

## How to become an observer to the CAHAI

In addition to the observers already referred to in CAHAI's terms of reference, the following processes shall apply for the examination of additional requests for admission in an observer capacity to the CAHAI, in line with paragraph 8 of Resolution [CM/Res\(2011\)24](#) on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Observers from **non-member states without observer status to the Council of Europe** wishing to contribute to the CAHAI and be granted observer status with the Committee should address their request to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe.

The latter shall refer the matter to the Committee of Ministers. A decision shall be taken by a two-thirds majority of all the representatives entitled to sit on the Committee of Ministers.

The CAHAI can also benefit from the participation of other organisations as observers, including **civil society organisations, other private sector and academic actors** relevant to the work of the Ad hoc Committee. Additional observers may be admitted to the CAHAI on the basis of a unanimous decision by the Committee. In the event where unanimity is not reached, the matter may be referred to the Committee of Ministers at the request of two-thirds of the members of the CAHAI.

Civil society organisations, other private sector and academic actors who wish to apply for observer status should address their request through the Secretariat for the attention of CAHAI's President. Any request should provide relevant information to enable the CAHAI to examine the request at the light of the criteria defined by the CAHAI for granting observer status, namely :

- the degree of representativeness of a requesting civil society organisation, private sector or academic actor;
- the contribution it could make to the fulfilment of CAHAI's main task in the light of its background work and experience;
- its previous experience of cooperation with the Council of Europe or other international organisations in this field;

Observers shall have no right to vote nor defrayal of expenses.