



CDDH-BU(2019)R102

21/11/2019

**STEERING COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
(CDDH)**

**BUREAU
OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
(CDDH-BU)**

REPORT

102nd meeting
Paris, 13–15 November 2019

1. The Bureau of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH-BU) held its 102nd meeting from 13 to 15 November 2019 in Paris, chaired by Mr Hans-Jörg BEHRENS (Germany). The list of participants appears in Appendix I.

PREPARATION FOR THE 92nd PLENARY MEETING OF THE CDDH (26–29 November 2019)

2. The Bureau agreed with the draft agenda CDDH(2019)OJ2 and the draft order of business of the CDDH meeting as they appear in document CDDH(2019)26. They are also reproduced in Appendix II below.

3. Document CDDH(2019)26 containing the draft annotated agenda and order of business formed the basis for the Bureau discussions. The present report should therefore be read in the light of this document.

ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS

4. The Bureau agreed to allow the participation of the Conference of European Churches (CEC) in the work of the CDDH in November on items 5 (Development and promotion of human rights) and 8 (Bioethics) of the draft agenda.

ITEM 2: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

5. The Bureau examined document CDDH(2019)27 containing the texts of six Recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly transmitted to the CDDH since the 91st meeting of the Steering Committee last June, for information and possible comments:

- 2158 (2019) – “Ending coercion in mental health: the need for a human rights-based approach”;
- 2160(2019) – “Stop violence against, and exploitation of, migrant children”;
- 2161(2019) – “Pushback policies and practice in Council of Europe member States”;
- 2162 (2019) – “Improving the protection of whistleblowers all over Europe”;
- 2163 (2019) – “Ombudsman institutions in Europe – the need for a set of common standards”;
- 2164 (2019) – “Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism”.

6. Following its examination of these texts, the Bureau submitted the comments appearing in Appendix III below as a basis for the CDDH’s discussion and possible adoption at its meeting in November.

ITEM 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CDDH FOR 2018–2019 AND PREPARATION FOR 2020–2021

7. The Bureau exchanged views on the implementation of the CDDH terms of reference for the 2018–2019 biennium and on the CDDH terms of reference for the 2020–2021 biennium which the Committee of Ministers is called to adopt at its 1361st meeting (19–21 November 2019). The draft terms of reference appear in Appendix IV¹.

¹ They should be definitely adopted by the Committee of Ministers by the end of November.

3.1 Organisation of the work on the system of the Convention and

3.2 Organisation of the work on the development and promotion of human rights

8. On items 3.1 and 3.2 of the draft agenda, the Bureau agreed with the elements appearing in the draft annotated agenda (cf. document CDDH (2019)26) and on this basis, elaborated the draft calendar for 2020-2021 (Appendix VI below) for consideration by the plenary in November.

3.3 Organisation of the work on the EU accession to the ECHR

9. The Bureau considered that the format “47+1”² used in the past is the most appropriate one and that the two first meetings of such body could take place during the first semester of 2020; the third one after summer. On this issue, the Bureau:

- (i) suggested that the CDDH exchange views again on this working method at its 93rd meeting (June 2020) and keep the necessary flexibility in order to carry out the work in the most efficient manner;
- (ii) indicated possible dates for these meetings in the draft calendar for 2020-2021 (Appendix VI below);
- (iii) considered that, if necessary, it should be possible for the “47+1” to organise short meetings of reduced drafting groups between two plenary meetings;
- (iv) noted that the Secretariat will inform the plenary in November on the current contacts between the Council of Europe and the negotiators appointed by the European Commission.

ITEM 4: SYSTEM OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

4.1 The place of the Convention in the European and international legal order

10. In the absence of the Chairperson of the Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC), Ms Brigitte OHMS (Austria), the Chairperson of the Drafting Group on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order (DH-SYSC-II), Ms Florence MERLOZ (France), reported on the work carried out both by the DH-SYSC-II and by the DH-SYSC at its 5th meeting (15-18 October 2019, document DH-SYSC(2019)R5). She recalled that:

- (i) the DH-SYSC examined and adopted the draft CDDH Report on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order (document DH-SYSC(2019)R5Addendum1) elaborated by the DH-SYSC-II. It was a compromise text; the sub-chapter on State responsibility and extraterritorial application of the Convention, in particular, had been subject to long discussions. The delegations of the Russian Federation and the Republic of Moldova made declarations on three and one paragraph of the draft CDDH report respectively; the delegations of Azerbaijan and Armenia expressed their intention of possibly making a declaration on one paragraph of the draft report during the CDDH's consideration and possible adoption of the report at its 92nd meeting (26-29 November 2019).
- (ii) the DH-SYSC-II had been unable to agree on the text of an executive summary in the time remaining for its meeting, although a majority of the delegations would have liked to have a summary of the Report. During the DH-SYSC meeting, a majority of delegations equally considered an executive summary would be useful, but one delegation disagreed with the necessity of an executive summary. An informal *ad-*

² CDDH *ad hoc* negotiation Group and the European Commission on the Accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights (“47+1”).

hoc group composed of representatives of interested delegations in the DH-SYSC had been set up by the latter and had prepared a shorter draft executive summary (document CDDH(2019)37). That draft executive summary, together with a letter by the Chairperson of the DH-SYSC recalling the context of the preparation of that summary, had been sent to the participants in the CDDH meeting for comments.

11. Considering it important to have an executive summary of the draft CDDH report in view of the report's length (more than 120 pages), the Bureau:

- (i) examined the draft executive summary in the light of the comments received by the participants in the CDDH meetings (see document CDDH(2019)38), and proposed a consolidated text of the draft executive summary (see document CDDH-BU(2019)R102 Addendum) in order to facilitate the discussions at the forthcoming CDDH meeting.
- (ii) recalled that the draft executive summary in its consolidated version shall be submitted to the CDDH for consideration and possible adoption at that meeting, together with the final CDDH Report on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order.

4.2 Follow-up to the Interlaken Declaration

12. In the absence of the Chairperson of the DH-SYSC, the Secretariat reported on the work carried out by the DH-SYSC at its 5th meeting (15-18 October 2019, document DH-SYSC(2019)R5) on the draft Contribution of the CDDH to the evaluation provided for by the Interlaken Declaration (document DH-SYSC(2019)R5 Addendum 2). At that meeting, the DH-SYSC examined the text of the draft Contribution paragraph by paragraph and adopted it with a number of amendments. It was recalled that the aim of the CDDH's draft Contribution was to take stock of and evaluate the measures taken by the different actors in the Convention system during the Interlaken process. Remaining issues, as identified in the Contribution and as also reflected in the draft terms of reference of the CDDH for the 2020-21 biennium (see Item 3 above), and new proposals in that respect, will have to be examined in accordance with the Committee of Ministers' decisions following its evaluation of the Interlaken process, taking also into account the Court's opinion on the CDDH's draft Contribution.

13. The Bureau expressed its appreciation of the work conducted by the DH-SYSC and thought that the plenary would be able to adopt this major text in November for transmission to the Committee of Ministers within the deadline of 31 December 2019.

4.3 Information exchange regarding the implementation of the Convention and the execution of the Court's judgements

14. The Chair recalled that the DH-SYSC had held a discussion on the exchange of information regarding the implementation of the Convention and the execution of the Court's judgments with two members of the Department for the Execution of Judgments at its 5th meeting (15-18 October 2019, document DH-SYSC(2019)R5)³.

4.4 Other issues

15. The Secretariat informed the Bureau of:

³ On this occasion the DH-SYSC exchanged views with Ms Clare OVEY, Deputy Head of the Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, and with Ms Stéphanie FLECKINGER, Head of the Central Office of the same Department, who presented the HUDOC-EXEC database.

- (i) the adoption by the Ministers' Deputies of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights in university education and professional training;
- (ii) the proposals being considered within the Council of Europe to commemorate the upcoming 70th anniversary of the European Convention on Human Rights by an event, possibly in Athens, which should involve the CDDH in November 2020;
- (iii) recent and upcoming changes in the staff within the DH-SYSC Secretariat and its drafting groups.

16. The Chair of CDDH further informed the Bureau about his participation in the Conference of Ministers of Justice: *Digital challenges to justice in Europe*, organised in the framework of the French Presidency of the Committee of Ministers on 14-15 October 2019.

ITEM 5: DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

5.1 Civil society and national human rights institutions (CDDH-INST)

17. The Bureau welcomed the adoption, on 16 October 2019, of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)6 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the development of the Ombudsman institution and noted that the Secretariat will shortly publish this text accompanied by a selection of national good practices proposed by the drafting Group on Civil Society and National Human Rights Institutions (CDDH-INST).

18. Regarding future work, the Chairperson of the Group, Ms Krista OINONEN (Finland) informed that the Group should be able to revise Recommendation No. R(97)14 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the establishment of independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights at its next meeting (4-6 March 2020) and that a draft text could be submitted to the CDDH in June 2020 for consideration and possible adoption.

5.2 Human Rights and migration (CDDH-MIG)

19. The Bureau noted that the Committee of Ministers welcomed the CDDH *Practical Guidance on Alternatives to Immigration Detention: Fostering Effective Results*. It noted that copies of this document will be available for the CDDH in November and that this publication will be widely disseminated notably within the framework of the Council of Europe cooperation programmes.

20. The Chairperson of the CDDH drafting Group on Human Rights and Migration (CDDH-MIG), Mr. Morten RUUD (Norway), presented the results achieved at the 7th meeting (23–24 October 2019, CDDH-MIG(2019)R7) devoted to the preparation of the work for the next biennium, which would focus mainly on alternative family based care for unaccompanied and separated children. The Group adopted a preliminary draft table of contents of a future document on the topic and a work plan. The Bureau noted that the CDDH-MIG scheduled two meetings in 2020 (31 March-2 April and 13-15 October).

5.3 Human Rights and the environment (CDDH-ENV)

21. The Bureau was informed of the state of preparation of the High-level Conference on Environmental protection and Human Rights, to be held in Strasbourg on 27 February 2020 under the aegis of the Georgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers. It was noted that the results of this event would be useful for the establishment in June 2020 of its Drafting Group on Human Rights and the Environment (CDDH-ENV). It noted that the Chair of the CDDH had been invited to make a brief intervention during the Conference.

22. The Bureau also noted that an introductory Report to the Conference is being prepared by Professor Elisabeth LAMBERT (Law Faculty, University of Strasbourg). The Report should be circulated before the Conference. The draft executive Summary of this text appears in Appendix V below. The Bureau thought that it would be very useful to have a brief exchange of views in the plenary in November on this text which will be presented to the Conference on behalf of her author as a tool to give food for thought for the debates.

5.4 Prohibition of the trade in goods used for torture and death penalty

23. The Bureau examined the document CDDH (2019)31 which contains the feasibility study of a legal instrument concerning the trade in goods used for torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment and the death penalty. This document includes comments made by four delegations (France, Poland, Switzerland and Turkey; cf. document CDDH (2019)31 Addendum).

24. The Bureau considered that this study, which suggests that the Committee of Ministers adopt a Declaration in this field, represents a good basis for the CDDH's discussion, and invited the Steering Committee to examine it with a view to adopting it in November for transmission to the Committee of Ministers.

25. The Bureau noted that an exchange of views with the EU Trade Commissioner Ms Cecilia MALMSTRÖM will take place in Strasbourg on 26 November 2019 concerning this topic and suggested that the CDDH should be represented in an appropriate manner.

ITEM 6: FOLLOW-UP OF ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE CDDH

6.1 Social rights (CDDH-SOC)

26. The Chair of the former drafting Group on Social Rights (CDDH-SOC), Mr. Vít A. SCHORM (Czech Republic), presented the follow-up given by the Committee of Ministers to the second CDDH *Report identifying good practices and making proposals with a view to improving the implementation of social rights in Europe* (CDDH(2019)R91Addendum3). He had presented the CDDH report at a joint GR-H and GR-SOC meeting on 2 July 2019. The Ministers' Deputies, on 10 July 2019, had taken note with interest of the Report and had instructed the Secretariat to prepare initial suggestions to improve the protection of social rights. These are currently under examination. The CDDH report was also the subject of particular attention at the Seminar on *Reinforcing social rights protection in Europe: to achieve greater unity and equality*", organised by the French Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers on 19 September 2019 in Strasbourg.

27. The Bureau considered that the CDDH had fulfilled its mandate for the 2018-19 biennium in the field of social rights and welcomed the follow-up given to its Report. It considered that the topic of social rights should be kept on the CDDH's agenda in the future and information on the follow-up to its work in that field should be provided, possibly with the help of a Rapporteur on social rights. Furthermore, it was important that its Report, as well as its previous 2018 *Analysis of the legal framework of the Council of Europe for the protection of social rights in Europe*, which have recently been published, will be largely disseminated.

6.2 Human Rights and business

28. The Bureau noted that an information document from the Secretariat will be available in the room during the plenary in November. It further noted the importance of the Secretariat's participation – in December – in the meetings that will take place respectively in Geneva (United Nations) and Brussels (EU) relating to human rights and business.

6.3 Combating discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity

29. The Bureau exchanged views on the state of preparation of the document CDDH(2019)28 that contains the final version of the draft Report of the CDDH on the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 of the Committee of Ministers to member states on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity.

30. The Bureau considered that this draft report, which contains information received from a great majority of member States, offers a solid base for the CDDH's discussion and invited the latter to consider it in view of its possible adoption in November and transmission to the Committee of Ministers later.

31. The Bureau considered that by transmitting this report to the Committee of Ministers, the CDDH could consider that it had fulfilled its mandate. As in other recommendations that it had drafted, the CDDH should conclude that it has provided the necessary work for the follow-up of the implementation of this instrument, and that in the future, the relevant instance within the Council of Europe charged with issues relating to sexual orientation and gender identity, namely the SOGI Unit, should have exclusive responsibility of the follow-up on the implementation.

32. Finally, the Bureau took note with interest of the Round Table on hate speech and homophobic and transphobic violence (Paris, 26 September 2019) organised by the SOGI Unit in cooperation with the European Network of LGBTI Government Focal Points and under the aegis of the French Presidency of the Committee of Ministers.

6.4 Access to official documents

33. The Bureau encouraged delegations that wish to provide information on national developments in this field, to do so at the next plenary meeting in November. It noted that the Committee of Ministers has included follow-up on the issue of access to official documents in the terms of reference of the CDDH for the next biennium.

ITEM 7: GENDER EQUALITY

34. The Bureau examined the document CDDH(2019)31 which had been prepared by the Secretariat of the Council of Europe Commission for Gender Equality (CEG) in consultation with the CDDH Secretariat and which was intended to assist the Steering Committee to keep in mind the gender perspective in its various works for the next biennium and to take stock at the end of 2021.

35. The Bureau noted with satisfaction that its Rapporteur for Gender Equality, Mr Philippe WERY (Belgium) participated in the CEG meeting on this issue on 13 November 2019 and will report to the plenary.

36. While reiterating its support for the approach, namely, the systematic consideration of gender aspects in its various work, the Bureau considered that the document, presented in the form of a road map, should be limited to more general considerations, leaving all the necessary room to the Steering Committee and its Rapporteur to determine whether the work in progress or envisaged takes sufficient account of gender aspects.

- (i) According to the Bureau, the document should be further simplified and shortened so that it becomes a tool to be used at the beginning of the work of each of the drafting groups of the CDDH scheduled for 2020-2021.
- (ii) The Bureau considered that the review by the end of 2021 of the work carried out by the CDDH⁴ should be prepared by the Steering Committee in co-operation with its

⁴ Assessment showing any difficulties, shortcomings, etc. in the area of equality.

Rapporteur and the Secretariat, and then discussed with the GEC as a specialised body dealing with issues of gender equality.

- (iii) The Bureau noted with satisfaction that the document presented contains a summary, from a gender equality perspective, of the work carried out by the CDDH in 2018-2019.
- (iv) Lastly, it noted that a revised version of the document will be prepared in the light of the exchange of views within the CEG and the comments of the CDDH Rapporteur.

ITEM 8: BIOETHICS

37. The Bureau noted the work planned by the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) at its 16th meeting (19–21 November 2019) and recalled that the CDDH had already given its support last June to the priorities set out in the draft terms of reference of the DH-BIO for the next biennium. It noted that the CDDH, in November, would be invited to take note of, and express support for, the 2020-2025 Strategic Action Plan on Human Rights and Technologies in the Biomedical Field.

38. Noting that the Action Plan includes work on the participation of children in the decision-making process, the Bureau considered that this work includes a human rights perspective and questioned whether it would be useful to broaden the thinking process to include the decision-making process of another category of vulnerable people, namely the elderly.

- (i) More generally, it would address the issue of access for these people, often with low incomes and isolation, to the law and justice in the field of health.
- (ii) This additional work would be in connection with that carried out by the CDDH regarding the rights of older persons as well as with the standards contained in a text drafted by the CDDH and adopted by the Committee of Ministers, namely Recommendation No. R(93)1Rec on effective access to the law and to justice for the very poor. This instrument contains standards that continue to be relevant for the work envisaged.

ITEM 9: CONVENTIONS

39. The Bureau encouraged the delegations concerned to provide information, during the plenary in November, of possible national developments in this field.

ITEM 10: FOCAL POINTS

40. The Bureau noted that the Chair will report to the CDDH on his meeting with the GR-H in September 2019, at which he presented, upon the request of the French Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, the state of progress of the work regarding the future CDDH Contribution to the Interlaken process, as well as on his participation, as representative of the CDDH, in the Conference of Justice Ministers on the theme of Digital Challenges to Justice in Europe (14–15 October 2019) organised by the French Presidency.

41. The Bureau also noted that the CDDH Rapporteur on gender equality, Mr Philippe WERY (Belgium) will report on his meeting with the European Gender Equality Commission (GEG) on 13 September 2019, that Ms Maria de Fátima GRAÇA CARVALHO (Portugal) will provide information on her participation in the 94th CDCJ meeting (13-15 November 2019) and Ms Krista OINONEN on her participation in the 1st CAHAI meeting, where she will represent Finland (18–20 November 2019).

42. Finally, the Bureau noted the interest to designate an official focal point for the forthcoming CAHAI meetings as well as for the CDMSI and the CAHDI, the current focal points to those bodies having already informed that they will no longer be able to fill this role.

ITEM 11: INVITEES

43. The Bureau suggested to invite the new Secretary General, Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ and the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Ms Dunja MIJATOVIĆ, to exchanges of views with the CDDH at its 93rd meeting (June 2020) as well as to exchange views with the future President of the Court at this same meeting or at the 94th meeting (November 2020).

ITEM 12: ELECTIONS

44. The Bureau noted the number of vacancies to be filled in November (see the draft order of business CDDH(2019)26, Appendix V and that an additional seat for a Bureau member will be vacant in November, following the early departure of a Bureau member who will take up new duties (see below, item 16).

ITEM 13: PUBLICATIONS

45. The Bureau welcomed the quality and the speed regarding the publication of texts elaborated by the CDDH and the very clear and attractive manner in which they are presented on the Steering Committee's website. It expressed its gratitude to the Secretariat and noted that the latter will pursue its efforts in order to increase the visibility and an easy access to the work and documents of the Steering Committee on its website. It encouraged the Secretariat to make sure that the access to the CDDH website can be reached directly from the Council of Europe's general homepage.

ITEM 14: CALENDAR

46. The Bureau adopted the calendar as it appears in Appendix VI below, as a basis for the discussions at the plenary meeting in November. Regarding the dates for the meetings related to the accession of the European Union to the Convention, the CDDH will be invited to note that, in principle, the EU negotiators agree with the dates proposed by the Bureau.

ITEM 15: OTHER BUSINESS

47. The Bureau noted that the Secretariat will send in due time, with a view to the forthcoming CDDH meeting, an information document on the situation in Europe on conscientious objection on armed military service which is being prepared by the European Bureau for Conscientious Objection (EBCO).

ITEM 16: ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

48. This meeting being the last one chaired by Mr Hans-Jörg BEHRENS (Germany), the Bureau expressed its high appreciation for his commitment and for the exemplary way he chaired the work of the Bureau and the plenary meetings.

49. The Bureau also expressed its gratitude to the members whose mandate within the Bureau were coming to the end.

50. Noting that, called to new duties, Ms Florence MERLOZ (France), Chairperson of the DH-SYSC-II, and Ms Dorothee VON ARNIM, member of the Secretariat and Head of the Unit on the system of the ECHR, will no longer participate in the work of the CDDH, the Bureau warmly thanked them for the work accomplished and wished them all the best in the future.

51. Finally, the Bureau thanked the French authorities for, within the framework of their Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, the excellent hospitality provided for the holding of this meeting in Paris.

Appendix I

List of participants

BUREAU MEMBERS / MEMBRES DU BUREAU

ESTONIA / ESTONIE

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GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE

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Mr Morten RUUD, Norwegian Ministry of Justice and the Police, Legislation Department, Oslo

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AUTRES PARTICIPANTS / OTHER PARTICIPANTS

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Mr Christophe POIREL, Director / Directeur, Human Rights Directorate / Direction des droits de l'Homme

Mr Mikhail LOBOV, Head of Human Rights Policy and Development Department / Chef du Service des politiques et du développement des droits de l'Homme

Mr Alfonso DE SALAS, Head of the Human Rights Intergovernmental Cooperation Division / Chef de la Division de la coopération intergouvernementale en matière de droits de l'Homme, Secretary of the CDDH / Secrétaire du CDDH

Ms Dorothee VON ARNIM, Head of the Unit on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights / Chef de l'Unité sur le système de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme

Ms Corinne GAVRILOVIC, Assistant / Assistante, Human Rights Intergovernmental Cooperation Division
/ Division de la coopération intergouvernementale en matière de droits de l'Homme

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INTERPRÈTES

PARIS

Mme Claudine PIERSON
Mme Léa OUEDRAOGO
M. Grégoire DEVICTOR (15/11)

STRASBOURG

Mme Sally BAILEY-RAVET (13/11)
M. Grégoire DEVICTOR (13-14/11)
Mme Sylvie BOUX (13-14-15/11)
Mme Chloé CHENETIER (13-14-15/11)
Mme Bettina LUDEWIG (14-15/11)

Appendix II

Draft agenda

	ITEM 1: OPENING OF THE MEETING, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS
CDDH(2019)26	Annotations on the draft agenda and order of business
<u>CDDH(2019)R91</u>	Report of the 91 st CDDH meeting (18–21 June)
CDDH-BU(2019)R102	Report of the 102 nd Bureau meeting (Paris, 13–15 November 2019)
	ITEM 2: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY
CDDH(2019)27	Texts of the Recommendations and elements for possible comments
	ITEM 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF THE TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE CDDH FOR 2018–2019 AND PREPARATION FOR 2020–2021
CDDH-BU(2019)R102 (see above)	Suggestions by the Bureau
	3.1 Organisation of the work on the system of the Convention
	3.2 Organisation of the work on the development and promotion of human rights
CDDH(2019)26 Appendix III	Terms of reference of the CDDH, DH-SYSC and DH-BIO for 2020–2021 and proposals for the organisation of the future work by the Secretariat
<u>CDDH(2019)35</u>	Information note on the Council of Europe's work on Artificial Intelligence
	3.3 Organisation of the work on the EU accession to the ECHR
	ITEM 4: SYSTEM OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
	4.1 The place of the Convention in the European and international legal order
<u>DH-SYSC(2019)R5</u>	Report of the 5 th DH-SYSC meeting (15–18 October 2019)
<u>DH-SYSC(2019)R5Addendum1</u>	Draft CDDH report on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order
CDDH(2019)29	Comments on the draft CDDH report on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order

<u>CDDH(2019)R91Addendum7</u>	Draft chapters of the future CDDH Report on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order provisionally adopted by the CDDH at its 91 st meeting (18-21 June 2019)
<u>CDDH(2019)37</u>	Executive summary prepared by an <i>ad hoc</i> Group of experts of the DH-SYSC concerning the draft CDDH report on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order
	<u>Letter by Ms Brigitte OHMS</u> , Chairperson of the DH-SYSC, to the CDDH
CDDH(2019)38	Compilation of comments received on the executive summary prepared by an <i>ad hoc</i> Group of experts of the DH-SYSC concerning the draft CDDH report on the place of the European Convention on Human Rights in the European and international legal order (<i>document CDDH(2019)37 above</i>)
<u>DH-SYSC-II(2019)R7</u>	Report of the 7 th DH-SYSC-II meeting (17–20 September 2019)
	4.2 Follow-up to the Interlaken Declaration
<u>DH-SYSC(2019)R5Addendum2</u>	Draft Contribution of the CDDH to the evaluation provided for by the Interlaken Declaration
CDDH(2019)30	Comments on the draft Contribution of the CDDH to the evaluation provided for by the Interlaken Declaration
<u>CDDH(2018)R90 Appendix VII</u>	Draft table of contents of the Contribution of the CDDH to the evaluation provided for by the Interlaken Declaration, as approved by the CDDH at its 90 th meeting (27–30 November 2018)
<u>CDDH-BU(2019)R101Addendum</u>	Draft additional elements resulting from the Copenhagen Declaration that should be reflected in the future Interlaken follow-up report
<u>CDDH(2019)R91Addendum2</u>	Report on measures taken by the member States to implement relevant parts of the Brussels Declaration
<u>Publication</u> (<u>CDDH(2015)R84Addendum1</u>)	CDDH report on the longer-term future of the system of the European Convention on Human Rights
	4.3 Exchange of information regarding the implementation of the Convention and the execution of the Court's judgements
DH-SYSC(2019)R5 (see above - item 4)	Report of the 5 th DH-SYSC meeting (15–18 October 2019)
<u>DH-SYSC(2019)06</u>	Background paper for a discussion on the exchange of information regarding the implementation of the Convention and the execution of the Court's judgments
	4.4 Other issues
	ITEM 5: DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS

	5.1 Civil society and national human rights institutions (CDDH-INST)
<u>CDDH-INST(2019)R5</u>	Report of the 5 th CDDH-INST meeting (27 February–1 st March 2019)
	Suggestions by the Bureau for the organisation of the work at the forthcoming CDDH-INST meeting (March 2020)
	5.2 Human Rights and migration (CDDH-MIG)
<u>CDDH-MIG(2019)R7</u>	Report of the 7 th meeting (23–24 October 2019)
	5.3 Human Rights and Environment (CDDH-ENV)
CDDH(2019)32	State of preparation of the high-level Conference <i>Environmental Protection and Human Rights</i> , organised under the aegis of the Georgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers (Strasbourg, 27 February 2020)
	5.4 Prohibition of the trade in goods used for torture and death penalty
CDDH(2019)31	Revised draft of a feasibility study of a legal instrument on the prohibition of the trade in goods used for torture and the death penalty
	ITEM 6: FOLLOW-UP TO ACTIVITIES CARRIED OUT BY THE CDDH
	6.1 Social rights (CDDH-SOC)
	Information on the follow-up to the CDDH-SOC work
	6.2 Human Rights and business
CDDH(2019)33	Online Platform on Human Rights and Business - Information provided by the Secretariat
	6.3 Combating discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity
CDDH(2019)28	Revised draft CDDH Report on the implementation of the Committee of Ministers' Recommendation CM/Rec(2010)5 on measures to combat discrimination on grounds of sexual orientation or gender identity
	6.4 Access to official documents
CDDH(2019)34	Information provided by the Secretariat
	ITEM 7: GENDER EQUALITY
CDDH(2019)36	Information provided by the Secretariat
	ITEM 8: BIOETHICS
16 th DH-BIO decisions	Decisions of the 16 th meeting of the Committee on bioethics (DH-BIO) (19–21 November 2019)

DH-BIO(2018)22Rev2	Strategic Action Plan on Human Rights and Technologies in Biomedicine
	ITEM 9: CONVENTIONS
CDDH(2019)16Rev3	Information provided by the Secretariat
	ITEM 10: FOCAL POINTS
	Focal points representing the CDDH in other bodies/events: information provided by the focal points
	ITEM 11: INVITEES
CDDH(2019)R91(see above)	Report of the 91 st CDDH meeting (18–21 June 2019)
	ITEM 12: ELECTIONS
CDDH(2019)R91(see above) Appendix IX	Report of the 91 st CDDH meeting (18–21 June 2019)
CDDH-BU(2019)R102	Report of the 102 nd Bureau meeting (Paris, 13–15 November 2019)
<u>CM/Res(2011)24</u>	CM Resolution on committees working methods
<u>CDDH(2017)17</u>	Procedure for elections within the CDDH
	ITEM 13: PUBLICATIONS
CDDH(2019)26 Appendix VI	Information provided by the Secretariat
	ITEM 14: CALENDAR
CDDH(2019)26 Appendix VII	Proposals from the Secretariat
	ITEM 15: OTHER BUSINESS

Draft order of business

of the 92nd meeting of the CDDH (Strasbourg, 26-29 November 2019)
as approved by the Bureau at its 102nd meeting (Paris, 13-15 November 2019)
for possible adoption by the plenary

Remark - **The Bureau will hold a meeting on Tuesday 26 November 2019**, from 9:00 to 9:30 in the
Agora building, 6th floor, room B6.06.C.

TUESDAY 26 November	WEDNESDAY 27 November	THURSDAY 28 November	FRIDAY 29 November
9:30	:h30	9 :30	9 :30
Item 1: OPENING Item 4: ECHR SYSTEM 4.1 DH-SYSC-II Report 4.2 Interlaken Report 4.3 Implementation of judgments	Item 2: PACE RECOMMENDATIONS Item 3: TERMS OF REFERENCE 2018-2019 and 2020-2021 3.1. Organisation of the work on the system of the ECHR 3.2. Organisation of the work on the development and promotion of HR 3.3. Organisation of the work on the EU accession to the ECHR Item 5: DEVELOPMENT AND PROMOTION OF HUMAN RIGHTS 5.1 CDDH-INST 5.2 CDDH-MIG 5.3 CDDH-ENV	5.4 Study trade tools torture Item 7: GENDER EQUALITY Item 8: BIOETHICS Item 11: INVITEES 11:15 Item 12: ELECTIONS	Item 9: CONVENTIONS Item 10: FOCAL POINTS Item 13: PUBLICATIONS Item 14: CALENDAR Item 15: OTHER BUSINESS Adoption of the draft abridged report
13:00 Lunch break	13:00 Lunch break	13:00 Lunch break	13:00 End of the meeting
Item 4: continuation 4.1 continuation 4.2 continuation 4.4 Other	Item 6: FOLLOW-UP WORK 6.1 Social rights 6.2 Human Rights and Business 3.3 Combat discrimination 6.4 Access official documents	[If necessary, continuation of remaining items]	
18:00 End of session	18:00 End of session	18:00 End of session	

Appendix III

Comments suggested by the Bureau on the Recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly transmitted to the CDDH by the Committee of Ministers for information and possible comments

This Appendix contains the comments suggested by the Bureau at its 102nd meeting (Paris, 16-15 November 2019) on six Recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly transmitted to the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) by the Committee of Ministers for information and possible comments. **The texts of these Recommendations appear in document CDDH(2019)27.**

I. RECOMMENDATION 2158 (2019) – “ENDING COERCION IN MENTAL HEALTH: THE NEED FOR A HUMAN RIGHTS-BASED APPROACH”

Comments suggested by the Bureau

1. The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) takes note of the Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 2158 (2019) – “Ending coercion in mental health: the need for a human rights-based approach”, a subject on which the CDDH has already expressed itself in the past.
2. It commends to the Committee of Ministers the comments provided by the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) at its 16th meeting (Strasbourg, 19-21 November 2019), which read as follows:
 - [1. At its 1351bis meeting at Deputies level, the Committee of Ministers agreed to communicate Recommendation 2158 (2019) – “Ending coercion in mental health: the need for a human rights-based approach” to the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) and to the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO), for information and possible comments “by the exceptional deadline of 6 December 2019, due to the sensitive issues involved”.
 2. The DH-BIO examined the recommendation at its 16th plenary meeting (19 – 21 November 2019).
 3. In its recommendation, the Assembly calls on the Committee of Ministers to “prioritise support to member States to immediately start to transition to the abolition of coercive practices in mental health settings” and to “redirect efforts from the draft of the additional protocol [concerning the protection of human rights and dignity of persons with mental disorder with regard to involuntary placement and involuntary treatment] to the drafting of guidelines on ending coercion in mental health”.
 4. The DH-BIO is of the opinion that it is of particular importance to carefully analyse any evolution of the situation concerning involuntary measures in the mental health care field, in particular as it comes to an “overall increase in the use of involuntary measures in mental health settings” in Europe evoked in the Parliamentary Assembly’s Resolution 2291 (2019). It agrees with the Parliamentary Assembly’s assessment of the need to reduce recourse to coercive measures in mental health care. The DH-BIO sees its work in the area of protecting human rights in mental health care as a contribution to reaching this shared aim.
 5. The DH-BIO made a Recommendation in 2004 to improve the protections namely against involuntary measures and has assessed the impact of this text on legislation and practices. It was in light of this assessment that the Committee agreed to prioritise a legally binding instrument to improve the protections against involuntary measures.
 6. The DH-BIO recalls the task with which it has been entrusted by the Committee of Ministers to conduct the work for the protection of human rights in the biomedical field. It reaffirms its commitment to promoting the rights and self-determination of all persons, and their participation in all decisions relating to their treatment and care.

7. Against this background, the DH-BIO perceives the current elaboration of a legal instrument safeguarding the rights of persons with regard to involuntary measures in the field of mental health as one of the tools to ensure that measures implemented without the person's consent or assent are only used subject to strict criteria and only as a last resort, thus contributing to the effective reduction of recourse to such measures.

8. At the same time, the DH-BIO considers that certain provisions contained in such legal instrument could strengthen the State's commitment to ensure the availability of a wide selection of appropriate, less restrictive and intrusive primary measures in mental health care.

9. The DH-BIO appreciates the Parliamentary Assembly's support for its future work aimed at collecting "Good practices in mental healthcare – how to promote involuntary measures". The DH-BIO sees this work, which it intends to launch with the participation of relevant stakeholders, as a complementary tool towards the same aim.

10. With regard to the "continued widespread opposition to the pursuance of work on an additional protocol" and reference to a perceived incompatibility with the CRPD, the DH-BIO refers to its comments on Recommendation 2091 (2019) and considers that the current draft text is not in conflict with the principles of the CRPD.

11. In view of the opinions received and the oral statements given by representatives of INGOs invited to the relevant sessions of its plenary meetings, the DH-BIO has decided that the current draft text had to be carefully reviewed, having particular regard to strengthening measures promoting autonomy in mental health care.]

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II. RECOMMENDATION 2160 (2019) – "STOP VIOLENCE AGAINST, AND EXPLOITATION OF, MIGRANT CHILDREN"

Comments suggested by the Bureau

1. The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) takes note of the Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 2160 (2019) – "Stop violence against, and exploitation of, migrant children". It draws attention to the work **envisaged** by its drafting Group on Human Rights and Migration (CDDH-MIG) which could help to find solutions to stop violence against, and exploitation of, migrant children: in 2020, the Group is expected to draft a non-binding document on family-based care for unaccompanied and separated children. This document will outline the relevant international legal standards and key practical considerations for effective implementation. Given the diversity of situations, it will contain a selection of good national practices in this area. The text should be adopted by the CDDH in November 2020 for transmission to the Committee of Ministers.
2. The particularly vulnerable situation of non-accompanied and separated children will be the backdrop for this work which could, as appropriate, provide a basis for considering the possibility raised by the Assembly in paragraph 6.2. of its Recommendation.

* * *

III. RECOMMENDATION 2161 (2019) - "PUSHBACK POLICIES AND PRACTICE IN COUNCIL OF EUROPE MEMBER STATES"

Comments suggested by the Bureau

1. The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) takes note of the Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 2161 (2019) – "Pushback policies and practice in Council of Europe member States". It draws attention to the fact that, following the previous work

of the Parliamentary Assembly,⁵ the Committee of Ministers adopted in 2009 its Guidelines on human rights protection in the context of accelerated asylum procedures⁶. The drafting of this text had been entrusted to the CDDH.

2. These Guidelines reaffirm that asylum seekers enjoy the guarantees set out in the European Convention on Human Rights in the same way as any other person within the jurisdiction of States Parties, in accordance with Article 1 of the Convention. The Guidelines are applied *mutatis mutandis* in procedures whereby a State may declare an application inadmissible without considering the merits of the claim.⁷
3. Regarding the invitation made by the Assembly in its Recommendation 2161 (2019) to work on guidelines on ensuring access to rights of migrants arriving at borders or attempting to arrive there,⁸ the CDDH recalls that the above-mentioned Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers set out a framework of minimum procedural guarantees⁹ which must be granted for asylum seekers and underline that asylum seekers have the right to *an individual and fair examination* of their applications by the competent authorities.¹⁰ Moreover, the Guidelines:
 - recall all the minimum procedural guarantees that asylum seekers should enjoy;¹¹
 - recall in particular the rights of the most vulnerable asylum seekers;¹²
 - clarify concepts such as *safe country of origin* and *safe third country*, and recall the right of asylum seekers to have an effective opportunity to rebut the presumption of security of their country of origin or that of the third country,¹³ as well as the right to an effective and suspensive remedy for asylum seekers whose applications have been rejected;¹⁴
 - stress in particular the obligation of the State receiving an asylum application "to ensure that the return of the asylum seeker to his/her country of origin or any other country will not expose him/her to a real risk of the death penalty, torture or inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, persecution, or serious violation of other fundamental rights which would, under international or national law, justify the

⁵ Resolution 1471 (2005) and Recommendation 1727 (2005) on "Accelerated asylum procedures in Council of Europe member states", and the related report by the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Population of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

⁶ 1062nd meeting of the Ministers' Deputies, 1st July 2009.

⁷ See Guideline I (*definition and scope*).

⁸ See paragraph 4.6. of the Recommendation of the Parliamentary Assembly 2161 (2019) "Pushback policies and practice in Council of Europe member States".

⁹ For example, guidelines IV (procedural guarantees), V (the safe country of origin concept), VI (the safe third country concept), VII (*non-refoulement* and return), VIII (quality of the decision-making process), IX (time for submitting and considering asylum applications), X (right to effective and suspensive remedies), XI (detention), XII (social and medical assistance), XIII (protection of private and family life) and XV (increased protection).

¹⁰ Guideline II, § 2.

¹¹ Guideline IV, *supra*.

¹² For example, guideline III (Vulnerable persons and complex cases);

¹³ Guidelines V and VI, cited above.

¹⁴ Guideline X cited above.

granting of protection".¹⁵ It is also reiterated, as in Article 4 of Protocol No. 4 of the Convention, that collective expulsion of aliens is prohibited.¹⁶

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IV. RECOMMENDATION 2162 (2019) – “IMPROVING THE PROTECTION OF WHISTLE-BLOWERS ALL OVER EUROPE”

Comments suggested by the Bureau

1. The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) takes note of the Parliamentary Assembly’s Recommendation 2162 (2019) – “Improving the protection of whistle-blowers all over Europe”. Whistleblowing represents an important means in the fight against corruption and tackling gross mismanagement in the public and private sectors. The protection of whistle-blowers is a fundamental aspect of freedom of expression and freedom of conscience.
2. The CDDH recalls that recent developments within the Council of Europe member States and within the European Union as regards the existing practices and/or standards on the protection of whistle-blowers are addressed in the “Guide to good and promising practices on the way of reconciling freedom of expression with other rights and freedoms, in particular in culturally diverse societies”, prepared by the CDDH and transmitted to the Committee of Ministers for information at its 1357th meeting (16 October 2019).¹⁷
3. The CDDH shares the opinion of the Parliamentary Assembly on the importance to maintain coherence between the Council of Europe’s approach reflected in Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)7 of the Committee of Ministers¹⁸ and the EU’s approach reflected in the proposal for a directive of the European Parliament and of the European Council on the protection of persons reporting on breaches of Union law.
4. As regards the Assembly’s invitation to the Committee of Ministers to begin preparations for negotiating a binding legal instrument in the form of a Council of Europe Convention in this field which would draw on, *inter alia*, the above-mentioned European directive and the Council of Europe acquis on this matter, namely Recommendation CM/Rec2014(7) and the above-mentioned CDDH Guide, the CDDH notes that this issue will be considered by the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ). The CDDH expresses its availability to, if appropriate, co-operate with the CDCJ in this field.

* * *

¹⁵ Guideline VII cited above.

¹⁶ Since the entry into force of Protocol No. 4, the Court has found a violation of Article 4 of Protocol No. 4 in only six cases (*Čonka v. Belgium*, Application No. [51564/99](#), final judgment on 05/05/2002, *Georgia v. Russia (I)* Application No. [13255/07](#) [GC], judgment final on 03/07/2014, *Shiozhvili and Others v. Russia*, Application No. [19356/07](#), Judgment final on 20 / 03/2017, *Berdzenishvili and Others v. Russia*, Applications Nos [14594/07](#) and following, judgment final on 20/03/2017, *Hirsi Jamaa and Others v. Italy* [GC], Application No. [27765/09](#), judgment final on 23 / 02/2012 and *Sharifi and Others v. Italy and Greece*, Application No. [16643/09](#), judgment final on 21/01/2015. For some of these cases, the Court also found a violation of Article 4 of the Protocol No. 4 in relation to Article 13 (right to an effective remedy); (e.g. *Čonka v. Belgium*, *Georgia v. Russia (I)*, *Hirsi Jamaa and Others v. Italy*, *Sharifi and Others v. Italy and Greece*, cited above).

¹⁷ See document [CM\(2019\)148](#), §§ 361-373.

¹⁸ CM/Rec(2014)7 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the protection of whistle-blowers, adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 30 April 2014 at the 1198th meeting of the Ministers’ Deputies.

V. RECOMMENDATION 2163 (2019) – “OMBUDSMAN INSTITUTIONS IN EUROPE – THE NEED FOR A SET OF COMMON STANDARDS”

Comments suggested by the Bureau

1. The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) takes note with interest of the current debate in Europe on the Ombudsman institutions and, in this context, of the Parliamentary Assembly’s Recommendation 2163 (2019) – “Ombudsman institutions in Europe – the need for a set of common standards”.
2. Further to the invitation appearing in paragraph 1.5, the CDDH recalls that its draft Recommendation on the development of the Ombudsman institution has been adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 October 2019 as Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)6.¹⁹ This instrument is in compliance with the Venice Principles adopted by the European Commission for Democracy through Law on 19 March 2019. The CDDH **considers it crucial to ensure** wide dissemination and awareness-raising among national authorities to the standards contained in the recommendation and in the Venice Principles. **To this end**, the International Ombudsman Institute, with which the CDDH cooperated closely in the preparation of the CM Recommendation, could play an important role.
3. The CDDH expresses its serious concern about the challenging working conditions, threats, pressures and attacks which Ombudsman institutions and their staff are at times exposed to in member State. As indicated in the above-mentioned Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers CM/Rec(2019)6, “Member States should take all measures necessary to protect Ombudsman institutions against threats and harassment. Any cases of alleged reprisal or intimidation against Ombudsman institutions and their staff, or against individuals who co-operate or seek to co-operate with them, should be promptly and thoroughly investigated and the perpetrators brought to justice.” (see paragraph 7).
4. The CDDH stresses the importance of continuing support to Ombudsman institutions in all their diversity (national, regional and local Ombudsman institutions, including those dealing with specific thematic issues). A continuous strengthening of these institutions needs to be ensured and any measures which might weaken them must be avoided.
5. Concerning follow-up, the CDDH recalls that the Committee of Ministers will examine the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)6 no later than five years after its adoption.
6. Finally, the CDDH recalls that, according to its terms of reference for 2020-2021, it will revise in 2020 Recommendation No. R(97)14 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the establishment of independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights. This exercise will certainly contribute to a better knowledge of the action conducted by Ombudsman institutions.

* * *

¹⁹ This recommendation was adopted by the Committee of Ministers on 16 October 2019 at the 1357th meeting of the Ministers’ Deputies.

VI. RECOMMENDATION 2164 (2019) – “PROTECTING AND SUPPORTING THE VICTIMS OF TERRORISM”

Comments suggested by the Bureau

1. The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) takes note of the Parliamentary Assembly’s Recommendation 2164 (2019) – “Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism”. Noting that the Committee of Ministers has requested its Committee on Counter-Terrorism (CDCT) to draft an opinion on this Recommendation at its 4th meeting (19-21 November 2019), the Bureau of the CDDH would like to send the following elements to the CDCT, so that the work already conducted by the CDDH is also reflected.
2. The Bureau notes that the draft CDCT opinion rightly mentions the Revised Guidelines of the Committee of Ministers on the protection of victims of terrorist acts (2017) which was prepared by the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH). In this respect, it would be useful to also mention the Workshop “Protection of Victims of Terrorist Acts”, organised under the aegis of the French Presidency of the Committee of Ministers in Strasbourg on 20 June 2019 at the 91st CDDH plenary meeting. This mention could take the form of a footnote (see below).
3. As regards the possibility expressed in the last paragraph of the draft CDCT opinion of a cooperation between the CDDH and the CDCT in order to examine the feasibility of a European Charter of the Rights of the Victims of Terrorism, as proposed by the Parliamentary Assembly in paragraph 4.3. of its Recommendation 2164 (2019), the CDDH will consider the issue at its 92nd CDDH meeting (26-29 November 2019) and will identify appropriate means for this co-operation. It could be established in the form of participation in the work of the CDCT of a contact person designated by the CDDH and a member of the Secretariat.

For information of the CDDH

[The text below will be examined by the CDCT at its 4th meeting (19-21 November 2019)]

Draft opinion of the Council of Europe Committee on Counter-Terrorism (CDCT) on Recommendation 2164 (2019) “Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism” of the Parliamentary Assembly

1. [At the occasion of its 1357th meeting on 16 October 2019, the Committee of Ministers (Ministers’ Deputies) agreed to communicate Recommendation 2164 (2019) – “Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism” – to the Committee on Counter-Terrorism (CDCT) for information and possible comments by 22 November 2019.
2. The CDCT examined the aforesaid Recommendation during its 4th Plenary meeting on 19 – 21 November 2019, and adopted the following opinion:
3. The CDCT agrees with the Parliamentary Assembly that it is essential to give a strong international dimension to the assistance to victims of terrorism – not only in Europe, but globally.
4. As regards the situation of victims of terrorism in Europe, the CDCT considers that there is a need to further deepen coordination and cooperation in this field between the Council of Europe and the European Union, both in order to exploit synergies and to avoid unnecessary duplication of work. Cooperation between the two Organisations could, inter alia, take place in the form of concrete joint projects to develop and implement common standards.
5. To this end the member States of the Council of Europe have already taken a number of important steps through the adoption of the Revised Guidelines of the Committee of

Ministers on the protection of victims of terrorist acts (2017)²⁰, the assessment of the implementation of Article 13 of the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism (CETS No 196) carried out by the Consultation of the Parties to the aforesaid Convention, and the resulting prioritisation of efforts by the CDCT to address the situation of persons who become victims of terrorist attacks perpetrated outside the territories of their own States (activity 3.3 of the Council of Europe Counter-Terrorism Strategy (2018 – 2022)). Finally, the CDCT has at its 3rd Plenary meeting (14 – 15 May 2019) decided to establish a network of contact points for the exchange of procedural information regarding the legal standing of victims of terrorism. This network, which became operational on 1 November 2019, is intended to become global, incorporating not only member States of the Council of Europe, but all interested States around the world.

6. The CDCT will, as in the past, on a regular basis hold exchanges between its members and participants concerning the legal situation of victims of terrorism in the Council of Europe member States, as well as on best practices in assisting and compensating such victims.
7. As regards the proposal by the Parliamentary Assembly on the adoption of a European charter of the rights of the victims of terrorism, cf. paragraph 4.3. of the Parliamentary Assembly Recommendation 2164 (2019), the Committee considers that the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) and the CDCT in cooperation could examine the feasibility of such an undertaking by the Council of Europe and report thereon to the Committee of Ministers.]

* * *

²⁰ In this context, it is worth also mentioning the Workshop “*Protection of Victims of Terrorist Acts*” organised by under the aegis of the French Presidency of the Committee of Ministers in Strasbourg on 20 June 2019. This Workshop gave the opportunity to exchange experience and good practices between Governments and representatives of the civil society concerning the implementation of the Guidelines. The Programme can be found in document CDDH(2019)R91, Appendix VI. The proceedings will be published soon.

Appendix IV

Draft terms of reference of the CDDH for 2020–2021**Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)**

Set up by the Committee of Ministers under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Type of committee: Steering Committee

Terms of reference valid from: 1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021

PILLAR/ PROGRAMME/SUB-PROGRAMME
Pillar: Human Rights Programme: Effective ECHR implementation Sub-programme: Effectiveness of the ECHR System at national and European level / Bioethics
MAIN TASKS
<p>Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, and bearing in mind the Council of Europe legal standards as well as the relevant jurisprudence of the European Court of Human Rights, the CDDH will conduct the intergovernmental work of the Council of Europe in the human rights field and will advise and give its legal expertise to the Committee of Ministers on all questions within its field of competence. In particular, the CDDH will:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) work on the protection, development and promotion of human rights in Europe to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (a) contribute to enhancing the protection of human rights by improving the effectiveness of the control mechanism of the European Convention on Human Rights and the implementation of the Convention at national and European levels, this work being a permanent priority for the CDDH; (b) provide effective responses at the normative and general policy levels to the challenges posed to human rights in European societies; (ii) follow the implementation of the non-binding instruments that it has prepared as well as conventions for which it has been given supervision by the Committee of Ministers; (iii) advise other bodies of the Organisation to ensure that their activities concerning human rights duly reflect the requirements of the Convention and the case-law of the Court; (iv) contribute to co-operation and support activities to national initiatives in the field of the protection, development and promotion of human rights; (v) without prejudice to the missions of intergovernmental committees of the Council of Europe that already follow the work of monitoring mechanisms, follow the activities of the relevant monitoring and other bodies protecting human rights; (vi) where necessary, co-ordinate transversal intergovernmental activities in the field of human rights including bioethics; (vii) hold an exchange of views annually in order to evaluate its activities and advise the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General on future priorities in its sector, including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued; (viii) take due account of gender and children's rights perspectives and of Roma and Traveller^[3] issues, building cohesive societies, promoting and protecting rights of persons with disabilities in the performance of its tasks; (ix) in accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, carry out, at regular intervals, within the limits of the available resources and bearing in mind its priorities, an examination of some or all of the conventions for which it has been given responsibility,^[4] in co-operation, where appropriate, with the relevant convention-based bodies, and report back to the Committee of Ministers; (x) contributes to the achievement of the UN 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, in particular with regards to Goal 3: Good health and well-being and Goal 16: Peace, Justice and Strong institutions.
SPECIFIC TASKS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Orient and oversee the work of the Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC) (see DH-SYSC terms of reference). (ii) Provide effective responses to the challenges that European societies face in terms of human rights, both normatively and politically, by ensuring as much as necessary appropriate co-ordination and co-

operation with relevant conventional and monitoring bodies and other Council of Europe bodies involved. Where appropriate, develop a draft non-binding instrument of the Committee of Ministers (e.g. declaration, recommendation, guidelines) on the prohibition of trade in goods used for torture and the death penalty.

- (iii) On the basis of work conducted in 2018-2019, prepare one or more draft non-binding instruments of the Committee of Ministers or other tools (for example a recommendation, guidelines, good practice handbook) concerning human rights issues in the context of migration.
- (iv) On the basis of work conducted in 2018-2019, proceed to the revision of Recommendation No R(97)14 of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the establishment of independent national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights.
- (v) On the basis of developments in the member States, within the Council of Europe and in other fora, update the Handbook on Human Rights and the Environment and, if appropriate, develop a draft non-binding instrument of the Committee of Ministers (e.g. recommendation, guidelines) recalling existing standards in this field.
- (vi) On the basis of developments in the member States, within the Council of Europe and in other fora, prepare, if appropriate, a Handbook on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence and contribute to possible standard-setting work which would be undertaken within the Organisation.
- (vii) Organise, as necessary, thematic debates on the situation of member States with regard to the right of access to official documents, in particular with regard to the signing and ratification of the 2009 Tromsø Convention (CETS No. 205).
- (viii) Supervise from the human rights perspective the intergovernmental work in the field of bioethics (see DH-BIO terms of reference).
- (ix) Review progress towards the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (UNSDGs), as evidenced by monitoring mechanisms and promoted through standard-setting and exchange of experiences and good practices.

COMPOSITION

Members:

Governments of member States are invited to designate one or more representatives of the highest possible rank in the field of human rights.

The Council of Europe will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of one representative from each member State (two in the case of the State whose representative has been elected Chair).

Each member of the committee shall have one vote. Where a government designates more than one member, only one of them is entitled to take part in the voting.

In accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, in cases where there is no convention-based body including all the Parties, non-member States are invited to take part, with a right to vote, in the committee meetings pertaining to the conventions to which they are Parties.

Participants:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:

- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- European Court of Human Rights;
- Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;
- Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;
- Committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate.

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- European Union (one or more representatives, including, as appropriate, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA));
- Observer States to the Council of Europe: Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico, United States of America;
- other international organisations (Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) / Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights).

Observers:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- Belarus;
- non-member States with which the Council of Europe has a Neighbourhood Partnership including relevant co-operation activities;
- European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI);
- Non-governmental organisations (Amnesty International, International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), European Trade Union Confederation (ETUC), International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH), European Roma and Travellers Forum).

WORKING METHODS**Plenary meetings:**

48 members, 2 meetings in 2020, 4 days

48 members, 2 meetings in 2021, 4 days

Bureau meetings:

8 members, 2 meetings in 2020, 2 days

8 members, 2 meetings in 2021, 2 days

The Committee will also appoint from amongst its members a Gender Equality Rapporteur, a Children's Rights Rapporteur, a Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and a Rapporteur on Roma and Traveller Issues.

The rules of procedure of the Committee are governed by Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods. Whenever appropriate, it will prioritise environmentally sound working methods, such as virtual meetings facilitated by information technology and written consultations.

Subject to the agenda, the Chairs of the subordinate structures to the CDDH may be invited to attend CDDH Bureau and/or plenary meetings.

SUBORDINATE STRUCTURE(S)

The CDDH supervises its subordinate bodies:

- Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC) (see separate terms of reference) and Drafting Groups;
- Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) (see separate terms of reference).

Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)

Set up by the Committee of Ministers under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Type of committee: Subordinate Body

Terms of reference valid from: **1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021**

PILLAR/PROGRAMME/SUB-PROGRAMME
<p>Pillar: Human Rights</p> <p>Programme: Effective ECHR implementation</p> <p>Sub-Programme: Effectiveness of the ECHR system at national and European level</p>
SPECIFIC TASKS
<p>The specific tasks will be carried out in light of the Committee of Ministers' decisions on the follow-up to the evaluation set out by the Interlaken Declaration.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> (i) Develop proposals to improve the effective processing and resolution of cases relating to inter-State disputes. (ii) Enhance the national implementation of the system of the European Convention on Human Rights, in order to assist the State authorities involved in the operation of the Convention and in the process of the execution of judgments to fulfill their mission in the best possible way, in the light of existing national best practices. To this end, develop guidelines covering all of the action at national level expected from States Parties to prevent and remedy violations of the Convention, accompanied by a Guide of existing best practices and update Recommendation (2002)13 on the publication and dissemination in the member States of the text of the European Convention on Human Rights and of the case-law of the European Court of Human Rights.
COMPOSITION
<p>Members:</p> <p>Governments of member States are invited to designate one or more representatives of the highest possible rank in the field of human rights.</p> <p>The Council of Europe will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of one representative from each member State (two in the case of the State whose representative has been elected Chair).</p> <p>Each member of the committee shall have one vote. Where a government designates more than one member, only one of them is entitled to take part in the voting.</p> <p>Participants:</p> <p>The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; - Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe; - European Court of Human Rights; - Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights; - Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe; - HELP Network Consultative Board; - Committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate. <p>The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - European Union (one or more representatives, including, as appropriate, the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA)); - Observer States to the Council of Europe: Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico, United States of America; - other international organisations (Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) / Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees).

Observers:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- Belarus;
- non-member States with which the Council of Europe has a Neighbourhood Partnership including relevant co-operation activities;
- Non-governmental organisations (Amnesty International, European Trade Unions Confederation (ETUC), International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), International Federation of Human Rights (FIDH), European Roma and Travellers^[5] Forum, Open Society Justice Initiative (OSJI)), as well as the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI).

WORKING METHODS**Plenary meetings:**

48 members, 2 meetings in 2020, 3 days

48 members, 2 meetings in 2021, 3 days

The Committee will also appoint a Gender Equality Rapporteur from amongst its members.

The rules of procedure of the Committee are governed by Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Whenever appropriate, it will prioritise environmentally sound working methods, such as virtual meetings facilitated by information technology and written consultations.

Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)

Set up by the Committee of Ministers under Article 17 of the Statute of the Council of Europe and in accordance with Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods

Type of committee: Subordinate body

Terms of reference valid from: **1 January 2020 until 31 December 2021**

PILLAR/PROGRAMME/SUB-PROGRAMME

Pillar: Human Rights

Programme: Effective ECHR implementation

Sub-programme: Bioethics

SPECIFIC TASKS

- (i) Under the authority of the Committee of Ministers, the DH-BIO carry out the tasks assigned to the Steering Committee on Bioethics (CDBI) by the Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Dignity of the Human Being with regard to the Application of Biology and Medicine (Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine).
- (ii) Finalise a draft additional Protocol on the protection of human rights and dignity of persons with mental disorders with regard to involuntary placement and involuntary treatment.
- (iii) Launch and follow the implementation of the Strategic Action Plan 2020 – 2025 with a particular focus on human rights challenges raised by new technologies, such as neurotechnologies.
- (iv) Carry out a study on “good practices in mental health care – how to promote voluntary measures”.
- (v) Map legislation and best practices with a view to preparing a guide for health care professionals on children’s participation in the decision-making process in the biomedical field.
- (vi) Examine the ethical and legal issues raised by development in genome editing technologies in relation to Article 13 of the Convention on Human Rights and Biomedicine.
- (vii) Ensure the dissemination of the training course on essential principles for the protection of human rights in the biomedical field intended for legal and health professionals in non-official languages in the framework of the HELP programme.
- (viii) Launch a Guide on Public Debate and ensure its dissemination, including in non-official languages.
- (ix) Hold an exchange of views annually in order to evaluate its activities and advise the Committee of Ministers and the Secretary General on future priorities in its sector including possible new activities and those that might be discontinued.

COMPOSITION**Members:**

Governments of the member States are invited to designate one or more representatives of the highest possible rank, with appropriate expertise in the various aspects of bioethics, in particular legal, medical

and scientific aspects, including in relation to emerging technologies, and able to consider these from a human rights perspective.

The Council of Europe will bear the travel and subsistence expenses of one representative from each member State (two in the case of the State whose representative has been elected Chair).

Each member of the committee shall have one vote. Where a government designates more than one member, only one of them is entitled to take part in the voting.

In accordance with decisions CM/Del/Dec(2013)1168/10.2 of the Committee of Ministers, in cases where there is no convention-based body including all the Parties, non-member States are invited to take part, with a right to vote, in the committee meetings pertaining to the conventions to which they are Parties.

Participants:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and at the charge of their corresponding administrative budgets:

- Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
- Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;
- Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe;
- Consultative Committee of the Convention for the Protection of Individuals with regard to Automatic Processing of Personal Data (T-PD);
- Steering Committee on the Rights of the Child (CDENF);
- European Committee on Legal Cooperation (CDCJ);
- Committee on Transplantation of Organs and Tissues (CD-P-TO);
- Committee on Blood Transfusion (CD-P-TS);
- Committees or other bodies of the Council of Europe engaged in related work, as appropriate.

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- European Union;
- Observer States to the Council of Europe: Canada, Holy See, Japan, Mexico, United States of America;
- other international organisations: WHO, UNESCO, OECD and European Science Foundation (ESF).

Observers:

The following may send representatives, without the right to vote and without defrayal of expenses:

- Australia, Israel;
- the Conference of European Churches (KEK);
- other non-governmental organisations, including professional organisations, which could be invited by the DH-BIO to attend specific meetings of the DH-BIO in accordance with CM/Res(2011)24.

WORKING METHODS

Plenary meetings:

48 members, 2 meetings in 2020, 4 days

48 members, 2 meetings in 2021, 4 days

Bureau meetings:

7 members, 2 meetings in 2020, 2 days

7 members, 2 meetings in 2021, 2 days

The Chair or Vice-Chair of the DH-BIO may be invited to attend the meetings of the CDDH and its Bureau in order to inform on progress with its work.

The Committee will also appoint a Gender Equality Rapporteur from amongst its members.

The rules of procedure of the Committee are governed by Resolution CM/Res(2011)24 on intergovernmental committees and subordinate bodies, their terms of reference and working methods.

Whenever appropriate, it will prioritise environmentally sound working methods, such as virtual meetings facilitated by information technology and written consultations.

Appendix V

**Draft executive Summary of the Introductory Report
at the High-Level Conference on the
Environmental Protection and Human Rights²¹
(Strasbourg, 27 February 2020)**

under preparation by
CNRS Research Professor Elisabeth LAMBERT
(SAGE, Faculty of Law, University of Strasbourg)

Introduction

- A. Mandate and Methodology
- B. Current context: the environmental urgency and the proposed UN « Global Pact for the Environment »

1. Historical protection of the environment through the elaboration of conventions at the Council of Europe

- A. The European Social Charter of 18/10/1961
- B. The Bern Convention on the Conservation of European Wildlife and Natural Habitats of 19/09/1979
- C. The Lugano Convention on civil liability for damage resulting from activities dangerous to the environment of 21/06/1993
- D. The Strasbourg Convention on the Protection of Environment through Criminal Law of 4/11/1998
- E. The European (Florence) Landscape Convention of 20/10/2000 and the Additional Protocol of 1/8/2016
- F. The Tromsø Convention on Access to Official Documents of 18/06/2009
- G. Assessment

2. Repairing a missed event: urgently recognise in Europe an explicit right to a healthy environment

- A. The Recognition of the right to a healthy environment in all other regional and universal systems, and at the domestic level
- B. The legacy of the debate over the past 30 years
- C. Admit that it is not the Court's responsibility to fill such a legal gap
- D. The benefits of recognizing the right to a healthy environment

3. Human rights and the environment: the need for a new impetus

- A. Assessment of 30 years of interpretative activities by the European Court and the European Committee of Social Rights
- B. Strengthen the substantial component
 - (1) Scientific knowledge and States' responsibilities oblige States not only to follow scientific production but also to support the production of scientific production by independent institutions;
 - (2) The right to environmental education
 - (3) The right to breathe clean air
 - (4) Moving beyond the anthropocentric vision: the rights of Nature
- C. Consolidate the procedural aspect

²¹ Organised by the Georgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe.

- (1) The need for full compliance with the Aarhus Convention, in particular regarding access to information
- (2) The need to better protect vulnerable actors and environmental defenders

4. Ending impunity for environmental damage by non-state actors

- A. Limited progress at the global level that needs to be overtaken
- B. Develop a complaints and reparations mechanism for victims

5. How can the Council of Europe make this "transition" required by the environmental urgency possible?

- A. The need for a significant progress: towards a European Environmental Pact
- B. Based on a possible Recommendation of the Committee of Ministers²², draw up a binding instrument up to the current challenges
- C. It could be a Protocol to the European Social Charter. However, given the specificity and diversity of these issues that require an appropriate response (third generation rights beyond the ECHR and the Social Charter; individual and collective dimension (*actio popularis*) / responsibility of state and non-state actors / specific principles of the matter...) the possibility of an separate instrument should be examined without delay:
 - (1) A binding instrument bringing together all these rights and obligations
 - (2) A flexible instrument that will play the role of a driving force: to allow entry into force (rapid with a low number of ratifications/cover complaints of the Berne Convention/...)
 - (3) An instrument including a follow-up mechanism: Office of the Commissioner for Environmental Protection?

Concluding Remarks

- To paraphrase Marc Pallemmaerts²³, the question is whether the Council of Europe wants to play the role of a leader, of a follower or of a laggard in those environmental matters.
- Historically, the Council of Europe had played a leading role, but today it is positioning itself more as a laggard. This author shares the view that the Council of Europe should not be a mere resonance chamber for UN initiatives; the European continent must initiate a new impetus up to its leadership role in the protection of human rights.
- Otherwise, there exists a risk that fragmented initiatives will be adopted at national level and that the legitimacy of the Council of Europe will be severely affected.

Bibliographical references

Appendices

- 1. Extracts from the regional human rights articles on the right to a healthy environment
- 2. Draft of the UN Global Pact for the Environment

²² The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) will be called upon to examine in 2020-2021 the possibility of drafting such an instrument.

²³ *Environmental Human Rights: Is the EU a leader, a follower, or a laggard?* (2013) 15 Or. Rev. Int'l L. 7, p.27.

Appendix VI

Draft calendar for the 2020-2021 biennium

*As suggested by the Bureau at its 102nd meeting (13–15 November 2019)
for consideration by the CDDH at its 92nd meeting (26–29 November 2019)*

2020	
<i>Opening of the Judicial Year</i>	31 January
1 st meeting of the drafting Group on the effective Processing and Resolution of inter-State Disputes (DH-SYSC-IV)	19-21 February
<i>High-Level Conference on the Environmental Protection and Human Rights under the aegis of the Georgian Chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers</i>	Strasbourg, 27 February
6 th meeting of the drafting Group on Civil Society and National Human Rights Institutions (CDDH-INST)	4–6 March
1 st meeting of the CDDH <i>ad hoc</i> negotiation Group and the European Commission on the Accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights (“47+1”)	24–27 March
8 th meeting of the drafting Group on Migration and Human Rights (CDDH-MIG)	31 March–2 April
1 st meeting of the drafting Group on the National Implementation of the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC-V)	15–17 April
103 rd meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH-BU)	Paris, 19–20 May
2 nd meeting of the CDDH <i>ad hoc</i> negotiation Group and the European Commission on the Accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights (“47+1”)	26–29 May
17 th meeting of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)	2–5 June
<i>Meeting of Government Agents with the Registry of the Court</i>	8 June
<i>Pluricourts Seminar</i> within the CDDH meeting	Strasbourg, 9 June
93 rd meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)	9–12 June
2 nd meeting of the drafting Group on the effective Processing and Resolution of inter-State Disputes (DH-SYSC-IV)	9–11 September
3 rd meeting of the CDDH <i>ad hoc</i> negotiation Group and the European Commission on the Accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights (“47+1”)	29 September – 2 October
9 th and final meeting of the drafting Group on Migration and Human Rights (CDDH-MIG)	13–15 October
2 nd meeting of the drafting Group on the National Implementation of the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC-V)	14–16 October
104 th meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH-BU)	28–29 October
<i>Meeting of Government Agents with the Registry of the Court</i>	3 November
6 th meeting of the Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)	4–6 November

18 th meeting of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)	November
94 th meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)	[Athens, 24–27] November
2021	
<i>Opening of the Judicial Year</i>	January
3 rd meeting of the drafting Group on the effective Processing and Resolution of inter-State Disputes (DH-SYSC-IV)	February
1 st meeting of the drafting Group on Human Rights and the Environment (CDDH-ENV)	February
1 st meeting of the drafting Group on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence (CDDH-INTEL)	March
3 rd meeting of the drafting Group on the National Implementation of the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC-V)	April
2 nd meeting of the drafting Group on Human Rights and the Environment (CDDH-ENV)	May
105 th meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH-BU)	May
7 th meeting of the Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)	May
19 th meeting of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)	May/June
<i>Meeting of Government Agents with the Registry of the Court</i>	June
95 th meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)	June
4 th meeting of the drafting Group on the effective Processing and Resolution of inter-State Disputes (DH-SYSC-IV)	September
2 nd meeting of the drafting Group on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence (CDDH-INTEL)	September
4 th meeting of the drafting Group on the National Implementation of the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC-V)	October
8 th meeting of the Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)	October
106 th meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH-BU)	October
20 th meeting of the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)	October/November
<i>Meeting of Government Agents with the Registry of the Court</i>	November
96 th meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)	November