

EVALUATION OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S CONFERENCE OF INTERNATIONAL NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS (2021)



Evaluation questions

- To what extent has the work of the Conference of INGOs been effective?
- To what extent are the objectives of the Conference of INGOs relevant?
- What is the added value of the interventions of the Conference of INGOs?

Methodology

Documentary analysis

8 responses to open-ended survey by national and international NGOs

70 INGO respondents to an online questionnaire

1 benchmarking including 9 international organisations

57 semi-structured interviews

6 case studies

Conclusions

1

The Conference's work has contributed to strengthening interactions between civil society and the Council of Europe; however, level of participation, diversity in membership and resources available need to be enhanced

2

The Conference has deepened interactions between civil society and the Council of Europe; however, dispersion of its activities presents a risk considering the limited resources and shows a need for strategic direction

3

The Conference's activities are consistent with the Council of Europe priorities, but the relevance is difficult to establish without a clear mission statement and focused objectives

4

The Conference is a unique consultation mechanism calling the attention of the Council of Europe to civil society's concerns and interests

Recommendations

At strategic level

1. Set out a Mission statement
2. Allocate adequate resources to meet priorities and objectives
3. Improve the alignment between the Conference's Action plan and the Council of Europe's Programme and Budget

At operational level

4. Strengthen online co-operation during and between sessions
5. Re-assess eligibility criteria by including geographical and thematic priorities
6. Enhance collaboration with national NGOs
7. Define a communication strategy to improve visibility
8. Conference takes on a more active role for INGOs in PACE