SECRETARIAT
AS/Cult (2026) CB 06
1 October 2026

For the attention of the members of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 29 and 30 September and on 1 October 2026

The Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, meeting in Strasbourg on 29 and 30 September and on 1 October 2026, with Mr Mogens Jensen (Danmark, SOC), Chairperson, in the chair,

- **Tuesday 29 September 2026 at 14:00**, as regards:

– **Communication from the Chairperson of the committee:**

  - informed members that the "Victory for Viktoria" annual commemoration to be held on 1 October will be video recorded;
  - invited members to register via the Pace-Apps platform in time for the next committee meeting, which is to be held in Paris on 13 October 2026;
  - informed members that the meeting initially scheduled for 2 December 2026 in Paris will take place over two days, on 1 and 2 December 2026;
  - informed members that no more than two experts will be invited to each exchange of views, to allow sufficient time for presentations and committee debates, and thanked the rapporteurs for their understanding;
  - informed members about his intervention, as the chairperson of the committee, in the general policy debate on "The Council of Europe: grounded in core values to meet the challenges ahead"; this debate marks the beginning of the process, in which the Assembly, as one of the two statutory organs of the Council of Europe, will adopt a unified position in a report, most likely in January 2027;
  - drew attention to the statement issued by Ms Agnes Prammer, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Alliance on Good Governance and Integrity in Sport, to mark European School Sport Day on 27 September, and encouraged members to share it far and wide;
  - reminded members of the upcoming meeting of the Parliamentary Alliance for Good Governance and Integrity in Sport, which will be held in Monaco on 3 November 2026, during the 19th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers Responsible for Sport;

– **Invitation to hold a meeting in Montenegro on 16 and 17 March 2027**: welcomed the invitation by the Chairperson of the Montenegrin delegation to hold a meeting of the committee in Montenegro on 16 and 17 March 2027, and decided to ask the Bureau for the authorisation;

– **Growing threats to media pluralism and to the independence of the media** (*Rapporteur: Ms Valentina Grippo, Italy, ALDE; Rapporteur for opinion, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Ms Gala Veldhoen, Netherlands, SOC*): took position on 6 amendments to the draft resolution and took note that there were no amendments to the draft recommendation;

– **Statement on the crisis in leadership, governance and integrity in international football**: considered and amended a statement with a view to adopt it during the next sitting;

– **Committee work programme:**

- *Call for candidates for rapporteurs for report*: made calls for rapporteurs, to be appointed during the next sitting, on:
    - Protecting the right to education in Gaza (Doc. 16445), and took note of the interest of Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium, EPP/CD) and Ms Meryem Göka (Türkiye, NR);
    - Protecting Europe's cultural diversity and cultural sovereignty by promoting access to European cinematographic and audiovisual works (Doc. 16466), and took note of the interest of Ms Marietta Karamanli (France, SOC);

- **Wednesday 30 September 2026 at 14:00**, as regards:

– **Statement on the crisis in leadership, governance and integrity in international football**: considered and unanimously adopted a statement;

– **A new European Convention on Freedom of the Media** (*Rapporteur: Mr Benjamin Dalle, Belgium, EPP/CD*): considered an information memorandum;

– **Committee work programme:**

- *Appointment of rapporteurs for report*:
    - appointed:
        - Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE) rapporteur on "Empowering youth in the digital age: towards creative, democratic and competence-based approaches to online participation" (Doc. 16384),
        - Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE) rapporteur on "The Venice Biennale and a framework for Russia's participation in international cultural events" (Doc. 16392),
        - Ms Marietta Karamanli (France, SOC) rapporteur on "Protecting Europe's cultural diversity and cultural sovereignty by promoting access to European cinematographic and audiovisual works" (Doc. 16466),
    - elected by secret ballot: Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium, EPP/CD) rapporteur on "Protecting the right to education in Gaza" (Doc. 16445),

  subject to the completion of the obligation to update their declaration of interests to include the rapporteur role, within the relevant deadline;

- *Appointment of rapporteurs for opinion*: appointed:
    - Ms Luz Martínez Seijo (Spain, SOC) rapporteur for opinion on "Mainstreaming remembrance: preserving the historical memory of Roma and Travellers to counter Antigypsyism" (Doc. 16300),
    - Mr Nikolla Camaj (Montenegro, ALDE) rapporteur for opinion on "Brain drain and demographic challenges in the Western Balkans" (Doc. 16393),

  subject to the completion of the obligation to update their declaration of interests to include the rapporteur for opinion role, within the relevant deadline;

- *Reporting back*: heard:
    - Ms Valentina Grippo (Italy, ALDE), rapporteur on "Safeguarding creativity and education in the age of generative artificial intelligence", on her participation in the Parliamentary Round Table on "Youth and artificial intelligence: education, autonomy and democratic safeguards", held in Monaco on 22 May 2026;
    - Ms Valentina Grippo (Italy, ALDE), General rapporteur on General Rapporteur on Media Freedom and Safety of Journalists, on her participation in the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) expert meeting entitled "Towards a Community of Practice: Responding to Intimidation of Public Officials", held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 26 June 2026;

- *Fact-finding visits*: authorised, subject to the availability of funds, Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium, EPP/CD) to carry out a fact-finding visit in the framework of the preparation of his report "A new European Convention on Freedom of the Media", to Belgium, in October or November 2026 (dates to be confirmed);

- *Appointment of representatives*: appointed,
    - subject to the availability of funds: Ms Tone Wilhelmsen Trøen (Norway, EPP/CD), in her capacity as rapporteur for follow-up on Media freedom in sport, to participate in the European Parliament - News Media Coalition seminar on "Primary Source Journalism: the pursuit of truth and upholding trust in tomorrow's democratic societies", to be held in Brussels, Belgium, on 14 October 2026;
    - at no cost to the Assembly:
        - Ms Valentina Grippo (Italy, ALDE), in her capacity as General Rapporteur on Media Freedom and Safety of Journalists, to participate in the:
            - 153rd Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly, working sessions on the safety of parliamentarians and journalists, freedom of information and anti-SLAPP action, to be held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, in October 2026 (dates to be confirmed);
            - Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Global Parliamentary Conference on Human Rights, session "Freedom of expression on- and offline: the role of parliaments", to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 12 November 2026;
            - Women for a Sustainable Future (WSF) Network Meeting, organised by Forward Thinking and the SHAF Centre, to be held in Cairo, Egypt, from 25 to 27 November 2026;
        - Ms Luz Martínez Seijo (Spain, SOC), to represent the Assembly in the high-level event dedicated to "Inclusive Societies, Stronger Democracies: Building a shared future where everyone can contribute, belong and thrive", to be held in Madrid, Spain, on 15 October 2026;
        - Ms Zeynep Yildiz (Türkiye, NR), in her capacity as representative of the Committee to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), to participate online in the ECRI annual seminar, to be held in Strasbourg on 15 and 16 October 2026;

– **Representation to the *ad hoc* committees of the Bureau of the Assembly**: made calls for candidates to appoint committee representatives as members of the a*d hoc* committees of the Bureau of the Assembly to participate (at no cost to the Assembly) in the:

- Anticipation Summit - GESDA Global, to be held in Geneva, Switzerland, on 14 and 15 October 2026, and appointed, for the approval by the Bureau: Mr Yunus Emre (Türkiye, SOC) and Mr José María Sánchez García (Spain, ECPA);
- 2026 World Forum for Democracy, to be held in Strasbourg on 2 and 3 November 2026, and appointed, for the approval by the Bureau: Ms Belén Hoyo (Spain, EPP/CD) and Mr José María Sánchez García (Spain, ECPA);

– **Replies by the Committee of Ministers**: considered the reply by the Committee of Ministers (Doc. 16460) to Assembly Recommendation 2302 (2026) "Strengthening democracies with young people: from participation to shared responsibility" (rapporteur for follow-up: Ms Sona Ghazaryan, Armenia, ALDE), and agreed with the rapporteur's proposals for follow-up;

– **Letter from the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, Ethics, and Immunities regarding the confidentiality of Assembly documents**: took note of the letter from the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities;

– **Other business**: heard Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC) on recent developments concerning Artificial Intelligence in the United Kingdom;

– **Sub-committees**: approved the following changes in its sub-committees:

- *Sub-Committee on Culture, Education and Democratic Values:*
    - Ms Irene Charlambides (Cyprus, ALDE) becomes a full member,
    - Ms Ulle Schauws (Germany, NR) becomes a full member;
- *Sub-Committee on Youth and the Society of the Future:*
    - Mr Demetris Demetriou (Cyprus, EPP/CD) becomes a full member;

- *Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society:*
  - Ms Irene Charlambides (Cyprus, ALDE) becomes a full member;

- **Thursday 1 October 2026 at 8:30**, as regards:

– **Victory for Viktoria**: held the annual commemoration of journalists who risk their lives to tell the truth, with the participation of Ms Petra Bayr, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), rapporteur for follow-up to the Assembly Resolution 2618 (2025) "Journalists matter: the need to step up efforts to liberate Ukrainian journalists held in captivity by the Russian Federation"; and in the presence of Ms Despina Chatzivassiliou, Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly; held an exchange of views with Ms Ariane Chemin, Journalist, feature reporter and author, Paris; and Ms Nataliya Gumenyuk, Journalist, author and documentary filmmaker; co-founder and CEO of the Public Interest Journalism Lab, Ukraine;

– **Addressing culture as a foundation for the democratisation of Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Ms Agnieszka Pomaska (Poland, EPP/CD*): heard a report by the rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to Poland, from 9 to 11 September 2026, and considered an outline report;

– **Committee work programme:**

- *Reporting back*: heard: Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, ALDE), former rapporteur on "The Cultural Routes: a platform for intercultural dialogue", on his participation in the 15th Advisory Forum on the Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe on "Routes through Time and Culture: Education for Sustainable Heritage", held in Yerevan, Armenia, from 23 to 25 September 2026;

– **Next meetings**: took note of its next meetings as follows:

- Paris, 13 October 2026,
- Paris, 1-2 December 2026;

- **Thursday 1 October 2026 at 14:00**, as regards:

– **Joint meeting with the Special Committee on the New Democratic Pact**: held a hearing on "Media Freedom" moderated by Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium, EPP/CD), rapporteur on "A new European Convention on Freedom of the Media", with the participation of Ms Aneta Gonța, Chair of the Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Moldova; Mr Mark D. Cole, Professor of Media and Telecommunication Law at the University of Luxembourg; and Mr Andrei Richter, Professor-Researcher at Comenius University in Bratislava, Visiting Professor of Russian Studies at Charles University, Prague, Czechia.

Tatiana Termacic, Dana Karanjac, Silvia Arzilli, Francisco Cabrera

---

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
Officers of the Parliamentary Assembly Secretariat
Secretaries of the Assembly's national delegations and political groups
Secretaries of the observer and partners for democracy delegations
General Secretary of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
General Managers and Managing Directors
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe