**Standing Committee (SC) meeting
Report
11.01.2024
10:00-11:00
Online meeting**

Present: Annelise Oeschger (AO), Anna Sevortian (AS), Anu Juvonen (AJ), Bénédicte Kern (BK), Christophe Speckbacher (ChS), Christoph Spreng (CS), Gerhard Ermischer (GE), Geneviève Laloy (GL), Piotr Sadowski (PS), Simon Matthijsen (SM)

1. **Opening of the meeting by Gerhard Ermischer, Chair of the SC**

   - Change to the meeting format because of the conversations with the candidates for the Human Rights Commissioner position.

   - Welcome to Christophe Spreng, in his new role in the Civil Society Unit.

   - Follow up to GR-Dem– Rapporteur Group – GE has got an invitation for Thursday 18 January, at the beginning of the meeting, to provide the first of the bi-annual CINGO reports (GR-DEM - Democracy - Committee of Ministers https://www.coe.int/en/web/cm/gr-dem).

2. **Rapporteurs will now act according to the actual list**

   - PS taking minutes as Olga Sadovskaya could not attend.

3. **Draft agenda - for adoption.**

   - Adopted

4. **Draft minutes of the last meeting.**

   - Adopted

5. **Preparation of elections / communication with potential candidates**

   - PS and BK confirm the timetable for the nominations and point out the deadline for submitting candidatures is 8 February 2024, with documents needing to be received that day by the Secretariat.

6. **Date for ordinary meeting needed because of the dialogue with candidates for the post of Human Rights Commissioner today**

   - Tentative date: Thursday 18 January 2024, 16:30-18:00.

7. **Any other business**

   - 10th World NGO Day – direct communications with the organisers and especially Marcis Skadmanis has been led on behalf of the SC by CS.

   - Takes place on Tuesday, 27 February 2024, at 11.00 (CET); hybrid event.

- 2024 is the year of the 75th anniversary of Council of Europe.

- GE to write to Francesca Fanucci to engage her as CINGO representative at CAI and to include her to speak on the role of citizens and NGOs in view of human rights and AI.

- Decision regarding Marcis Skadmanis' proposal support through Microsoft Philanthropies – it is agreed (with input from AS, PS and CS), that this can have a frame of critical dialogue partnership, to not walk into a trap of tech-washing (AS, PS, CS), but to engage this partnership as a dynamic process, with important input from civil society.

- BK – report of the last GA is still needed urgently.