

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 5 June 2025

CJ-OR(2025)02

**COMMITTEE OF EXPERTS ON ACCESS TO ORIGINS  
(CJ-OR)**

1<sup>st</sup> meeting

Strasbourg, 3-5 June 2025

Agora, Room G2 on 3-4 June  
Palais de l'Europe, Rooms 12/13 on 5 June

**WORKPLAN AND CALENDAR OF CJ-OR ACTIVITIES  
FOR 2025-2026**

Document prepared by the Secretariat  
Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law – DGI

## **I. Background**

1. The Committee of Ministers established as of January 2025 a Committee of Experts on access to origins (CJ-OR) composed of 10 representatives, seven representing member states and three independent experts. Participants and observers also contribute to the work of the CJ-OR, as set out in the terms of reference for 2025-2026 adopted by the Committee of Ministers (see document CJ-OR(2025)01).
2. The CJ-OR is tasked to elaborate by 31 December 2026, under the authority of the Committee of Ministers and of the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), a draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins. During the biennium 2025-2026, the committee is expected to meet twice a year.

## **II. Indicative workplan for 2025-2026**

3. The workplan provides a detailed framework for the activities of the CJ-OR over the period covered by its terms of reference. The workplan incorporates key milestones, timelines, and responsibilities, ensuring a structured approach to the elaboration of a draft recommendation on the rights of donor-conceived persons to know their origins. The workplan is designed to allow for some flexibility to accommodate adjustments as needed and emphasises collaboration between the CJ-OR, CDCJ, and other stakeholders.
4. The CJ-OR, where necessary, may adapt its working methods, in particular make use of new technologies, videoconferences and written procedures if the existing timeframes do not allow to complete the different stages of the elaboration of the new recommendation and its explanatory memorandum within the allocated time and resources.

## Appendix

### Calendar of CJ-OR activities for 2025-2026

Activities/task	Dates / Places	Responsibility
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>1<sup>st</sup> meeting of CJ-OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of key issues regarding the right to know one's origins</li> <li>- Exchange of views on scope and issues to be covered by the future recommendation</li> <li>- Agreement on elements and outline for the future recommendation</li> </ul>	3-5 June 2025 Strasbourg	CJ-OR
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>104<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the CDCJ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Update on the first meeting of the CJ-OR and its results</li> </ul>	16-18 June 2025	CDCJ
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>2<sup>nd</sup> meeting of CJ-OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Examination of a preliminary draft of the recommendation</li> <li>- Examination of proposal of elements for the explanatory memorandum of the draft recommendation</li> <li>- Possible discussion on additional information and data collection from the member states and on a questionnaire to be used for this purpose</li> <li>- Agreement on a stakeholder consultation and engagement process, and on the stakeholders to be involved</li> </ul>	28-30 October 2025 Strasbourg	CJ-OR
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>105<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the CDCJ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress review of the work of the CJ-OR</li> <li>- Examination of the preliminary draft recommendation</li> </ul>	18-20 November 2025	CDCJ
<p><b>Stakeholder consultation process</b> <b>Written consultation process with member states, other bodies and committees of the Council of Europe, other international and civil society organisations on the draft recommendation</b></p>	December 2025 – February 2026	CDCJ and CJ-OR
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of CJ-OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review of the draft recommendation and its draft explanatory memorandum in light of the information and comments collected through the consultation process</li> <li>- Preparation of the draft recommendation and its explanatory memorandum for the first examination of the draft texts by the CDCJ</li> </ul>	2026	CJ-OR
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>106<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the CDCJ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Progress review</li> <li>- Examination of the draft recommendation and its explanatory memorandum</li> </ul>	2026	CDCJ and CJ-OR
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>4<sup>th</sup> meeting of the CJ-OR</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Review and preparation of the final draft recommendation and its explanatory memorandum, taking into account the comments received from the CDCJ during its 106<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting</li> </ul>	2026	CJ-OR

<p><b>107<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the CDCJ</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Approval of the draft recommendation and adoption of its explanatory memorandum and communication of the texts to the Committee of Ministers for adoption</li></ul>	2026	CDCJ and CJ-OR
<p><b>CM Rapporteur group (GR-J) and CM meetings</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>- Examination the draft recommendation and its explanatory memorandum</li><li>- Adoption of the draft recommendation and taking note of its explanatory memorandum</li></ul>	2027	CM