynamic knowledge base, fostering in particular the exchange of best practices, a reflection on topics of shared interest, and increased cooperation. This development will take into account the results of the working group on the technical cooperation projects. It could also, subject to the availability of budgetary and human resources, allow the inclusion of identity and heritage diversity issues in HEREIN.

7. The CDCPP takes note of the PACE recommendation to set up an "early warning system" designed to avoid conflicts related to culture and to deal with current issues. The CDCPP believes that Council of Europe's work on monitoring and following-up the implementation of the Organisation's acquis already partly covers this recommendation. The CDCPP would be willing to study the feasibility of creating such early warning functions in its spheres of competence.

8. As for item 3.2.3, the CDCPP is pleased to confirm that co-operation with the European Union in the field of culture and the intercultural agenda is very well developed and several Council of Europe programmes in the field of diversity are joint actions with the European Union (European Heritage Days, Programme on intercultural cities, Programme on promoting culture diversity in Kosovo<sup>1</sup>, Roma Academic Network...). It is also aware that the Committee of Ministers is deepening and broadening this co-operation. For its part, the Committee is ready to contribute, within the scope of its terms of reference.

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<sup>1</sup> All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

**APPENDIX 2****PROMOTING DIVERSITY THROUGH INTERCULTURAL EDUCATION  
AND COMMUNICATION STRATEGIES****RECOMMENDATION 365 (2014)**

1. The population of Europe is rapidly diversifying, and it is now the case that not just major cities, but also small municipalities and authorities more and more frequently have local populations of a very wide range of ethnic, cultural and religious origins. Ethnic minorities, foreign residents, migrants, asylum-seekers, refugees and residents of migrant origin form a European population which is not only growing more strongly than in the previous decades, but has also become an integral part of the fabric of our societies. They are now a major force, thanks to their economic, social and cultural contribution.

2. Their diversity represents a wide-ranging resource for innovation, growth and local economic, social and cultural development, making possible an opening up to other cultures and an inflow of new knowledge, methodologies, skills and ideas which increase a society's creativity and make it better able to face up to new situations, crises and challenges. In the cultural sphere, diversity is a source of enrichment which is perceptible in literature, films, the arts, sport, cookery and fashion, and in many forms of expression and types of activity. That creativity is also a source of job creation, attracting industries and firms in search of innovative ideas.

3. Thus the paradigm for society-building in Europe has changed. Whereas, in the past, we sought to achieve social cohesion on the basis of homogeneity, we now find ourselves in an intercultural society. The Report of the Group of Eminent Persons of the Council of Europe entitled *Living together. Combining diversity and freedom in 21st-century Europe*, identified European diversity as the main challenge facing modern democracy. That same report highlighted the crucial role played by local and regional authorities in responding effectively, as well as their role in building harmonious intercultural relations between the different population groups.

4. When it comes to accepting cultural diversity as an enriching factor, there is still a degree of resistance and reluctance among the local population, fuelled by prejudice and misconceptions based on rumours, stereotyping and misinformation. That prejudice, often stemming from ignorance of other cultures, continues to affect the way in which people regard others. That resistance also comes from a more subjective and unconscious perception that the concept of cultural diversity is linked to the idea of the "foreign", "immigrant" or "minority" culture constituting a threat to the majority culture. Ignorance of the benefits of diversity is thus a major obstacle to intercultural action.

5. The Congress is certain that the diversity and cultural heritage of populations represent two of the main assets of European societies, and that a precondition for a change in attitudes to diversity is a better knowledge of its advantages in both populations and authorities, necessitating the development of policies encompassing all social, ethnic and cultural groups and an educational effort based on intercultural communication and teaching.

6. In this respect, the Congress reaffirms the relevance of its Recommendations 261 (2009) on "Intercultural cities", 304 (2011) on "Meeting the challenge of inter-faith and intercultural tensions at local level", 347 (2013) on "Migrants' access to regional labour markets" and 343 (2013) on "Integration through self-employment: promoting migrant entrepreneurship in European municipalities", as well as of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)7 on the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education and of Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 2005(2014) on "Identities and diversity within intercultural societies".

7. The Congress notes the work under way within the Council of Europe to draft a recommendation to member states on intercultural integration, and awaits with interest its adoption by the Committee of Ministers, in the firm belief that its implementation will also contribute to local and regional action in this sphere.

8. In this context, the Congress draws the attention of the Committee of Ministers to the initiatives already started at local and regional level, amongst them its own European Local Democracy Week (ELDW) and the Council of Europe programme on “Intercultural cities”, the Practical guide for applying the *Urban model of intercultural integration*<sup>9</sup> produced in the frame of that programme, as well as associated projects such as: Shaping Perceptions and Attitudes to Realise Diversity Advantage (SPARDA), Communication for Integration (C4I) and Diversity in the Economy and Local Integration (DELI).

9. The Congress also refers to the project Attitudes to Migrants, Communication and Local Leadership (AMICALL) and to the action plan drawn up by the European Coalition of Cities against Racism (ECCAR), as well as to numerous other campaigns and initiatives by authorities, such as the Cosmopolitan Strasbourg in France, the “anti-rumour” campaign in Barcelona and in other cities in Spain, as well as other “demystification campaigns”, Radio Diversity projects, and so on.

10. In the light of the foregoing, the Congress asks the Committee of Ministers to adopt as soon as possible the recommendation to member states on intercultural integration, and to invite the member states of the Council of Europe to:

- a. produce an overall intercultural vision based on the experience of, and with a contribution from, the authorities;
- b. formulate intercultural communication and education strategies of a general nature, with a view to promoting a consistent approach to diversity amongst the different government structures and the different levels of governance, and to raise society’s awareness of the advantages of diversity in order to derive maximum benefit from it;
- c. to develop the curriculum, textbooks and teacher-training courses for schools, higher education establishments and schools of journalism, so as to improve intercultural skills and the vision of diversity;
- d. set up a system of intercultural mediation at every level of governance, with a sustainable budgetary allocation;
- e. stop using political discourse about immigration as an instrument, and emphasise instead in politics and discussions about migratory movements the processes of mutual adaptation and migrant integration;
- f. encourage the commitment of cultural and arts institutions to the promotion of diversity, and provide support to cultural projects which highlight diversity;
- g. establish partnerships for the introduction of programmes relating to diversity, inter alia with authorities, players from civil society, national media and businesses;
- h. support local and regional action in this sphere and provide continuity of budgets for the introduction of relevant programmes on the ground;
- i. work in general against negative stigma, taking account of different dimensions which affect social reality, both objective (work, housing, access to public services) and subjective (feelings of belonging).

#### **Explanatory Report:**

[https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CG%2827%296&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&Site=COE&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=CACC9A&BackColorLogged=EFEA9C#P116\\_16365](https://wcd.coe.int/ViewDoc.jsp?Ref=CG%2827%296&Language=lanEnglish&Ver=original&Site=COE&BackColorInternet=C3C3C3&BackColorIntranet=CACC9A&BackColorLogged=EFEA9C#P116_16365)