



Strasbourg, 22 October 2025

CDCJ(2025)OJ2 ANN prov

105th plenary meeting European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ)

18-20 November 2025

Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, room 7

and

Launch event jointly organised with the CDENF

19 November 2025¹

Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe, room 1

Annotated draft agenda

- 1. Opening of the meeting**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business**

Working documents

- Draft agenda
CDCJ(2025)OJ2 prov
- Annotated draft agenda
CDCJ(2025)OJ2 ANN prov

The CDCJ is invited to adopt the agenda and the order of business.

- 3. Information by the Chair and Secretariat**

The CDCJ is invited to take note of the information provided by the Chair and by the secretariat on the developments that have occurred since the 104th plenary meeting (16-18 June 2025) and their possible implications for CDCJ's operations and activities.

¹ See separate programme of the joint CDCJ-CDENF event to launch the recommendations on the protection of the rights and best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings (CM/Rec(2025)4 and CM/Rec(2025)5), and their implementation tools.

4. Tour de table: interventions by newly designated members of the CDCJ

Background document

[Members of the CDCJ](#) (as of 22/10/2025)

The Chair will welcome and give the floor to any new member that has joined the committee since the last plenary meeting (16-18 June 2025).

5. Review of progress

Working documents

- Stocktaking: implementation of CDCJ activities
[CDCJ\(2025\)01 rev3](#)
- Proposals for possible future CDCJ activities
[CDCJ\(2025\)14 prov2](#)
- CDCJ Terms of reference for 2024-2027
[CDCJ\(2024\)01 rev](#)

The CDCJ is invited to:

- take note of the state of play of the implementation of the CDCJ activities since the 104th plenary meeting of the CDCJ (16-18 June 2025), as it appears in document [CDCJ\(2025\)01 rev3](#);
- examine the proposals for possible future CDCJ activities contained in document [CDCJ\(2025\)14 prov2](#) and any further proposals submitted during the meeting

Justice and the Rule of Law

6. Council of Europe Plan of Action on Strengthening Judicial Independence and Impartiality (Sofia Action Plan) (*main deliverable 10*)

Working documents

- Thematic review focused on the career and training of judges: Draft report
[CDCJ\(2024\)13 prov5](#)
- Follow-up proposal on the thematic review focused on the career and training of judges
[CDCJ\(2025\)20 prov](#)

Background documents

- Compilation of information received in response to the questionnaire to collect additional information
[CDCJ\(2025\)02 rev3](#) (*original language - restricted*)
- Follow-up proposals
[CDCJ\(2023\)01](#)
- [Report of the CDCJ to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on the implementation of the “Sofia Action Plan”](#)

The CDCJ is invited to:

- take note of the information provided by the secretariat;
- examine carefully the draft report on the thematic review focused on the career and training of judges (document [CDCJ\(2024\)13 prov5](#)), as a follow-up by the CDCJ to the [Council of Europe Plan of Action on Strengthening Judicial Independence and Impartiality](#) (Sofia Action Plan) in the light of the information collected from the CDCJ delegations and of the Consultative Council of European Judges (CCJE), with a view to its adoption at its next plenary meeting;
- examine and agree on the follow-up to give to this first thematic review and to the Sofia Action Plan, on the basis of the proposal contained in document [CDCJ\(2025\)20 prov](#).

7. The use of artificial intelligence for policing, the administration of justice and borders/migration – Study on the feasibility of a draft legal instrument (main deliverable 11)

Background documents

- Concept note concerning the use of artificial intelligence (AI) for policing, the administration of justice and borders/migration and the use of AI or other automated decision-making (ADM) for communication purposes
[CDCJ-ADMIN-AI\(2023\)01](#)
- Note regarding the CDCJ input to the preparation of the draft Council of Europe Framework Convention on artificial intelligence by the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI)
[CDCJ\(2023\)13](#)
- Proposals on the directions to be taken by the CDCJ in its future work in the field of artificial intelligence and administrative law
[CDCJ-ADMIN-AI\(2022\)01](#)

The CDCJ is invited to take note of the information provided by the secretariat on the study to carry out on the feasibility of a draft legal instrument on the use of artificial intelligence for policing, the administration of justice and borders/migration, study which will more precisely define the scope of the possible future instrument.

Public Law

8. National climate litigation (main deliverable 4)

Working document

- Draft study on national climate litigation
CDCJ(2025)15 prov2

Background documents

- Compilation of replies received to the questionnaire to member states on relevant domestic case-law on climate change
[CDCJ\(2025\)06 rev2](#) (original language - restricted)
- Revised detailed outline of the draft study

[CDCJ\(2024\)17rev](#)

- [Committee of Ministers' reply to the Parliamentary Assembly on its Recommendation 2213 \(2021\) - Addressing issues of criminal and civil liability in the context of climate change](#)

The CDCJ is invited to:

- take note of the information provided by the secretariat on the progress made in the draft study on national climate litigation;
- examine, in view of its adoption, the draft study as proposed in document CDCJ(2025)15 prov2, which takes due account of the replies collected from member states on national case law in the area, and to authorise the publication of the study on the committee's website, with the consent of its authors, subject to drafting changes agreed during the meeting and to a final editorial review.

The consultants responsible for the preparation of the study, Ms Joanna Setzer and Ms Catherine Higham, from Grantham Research Institute, London School of Economics, will attend the meeting online to present their work and assist the committee during the discussion on this agenda item.

9. Statelessness and access to nationality (main deliverables 6 and 7)

Working documents

- Draft revised recommendation on the nationality of children [CDCJ-MIG\(2025\)02 prov4](#) (restricted)
- Draft compendium of promising practices on access to nationality for stateless children [CDCJ\(2025\)21 prov / CDCJ-MIG\(2025\)04 fin](#) (restricted)

Background documents

- Compilation of comments on the draft compendium of good practice ([CDCJ-MIG\(2025\)04 prov2](#)) and additional information received from CDCJ delegations [CDCJ\(2025\)07](#) (restricted)
- CDCJ-MIG workplan (2025-2026) [CDCJ-MIG\(2025\)01](#)
- Feasibility study on a non-binding legal instrument regarding stateless children's access to nationality [CDCJ\(2024\)15](#)

The CDCJ is invited to:

- take note of the update provided by the Chair of the CDCJ limited working group on migration (CDCJ-MIG) and the secretariat;
- examine and adopt the draft compendium of promising practices on access to nationality for stateless children as it appears in document [CDCJ\(2025\)21 prov / CDCJ-MIG\(2025\)04 fin](#) (restricted) with a view to its publication subject to the drafting changes agreed during the meeting and a final editorial review;
- examine the draft revised recommendation on the nationality of children (document [CDCJ-MIG\(2025\)02 prov4](#) (restricted) and to provide to the necessary guidance to the CDCJ-MIG and its consultant to pursue the revision of CM/Rec(2009)13 on the nationality of children and its explanatory memorandum.

In doing so, the CDCJ will have to take a position on the condition of lawfulness of residence and on the use of the terms "legal" and habitual residence in principles 2, 5 and 11 of the draft recommendation as the CDCJ-MIG noted different national situations. The CDCJ-MIG was interested in hearing the experience of the CDCJ delegations whose countries do not require this condition in their national legislation.

It will also need to provide guidance to the CDCJ-MIG as to whether it should continue revising Recommendation CM/Rec(2009)13 on the nationality of children as a whole, as per the conclusion of the feasibility study adopted by the CDCJ and given the interconnectedness between access to nationality of children and child statelessness, or should the group focus exclusively on those principles of the aforementioned recommendation that deal expressly with statelessness.

- take note of the list of decisions made by the CDCJ-MIG at its 4th meeting (29 September-1st October 2025), including the new composition of the working group.

The Chair of the CDCJ-MIG, Mr Francesco Crisafulli, and the consultant, Professor René De Groot, will attend the meeting in-person to present the work and assist the committee during the discussions.

Family law and children's rights

10. Rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins (*main deliverable 8*)

Working document

- Draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins CJ-OR(2025)10 prov2 (*restricted*)

Background documents

- Compilation of comments received on the draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins (version CJ-OR(2025)10 prov) CJ-OR(2025)11 rev (*original language – restricted*)
- Composition of the Committee of Experts on access to origins (CJ-OR) responsible for the preparation of a draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins [CJ-OR\(2025\)INF01](#)
- CJ-OR Terms of Reference (2025-2026) [CJ-OR\(2025\)01](#)
- Workplan and calendar of CJ-OR activities for 2025-2026 [CJ-OR\(2025\)02](#)
- Case Law of the European Court of Human Rights on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins [CJ-OR\(2025\)03 rev](#)
- Overview of European and international standards concerning the rights of donor conceived persons to know their origins [CJ-OR\(2025\)05](#)
- [Comparative study on access of persons conceived by gamete donation to information on their origins](#)

The CDCJ is invited to:

- take note of the information provided by the Chair of the Committee of Experts on Access to Origins (CJ-OR)) and the secretariat;
- carry out a preliminary examination of the draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins (document CJ-OR(2025)10 prov2 (*restricted*)), in the light of the comments received on the first draft text;
- provide to the CJ-OR and its consultant the necessary guidance to pursue the preparation of the draft legal instrument and its accompanying draft explanatory memorandum;
- take note of the report of the 2nd meeting of the CJ-OR (28-30 October 2025);
- select a new member in replacement of a state representative having stepped down; a call for interest will be circulated and a document collecting CV will be prepared.

The Chair of the CJ-OR, Mr Thomas Knoll-Biermann, and the consultant, Ms Laurence Brunet, will attend the meeting online to present the work of the CJ-OR.

11. Thematic review of the guidelines on child-friendly justice (focus: civil and administrative proceedings) (*main deliverable 9*)

Working document

- Draft report on the review of criminal, civil and administrative law aspects of the Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe on Child-Friendly Justice
[CDENF\(2025\)03rev1 Full](#)
including:
[part \(1\)](#) - analysis and rationale of the revisions proposed
[part \(2\)](#) - drafting proposals to amend the guidelines
[part \(3\)](#) - drafting proposals to amend the explanatory memorandum

Background documents

- Compilation of comments received from CDCJ members on the draft report
[CDCJ\(2025\)16 rev](#) (*original language – restricted*)
- [Table of replies received following the CDENF consultation process \(original language\)](#)

The CDCJ is invited to:

- take note, during a joint session with the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) and the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC, online) to be held on the morning of 20 November (Room 1, Palais de l'Europe), of the information provided by Ms. Susanna Greijer, one of the two independent consultants responsible for preparing the report on the thematic review of the Guidelines on Child-Friendly Justice, who will present the ongoing work and the progress made since the last plenary meeting of the CDCJ;
- take note of the draft report as it currently stands (document [CDENF\(2025\)03rev1](#)) and of the fact that the CDCJ Bureau, at its 123rd meeting (25-26 September 2025), had the opportunity to hold an exchange of views with the Bureau of the CDENF on progress made in the draft thematic review (see paragraphs 14-15 of the meeting report);
- share its comments and guidance with the consultant and the CDENF secretariat for the pursuance of the work.

12. Promote and facilitate the functioning, implementation and where necessary the ratification of Council of Europe conventions, agreements and protocols within its area of competence (main task iv)

- [State of signatures and ratifications of the conventions and agreements for which the CDCJ has been given responsibility](#)
- [Conventions and agreements under the responsibility of the CDCJ and Recommendations, resolutions and guidelines](#) for possible future review by the CDCJ
- [Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer Treaty Office \(CETS No. 226\)](#) – see *Agenda Item 13*
- [European Convention on Information on Foreign Law \(ETS No. 62\) and its Additional Protocol \(ETS No. 97\)](#) (main deliverable 5) – see *Agenda Item 13*

The CDCJ is invited to take note of the recent signatures of treaties under the responsibility of the CDCJ (see item 13 for the Luxembourg Convention).

13. Raise-awareness about Council of Europe standards and tools in its field of competence in the member states and beyond, through the neighbourhood policy and in other international and global fora where relevant (main task xiv)

13.1 Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer Treaty Office (CETS No. 226) – follow-up

- a. Tour de table on signatures and ratifications of the Luxembourg Convention
- b. Exchange of views with a judge of the European Court of Human Rights
- c. Promotion of the Luxembourg Convention

Working document

- Promotion of the Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer
[CDCJ\(2025\)03 prov4](#)

The CDCJ is invited to:

- take note of recent signatures;
- hold a tour de table for each delegation to say what the state of play is in their countries towards signature and/or ratification;
- hold an exchange of views with a judge of the European Court of Human Rights on the topic of the protection of the profession of lawyer, in particular in light of the Court's case law. Delegations are invited to prepare any questions they wish ask to the judge;
- take note of the information provided by the secretariat on activities and events aiming at promoting the Luxembourg Convention as contained in document [CDCJ\(2025\)03 prov4](#) and, if appropriate, to express their wish to undertake initiatives to this effect at national level, or any other suggestions.

13.2 European Convention on Information on Foreign Law (ETS No. 62) and its Additional Protocol (ETS No. 97) (main deliverable 5)

Working document

- Draft programme of the webinar to promote the European Convention on Information on Foreign Law (ETS No. 62) and its Additional Protocol (ETS No. 97) and their implementation tools (4 December 2025)

The CDCJ is invited to take note of the draft programme of the webinar scheduled for 4 December 2025 to promote the European Convention on Information on Foreign Law (ETS No. 62) and its Additional Protocol (ETS No. 97) and their implementation tools.

14. Transversal issues:

- a. Mainstreaming gender, youth, children's rights, rights of persons with disabilities, and Roma and Traveller² issues (*main task xvi*)
- b. Contribution to the UNSDGs - [Goal 5: Gender equality](#), [Goal 10: Reduce inequality within and among countries](#), [Goal 13: Climate Change](#) and [Goal 16: Peace, justice and strong institutions](#) (*main task xix*)

The Committee of Ministers expects from the CDCJ to assess mainstreaming of perspectives related to gender, youth, children's rights, rights of persons with disabilities, and Roma and Traveller issues, in the performance of its tasks, as well as the contribution of the Committee's work to United Nations Sustainable Development Goals 5, 10, 13 and 16. To do so, the CDCJ will need to identify activities within its current mandate that meet this requirement, for example:

- the Convention for the protection of the profession of lawyer, prepared by the CDCJ and opened for signature on 13 May 2025, takes into account the Gender Equality Strategy and contributes to UNSDGs 5 and 16;
- the work on stateless children and their access to nationality contributes to UNSDG 10 and 16;
- the work on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins contributes to UNSDG 10 and 16;
- the study on national climate change litigation and possible follow up to it will contribute to UNSDG 13;
- the work undertaken as a follow-up action to give effect to its report on the implementation of the Council of Europe Plan of Action on Strengthening Judicial Independence and Impartiality contributes to UNSDG 16.

15. Developments in member states in the area of public law

Working document

- Information collected
[CDCJ\(2025\)17](#) (*original language*)

² The term "Roma and Travellers" is used at the Council of Europe to encompass the wide diversity of the groups covered by the work of the Council of Europe in this field: on the one hand a) Roma, Sinti/Manush, Calé, Kaale, Romanichals, Boyash/Rudari; b) Balkan Egyptians (Egyptians and Ashkali); c) Eastern groups (Dom, Lom and Abdal); and, on the other hand, groups such as Travellers, Yenish, and the populations designated under the administrative term "*Gens du voyage*", as well as persons who identify themselves as Gypsies. The present is an explanatory footnote, not a definition of Roma and/or Travellers.

The CDCJ is invited to take note of the information provided by a number of member states on recent developments in the area of public law as it appears in document [CDCJ\(2025\)17](#) and to thank the delegations concerned for their contributions.

16. Co-operation with other relevant Council of Europe bodies and committees, other international organisations and civil society in the area of public law

Working document

- Information collected
CDCJ(2025)18 (*original language*)

The CDCJ is invited to take note of the information provided by relevant Council of Europe bodies and committees, other international organisations and civil society in the area of public law as it appears in document CDCJ(2025)18 and to thank the contributors for this information.

17. Evaluation of completed activities / Annual exchange of views to evaluate its activities and to advise the Committee of Ministers on future priorities in its sector, including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued (*main task xv*)

Working document

- Stocktaking: implementation of CDCJ activities
[CDCJ\(2025\)01 rev3](#)

As every year, the CDCJ is invited to hold an exchange of views to:

- assess the achievements in the work foreseen in the committee's terms of reference and workplan, on the basis inter alia of document [CDCJ\(2025\)01 rev3](#) taking stock of the implementation of the CDCJ activities, additional information provided by the secretariat as well as the [Council of Europe programme and budget 2024-2027](#), the [Declaration made by the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe at their 4th Summit \(Reykjavík, 16-17 May 2023\): "United around our values"](#) which set the priorities of the Organisation, and the [New Democratic Pact for Europe](#);
- agree on future priorities in its sector, including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued, of which the Committee of Ministers should be advised.

18. Elections and Appointments

- a. Elections (Chair, Vice-Chair and Bureau members)

Working documents

- Information note
[CDCJ\(2025\)INF01](#) (*restricted*)
 - Candidates' biographies
CDCJ(2025)INF02 (*original language – confidential*)
- b. Appointments for 2026 (CDCJ Representatives and Rapporteurs)
CDCJ(2025)19

The CDCJ is invited, on 19 November 2025 at 10.30 am, to:

- elect by secret ballot, in line with [Resolution CM/Res\(2021\)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods](#) (or otherwise by acclamation if no competitive election is needed):

its Chairperson (first term of office of one year),
its Vice-Chairperson (first term of office of one year),
four member of the Bureau for a two-year term of office;

- make the necessary appointments of its thematic rapporteurs (gender equality, children's rights, rights of persons with disabilities), representatives and substitutes for 2026, on the basis of the information contained in document CDCJ(2025)19 and of the candidatures received by the secretariat following the call for expression of interest launched by e-mail or by the Chairperson before the beginning of the plenary meeting or the appointment process scheduled right after the elections.

CDCJ members who wish to renew or express their interest for any of the positions are requested to inform the secretariat preferably before the plenary meeting, otherwise the Chair and/or the secretariat at the very beginning of the meeting on 18 November.

19. CDCJ Opinions (if any) (*main deliverable 13*)

20. Any other business

- Working methods – possible review

Working document

- Non-paper on the CDCJ working methods

Background document

- [Working methods of CDCJ - adopted by written procedure on 2 September 2014, revised by the CDCJ Bureau during its 102nd meeting \(29-30 June 2017\) and revised by the CDCJ at its 97th plenary meeting \(1-3 December 2021\)](#)

The CDCJ is invited to examine the non-paper prepared by the secretariat on ways and means to improve the committee's working methods, based on the discussions held by the Bureau at its last meeting. In the light of this discussions and the guidance of the committee, a draft revised working methods will be prepared for adoption at its next plenary meeting.

Moreover, delegations are invited to raise, prior or at the early beginning of the meeting, any other issues under this agenda item and present them.

21. Dates and place of next meetings

Working document

- Calendar of CDCJ meetings, consultations and events for 2025-2026
[CDCJ\(2025\)05 rev2](#) (*restricted*)

The delegations are invited to:

- take note of the updated calendar of its meetings and events for 2025-2026;
- confirm the dates of its two next plenary meetings provisionally set for 2-4 June 2026 (106th meeting) and 17-19 November 2026 (107th meeting).

The Bureau, in its new composition as from 1st January 2026, is invited to have a short meeting after the plenary to confirm the dates of its next meetings provisionally set for 12-13 March 2026 and 1-2 October 2026.

22. Adoption of the meeting report

- CDCJ(2025)22 prov

The CDCJ is invited to adopt the abridged report of its 105th plenary meeting.

DRAFT ORDER OF BUSINESS

Date	Timetable CET	Agenda items
18/11/2025	9:30 – 13:00	1-7
	14:30 – 17:00	8, 12-14,16
19/11/2025	9:00 – 12:30	9, 18.a (Elections -10:30), 10, 15
	14:00 – 17:00	Joint launch event with the CDENF (room 1, Palais de l'Europe)
20/11/2025	9:30 – 13:00	11 (joint session CDCJ-CDENF-CDPC on CFJ Guidelines review - room 1, Palais de l'Europe), 18.b (Appointments),
	14:30 – 17:00	17, 19-22

WORKING DOCUMENTS

Working documents are made available on the CDCJ restricted website

www.coe.int/cdcj

REFERENCE DOCUMENTS

Terms of Reference	CDCJ Terms of reference for 2024-2027
Terms of Reference	CDCJ-MIG – CDCJ limited working group on migration – Terms of reference for 2024-2026
Terms of Reference	CJ-OR – Committee of Experts on access to origins – Terms of reference for 2025-2026
CM/Res(2025)2	Resolution CM/Res(2025)2 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods
CM/Res(2021)3	Resolution CM/Res(2021)3 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods
CDCJ(2021)24	Working methods of CDCJ
CDCJ-BU(2021)15 final	Checklist for assessment of gender equality aspects and impact
CDCJ(2022)20	Criteria to assess requests for observer status with the CDCJ and its subordinate bodies and decision-making processes

CDCJ MEETING REPORTS

14-15 March 2024	Bureau: 120 th meeting	CDCJ-BU(2024)03 restricted Report
11-13 June 2024	102 nd plenary meeting	CDCJ(2024)12 Report
3-4 October 2024	Bureau: 121 st meeting	CDCJ-BU(2024)05 restricted Report
19-21 November 2024	103 rd plenary meeting	CDCJ(2024)33 Report
20-21 March 2025	Bureau: 122 nd meeting	CDCJ-BU(2025)02 restricted Report
16-18 June 2025	104 th plenary meeting	CDCJ(2025)13 Report
25-26 September 2025	Bureau: 123 rd meeting	CDCJ-BU(2025)03 Report

MEETING REPORTS OF CDCJ SUBORDINATE BODIES

30 January-1 February 2024	CJ-AV: 7 th meeting	Report
20-22 March 2024	CJ/ ENF-ISE: 9 th meeting	Report
13-15 May 2024	CJ-AV: 8 ^h meeting	Report
9-11 September 2024	CJ-AV: 9 ^h meeting	Report

14-16 October 2024	CJ/ ENF-ISE: 10 th meeting	Report
23-25 April 2025	CDCJ-MIG: 3 rd meeting	Decisions
3-5 June 2025	CJ-OR: 1 st meeting	Report
29 September – 1 October 2025	CDCJ-MIG: 4 th meeting	Decisions
28-30 October 2025	CJ-OR: 2 nd meeting	Report

RECENT CDCJ PUBLICATIONS

July 2025	Council of Europe Convention for the Protection of the Profession of Lawyer (CETS No. 226) and its explanatory report	Publication in English
2025	Administrative detention of migrants and asylum seekers: Guide for practitioners	Greek Italian Spanish Armenian Turkish Arabic