

Current Affairs Committee
CG-CUR(2021)19-DEC

Meeting of the Current Affairs Committee

Hybrid, Thursday 18 November 2021

Abridged report – List of items discussed and decisions taken

1. The chair of the Committee, Thomas ANDERSSON, opened the meeting. The list of participants appears in Appendix 1.
2. The Committee adopted the agenda as set out in Appendix 2.
3. The Committee adopted the synopsis of the previous remote meeting (7 May 2021).
4. The Committee took note of the communication by the Chair of the Committee and by the Secretary General of the Congress
5. The Committee elected Joanne LABAN, United Kingdom (L, ECR) as 1st Vice Chair of the Committee.
6. The Committee heard from co-rapporteurs James MOLONEY, Ireland (L, ILDG) and Aida JALILZADE, Azerbaijan (R, ECR) about the draft report on the future of youth in rural areas; heard from expert Dr. Jayne GLASS, Scotland's Rural College; held an exchange of views; adopted the draft explanatory memorandum, and approved the preliminary draft Resolution and Recommendation, on the proviso that the suggestions and comments made by members will be included into the text before the text be submitted for adoption at the Congress plenary session in March 2022.
7. The Committee heard from Rapporteur Brigitte VAN DEN BERG, Netherlands (L, ILDG) about the Resolution introducing a draft booklet for children on sustainable development in their cities as well as its accompanying draft guidelines for local authorities; heard from experts Stina HEIKKILA, URBACT and Michelle TEMPLETON, Queen's University Belfast; held an exchange of views on the draft booklet and draft guidelines and; adopted the preliminary draft Resolution, which will be submitted for adoption with the final draft booklet and guidelines at a Congress plenary session in 2022, and took note of the call for interested members to pilot the project.
8. The Committee heard from Nino KAVTARADZE, Georgia (L, EPP), Prof. Angel Manuel MORENO MOLINA, Group of Independent Experts and Rosmarie WYDLER-WALTI, Vereins Klima Seniorinnen (Switzerland) about the impact of climate change on human rights; held an exchange of views on the issue; took note of the foreseen report on human rights and the environment and of the interest of several members to be co-rapporteur.
9. The Committee was informed by Thomas ANDERSSON of the ongoing cooperation with the Conference of International NGOs and the Council of Europe's Directorate General of Democracy for the creation of an on-line compendium with good practice examples of civil participation.
10. The Committee heard from Congress Youth Delegate Kristina MINCHEVA (Bulgaria) about the Congress conference on youth work to be held on 29 October 2021.

12. The Committee took note of the work programme of the Current Affairs Committee.

13. The Committee took note of the date for the next meeting to be held during the Congress plenary session in March 2022.

14. The Committee adopted the present abridged report of the meeting – list of items discussed and decisions taken.

Copy for information:

Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly
Heads of the political groups of the Congress
Members of the Bureau of the Congress
Secretaries of national delegations to the Congress
Secretariat of the Congress

Appendix: List of participants, agenda

Appendix 1 – List of participants

Members of the Committee

Thomas ANDERSSON, Sweden (R, ILDG), Chair of the Current affairs Committee

Davit KHAZHAKYAN, Armenia (L, ILDG)
 Reinhart ROHR, Austria (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Aida JALILZADE, Azerbaijan (R, ECR)
 Samira HUSEYNOVA, Azerbaijan (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Carla DEJONGHE, Belgium (R, ILDG)
 Melika MAHMUTBEGOVIC, Bosnia and Herzegovina (R, EPP/CCE)
 Elena BALTADZHIEVA, Bulgaria (L, ECR)
 Radka TRYLCOVA, Czech Republic (R, ECR)
 Annika VAIKLA, Estonia (L, ILDG)
 Denise BOCQUILLET, France (L, EPP/CCE)
 Françoise GROLET, France (R, NR)
 George TKEMALADZE, Georgia (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Gabriele NEFF, Germany (L, ILDG)
 Gerald KUMMER, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Heike KASTER-MEURER, Germany (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Thomas VOM BRUCH, Germany (R, EPP/CCE)
 Eirini DOUROU, Greece (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Stamatia KAFATSAKI, Greece (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Gyorgy GEMESI, Hungary (L, NR)
 Janos Adam KARACSONY, Hungary (R, EPP/CCE)
 James MOLONEY, Ireland (L, ILDG)
 Belinda GOTTARDI, Italy (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Laura LAURO, Italy (R, EPP/CCE)
 Lia MONTALTI, Italy (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Roberto PELLA, Italy (L, EPP/CCE)
 Andris RAVINS, Latvia (L, ILDG)
 Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS, Luxembourg (L, ILDG)
 Brigitte VAN DEN BERG, Netherlands (L, ILDG)
 Andrzej PRUS, Poland (R, NR)
 Ilur METSHIN, Russian Federation (L, ILDG)
 Inna SVIATENKO, Russian Federation (R, EPP/CCE)
 Natalia KOMAROVA, Russian Federation (R, EPP/CCE)
 Ekaterina PROKOPYEVA, Russian Federation (R, EPP/CCE)
 Tamara ROMASHOVA, Russian Federation (L, SOC/G/PD)
 Zalina LIANOVA, Russian Federation (L, EPP/CCE)
 Maddalena MUCCIOLI, San Marino (L, NR)
 Aleksandra MALETIC, Serbia (R, EPP/CCE)
 Dusica DAVIDOVIC, Serbia (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Boris PODVRSNIK, Slovenia (L, EPP/CCE)
 Josefa NAVARRETE PEREZ, Spain (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Jose Maria GARCIA URBANO, Spain (L, PPE/CCE)
 Cecilia DALMAN EEK, Sweden (R, SOV/G/PD)
 Necattin DEMIRTAS, Turkey (L, ILDG)
 Yasemen CELIK, Turkey (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Oksana DERKACH, Ukraine (L, EPP/CCE)
 Tetiana HOIAN, Ukraine (L, EPP/CCE)
 Rachel BAILEY, United Kingdom (R, ECR)
 Eunice CAMPBELL-CLARK, United Kingdom (R, SOC/G/PD)
 Joanne Louise LABAN, United Kingdom (L, ECR)
 Peter THORNTON, United Kingdom (R, ILDG)

Alternates of the Committee

Doris KAMPUS, Austria (R, SOC/G/PD)
Nikolay GROZEV, Bulgaria (L, EPP/CCE)
Josef FREY, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD)
Alberto MAZZOLENI, Italy (L, ECR)
Ilaria BUGETTI, Italy (R, SOC/G/PD)
Jose Luis BLANCO MORENO, Spain (L, SOC/G/PD)
Karin THOMASSON, Sweden (R, SOC/G/PD)
Gokhan GUMUSDAG, Turkey (R, SOC/G/PD)
Roman KAZNOVETSKYI, Ukraine (L, ECR)
Amanda SERJEANT, United Kingdom (L, SOC/G/PD)
Linda TAYLOR, United Kingdom (R, ECR)
Iuliia VUSENKO, Ukraine (R, EPP/CCE)

National Delegations of Partner States for Local Democracy

Badiaa BENNANI, Morocco

Secretaries of National Delegations to the Congress

Andreas GREITER, Austria
Diana KANEVA, Bulgaria
Tatiana BOKUCHAVA, Georgia
Irene ANASTASIADOU, Greece
Liam KENNY, Ireland
Kim DE VRIES, Netherlands
Knut HJORTH-JOHANSEN, Norway
Daria ASLANOVA, Russian Federation
Dominique FAYMONVILLE, Sweden
Bulent BOZTUG, Turkey
Anastasiia YAKOVENKO, Ukraine
Richard KITT, United Kingdom

Youth Delegates

Kristina MINCHEVA, Bulgaria
Lika ABRAMISHVILI, Georgia
Daniel FRANKO, Hungary
Elise STOKKEN, Norway
Andreea GHEORGUITA, Romania
Sophie SNELLMAN, Sweden

Members from other Committees

Nino KAVTARADZE, Georgia (L, EPP/CCE), Monitoring Committee

Other participants

Angel Manuel MORENO MOLINA, Chair of the Group of Independent Experts of the Congress on the European Charter of Local Self-Government (Spain)
Michelle TEMPLETON, Expert
Jayne GLASS, Expert
Stina HEIKKILA, URBACT, Expert
Rosmarie WYDLER, Vereins Klima Seniorinnen
Merih BEYDOLA, Head of International & Foreign Relations; Union of Turkish Municipalities of Cyprus

Congress Secretariat

Andreas KIEFER, Secretary General of the Congress
 Renate ZIKMUND, Head of Department of Statutory Activities, External Relations and Co-operation (SAERC)
 Sedef CANKOÇAK, Secretary to the Current Affairs Committee
 Inge HANON, Co-Secretary to the Current Affairs Committee
 Stéphanie POIREL, Head of Division of Statutory Activities
 Gordana TETCHNER, Assistant to the Monitoring Committee
 Ekaterina KOTNOVA, Assistant to the Monitoring Committee
 Paola ROYER, Trainee at the Congress

Appendix 2 – Agenda

1.	Opening of the meeting		
2.	Adoption of the draft agenda	CG-CUR(2021)19-OJ	<i>Dec.</i>
3.	Adoption of the synopsis	CG-CUR(2021)18-CB	<i>Dec.</i>
4.	Communications by the Chair of the current affairs committee and by the Secretary General		<i>Info.</i>
5.	Election of the First Vice-Chair		<i>Elec.</i>
6.	The Future of Youth In Rural Areas: Responsibilities of Local And Regional Authorities	CG-CUR(2021)19-01	<i>Dec.</i>
7.	Booklet for Children on Sustainable Development in their cities		<i>Dec.</i>
8.	Environment and Human Rights: Raising Awareness at Grassroots Level		<i>Inf.</i>
9.	Activities of the Congress, Other Council of Europe Bodies and External Partners		<i>Inf.</i>
10.	Work Programme of the Current Affairs Committee		<i>Inf.</i>
11.	Any Other Business		
12.	Next Meeting		
13.	Adoption of the Abridged Report	CG-CUR(2021)19-DEC	<i>Dec.</i>