



***Steering Committee  
on Media and Information  
Society - CDMSI***

22<sup>nd</sup> meeting  
7 - 9 December 2022  
(9:30 – 12:30; 14:00 – 17:30h)

CDMSI(2023)001

10 February 2023

**Meeting report  
7-9 December 2022  
Strasbourg, Palais de l'Europe room 9**

**1. Opening of the meeting**

Mr Jan Kleijssen, Director, Information Society - Action against Crime, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, welcomed the members, observers and participants of the CDMSI to the second meeting of the 2022-2023 biennium.

Mr Kleijssen addressed the situation following the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine and recalled that the flagrant violation of European values and Council of Europe standards by the Russian Federation resulted in the cessation of its membership as of 16<sup>th</sup> March 2022. He therefore stressed the vital importance of the Council of Europe's work in giving access to reliable and trustworthy information on matters of public interest, in particular in times of war.

Regarding intergovernmental and standard setting work, Mr Kleijssen recalled that freedom of expression, media, internet governance and other information society issues are among the Organisation's strategic priorities. He evoked the five Recommendations adopted by the Committee of Ministers in 2022 and congratulated the three new subordinated committees of experts ([Committee of Experts on Increasing Media Resilience \(MSI-RES\)](#)), [Committee of experts on the Integrity of Online Information \(MSI-INF\)](#) and [Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation \(MSI-SLP\)](#) on the good progress made on their respective deliverables (sustainable media financing, the use of digital tools for journalism, countering the spread of online mis- and disinformation, and countering SLAPPs).

Mr Kleijssen emphasised the importance of ensuring coordination and synergy with other international organisations currently addressing similar issues. In this connection, he referred to the participation of the Council of Europe in the 2022 edition of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) and the extension of the Council of Europe's digital partnership. Lastly, he reminded the two high-level conferences held recently, namely the [Public Service Media for Democracy](#) Conference in Vilnius, jointly organised by the Council of Europe and EBU, as well as the [European Anti-SLAPP Conference](#), organised by the European Centre for Press and Media Freedom (ECPMF) and the Coalition Against SLAPPs in Europe (CASE), under the patronage of the European Parliament and with the support of the Council of Europe.

## **2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business**

Mr Taavo Lumiste (Estonia), Chair of the CDMSI, briefly addressed the participants, welcomed the opportunity to hold the meeting in the hybrid format and a strong onsite presence by the CDMSI members.

The CDMSI adopted the meeting agenda (Appendix 1) and agreed on some proposed changes to the business order. The list of participants and information on gender distribution appear in Appendix 2.

## **3. Freedom of expression in situations of conflict and aggression**

Mr Patrick Penninckx, Head of Information Society Department, started his remarks by referring to the current situation in Ukraine. He delivered a message sent by Ms Olha Herasymiuk, the Ukrainian member of the CDMSI, explaining the alarming situation of the media in Ukraine and focusing on three points: firstly, the efforts made by the media in Ukraine to convey to the Ukrainians and to the world information about the atrocities happening in the country; secondly, that Ukraine is actively working to bring its media legislation in line with the international and European standards; and thirdly, that the Ukrainian media need assistance from their international partners, in particular to restore technical equipment that has been destroyed due to the Russian aggression.

Mr Penninckx provided an account of the Council of Europe's action since 24 February 2022 in response to the Russian aggression against Ukraine and its consequences for freedom of expression. He recalled the Committee of Ministers' [Resolution CM/Res\(2022\)2](#) of 16 March 2022 leading to the cessation of membership of the Russian Federation in the Council of Europe and the Organisation's support to Ukraine and assistance to the colleagues from its Kyiv's office.

In terms of war-related activities of the Information Society Department, a dedicated webpage has been created (['Freedom of expression in times of conflict'](#)) and emergency actions implemented to support the media sector in Ukraine. The Cybercrime Division is contributing to the efforts currently being made to identify electronic evidence of war crimes.

In this context, Mr Penninckx stressed the importance of maintaining a close cooperation between the Council of Europe and Belarusian and Russian civil societies. Lastly, he informed the Committee members of the forthcoming Summit of the Council of Europe (Reykjavik, May 2023).

## **4. Ongoing standard-setting work - CDMSI expert committees' work progress**

### **4.1. [Committee of Experts on Increasing Media Resilience \(MSI-RES\)](#)**

Mr Ramón Salaverría Aliaga, Chair of the MSI-RES, and Ms Urška Umek, the Expert Committee's Secretary, updated the CDMSI members on the outcome of the second MSI-RES meeting held on 29-30 September 2022. The Committee is tasked with preparing two documents by the end of 2023: *Draft Guidelines on the responsible use of artificial intelligence (AI) in journalism* and a collection of *Good practices for sustainable media financing*. The MSI-RES Chair informed the CDMSI of the progress made and presented the goals of both documents. The second meeting was dedicated to an in-depth discussion on the structure and key elements of the deliverables; a number of ideas and concrete textual suggestions have been proposed by the members and will be included in the two deliverables by the third meeting of the Committee. An exchange followed, allowing the members of the CDMSI to express their views and support the work of the MSI-RES.

#### **4.2. [Committee of experts on the Integrity of Online Information \(MSI-INF\)](#)**

Ms Emma Gruden, acting as Secretary to the MSI-INF, updated the CDMSI members on the outcome of the second MSI-INF meeting held on 5-6 October. The Committee is tasked to prepare a *Draft Guidance note on countering the spread of online mis- and disinformation through fact-checking and platform design solutions in a human rights compliant manner* by the end of 2023. She informed the CDMSI that two vacant seats were to be filled within the Expert Committee, as the former French and UK experts ceased to be MSI-INF members. Subsequently, a new Chair was to be elected since the former UK member had also to step down as Chair. Mr Hrvoje Lisičar, Vice-Chair of the committee, reported on the progress made by the MSI-INF so far. The CDMSI was also informed about the decision to create a rolling list of best practices in addition to the guidance note. Discussions were then held, allowing members of the CDMSI to express their views and support on the current work of the MSI-INF and on the draft deliverable.

#### **4.3. [Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation \(MSI-SLP\)](#)**

Ms Karmen Turk, the Chair of the MSI-SLP informed the CDMSI members of the outcome of the second MSI-SLP meeting held on 18-19 October 2022. The Committee is tasked to prepare a *Draft Recommendation on strategic lawsuits against public participation (SLAPPs)* by the end of 2023, taking into account the European Convention on Human Rights, relevant Council of Europe's standard-setting documents and relevant case-law of the European Court of Human Rights. After a presentation of the structure of the draft recommendation, Ms Turk informed the CDMSI about the importance attached by the Expert Committee to make the draft as actionable, comprehensive, and forward-looking as possible and to ensure coherence amongst relevant Council of Europe's instruments, as well as with existing and pending related EU legislation. Discussions were then held, allowing members of the CDMSI to express their views and support on the current work of the MSI-SLP and on the draft deliverable.

### **5. Digital Governance**

#### **5.1. Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI) - Information on latest developments in the work of the CAI – by Thomas Schneider, Chair of the CAI, and the secretariat CAI - [Committee on Artificial Intelligence \(coe.int\)](#)**

Mr Thomas Schneider, Chair of the Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI), and Mr Kristian Bartholin, Secretary of CAI - Head of Digital Development Unit, provided an update on the work of CAI and its timeline. During the second meeting of the CAI (21-23 September 2022, in Strasbourg), in-depth discussions were held on the type and outline of the future legal instrument. A zero draft text was sent out for comments after the second meeting and the Committee of Ministers, in the meantime, decided for a future convention. Mr Schneider stressed the importance of a coherent approach with the EU's work on artificial intelligence while, at the same time, taking a broader approach in terms of reach and coverage and maintaining the human rights and rule of law focus which distinguishes the Council of Europe's added value in this field. At the same time, sectoral work relating to artificial intelligence would continue in the framework of specific structures of the organisation.

#### **5.2. Exchange of views with Ambassador Aloisia Wörgetter, Thematic Coordinator of the Council of Europe on Information Policy (TC-INF), Permanent Representative of Austria to the Council of Europe**

Ambassador Aloisia Wörgetter (Austria), Council of Europe Thematic Coordinator on Information Policy (TC-INF), informed the CDMSI on the focuses of her work as the new TC-INF, notably the cooperation between the Council of Europe and internet and communication companies.

The ensuing exchange concerned in particular the cooperation of the CDMSI with the digital partners and modalities to make it more effective, as well as the way in which the activities of the CDMSI are responding to the [Council of Europe's Digital Agenda for 2022-2025 "Protecting human rights, democracy and the rule of law in the digital environment"](#).

**Council of Europe participation in the [Internet Governance Forum \(IGF\) 2022 \(28 November - 2 December 2022, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia\)](#)**

Ms Rodica Ciochina, Programme officer - Media and Internet Division, presented the four sessions organised by the Council of Europe at the 17<sup>th</sup> United Nations Internet Governance Forum (IGF) with a specific focus on artificial intelligence, digital citizenship education, combating hate speech and cybercrime, respectively. Mr Thomas Schneider presented the session on the "Regulatory challenges of addressing advanced technologies (AI and metaverse) which he had moderated. Ms Giulia Lucchese, Administrator - Media and Internet Division, provided information on the Open Forum on Combating Hate Speech, focusing on the [Committee of Ministers Recommendation on combating hate speech](#) and its follow-up.

**5.3. Steps taken in the framework of the [Digital Partnership \(coe.int\)](#)**

The Secretariat informed the CDMSI about the progress concerning the Digital Partnership of the Council of Europe. The Secretariat stressed that co-operation with the private sector is instrumental for the Organisation to promote an open and safe internet, where human rights, democracy, and the rule of law are respected. CDMSI members were informed that since the last Plenary meeting in June, two more partners have joined the Digital Partnership, namely the International Chamber of Commerce and the Lego Group.

**6. Council of Europe and other partner institutions' work of relevance for the CDMSI - latest developments**

**6.1. Relevant Council of Europe work**

**Exchange of views with Ms Dunja Mijatović, the Council of Europe [Commissioner for Human Rights \(coe.int\)](#),**

Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Dunja Mijatović, stressed that freedom of expression remains high on her agenda. With regard to seeking justice for murdered journalists and journalists who are the targets of pressure and attacks, Ms Mijatović informed the CDMSI members of the publication of a report on Malta, containing recommendations on safeguarding media freedom and ensuring the safety of journalists, particularly on continuing the investigation of the murder of Daphne Caruana Galizia. The Commissioner also informed the Committee of a recent memorandum on her mission to Kosovo on media freedom issues.

From a thematic perspective, the Commissioner referred to the activities carried out in relation to the protection of journalists during conflicts, the lack of investigations of crimes against journalists, and the SLAPPs. The Commissioner further informed the CDMSI of an exchange held with Ms Vera Jourova, Vice-President of the European Commission for Values and Transparency, to discuss the media markets and SLAPPs, and ways to enhance the cooperation with the EU on these issues.

In her conclusive remarks, the Commissioner stressed the importance of CDMSI's work in helping governments address these concerns and the relevance of continuing the cooperation between her office and the CDMSI for the Organization's action on freedom of expression and media matters.

**Exchange of views with Ms Cecilia Dalman Eek, Vice-President of the [Congress of Local and Regional Authorities \(coe.int\)](#) of the Council of Europe and co-rapporteur on local and regional media**

Ms Dalman Eek expressed her concerns on media independence in the local context and on the decline of local and regional media in general, resulting in a diminishing quality of information on local/regional matters and endangering the participation in the local elections.

She stressed that it is the responsibility of local and regional authorities to ensure that citizens can access reliable information about developments of interest to them in their communities. The pending report is to offer guidance and best practices in this respect and forms part of a larger effort by the Council of Europe to strengthen democracy at all levels. Ms Dalman Eek emphasised the importance of the work of the CDMSI in this area.

**6.1.1. Presentation of the report “Community media - contributions to citizens’ participation” by co-author Ms Nadia Bellardi**

Ms Nadia Bellardi presented the report “Community media - contributions to citizens’ participation” commissioned by the Council of Europe. The main objective of the report was to investigate how the community media can provide a platform for dialogue and cohesion across generations and across different communities.

Ms Bellardi explained how community media is expected to deliver and delivers on the task of facilitating public participation and how the presence of community media is also an indicator for democratic society. However, support was needed for the community media to continue its societal role and engagement.

**6.1.2. [European Audiovisual Observatory \(coe.int\)](#)**

Ms Susanne Nikoltchev, Executive Director of the European Audiovisual Observatory (EAO), and Ms Maja Cappello, Head of department for Legal Information, provided information on the Observatory's ongoing work. The year 2022 marks the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Observatory.

Ms Nikoltchev briefly elaborated on the Mapping report on [Audiovisual Media Services Directive](#) (AVMSD) alignment in ‘neighbouring’ countries and on the Mapping report on commercial communications on video-sharing platforms, both coming in early 2023. She further reminded existing sources developed by the Observatory that are of relevance for the CDMSI: the [IRIS Newsletter](#) (Legal Observations of the European Audiovisual Observatory), offering monthly reports on the most important legal developments for the audiovisual industry; the [AVMSD Database](#), with an integrated AVMSD tracker that shows progress;

the [MAVISE database](#), on the registries of the European audiovisual regulatory authorities and/or ministries; the [LUMIERE VOD](#) database, a directory of European works (film and TV content) available on on-demand services in Europe.

Ms Emmanuelle Machet, Head of the Secretariat of the European Platform of regulatory Authorities (EPRA), shared information on EPRA's 2023 work programme focusing on the topics of mis- and disinformation, plurality and trust and national regulatory authorities in a digital environment. EPRA would continue its cooperation and regular exchanges with the European Regulators Group for Audiovisual Media Services (ERGA), and a joint media and information literacy event was planned in the autumn. The next EPRA meeting will take place in Oslo, Norway, on 31 May-2 June 2023. Regular updates on the CDMSI work at EPRA events were useful information, always welcome by EPRA members.

## **6.2. Relevant work of external partners**

### **6.2.1. META - exchange of views on user's rights**

The CDMSI held an exchange of views with Mr Nicolas de Bouville, Privacy Policy Manager at Meta, and Ms Camille Fischer, Privacy and Data Policy Manager for Integrity and Sensitive Data, regarding Meta's latest policy paper on users' rights in terms of privacy and integrity. The exchange was held as a follow-up to previous exchanges with the CDMSI, in the framework of the Digital Partnership, upon the request of Meta, and as part of the company's effort to gather inputs from relevant stakeholders on its policies' orientation and as a follow-up to previous exchanges with the CDMSI.

Meta representatives referred to Meta's Community Standards and Meta's efforts to design projects that are "privacy friendly" (by establishing privacy reviews, engaging with stakeholders, and doing data protection impact assessments). As to Meta's Integrity Systems report, its goal is to increase people's understanding on how Meta approaches data protection in the trust and safety space. Another topic covered by the discussion was the issue of hate speech online, including the difficulties Meta faces, as a platform, in dealing with such content in a human rights compliant manner. CDMSI members expressed, amongst other comments, their concerns on profiling when it comes to hate speech removal. Both Meta representatives and the CDMSI expressed readiness to continue exchanges and cooperation in this regard.

### **6.2.2. European Union**

Mr Audrius Perkauskas, Deputy Head of Unit, Audiovisual and Media Services Policy at the European Commission, provided an overview of the aims and construction of the Media Freedom Act (MFA). Mr Perkauskas indicated that the legislation in question consists of a proposed [Regulation](#) and a [Recommendation which was](#) already adopted and entered into force. The future Act is envisaged as a principle-based regulation, including: safeguards for the editorial independence of the media and against political interference; the protection of journalistic sources from surveillance; a focus on the independence and stable funding of public service media as well as on the transparency of media ownership and allocation of State advertising. Mr Perkauskas stressed that Council of Europe's recommendations and reports are a source of inspiration for the Regulation and could also help in addressing shortcomings in the future implementation of the Regulation by EU member states.

## 7. Elections

After information by the Secretariat on applicable rules and procedure, the CDMSI members, taking account that only one candidature had been proposed for each of the positions open for election, unanimously agreed to hold elections of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson by acclamation.

Mr Taavo Lumiste (Estonia) was re-elected as Chair of the CDMSI and Ms Inge Welbergen (the Netherlands) as Vice-Chair of the CDMSI, in both cases for a one-year term (2023).

The CDMSI further elected, in a secret ballot, member States' representatives to fill two vacant seats in the Committee of Experts on the Integrity of Online Information (MSI-INF). Mr Declan Shaw (UK) and Ms Nicole Sapfo Stellou (Greece) were both elected as members of the MSI-INF.

## 8. Preparations for the future Council of Europe campaign on the protection of journalists' safety

Ms Artemiza Chisca, Secretary to the CDMSI - Head of the Media and Internet Division, recalled that the call for a future Council of Europe Campaign for the Safety of Journalists is part of the conclusions of the [Conference of Ministers responsible for Media and Information Society](#) held in June 2021.

Ms Chisca stressed that the measures taken by member States to address the increasingly worrying situation in the field had proved insufficient, that more effective efforts were expected from the national authorities and all stakeholders concerned, and that the future campaign was to provide ample opportunities for that.

The Secretariat subsequently introduced the Campaign's concept and proposed roadmap, in view of its discussion and endorsement by the CDMSI, as the body entrusted by the Committee of Ministers with the launch and coordination of the Campaign. The Campaign will be publicly launched in the second part of 2023 and will last until 2027. The Campaign will involve, amongst various activities, four annual thematic events, to be organized by the Council of Europe, each focusing on one of the four pillars of [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2016\)4](#) on the protection of journalism and safety of journalists and other media actors: "prevention", "protection", "prosecution", "promotion of information, education and awareness raising".

To transpose the Campaign into the national contexts, national committees and national focal points will need to be established, as coordinating structures for the Campaign's 'national chapter' and to act as interface between the Council of Europe and member States on relevant matters. The national chapters should be developed in a comprehensive manner, in particular through the elaboration and implementation of national action plans for the protection of journalists' safety, including legislative, institutional and other measures necessary to provide a favourable environment for free, safe, pluralistic and responsible journalism. Coordinated action within the Council of Europe, at domestic level as well as at international level, will be instrumental to the success of the Campaign. CDMSI members expressed their support to the Campaign; asked for further clarification about the appointment of national focal points/national committees; they also stressed that further guidance and consultations will be needed in this regard.



## **9. Follow-up to the CDMSI's previous work. Implementation of recent standard-setting instruments (continued)**

### **9.1. Reports based on related questionnaires**

The Chair of the CDMSI reminded the members about the objectives of both questionnaires, before inviting, respectively, Mr Peter Noorlander and Mr Matthias Kettemann to update the members about the progress of their work. The Committee was further informed that the outcome of their work will be presented at the next plenary meeting, in June 2023.

- Concerning the Questionnaire aimed at collecting good practice for the extension of the Implementation Guide to the [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2016\)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of journalism and safety of journalists and other media actors](#), Mr Peter Noorlander informed the CDMSI that, at the time of the meeting, 25 (twenty five) member States provided answers to the questionnaire focusing on the prevention and promotion pillars of the Recommendation. Based on the answers collected, Mr Noorlander indicated in particular that, in the legislative field, a preliminary analysis suggests that there is a gap in the domestic legislation in terms of specific provision for the protection of journalists, especially on the safety of women journalists and of journalists in the online environment. Also, there were few answers on questions concerning related practices and national strategies, as well as on questions concerning media literacy initiatives.
- As to the Questionnaire on the state of implementation of [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2018\)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the roles and responsibilities of internet intermediaries](#), Mr Matthias Kettemann informed that, at the time of the meeting, 20 (twenty) answers had been received from member States. Member States having sent answers expressed support for the goals of the Recommendation and provided substantive information, showing efforts for deep implementation. However, only 2 (two) member States passed new laws directly connected to the Recommendation. Also, he noted there was room for development as: most member states do not provide positive obligations for intermediaries to protect and promote pluralism and diversity in the online distribution content; few member states have transparency reporting or risk assessment obligations; and few member states have rules on using AI-based content governance algorithms.

### **9.2. Follow-up to implementation of [CM/Rec\(2022\)16 on combating hate speech](#) – information by the Secretariat**

Ms Giulia Lucchese informed the CDMSI that the Recommendation CM/Rec(2022)16 on combating hate speech was well received by many partners including national authorities, enforcement agencies and civil societies. She reminded the members that, looking forward, the CDMSI has two deliverables in connection to the follow-up of the implementation of the Recommendation: a review of promising practices at national level; and a review report on the implementation of the Recommendation, both in cooperation with CDADI. She furthermore informed the CDMSI that, in view of the developments related to the Russian aggression against Ukraine, it had been decided to dedicate a future report to the topic of preventing and combating hate speech in times of crisis. To this end, a survey was sent to both members of the CDMSI and the CDADI to identify promising practices and challenges faced in member States in in this area. The results will be a valuable starting point for the first report, to be finalised in 2024.



## **10. Work progress related to the [European Convention on Transfrontier Television \(ECTT\)](#)**

Ms Urška Umek updated the CDMSI on the current state of the reflection on the state of play of the [European Convention on Transfrontier Television \(ECTT\) and possible related steps](#). She informed the members about the outcome of the meetings of the dedicated Reflection Group. Those members of the Group who had pronounced themselves on the various issues discussed largely agreed that a revision of the ETT to align its provisions with the [Audiovisual Media Services Directive \(AVMSD\)](#) would be a good and realistic result. However, the engagement in the Group was limited, despite a positive interest in the Group's work.

The Reflection Group worked on formulating the rationale for a possible revision of the ECTT, collecting concrete information about the open questions that might require the ECTT to be modernised. The three online meetings of the Reflection Group furthermore focused on the elements that would need to be included in a modernised instrument and those which should be modified or removed. Ms Umek informed the CDMSI that EPRA was ready to facilitate collecting more detailed information from national regulatory authorities.

The CDMSI members expressed their support to further work, especially information collection, and suggested to continue the discussion when more information would be available. This discussion will be held in two stages, first at the level of the Reflection Group, following which, the Secretariat will prepare a document with different possible courses of action and the CDMSI members would evaluate the options and choose the preferred one. If there will be a convincing majority amongst the CDMSI members for continuing the work on the ECTT, the Secretariat will impart the information to the Committee of Ministers, for it to decide on the possible revision activities.

## **11. Exchange with partners of the [Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists](#)**

Mr William Horsley, Media Freedom representative of the Association of European Journalists and International Director of the Centre for Freedom of the Media (CFOM) at the University of Sheffield gave an overview of the significant pending developments and innovations on the operation of the Platform, as well as on the outstanding trends from the Platform, adding that those trends were to be analysed and published (late February 2023) in the annual report covering 2022. Mr William Horsley highlighted that the Platform is the world's first database of this kind and saluted the successful cooperation between the Council of Europe and media and civil society. He also pointed out the lack of answers by member States to the alerts and the fewer number of resolved cases. He called upon the CDMSI members to help improve and make the alert mechanism more effective. He further informed that, despite the exclusion of the Russian Federation from the Council of Europe, to show support to the Russian journalists and civil society, the Platform will keep reporting on related alerts. Mr Horsley welcomed the Campaign for the Safety of Journalists and insisted on the crucial need for enhanced action by individual states and the Council of Europe.

Mr Tom Gibson, EU Representative - Committee to Protect Journalists (CPJ) stressed the importance of integrating the work of the Platform with the work of the CDMSI, especially in relation to the forthcoming Campaign.

Ms Nicola Frank, Head of Institutional and International Relations - European Broadcasting Union (EBU), also stressed the importance of the cooperation with the Platform for the Campaign and informed the CDMSI of the EBU support and readiness to be involved in the Campaign.

## **12. Review of progress**

Information was provided in written form.

## **13. Recent country-specific developments in the field of freedom of expression - *tour de table***

The CDMSI made a *tour de table* to present recent country specific developments in the field of freedom of expression:

- **Greece:** the third edition of the “Safety for Journalists” Training School will take place from 8 to 13 May 2023 in Kilkis, Greece. Application deadline is 14 April, 2023.
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina:** from 31 December 2022, the launch of the Council of Europe project “Media and Information Literacy: for Human Rights and More Democracy”. This project aims at enhancing media literacy within the country.
- **Georgia:** ongoing work on finalising the alignment of Georgia’s legislation with AVMSD Directive.
- **Latvia:** on 5-6 October 2023, under Latvia’s Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, a conference on freedom of expression will be jointly organised with the Council of Europe in Riga. A major focus of the conference will be dedicated to the protection of journalists’ safety.

## **14. Participation in events of relevance for the CDMSI**

The CDMSI took note of the information provided by the Secretariat on the [Public Service Media for Democracy](#) joint conference of the Council of Europe and the EBU, held on 22 November 2022, in Vilnius, Lithuania. Ms Nicola Frank, Head of Institutional and International Relations - EBU, congratulated the good cooperation with the Council of Europe and called for the establishment of a platform for public dialogue with a view of improving implementation of Council of Europe’s standards.

The Council of Europe also provided support and participated in the [European Anti-SLAPP Conference](#) (20 October 2022, Strasbourg), which brought together various relevant stakeholders (victims, experts, journalists, media professionals, lawyers, policymakers) and offered a remarkable opportunity to discuss ways to counter the SLAPP phenomenon.

## **15. Other business - *date and place of next meeting***

The CDMSI agreed to hold its next Plenary meeting on from 14 to 16 June 2023.

## **16. Approval of the abridged meeting report**

The CDMSI discussed and unanimously adopted, with minor revisions, the Abridged report of its meeting, as prepared by the Secretariat.

**AGENDA**

- 1. Opening of the meeting**
- 2. Adoption of the agenda and order of business**
- 3. Freedom of expression in times of conflict and aggression**
- 4. Ongoing standard setting work**
  - 4.1 Committee of Experts on Increasing Media Resilience (MSI-RES)
  - 4.2 Committee of Experts on Integrity of Online Information (MSI-INF)
  - 4.3 Committee of Experts on Strategic Lawsuits against Public Participation (MSI-SLP)
- 5. Council of Europe’s work and of other partner institutions of relevance for the CDMSI - latest developments**
  - 5.1 Relevant Council of Europe work
    - a) Exchange of views with the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Dunja Mijatović
    - b) Exchange of views with Ms Cecilia Dalman Eek, Vice-President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe and co-Rapporteur on local and regional media
    - c) Presentation of the report “Community media - contributions to citizens’ participation” by co-author Ms Nadia Bellardi
    - d) Exchange of views with the Secretariat of the European Audiovisual Observatory
  - 5.2 Relevant work of external partners
    - a) Exchange of views with META
    - b) Exchange of views with Mr Audrius Perkauskas, Deputy Head of Unit, Audiovisual and Media Services Policy, European Commission
- 6. Elections – brief information point**
- 7. Elections**
  - 7.1 Election to replace two MSI-INF members
  - 7.2 Elections for the CDMSI Bureau
- 8. Preparations for the future Council of Europe campaign on the protection of journalists’ safety**
- 9. Digital Governance**
  - 9.1 Council of Europe Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI) - Information on latest developments in the work of the CAI – by Thomas Schneider, Chair of the CAI, and the secretariat
  - 9.2 Exchange of views with Ambassador Aloisia Wörgetter, Thematic Co-ordinator of the Council of Europe on Information Policy (TC-INF)
  - 9.3 Council of Europe participation in the IGF 2022 (28 November - 2 December 2022, Addis Ababa, Ethiopia) [Internet Governance Forum](#)
  - 9.4 Steps taken in the framework of the Digital Partnership [Digital Partnership \(coe.int\)](#)

- 10. Follow-up to the CDMSI's previous work. Implementation of recent standard-setting instruments**
  - 10.1 Reports based on related questionnaires;
    - measures taken to implement [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2016\)4 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of journalism and safety of journalists and other media actors](#) - Presentation of the report by Mr Peter Noorlander
    - measures taken to implement [Recommendation CM/Rec\(2018\)2 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the roles and responsibilities of internet intermediaries](#) - Presentation of the report by Mr Matthias Kettemann
  - 10.2 Follow-up to implementation of [CM/Rec\(2022\)16 on combating hate speech](#)
- 11. Work progress related to the [European Convention on Transfrontier Television \(ECTT\)](#)**
- 12. Exchange with partners of the [Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists](#)**
- 13. Review of progress**
  - 13.1 Council of Europe Cooperation activities on freedom of expression
  - 13.2 Council of Europe work on data protection
- 14. Recent country-specific developments in the field of freedom of expression**
- 15. Participation in events of relevance for the CDMSI**
- 16. Other business**
- 17. Approval of the abridged meeting report**

**Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI) / Comité directeur sur les médias et la société de l'information (CDMSI)**

**22<sup>nd</sup> meeting – 7-9 December 2022 / 22<sup>eme</sup> réunion – 7-9 décembre 2022**

**List of participants / Liste de participants**

Total number of participants: / Nombre total des participants : 88

Gender distribution: 51 men (58%) / 37 women (42%)

Parité entre hommes : 51 hommes (58%) / 37 femmes (42%)

**MEMBERS / MEMBRES**

<b>ALBANIA / ALBANIE</b>	<b>Mr/M. Sokol GJOKA (excused)</b> Director of International Organizations/ <i>Directeur des organisations internationales</i> Ministry for Europe and Foreign Affairs/ <i>Ministère de l'Europe et des Affaires étrangères</i>
<b>ANDORRA / ANDORRE</b>	Waiting for a nomination / <i>en attente d'une nomination</i>
<b>ARMENIA / ARMENIE</b>	<b>Ms/Mme Anahit ABRAHAMYAN</b> Head of International Legal Cooperation Department / <i>Chef du Département de la Coopération Juridique Internationale</i> Ministry of Justice of the Republic of Armenia / <i>Ministère de la Justice de la République d'Arménie</i>
<b>AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE</b>	<b>Mr/M. Matthias TRAIMER</b> Head of Department, Media Affairs and Information Society/ <i>Chef du service Médias et société de l'information</i> Federal Chancellery, Constitutional Service/ <i>Chancellerie fédérale, Service constitutionnel</i>
<b>AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAÏDJAN</b>	<b>Mr/M. Javid MUSAYEV</b> Head of the Communication Policy Section / <i>Chef de la section Politique de communication</i> Presidential Administration of the Republic of Azerbaijan / <i>Administration présidentielle de la République d'Azerbaïdjan</i>
<b>BELGIUM / BELGIQUE</b>	<b>Mr/M. Johan BOUCIQUÉ</b> Media Advisor/ <i>Conseiller médias</i> Department of Culture, Youth and Media/ <i>Département de la culture, de la jeunesse et des médias</i> Flemish Government / <i>Gouvernement flamand</i> <b>Mr Nick SOCQUET</b> Media Advisor/ <i>Conseiller médias</i>

	Department of Culture, Youth and Media/Département de la culture, de la jeunesse et des médias Flemish Government / Gouvernement flamand
<b>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA</b> / <i>BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE</i>	<b>Mr/M. Emir POVLAČIĆ</b> Head of Audiovisual and Media Services / <i>Chef des services audiovisuels et médias</i> Communications Regulatory Agency / <i>Agence de régulation des communications</i>
<b>BULGARIA/BULGARIE</b>	<b>Ms/Mme Nelly STOYANOVA</b> Head of Information Society Policy Department/ <i>Chef du département de la politique de la société de l'information</i> Ministry of Transport, IT and Communications of Republic of Bulgaria/ <i>Ministère des transports, de l'informatique et des communications culture de la République de Bulgarie</i>
<b>CROATIA/CROATIE</b>	<b>Ms/Mme Nives ZVONARIĆ</b> Head of Media Sector / <i>Cheffe du secteur des médias</i> Ministry of Culture and Media / <i>Ministère de la culture et des médias</i>
<b>CYPRUS/CHYPRE</b>	<b>Ms/Mme Aiki STYLIANOU</b> Director/ Directrice Press and Information Office / <i>Bureau de presse et d'information</i> Ministry of Interior/ <i>Ministère de l'Intérieur</i>  <b>Ms/Mme Maria KARAGEORGHIS</b> Head, Liaison Officers Section / <i>Chef de la section des agents de liaison</i> Press and Information Office / <i>Bureau de presse et d'information</i> Ministry of Interior/ <i>Ministère de l'Intérieur</i>
<b>CZECH REPUBLIC/REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE</b>	<b>Mr/M. Artur REJNT</b> Director / <i>Directeur</i> Media and Audio-Visual Department/ <i>Département des médias et de l'audiovisuel</i> Ministry of Culture of the Czech Republic/ <i>Ministère de la culture de la République Tchèque</i>
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	<p><b>Mr Andres JÕESAAR</b>  Adviser (media) / <i>Conseiller (média)</i>  Ministry of Culture / <i>Ministère de la culture</i></p>
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<b>GEORGIA/GEORGIE</b>	<p><b>Mr/M. Ivane MAKHARADZE</b>  Commissioner / <i>Commissionnaire</i>  Communications Commission of Georgia / <i>Commission des communications de Géorgie</i></p>
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	Head of Directorate for Media / <i>Cheffe de la Direction des médias</i> Secretariat General for Communication & Media / <i>Direction des médias, Secrétariat général pour la communication et les média</i>
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	<p>Head of Information Space Integration Division / <i>Chef de la Division de l'intégration de l'espace d'information</i>  Ministry of Culture / <i>Ministère de la culture</i></p>
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<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	<p><b>Mr/M. Thierry ZEIEN</b>  Media and Communications Service / <i>Service des médias et des communications</i>  Ministry of State / <i>Ministère d'État</i>  The Government of the Grand Duchy of Luxembourg / <i>Gouvernement du Grand-Duché de Luxembourg</i></p>
<b>MALTA/MALTE</b>	<p><b>Ms/Mme Jasmine AZZOPARDI</b>  Senior Policy Officer / <i>Chargé de mission principal</i>  Ministry for Justice, Equality and Governance / <i>Ministère de la justice, de l'égalité et de la gouvernance</i></p>
<b>REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA/ REPUBLICUE DE MOLDOVA</b>	<p><b>Ms/Mme Aneta GONTA</b>  Vice-president of the Republic of Moldova Audiovisual Council / <i>Vice-présidente du Conseil de l'audiovisuel de la République de Moldova</i></p> <p><b>Ms/Mme Larisa TUREA</b>  Member of the Republic of Moldova Audiovisual Council / <i>Membre du Conseil de l'audiovisuel de la République de Moldova</i></p>
<b>MONACO</b>	<p><b>Mr/M. Serge ROBILLARD</b>  Head of Partnerships and Institutional Relations / <i>Chargé des partenariats et des relations institutionnelles</i>  Interministerial Delegation in charge of Digital Transition / <i>Délégation Interministérielle chargée de la Transition Numérique</i></p>
<b>MONTENEGRO</b>	<p><b>Mr/M. Neđeljko RUDOVIĆ (excused)</b>  acting Director General / <i>Directeur général par intérim</i>  Media Directorate / <i>Direction des médias</i>  Ministry of Public Administration, Digital Society and Media/</p>

	<i>Ministère de l'administration publique, de la société numérique et des médias</i>
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	General Secretariat of the Government of Romania / <i>Secrétariat général du Gouvernement de la Roumanie</i>
<b>SAN MARINO/SAN MARIN</b>	<b>Ms/Mme Beatrice SIMONCINI</b> First Secretary / <i>Première secrétaire</i> Department of Foreign Affairs / <i>Département des affaires étrangères</i> Media and Information Department / <i>Département des médias et de l'information</i>
<b>SERBIA/SERBIE</b>	<b>Ms/Mme Maja ZARIC</b> Head of Unit for International Cooperation / <i>Chef de l'unité de la coopération internationale</i> Ministry of Culture and Media / <i>Ministère de la culture et des médias</i>
<b>SLOVAK REPUBLIC/REPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE</b>	<b>Ms/Mme Viktoria KNAPPOVA</b> State advisor / <i>Conseillère d'État</i> Media Law and Audiovisual Unit / <i>Unité Droit des médias et audiovisuel</i> Creative Industry Department / <i>Département de l'industrie créative</i> Ministry of Culture / <i>Ministère de la Culture</i>  <b>Mr/M. Zeljko Martyn SAMPOR</b> Senior Counsel to the State Secretary / <i>Conseiller principal auprès du secrétaire d'État</i> Ministry of Culture of the Slovak Republic / <i>Ministère de la culture de la République slovaque</i>
<b>SLOVENIA/SLOVENIE</b>	<b>Mr/M. Skender ADEM</b> Undersecretary / <i>Sous-secrétaire</i> Ministry of Culture of Republic of Slovenia / <i>Ministère de la culture de la République de Slovénie</i>
<b>SPAIN/ESPAGNE</b>	<b>Mr/M. Miguel OVEJERO PÉREZ (excused)</b> Adviser of Audiovisual Services Regulation / <i>Conseiller en matière de réglementation des services audiovisuels</i> Ministry of Economic Affairs and Digital Transformation / <i>Ministère des Affaires Economiques et de la Transformation Numérique</i>
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<b>SWITZERLAND/SUISSE</b>	<b>Mr/M. Thomas SCHNEIDER</b> Ambassador / <i>Ambassadeur</i> Director of International Affairs / <i>Directeur des affaires internationales</i> Federal Department of the Environment, Transport, Energy and Communication DETEC / <i>Département fédéral de l'environnement, des transports, de l'énergie et de la communication DETEC</i>

	<p>Federal Office of Communications OFCOM / <i>Office fédéral de la communication OFCOM</i></p> <p><b>Mr/M. Andrea FRATTOLILLO</b> Federal Office of Communications OFCOM / <i>Office fédéral de la communication OFCOM</i></p>
<b>TURKEY/TURQUIE</b>	<p><b>Mr/M. Yusuf DEMİRTAŞ</b> Vice Head of Department V / <i>Vice-chef du département V</i> Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTUK) / <i>Conseil suprême de la radio et de la télévision (RTUK)</i> International Relations Department / <i>Département des relations internationales</i></p> <p><b>Mr/M. Candaş AYNAGÖZ</b> Expert Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTUK) / <i>Conseil suprême de la radio et de la télévision (RTUK)</i> International Relations Department / <i>Département des relations internationales</i></p> <p><b>Mr/M. İrfan DÜNDAR ERENTÜRK</b> Expert Radio and Television Supreme Council (RTUK) / <i>Conseil suprême de la radio et de la télévision (RTUK)</i> International Relations Department / <i>Département des relations internationales</i></p>
<b>UKRAINE</b>	<p><b>Ms/Mme Olha HERASYMIUK (excused)</b> Chair / <i>Présidente</i> National Council of Television and Radio Broadcasting of Ukraine / <i>Conseil national de la télévision et de la radiodiffusion d'Ukraine</i></p>
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**OBSERVERS AND PARTICIPANTS / OBSERVATEURS ET PARTICIPANTS**

<b>HOLY SEE / SAINT SIEGE</b>	<p><b>Mr/M. Michael LUKAS</b></p> <p>Spokesman of the Order of Malta in the Diocese of Hildesheim / <i>Porte-parole de l'Ordre de Malte dans le diocèse de Hildesheim</i></p>
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<b>EAVI MEDIA LITERACY FOR CITIZENSHIP/ EAVI ÉDUCATION AUX MÉDIAS POUR LA CITOYENNETÉ</b>	<b>Mr/M. Paolo CELOT</b> Founder and Secretary General / <i>Fondateur et secrétaire général</i>
<b>EUROPEAN INTERNET SERVICES PROVIDERS' ASSOCIATION/ ASSOCIATION EUROPÉENNE DES FOURNISSEURS DE SERVICES INTERNET</b>	<b>Mr/M. Michael ROTERT</b>
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<b>COMMUNITY MEDIA FORUM EUROPE</b>	<b>Ms Nadia BELLARDI</b>
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<b>META PLATFORMS</b>	<p><b>Ms/ Mme Camille FISCHER</b>  Privacy and Data Policy Manager for Integrity and Sensitive Data /  <i>Responsable de la politique de confidentialité et des données pour l'intégrité et les données sensibles</i></p> <p><b>Mr/M. Nicolas DE BOUVILLE</b>  Privacy Policy Manager / <i>Responsable de la politique de confidentialité</i></p>
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	<p><b>Mr/M. Matthias KETTEMANN</b>  Expert</p>
	<p><b>Mr/M. Peter NOORLANDER</b>  Expert</p>

**COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

<b>COUNCIL OF EUROPE THEMATIC COORDINATOR ON INFORMATION POLICY (TC-INF)/ COORDINATEUR THÉMATIQUE DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE SUR LA POLITIQUE D'INFORMATION (TC-INF)</b>	<p><b>Ambassador Aloisia WÖRGETTER</b>  Permanent Representative of Austria to the Council of Europe /  <i>Représentant permanent de l'Autriche auprès du Conseil de l'Europe</i></p>
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<b>COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS / COMMISSAIRE AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME</b>	<p><b>Ms/Mme Dunja MIJATOVIĆ</b></p>
<b>CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES / CONGRÈS DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET RÉGIONAUX</b>	<p><b>Ms/Mme Cecilia DALMAN EEK</b>  Vice-President / vice-présidente</p>

<p><b>COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON INCREASING RESILIENCE OF MEDIA (MSI-RES) /</b>  <i>COMITÉ D'EXPERTS SUR LE RENFORCEMENT DE LA RÉSILIENCE DES MÉDIAS (MSI-RES)</i></p>	<p><b>Mr/M. Ramón SALAVERRÍA</b>  Chair of the MSI-RES / <i>Président de MSI-RES</i></p>
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