



## 2022 COUNCIL OF EUROPE HELP NETWORK CONFERENCE

**FRÉDÉRIC DOLT**, HEAD OF DEPARTMENT FOR THE IMPLEMENTATION OF HUMAN RIGHTS,  
JUSTICE AND LEGAL COOPERATION STANDARDS, COUNCIL OF EUROPE

### MODERATION POINTS, OPENING SESSION, 30 JUNE 2022

<b>30 June 2022 (Thursday), Palais de l'Europe, Room 9</b>	
<b>The Conference is streamed online:</b> <a href="https://vodmanager.coe.int/live/?appname=salle9&amp;image=assets%2Fimages%2Fcoe.jpg&amp;langs=ori,en,fr,ru">https://vodmanager.coe.int/live/?appname=salle9&amp;image=assets%2Fimages%2Fcoe.jpg&amp;langs=ori,en,fr,ru</a>	
<b>OPENING SESSION</b>	
Chairperson: Frédéric DOLT, Head of Department for the Implementation of Human Rights, Justice and Legal Cooperation Standards, Council of Europe	
<b>09.00 – 09.30</b>	<b>Online connection/Welcoming coffee</b>
<b>09.30 – 10.20</b>	<b>Welcoming addresses</b> Thomas BYRNE TD., Minister of State for European Affairs, Ireland Christos GIAKOUMOPOULOS, Director General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe Meglena KUNEVA, Ambassador, Head of the EU Delegation to the Council of Europe
<b>10.20 – 10.40</b>	<b>Keynote speech</b> Judge Tim EICKE, European Court of Human Rights
<b>10.40 – 11.00</b>	<b>Key HELP achievements in the past year</b> Eva PASTRANA, Head of Justice and Human Rights Training Division, Council of Europe
<b>11.00 - 11.30</b>	<b>Group photo</b> <b>Break</b>

Dear Minister,

Dear Ambassador Kuneva,

Dear Director General, dear Christos,

Dear participants here in the room and following us online,

It is great pleasure to welcome you to the **2022 Council of Europe HELP Network Conference**.

This Conference is organised **under the auspices of the Irish Presidency of our Committee of Ministers** and this is a great honour and an encouragement for HELP's work.

Thank you for that, Minister, and we are also very grateful to have you with us this morning.

Before giving you the floor – and to the other honourable speakers which will address this assembly with their opening speeches, and before the keynote speech, I would like to briefly refer to two recent recommendations from our Committee of Ministers to member states, because they too are very encouraging for the work we are doing here:

- The first one is Recommendation (2019)5 on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights **in university education and professional training**, which encourages the use of HELP courses and Methodology;
- The second one, from last September, is Recommendation (2021)4 on the **publication and dissemination of the European Convention on Human Rights, the case-law of the Court and other relevant texts** – which notably stresses the importance of strengthening the Council of Europe's support for member States in the implementation of the Convention at national level, including through co-operation projects such as the **HELP Programme**; and it recommends that *"...member States should promote and facilitate effective access to the resources made available by the Council of Europe"* including through "the HELP Programme".

And in its decisions on the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Convention in 2020, the Committee of Ministers *"...emphasised the importance of maximising the potential of the Council of Europe to support States Parties in the execution process and in the implementation of*

*the Convention at national level, including through co-operation projects such as the HELP Programme ...”.*

So, HELP provides important support to the implementation of the Convention, including the execution of judgments, and our member states want us to maximise its use!

This is what we are doing, together with you, the Council of Europe HELP Network members and partners - and I would like to thank you for that.

We will have a quite **intense programme** for these two days, with a series of presentations of **the developments in the HELP Programme since last year’s Conference**.

Of course, this Conference is also a **forum** where you can address your peers and exchange experiences regarding human rights training of legal professionals.

And there will be sufficient time for **talking to each other**, so please make full use of the breaks (but come back on time for the next presentations)!

Again, welcome, to each and every one of you, distinguished speakers, representatives of Justice Training Institutions, Bar associations and other national partners institutions from many Council of Europe member States – and beyond, as we are welcoming delegations from the South Mediterranean (Morocco, Tunisia, Jordan, Algeria, Libya, Lebanon), from Kosovo\* and from Central Asian countries (Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Uzbekistan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan) – by the way this is the reason why you will find interpretation in Russian language, which is provided for in the context of the “HELP in Central Asia” project.

Welcome also to our **international partners** from the European Commission and the EU Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), the European Judicial Training Network (EJTN), the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), the Office of the United Nation High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), to name but a few.

Without further ado I would now like to give the floor to our first speaker, the Irish Minister of State for European Affairs, Mr Thomas Byrne,  
Minister, thanks again for being here. You have the floor.