



AS/Soc (2025) CB04

19 May 2025

To the members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Helsinki on 16 May 2025

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Helsinki on Friday, 16 May 2025, with Ms Saskia Kluit (Netherlands, SOC), Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, on:

- **Analysis and guidelines for a sustainable and socially fair energy transition** (*Rapporteur: Ms Saskia Kluit, the Netherlands, SOC*): with Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, ECPA), Second Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution as amended, with a view to presenting the report for debate during the third part-session of the Assembly of 2025;
- **Draft Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine concerning the protection of human rights and dignity of persons with regard to involuntary placement and involuntary treatment within mental healthcare services** (*Rapporteur: Ms Ms Carmen Leyte, Spain, EPP/CD*): held a hearing with the participation of Mr John Patrick Clarke, Vice President, European Disability Forum, and Prof. Martina Rojnic Kuzman, European Psychiatric Association (*online*);
- **Social mobilisation, social unrest, and police reaction in Council of Europe member States: need for a new social contract?** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Switzerland, SOC*): considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, with a view to presenting the report for debate during the third part-session of the Assembly of 2025;
- **Sustainable European guidelines to counter social dumping and strengthen collective bargaining mechanisms** (*Rapporteur: Ms Valérie Piller Carrard, Switzerland, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of Ms Natalia Ollus, Director, European Institute for Crime Prevention and Control, affiliated with the United Nations (HEUNI), Mr Samuli Hiilesniemi, lawyer, Central Organization of Finnish Trade Unions (SAK) and Ms Pia Marttila, Coordinating Senior Advisor, Victim Support Finland (RIKU);
- **Follow-up to the report “The absolute and urgent need to end the humanitarian crisis for women, children and the hostages in Gaza”** (*Rapporteur: Ms Saskia Kluit, Netherlands, SOC*): unanimously decided to propose to the Bureau of the Assembly to hold a debate under the urgent procedure during the third part-session of the Assembly of 2025;
- **Changes in Sub-Committees**: approved the following changes:
 - Sub-committee on the Europe Prize**: Mr Robert-Ionatan Sighiartău (Romania, EPP/CD) became a full member with Ms Maria Gabriela Horga (Romania, EPP/CD);
 - Sub-Committee on European Social Charter**: Mr Rónán Mullen (Ireland, EPP/CD), Ms Georgeta-Carmen Holban (Romania, SOC) became a full member with Ms Dumitrina Mitrea (Romania, ECPA) as alternate;
- **Committee of Ministers’ replies**: considered the Committee of Ministers’ reply to Assembly Recommendation 2282 (2024) on “The Council of Europe Development Bank: implementing the Reykjavik Declaration” (*Rapporteur: Ms Eka Sepashvili, Georgia, EC/DA*);

- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
 - **appointment of rapporteurs:** issued a call for candidates for a rapporteur to be appointed at a subsequent meeting on:
 - ✓ Towards a family-friendly Europe: policy recommendations for demographic renewal
 - ✓ Guaranteeing the right to access to drinking water
 - **appointment of representatives to external events:** appointed Mr Paul Galles (Luxembourg, EPP/CD), Ms Saskia Kluit (Netherlands, SOC), Ms Sevilay Çelenk Özen (Türkiye, UEL) and Ms Aurora Floridaia (Italy, SOC) to participate to the *ad hoc* Sub-Committee to participate in the event “Social Rights: Building Social Justice and Democratic Stability” organised by the Council of Europe, in cooperation with the European Economic and Social Committee, 5 June 2025, Brussels;
 - **reports from Committee representatives to external events:** heard back from:
 - ✓ Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) and Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD) on the *Ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to participate in the parliamentary conference on “Envisioning effective public policy to prevent & address cases of missing migrants” organised as a follow-up to Resolution 2569 (2024) “Missing migrants, refugees and asylum seekers - A call to clarify their fate”, 23-24 April 2025, Strasbourg;
 - ✓ Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) on the Midterm review Conference of the Council of Europe Strategy for the Rights of the Child (2022-2027), 3-4 April 2025, Strasbourg
 - ✓ Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, ECPA) on *Ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to participate in the meeting between parliamentarians of the Nordic Council and of the PACE, 4-5 May 2025, Kristiansand, Norway;
 - **Visit of the Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine to Kyiv:** took note of the invitation from the Ukrainian Parliament to the network on the situation of children in Ukraine to visit Kyiv on 9–10 June 2025 and decided to submit a request to the Bureau of the Assembly to authorise this visit;
 - **Other business:**
 - was informed that at its meeting in Luxembourg on Wednesday 14 May, the Committee of Ministers had adopted an important “environmental package” comprising: the Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment, a related action plan and the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law;
 - adopted the revised terms of reference of the Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine for submission to the Bureau of the Assembly increasing the number of members appointed by the committees of the Parliamentary Assembly to three;
 - **Dates and places of next meetings:** took note of the next meetings to be held as follows:
 - Plenary committee**
 - Third part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 23-27 June 2025, Strasbourg
 - 4 September 2025, Paris office
 - Fourth part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 29 September - 3 October 2025, Strasbourg
 - 4 December 2025, Paris office
 - Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**
 - 6 June 2025, San Sebastian
 - Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter**
 - Third part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 23-27 June 2025, Strasbourg
 - Parliamentary Network for a healthy environment**
 - Third part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 23-27 June 2025, Strasbourg
 - 3 December 2025, Paris office (*to be confirmed*)
 - Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine**
 - 9-10 June 2025, Kyiv (*subject to the approval by the Bureau of the Assembly*)
 - Third part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 23-27 June 2025, Strasbourg

The Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine, meeting in Helsinki on **Thursday, 15 May 2025, at 4:30 pm**, with Ms Olena Khomenko (Ukraine, ECPA), Network Chairperson, in the Chair :

- considered the results of the Conference on Deported Ukrainian Children: European actions;
- **Other business:** took note of the resolutions adopted by the Plenary of the Austrian National Council and the Austrian Federal Council (on 24 April 8 May respectively) on the topic of the protection of Ukrainian children, initiated among others by Ms Petra Bayr, Ms Eder-Gitschthaler and Mr Stefan Schennach;
- **Dates and places of next meetings:** took note of the next meetings to be held as follows:
 - 9-10 June 2025, Kyiv (*subject to the approval by the Bureau of the Assembly*)
 - Third part of the 2025 session of the Assembly, 23-27 June 2025, Strasbourg

Catherine Du Bernard, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Jannick Devaux, Claire Dubois-Hamdi, Olga Kostenko

cc: Secretary General of the Assembly
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe