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Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Terms of reference of the Sub-Committees

Terms of reference of the Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter

The Sub-Committee shall:

- ensure follow-up of the implementation and possible development of fundamental social and economic rights as they are set out in the (revised) European Social Charter and put forward by the Council of Europe “Turin process” aimed at promoting the European Social Charter, particularly issues relating to protection against poverty and social exclusion, employment (working conditions, remuneration, collective bargaining, protection and equal opportunities at work), vocational guidance and training, housing, but also the development of solid and sustainable economic structures which are resistant to future financial and economic crisis and help minimise the impact on people’s well-being;
- closely related to these social rights issues, consider policies aimed at improving social cohesion (e.g. through a new European social model), and at supporting groups which are in need of special protection (e.g. children, the elderly, families, disabled persons, migrants and others);
- follow activities and maintain working relations with relevant Council of Europe bodies, notably the European Committee of Social Rights, the Governmental Committee of European Social Rights and of the European Code of Social Security, the Rapporteur Group on Social and Health Questions (GR-SOC) of the Committee of Ministers, and the new intergovernmental European Social Cohesion Platform (PECS), as well as the Conference of INGOs;
- follow relevant activities and, where appropriate, maintain working relations with relevant international, European, regional or national organisations, parliamentary assemblies and national parliaments and selected NGOs;
- represent the Committee on behalf of the Assembly at relevant events of the Council of Europe or other organisations wherever appropriate;
- ensure follow-up to Assembly’s resolution(s) and recommendation(s) relating to social and economic rights, in particular: Resolution 1792 (2011) and Recommendation 1958 (2011) on “The monitoring of commitments concerning social rights”, Resolution 1824 (2011) and Recommendation 1976 (2011) on “The role of parliaments in the consolidation and development of social rights in Europe”, Resolution 1884 (2012) on “Austerity measures – a danger for democracy and social rights”, Resolution 2033 (2015) on the “Protection of the right to bargain collectively including the right to strike” and Resolution 2068 (2015) on “Towards a new European social model”;
- report regularly to the main Committee on the work done and its ongoing or future activities.

Terms of reference of Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize

The Sub-Committee shall:

- reward municipalities for their active promotion of the European ideal (twinning, European events, exchange visits, etc.).
- examine the applications of municipalities submitted annually for one of the four distinctions (European Diploma, Flag of Honour, Plaque of Honour and Europe Prize) and transmit the list of selected candidates for the approval of the main committee;
- report regularly to the main Committee on the work done and its ongoing or future activities.