

... meeting, ... 2025

1 Human rights

1.1 Title

Abridged Report of the 103rd meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH), 24 – 27 November 2025

Item to be considered by the GR-H at its meeting on ... 2026.

Information on the meeting

The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) held its 103rd meeting in Strasbourg, from 24 to 27 November 2025, with Krista OINONEN (Finland), in the Chair.

The agenda of the meeting appears in appendix.

Items for decision by the Committee of Ministers

The CDDH adopted the following texts and decided to transmit them to the Committee of Ministers for information:

- CDDH Study on the need for and feasibility of (an) additional non-binding instrument(s) to complement the 2011 Committee of Ministers' Guidelines on eradicating impunity for serious human rights violations;
- CDDH Manual on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence.

The CDDH adopted the following text and decided to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers for its consideration:

- CDDH Comments on PACE Recommendation [2300 \(2025\)](#) – Artificial intelligence and migration.

Items for information of the Committee of Ministers

- The CDDH elected Tonje MEINICH (Norway) as its Chairperson and Nicola WENZEL (Germany) as its Vice-Chairperson, re-elected two Bureau members (Tim KOLK (Estonia) and Elias KASTANAS (Greece)) and elected two Bureau members (Babette KOOPMAN (Netherlands) and Pawel WIERDAK (Poland)).
- The CDDH established a new Drafting Group to prepare a Report on the use of new technologies by the European Court of Human Rights and a Report on new tendencies in litigation before the European Court of Human Rights (CDDH-TE); designated the following 10 member States to have the expenses of their experts' participation in the CDDH-TE reimbursed by the Council of Europe: Austria, Belgium, France, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Netherlands, Norway, Slovak Republic, Spain and United Kingdom; and elected Milène BLANCHARD (France) as CDDH-TE Chairperson.
- The CDDH established a new Drafting Group to prepare a Study on the protection of the right to vote and to stand for election under the European Convention on Human Rights, taking into account the work of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) (CDDH-VOTE); designated the following 10 member States to have the expenses of their experts' participation in the CDDH-VOTE reimbursed by the Council of Europe: Austria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Czechia, Finland, France, Greece, Latvia, North Macedonia, Romania and Spain ; and elected Krista OINONEN (Finland) as CDDH-VOTE Chairperson.

As regards the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), the CDDH:

- took note of the decisions taken by the Ministers Deputies concerning the CDDH Reports on the first effects of protocols nos. 15 and 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights;
- received information from the representative of the European Union (EU) and exchanged views on developments concerning the accession of the EU to the Convention; welcomed the recent submission by the European Commission of a request to the Court of Justice of the European Union for an opinion on the compatibility of the revised draft accession agreement with the European Union treaties.

As regards the other items on its agenda, the CDDH notably:

- held a workshop on “Ombudperson Institutions and National Human Rights Institutions: Implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendations and other international standards”;
- exchanged views on its future preparation of a report on examination of implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendations CM/Rec(2019)6 and CM/Rec(2021)1, with a view to examination and possible adoption of this report at its next plenary meeting;
- exchanged views with Mathieu MORI, Secretary General of the Congress of local and regional authorities;
- exchanged views with Professor Andreas KULICK, Chair of Public International Law and Public Law, University of Mainz and Professor Andras SAJO, Central European University, on issues relating to corporate influence on international human rights;
- exchanged views with Gianluca ESPOSITO, Director General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, including on preparations for the informal conference of Ministers of Justice to be held on 10 December 2025;
- exchanged views on the results of the 5th meeting of the Drafting Group on the eradication of impunity for serious human rights violations (CDDH-ELI); recalled that this Group’s terms of reference included possible future follow-up work, subject to further decisions of the Committee of Ministers;
- exchanged views on the results of the 5th meeting of the Drafting Group on human rights and artificial intelligence (CDDH-IA) and decided that with the adoption of the resulting CDDH Handbook, the CDDH-IA had fulfilled its terms of reference;
- exchanged views on the results of the 3rd meeting of the Drafting Group on the safe third country concept (CDDH-PTS) and on preparations for its 4th meeting (17 – 19 March 2026);
- exchanged views on the results of the 1st meeting of the Drafting Committee on Human Rights and Drug Policies (DH-PDA) and on preparations for its 2nd meeting (17–18 December 2025);
- exchanged views on the results of the 10th meeting of the Access Info Group (AIG) of the Convention on access to official documents (CETS 205, Tromsø Convention), including the Workshop organised jointly by the AIG and the T-PD committee of Convention 108 on data protection, and on the 5th meeting of the Consultation of the Parties to the Tromsø Convention;
- agreed to a proposal for a thematic debate on the right of access to official documents, to be held at its next plenary meeting;
- exchanged views on its future activities, notably those resulting from the revisions to its terms of reference for 2026 – 2027, including as regards follow-up work to the CDDH Report on implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2021)2;
- adopted an annual evaluation of its activities;
- examined a draft document containing criteria to be applied by its subordinate bodies in relation to public consultations on draft texts under preparation; decided to return to this topic at a future meeting;
- took note of the information provided by its thematic rapporteurs and its representatives to other committees;
- took note of the state of signatures and ratifications of the Council of Europe treaties for which it is responsible, and of recent developments concerning derogations and reservations to the ECHR;
- took note of recent publications of the work of the CDDH, including one in Polish, and encouraged its members to inform the Secretariat of the publication in national official languages of texts resulting from the work of the CDDH;
- adopted a revised calendar of meetings during the first semester of 2026 and took note of a provisional calendar of meetings during the second semester of 2026.

Resource implications

The CDDH noted that all of the above activities were conducted within the foreseen budgetary envelopes and that the CDDH-ELI and CDDH-IA had completed their deliverables within the expected deadlines.

Evaluation of completed activities

The CDDH undertook its annual evaluation of its activities, as required under its terms of reference for 2024 – 2027.

Appendix I**Agenda**

ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

ITEM 2: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY AND THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

ITEM 3: SYSTEM OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

3.1. Committee of experts on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)

3.1.1 The use of new technologies by the European Court of Human Rights / new tendencies in litigation before the European Court of Human Rights

3.2 CDDH ad hoc negotiation group on EU accession to the ECHR ("46+1 Group")

ITEM 4: ERADICATION OF IMPUNITY FOR SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS

ITEM 5: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE

ITEM 6: SAFE THIRD COUNTRY CONCEPT

ITEM 7: HUMAN RIGHTS AND DRUG POLICIES

ITEM 8: PROHIBITION OF THE TRADE IN GOODS USED FOR TORTURE AND THE DEATH PENALTY

ITEM 9: NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS & OMBUDSPERSON INSTITUTIONS

ITEM 10: ECHR IN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION & PROFESSIONAL TRAINING

ITEM 11: HUMAN RIGHTS AND BUSINESS

ITEM 12: FUTURE ACTIVITIES

ITEM 13: PUBLIC CONSULTATIONS

ITEM 14: EUROPEAN SOCIAL CHARTER

ITEM 15: ANNUAL EVALUATION OF ACTIVITIES

ITEM 16: ACCESS TO OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS

ITEM 17: INVITED PERSONALITIES

ITEM 18: THEMATIC RAPPORTEURS & REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER COMMITTEES

ITEM 19: GENDER EQUALITY

ITEM 20: ELECTIONS

ITEM 21: CONVENTIONS

ITEM 22: PUBLICATIONS

ITEM 23: CALENDAR

ITEM 24: OTHER BUSINESS

ITEM 25: ADOPTION OF THE ABRIDGED REPORT