



SECRETARIAT

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1 July 2025

To the members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 23, 24 and 26 June 2025

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Strasbourg on 23, 24 and 26 June 2025, with Lord Richard Keen (United Kingdom, ECPA), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- on Monday 23 June 2025 at 2pm, as regards:
 - **Support for political negotiations to enforce exchange and release of prisoners of war** (*rapporteur for opinion: Ms Rian Vogels, Netherlands, ALDE; Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Ms Yelyzaveta Yasko, Ukraine, EPP/CD*): considered and approved an opinion;
 - **United Nations International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance**: held a hearing with the participation of Mr Olivier de Frouville, Director of the Paris Human Rights Center and Chair of the United Nations Committee on Enforced Disappearances (online), and Ms Mariat Imaeva, UKRI Network Plus Fellow at the University of Birmingham and human rights consultant, followed by an exchange of views;
- on Tuesday 24 June 2025 at 8:30am and 2pm, as regards:
 - **Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine**: (*rapporteur: Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross, Estonia, ALDE*): took position on thirty-seven amendments to the draft resolution, and decided to table three sub-amendments and to support three oral sub-amendments and one oral amendment to the draft resolution;
 - **Proceeds of the crime denounced by Sergei Magnitsky found in Switzerland must not be returned to the presumed perpetrators** (*rapporteur: Ms Lesia Vasylenko, Ukraine, ALDE*): considered a draft report;
 - **Sub-Committee on Human Rights**: took note of an oral report by the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee of the meeting held on Tuesday 24 June 2025 at 9 am and endorsed by acclamation the proposal of the Sub-Committee concerning the lists of candidates to the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT) submitted by the delegations of Norway, Türkiye, the United Kingdom, Ukraine, Austria and Spain, and took note of the postponement of the consideration of the list of the delegation of Liechtenstein;
 - **Improving the selection/election procedure of CPT members** (*rapporteur: Ms Octavie Modert, Luxembourg, EPP/CD*): considered an introductory memorandum;
 - **Abolition of the death penalty in Council of Europe member and observer States, the Russian Federation, Belarus and countries whose parliaments have co-operation status – situation report** (*General Rapporteur on the abolition of the death penalty: Ms Gala Veldhoen, Netherlands, SOC*): considered a revised information note and agreed to the General Rapporteur's request to declassify it;

— **Work programme:**

- **Appointment of rapporteurs:** appointed

- following a vote, Mr Vladimir Vardanyan (Armenia, EPP/CD) as rapporteur on “The need to modernise the International Humanitarian Law”;
- following a vote, Mr Daniel Milewski (Poland, ECPA), as rapporteur on “Use of artificial intelligence by parliaments: risks and opportunities”;
- following a vote, Mr Tekke Panman (Netherlands, EPP), as rapporteur on “Threats to the International Criminal Court”;
- by acclamation, Ms Gala Veldhoen (Netherlands, SOC) as rapporteur on “Safeguarding human rights in the artificial intelligence-driven public sector”;
- following a vote, Mr Sergiy Vlasenko (Ukraine, EPP/CD) as rapporteur on “Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights”;

and heard from them declarations of absence of conflict of interest;

• **on Thursday 26 June 2025 at 8:30am**, as regards:

— **Regulating foreign influence: best practices and European standards** (*rapporteur: Mr Emanuelis Zingeris, Lithuania, EPP/CD*): considered an introductory memorandum;

— **Threats to life and safety of journalists and human rights defenders in Azerbaijan** (*rapporteur: Mr Christophe Lacroix, Belgium, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of Ms Arzu Geybullayeva, Azerbaijani journalist, Mr Ricardo Gutiérrez, Secretary General of the European Federation of Journalists, and Mr Toby Collis, lawyer, European Human Rights Advocacy Centre, followed by an exchange of views;

— **Work programme:**

- **Call for candidatures for a rapporteur for report:**

- *How to ensure that the Russian Federation implements the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, including paying the compensation awarded*: made a call for a rapporteur, to be appointed at the next meeting;

- **Call for candidatures for a rapporteur for opinion:**

- *Follow-up to the 4th round of GRECO recommendations relating to parliamentarians*: made a call for a rapporteur for opinion, to be appointed at a later meeting;

and took note of the extension of the reference for opinion on “*Review of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic*”;

— **Revised Terms of Reference of General Rapporteurs**: took note of the modalities to implement the recent changes to the length of the mandates of General Rapporteurs and of their revised terms of reference as amended by the Bureau;

— **Invitation to hold a meeting of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and of the Sub-Committee on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights in London, 1-2 December 2025**: took note of and welcomed the invitation of the Chairperson of the United Kingdom delegation and agreed to hold a meeting of the Committee and of the Sub-Committee in London on 1-2 December 2025 (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau and the availability of funds);

— **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 4-7 November 2025**: invited members to inform the secretariat of their interest;

- **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the European Roma and Sinti Holocaust Memorial Day, Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, 2 August 2025:** appointed Mr Cristian-Augustin Niculescu-Tâgârlaş (Romania, EPP/CD) to sit in the *ad hoc* committee;
- **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Conference on Artificial Intelligence, London, 15-16 December 2025:** appointed Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC), Mr Damien Cottier (Switzerland, ALDE), Mr Daniel Milewski (Poland, ECPA), Mr Cristian-Augustin Niculescu-Tâgârlaş (Romania, EPP/CD) and Mr Ivan Račan (Croatia, SOC) to sit in the *ad hoc* committee;
- **Assembly's institutional representation:** agreed to propose to the Bureau that Ms Nadejda Iordanova (Bulgaria, NR) be appointed as substitute of Ms Klotilda Bushka (Albania, SOC) to represent the Committee at meetings of Moneyval in 2025;
- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to recommendations emanating from the committee:** considered the replies from the Committee of Ministers to the following recommendations:
 - Recommendation 2279 (2024) "Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine";
- **Reporting back on participation in meetings:** heard from:
 - Mr Pablo Hispán (Spain, EPP/CD) about his participation in the 83rd meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections, online, 6 June 2025
 - Mr Sergiy Vlasenko (Ukraine, EPP/CD) about his participation in the 143rd Plenary session of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), online, 13-14 June 2025;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2025: call for nominations:** took note of the extended deadline of 30 June 2025 to submit nominations as well as the relevant information available on the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize website;
- **Changes in the composition of the sub-committees:** approved the changes as follows:
 - **Sub-Committee on Human Rights:** Ms Janina Böttger (Germany, UEL) as a full member and Mr Jürgen Coße (Germany, SOC) her alternate; Ms Christine Pasquier-Ciulla (Monaco, EPP/CD) as a full member;
 - **Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights:** Mr Johannes Volkmann (Germany, EPP/CD) as full member and Ms Martina Kempf (Germany, ECPA) as his alternate;
 - **Sub-Committee on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights:** Mr Knut Abraham (Germany, EPP/CD) as full member and Ms Tijen Ataoğlu (Germany, EPP/CD) as his alternate; Ms Christine Pasquier-Ciulla (Monaco, EPP/CD) as full member;

— **Next meetings:** took note of the next meetings to be held as follows:

- 8 September 2025, Paris Office
- during the Assembly's 4th part-session of 2025 (29 September – 3 October 2025)
- 1-2 December 2025, London (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau of the Assembly)

Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights

- 13-14 October 2025, Warsaw (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau)

Sub-Committee on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights

- 2 December 2025 (morning), London (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau)

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The Sub-Committee on Human Rights, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday 24 June 2025 at 9am, with Ms Octavie Modert (Luxembourg, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture (CPT):** considered the lists of candidates to the CPT in respect of Norway, Türkiye, the United Kingdom, Ukraine, Austria and Spain, and postponed the consideration of the list submitted by the delegation of Liechtenstein;
- **Next meeting:** during the Assembly's 4th part-session of 2025 (29 September-3 October 2025).

Guillem Cano Palomares, Rafał Sokół, Maria Rodriguez Polo

cc:

Secretary General of the Assembly
Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe