



**PACE second part-session of 2025
(7-11 April 2025)**

**Hearings and exchanges of views in committees/PACE network
meetings and other events open to the public**

Monday 7 April 2025

**Committee on Culture, Science,
Education and Media**

2 pm – 3:30 pm

Room 10

Hearing on the *Council of Europe Museum Prize*, with the participation of:

- Mr Hans Looijen, Chairperson ad interim of the Board of Trustees of the European Museum Forum (EMF)
- Ms Elixabete Etxanobe, President of the Provincial Council of Biscay, Spain
- Ms Iurdana Acasuso Atutxa, Director of the Euskararen Etxea (The House of Basque Language), Bilbao, Spain, winner of the 2025 Council of Europe Museum Prize

**Sub-committee on the Middle East
and the Arab World (Committee on
Political Affairs and Democracy)**

2 pm – 3.30 pm

Room 9

Hearing on the *Situation in the Middle East*, with the participation of:

- Mr David Khalfa, Co-director of the Observatory for North Africa and the Middle East at the Fondation Jean-Jaurès
- Ms Dareen Khalifa, Senior Advisor, International Crisis Group (online)

Tuesday 8 April 2025

**Committee on Equality and Non-
Discrimination**

and

**Committee on Social Affairs,
Health and Sustainable
Development**

8.30 am – 10 am

Room 10

Joint hearing on *Violent pornography*, in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Laura Castel (Spain, GUE), with the participation of:

- Ms Maree Crabbe, Director, It's Time We Talked, Australia (online)
- Ms Clare McGlynn, Law Professor, expert on violence against women and girls, Durham University, United Kingdom (tbc)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights 9.30 am – 10 am Room 8	Exchange of views on the <i>draft Protocol amending the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism</i> , with the participation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Nicola Piacente, Chair of the Council of Europe Committee on Counter-Terrorism (CDCT)
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development 9:30 am – 10 am Room 10	Hearing in the framework of the follow up to the report “The absolute and urgent need to end the humanitarian crisis for women, children and the hostages in Gaza” with the participation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Claire Nicolet, Médecins Sans Frontières (MSF) / Doctors Without Borders, online - Mr David Wightwick, Chief Executive Officer, UK-Med, (online)
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development 2 pm – 3.30 pm Room 10	Hearing on the <i>Draft Additional Protocol to the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine</i> , in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Carmen Leyte (Spain, EPP/CD), with the participation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Damaris Carnal, Vice-Chair of the Council of Europe Steering Committee for Human Rights in the field of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO) - Ms Laverne Jacobs, Representative of the Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD)
Wednesday 9 April 2025	
Women@PACE 1 pm – 2 pm Room 1	Exchange of views on <i>Structural Gender-based Violence</i> , with the participation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - H.R.H. the Grand-Duchess of Luxembourg - Ms Chékéba Hachemi, President of “Afghanistan Libre” association, and co-founder of “Stand Speak Rise Up!” - Ambassador Tanja Gonggrijp, Permanent Representative of the Netherlands to the Council of Europe and Chair of the Committee of the Parties to the Istanbul Convention - Ms Petra Bayr, member of the Bureau of Women@PACE and rapporteur on “Conflict-related sexual violence”

Sub-Committee on Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Human Beings 3 pm - 3:30 pm Room 7	Exchange of views on <i>Towards a new Council of Europe instrument on the smuggling of migrants</i> , with the participation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Eva Pastrana, European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), Head of Division, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe
Thursday 10 April 2025	
Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy 8.30 am – 10 am Room 9	Hearing on <i>Violence and hate speech against politicians: a threat to democracy</i> , in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Elisabetta Gardini (Italy, ECPA), with the online participation of <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Kimberly McArthur, Chief Operating Officer, Apolitical Foundation
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development 8:30 am – 10 am Room 7	Exchange of views with the Chairperson of the GR-SOC (tbc)
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights 9 am – 9.45 am Room 8	Hearing on <i>The situation of human rights defenders and whistleblowers in Europe</i> , in the framework of the mandate of the General Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and whistleblowers, Mr Emanuelis Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD), with the participation of: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Iva Marković, Co-founder of The Right to Water Initiative and Program Director at Polekol (Serbia) - Ms Kersty McCourt, Human Rights lawyer and Senior Advocacy Advisor at Civil Liberties Union for Europe (Belgium), - Ms Luca Dalma Dudit, Executive Board member and Communications Officer at Háttér Society (Hungary)

<p>Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine (Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development)</p> <p>1 pm – 2 pm</p> <p>Room 10</p>	<p>Presentation of Ms Thórdís Kolbrún Reykþjörd Gylfadóttir, Special Envoy of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on <i>The situation of the children of Ukraine</i>,</p> <p>Exchange of views on <i>The Protection of the rights of displaced Ukrainian children residing in Council of Europe member states, including those of institutional care</i>, in cooperation with the Council of Europe Consultation Group of the Children of Ukraine (CGU)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Overview of the current situation and problem Ukraine faces in terms of accessing relocated Ukrainian children by Ms Iryna Suslova, Representative on Children's Rights of the Ukrainian Parliament Commissioner on Human Rights - Ms Jean Choi, the UNICEF Ukraine Child Protection Section Chief
<p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p> <p>2 pm – 3:30 pm</p> <p>Room 11</p>	<p>Exchange of views on <i>Journalists matter: the need to step up efforts to liberate Ukrainian journalists held in captivity by the Russian Federation</i>, in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Kateryna Dyachuk, Head of the Freedom of Speech Monitoring Department at the Institute of Mass Information (IMI), Ukraine - Ms Rodica Ciochina, Campaign for the Safety of Journalists and Freedom of Expression and Steering Committee on Media and Information Society - CDMSI (DGII), Council of Europe - Mr Michael O'Flaherty, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe (tbc).