

**STEERING COMMITTEE FOR EDUCATION POLICY AND PRACTICE (CDPPE)**

*Set up by the Committee of Ministers under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.*

**Type of committee:** Steering Committee

Terms of reference valid from: **1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021**

PILLAR/PROGRAMME/SUB-PROGRAMME
<p><b>Pillar:</b> Democracy  <b>Programme:</b> Democratic Participation  <b>Sub-programme:</b> Education for Democracy</p>
MAIN TASKS
<p>Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers and in the framework of the European Cultural Convention, the CDPPE will oversee the Council of Europe's actions in the field of general and higher education and advise the Committee of Ministers on all questions within its area of competence. Rooted in the four purposes of education as defined by the Committee of Ministers<sup>1</sup> and taking due account of transversal perspectives, the overall aim of the Education programme during the biennium is to support member States to develop their policies, legislation and practice in view of promoting quality, inclusive and corruption-free education systems, taking into account the Council of Europe Reference Framework for Democratic Culture. The CDPPE will cover Council of Europe priority areas and all levels of education. With this purpose, the CDPPE is instructed to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) develop, at European level, education policies based on the core values and standards of the Council of Europe;</li> <li>(ii) exchange ideas, information and good practice among its members, associating, as appropriate, observers and participants on issues concerning education;</li> <li>(iii) promote and facilitate co-operation and understanding between member States;</li> <li>(iv) continue to ensure the follow-up of the decisions taken by the Committee of Ministers subsequent to the 25<sup>th</sup> Session of the Standing Conference of Ministers of Education on "Securing democracy through Education";</li> <li>(v) promote reforms of general and higher education systems and policies to further develop democratic competences as well as participation and inclusion and to contribute to developing the European Higher Education Area;</li> <li>(vi) provide advice for policy makers and education professionals in States Parties to the European Cultural Convention in implementing education policies in line with the programme of activities adopted by the Committee of Ministers;</li> <li>(vii) draw up recommendations and other instruments allowing States Parties to the European Cultural Convention to develop education policies in conformity with the principles and standards of the Organisation and to implement them;</li> <li>(viii) identify opportunities for Council of Europe input and/or complementary Council of Europe action and programmes, taking into account the activities of other international organisations, in particular the European Union, the United Nations and the OSCE;</li> <li>(ix) take the pertinent aspects of the European Convention on Human Rights into consideration in its thematic work;</li> <li>(x) follow the implementation of the non-binding instruments that it has prepared as well as conventions for which it has been given supervision by the Committee of Ministers;</li> <li>(xi) contribute to co-operation and support activities of national initiatives in this field;</li> <li>(xii) without prejudice to the mandates of intergovernmental committees of the Council of Europe that already follow the work of monitoring mechanisms, follow the activities of the relevant monitoring and other bodies or convention mechanisms;</li> <li>(xiii) hold an exchange of views annually in order to evaluate its activities and advise the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General on future priorities in its sector, including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued;</li> <li>(xiv) take due account of a gender perspective, building cohesive societies, and promoting and protecting rights of persons with disabilities in the performance of its tasks;</li> </ul>

<sup>1</sup> Cf. Appendix to Recommendation CM/Rec(2007)6:

- preparation for sustainable employment;
- preparation for life as active citizens in democratic societies;
- personal development;
- the development and maintenance, through teaching, learning and research, of a broad, advanced knowledge base.

- (xv) in accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, carry out, at regular intervals, within the limits of the available resources and bearing in mind its priorities, an examination of some or all of the conventions for which it has been given responsibility,<sup>2</sup> in co-operation, where appropriate, with the relevant convention-based bodies, and report back to the Committee of Ministers;
- (xvi) contribute to the achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular with regards to Goal 4: Quality Education; Goal 5: Gender Equality; Goal 10: Reduce inequality; Goal 13: Climate action; Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong institutions and Goal 17: Global partnership for sustainable development.

#### SPECIFIC TASKS

- (i) Develop policy guidelines and approaches to increase the effectiveness of education for democratic citizenship and human rights education at the European level through the implementation (teaching, learning, assessment) and continued development of the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture (RFCDC) in national contexts and prepare and conduct the next review of the Council of Europe Charter on Education for Democratic Citizenship and Human Rights Education.
- (ii) Develop education policies to meet the opportunities and challenges of artificial intelligence and develop digital citizenship education as an integrated and sustainable part of formal education systems in Europe.
- (iii) Develop strategies for the implementation of language education policies which contribute to the education of learners as democratic citizens.
- (iv) Further the linguistic integration of refugees and migrants through the toolkit “Language Support for adult refugees” and contribute to the establishment of an Academy for democratic leadership of persons with a refugee background.
- (v) Encourage policy makers and education actors in member States to engage in a project for the development of open and inclusive learning environments and the promotion of the freedom of expression in schools and universities, in particular through a Democratic Schools Network.
- (vi) Based on the “Principles and Guidelines for quality history education in the 21<sup>st</sup> Century”, support member States’ development of education programmes that allow teachers to deliver quality history education, including Holocaust education, incorporating appropriate pedagogy, classroom strategies and teaching resources.
- (vii) Guide higher education policies towards contributing to the promotion of academic freedom and institutional autonomy, democratic higher education governance, the fair recognition of qualifications – including, through the European Qualifications Passport for Refugees, qualifications held by refugees, even when these cannot be adequately documented - based on the Lisbon Recognition Convention and structural reforms in the European Higher Education Area.
- (viii) Promote a culture of trust and integrity through the Platform on Ethics, Transparency and Integrity in Education (ETINED) and develop policy instruments to combat education fraud through an integrated policy approach on prevention, protection, participation, prosecution and trans-border co-operation.
- (ix) Foster integrity in higher education through the development and dissemination of policy framework documents and instruments for measuring integrity and transparency in higher education institutions across member States;
- (x) Foster the implementation of the Recommendation on Fostering a culture of ethics in the teaching profession (submitted to the Committee of Ministers for adoption in autumn 2019) and support the effectiveness of ethical codes in education in the member States.
- (xi) Contribute to the implementation of the UNESCO Education 2030 agenda/Sustainable Development Goal 4 with particular emphasis on the role of education for democracy and inclusion in the development of sustainable societies.
- (xii) Follow the work of the Council of Europe’s network of Schools of Political Studies and promote synergy with other parts of the Education Programme.
- (xiii) Ensure free access to on-line Council of Europe educational resources to member States, including publications, self-learning and master classes for education professionals on topical issues.
- (xiv) Provide rapid reaction, as far as possible, to requests from member States for advice and assistance on issues of education legislation and policy within the areas covered by the Education programme.
- (xv) Review progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), as evidenced by monitoring mechanisms and promoted through standard-setting and exchange of experiences and good practices.

<sup>2</sup> Cf. relevant decisions of the Committee of Ministers (CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2) and list of Conventions in document CM(2019)132.

**COMPOSITION****Members:**

Governments of the 50 States Parties to the European Cultural Convention are invited to designate two representatives of the highest possible rank representing the (i) general education and (ii) higher education sectors, with responsibility at the national level for the planning, development and implementation of policies relevant to the work of the Committee and appointed by their governments and by the competent body or bodies representing universities or other institutions of higher education. Committee members will co-ordinate at national level all elements of government policy relevant to the work of the Committee.

The Council of Europe will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of one representative from each State Party to the European Cultural Convention (two in the case of the State whose representative has been elected Chair).

States Parties to the European Cultural Convention may send other representatives without defrayal of expenses.

Each delegation shall have one vote. Where a government designates more than one member, only one of them is entitled to take part in the voting.

In accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, in cases where there is no convention-based body including all the Parties, non-member States are invited to take part, with a right to vote, in the committee meetings pertaining to the conventions to which they are Parties.

**Participants:**

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:

- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- European Court of Human Rights;
- Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;
- Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;
- Council of Europe Development Bank (CEB);
- North-South Centre;
- committees or bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate.

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- European Union;
- Observer States to the Council of Europe: Canada, Japan, Mexico, United States of America;
- Arab League for Education Culture and Science Organisation (ALECSO);
- Nordic Council of Ministers;
- Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD);
- Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE);
- United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organisation (UNESCO).

**Observers:**

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- Israel;
- the Conference of European Churches (KEK);
- Education International (EI);
- European Association of Institutions in Higher Education (EURASHE);
- European Council of Doctoral Candidates and Junior Researchers (EURODOC);
- European Cultural Foundation (ECF);
- European Federation of Catholic Universities (FUCE);
- European Science Foundation (ESF);
- European Students' Union (ESU);
- European University Association (EUA);
- the European Wergeland Centre (EWC);
- International Association of Universities (IAU);
- Lifelong Learning Platform;<sup>3</sup>
- Organising Bureau of European School Students Unions (OBESSU).

<sup>3</sup> Cf. CM/Del/Dec(2018)1309/7.1.

**WORKING METHODS****Plenary meetings:**

51 members, 2 meetings in 2020, 3 days for the 1<sup>st</sup> Session, 2 days for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

51 members, 2 meetings in 2021, 3 days for the 1<sup>st</sup> Session, 2 days for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Session

**Bureau meetings:**

12 members, 2 meetings in 2020, 2 days

12 members, 2 meetings in 2021, 2 days

The CDPPE elects a Bureau of six members, of whom the Chair and Vice-Chair of the Committee, representing in a balanced way the general and higher education sectors. Two members of the academic community and two NGO representatives, designated by the CDPPE, participate in the meetings of the Bureau, without the right to vote.

The Committee will also appoint a Gender Equality Rapporteur and a Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities from amongst its members, who participate in the meetings of the Bureau.

The rules of procedure of the Committee are governed by Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Whenever appropriate, it will prioritise environmentally sound working methods, such as virtual meetings facilitated by information technology and written consultations.

**BUDGETARY INFORMATION\***

	Meetings per year	Number of days	Members	Plenary €K	Bureau €K	Working groups	Secretariat (A, B)
2020	2	2 / 3	51	93.8	15.8	-	1 A; 1 B
2021	2	2 / 3	51	93.8	15.8	-	1 A; 1 B

\*The costs include the per diem, travel costs, interpretation, translation and document printing. These costs are calculated on the basis of the 2020 standard costs.