



AS/Soc (2025) CB08

9 December 2025

To the members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Paris on 4 December 2025

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Paris on Thursday, 4 December 2025, with Ms Saskia Kluit (Netherlands, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Draft Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine concerning the protection of human rights and dignity of persons with regard to involuntary placement and involuntary treatment within mental healthcare services** (*Rapporteur: Ms Carmen Leyte, Spain, EPP/CD*): considered and approved a draft report; unanimously adopted a draft opinion of the Assembly as amended;
- **Towards a family-friendly Europe: policy recommendations for demographic renewal** (*Rapporteur: Mr Georgios Stamatidis, Greece, EPP/CD*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Ensuring sustainable food security in times of crisis: strengthening resilience and access to food** (*Rapporteur: Ms Larysa Bilozir, Ukraine, ALDE*): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Taras Vysotskyi, Deputy Minister of Economy, Environment, and Agriculture of Ukraine;
- **The situation of Ukrainian soldiers who became disabled as a result of hostilities** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jan Filip Libicki, Poland, EPP/CD*): held a hearing with the participation of Ms Nataliia Kalmykova, Minister of Veterans Affairs of Ukraine;
- **Guaranteeing the right to access to drinking water** (*Rapporteur: Ms Sibel Arslan, Switzerland, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of Ms Sabrina Cajoly, founder of Kimbé Rêd, French West Indies;
- **European guidelines to counter social dumping and labour exploitation** (*Rapporteur: Ms Valérie Piller Carrard, Switzerland, SOC*): in the absence of the Rapporteur, heard a report from the Chairperson on behalf of the Rapporteur on the fact-finding visit to the Netherlands;
- **Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine**: agreed to extend the terms of reference;
- **Follow-up to the report “The absolute and urgent need to end the humanitarian crisis for women, children and the hostages in Gaza”** (*Rapporteur: Ms Saskia Kluit, Netherlands, SOC*): considered the revised draft terms of reference for General Rapporteur on the situation of women and children in the Palestinian territories and decided to transmit them to the Bureau of the Assembly for approval; heard an update from the Rapporteur on the latest developments;
- **Committee’s work programme and priorities:**
 - **Appointment of representatives to external events:** appointed Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) to participate in the 3rd meeting of the Drafting Committee on human rights and the environment, on 13-15 January 2026 in Strasbourg;
 - **Appointment of rapporteurs:** appointed rapporteurs as follows:
 - ✓ Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) as rapporteur on “Climate and gender equality – Strengthening the protection of women’s rights in the face of climate disruption” and heard her declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
 - ✓ Ms Maria-Gabriela Horga (Romania, EPP/CD) as rapporteur for opinion on “Digital transformation: the role of the OECD in evaluating the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the future of work” and heard her declaration of absence of conflict of interest;

- ✓ Mr Paul Galles (Luxembourg, EPP/CD) as rapporteur on “65th anniversary of the European Social Charter”; unanimously decided to propose to the Bureau of the Assembly to hold a debate under the urgent procedure during the first part of the 2026 session of the Assembly on the European Social Charter;
- **Consultation by the Committee on the motion on “Children without identity in Europe and around the world: a crucial challenge for fundamental rights”**: considered the motion and agreed to continue the discussion to decide what future action could be considered;
- **Reports from Committee representatives to external events**: heard back from:
 - ✓ Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) on her participation in the 25th anniversary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention, on 21 October 2025 in Florence (Italy);
 - ✓ Ms Saskia Kluit (the Netherlands, SOC) on behalf of Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) on his participation in North-South Prize Award Ceremony and meeting of the Executive Committee and the North-South Dialogues, 28-29 October 2025, Lisbon (Portugal);
 - ✓ Ms Yuliia Ovchynnykova (Ukraine, ALDE) on her online participation in the 49th session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, on 28-30 October 2025 in Strasbourg;
 - ✓ Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD), in his capacity of General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers, on his participation in the 46th plenary meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (Lanzarote Committee), 18-21 November 2025, Chişinău (Republic of Moldova);
- **Changes in Sub-Committees**: approved the following changes:
 - Sub-Committee on European Social Charter**: Mr Marko Pavić (Croatia, EPP/CD) became full member;
- **Other business**:
 - was informed on the Conference on social rights and the cost-of-living crisis, 5 December 2025;
 - decided to request to the creation of an *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to participate in the High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter, 18-19 March 2026, Chişinău (Republic of Moldova);
- **Dates and places of next meetings**: took note of the next meetings to be held as follows:
 - Plenary committee**
 - First part session of the Assembly, 26-30 January 2026, Strasbourg
 - 13 March 2026, Paris office
 - Second part session of the Assembly, 20-24 April 2026, Strasbourg
 - 4-5 June 2026, Paris office OR elsewhere (*to be confirmed*)
 - Third part session of the Assembly, 22-26 June 2026, Strasbourg
 - 10 September 2026, Paris office
 - Fourth part session of the Assembly, 28 September-2 October 2026, Strasbourg
 - 3-4 December 2026, Paris office
 - Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**
 - First part session of the Assembly, 26-30 January 2026, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)
 - Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter**
 - First part session of the Assembly, 26-30 January 2026, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)
 - Parliamentary Network for a healthy environment**
 - First part session of the Assembly, 26-30 January 2026, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)
 - Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine**
 - First part session of the Assembly, 26-30 January 2026, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)

The Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine, meeting in Paris on Thursday, 4 December 2025, at 3:30 pm, with Ms Olena Khomenko (Ukraine, ECPA), Network Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Alignment of the Council of Europe’s efforts towards protecting the children of Ukraine:** held an exchange of views with:
 - ✓ Ms Agnes Vonmaravic, Head of the Children’s Rights Division, including CGU, DGII of the Council of Europe;
 - ✓ Ms Véronique Bertholle, Representative of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (*online*);
 - ✓ Ms Diana Bertje, Ukraine Country Manager at the Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB);
 - ✓ Ms Janeta Hanganu, Lawyer, Conflicts Unit, European Court of Human Rights (*online*);
 - ✓ Ms Olena Lytvynenko, Advisor, Directorate of Programme Co-ordination;
- **Date and place of next meeting:** took note of the next meeting to be held:
 - First part session of the Assembly, 26-30 January 2026, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)

Catherine Du Bernard, Jannick Devaux, Claire Dubois-Hamdi, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Olga Kostenko

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
Directors 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
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe