



EUROPEAN CONVENTION  
ON HUMAN RIGHTS  
CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE  
DES DROITS DE L'HOMME  
1950 - 2025 **75**



CDDH(2025)R102  
Strasbourg, 21 July 2025

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

### **MEETING REPORT**

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102nd meeting

Strasbourg, 25 – 27 June 2025

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### **Texts adopted at the meeting**

- Addendum 1:** Comments adopted by the CDDH on Recommendations of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities
- Addendum 2:** CDDH Report on the first effects of Protocol No. 15 to the European Convention on Human Rights;
- Addendum 3:** CDDH Report on the first effects of Protocol No. 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights;
- Addendum 4:** CDDH Report on the implementation of Recommendation CM/Rec(2021)2 on measures against the trade in goods used for the death penalty, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment

### **Items for information of the Committee of Ministers**

- The CDDH appointed Krista OINONEN (Finland) as its representative to the Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDM);
- The CDDH took note of the resignation of John Finbarr (Barra) LYSAGHT (Ireland) as a member of its Bureau and decided to defer election of his successor until its meeting in November 2025, so that the newly elected member would be able to serve a full two-year mandate, once renewable.

As regards the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (ECHR), the CDDH:

- exchanged views with Mattias GUYOMAR, President of the European Court of Human Rights;
- exchanged views on the results of the 7th meeting of the Committee of experts on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC), in particular the Conference on “The system of the European Convention on Human Rights: responding to new trends and challenges” held on the occasion of that meeting; took note that the Committee of Ministers would take decisions on the DH-SYSC as part of its mid-term review of the terms of reference of intergovernmental committees, with no consequences for the CDDH’s own existing mandate in relation to issues relating to the European Convention on Human Rights (the Convention) (see also below);

- noted that the Drafting Group on the first effects of Protocols Nos. 15 and 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC-PRO) has completed its work ahead of schedule and, on that basis, decided that it had fulfilled its terms of reference;
- received information from the representative of the European Union (EU) and exchanged views on developments concerning the accession of the EU to the Convention, notably the prospects for submission by the European Commission of a request to the Court of Justice of the EU for an opinion on the compatibility of the revised draft accession instruments with the EU treaties and ongoing work to prepare the internal rules necessary for the EU to participate in the system of the Convention, following its accession; received information from the Secretariat on the adoption by the Parliamentary Assembly of Resolution 2601 (2025) “Legal aspects of the accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights”.

As regards the other items on its agenda, the CDDH:

- exchanged views with Aoife NOLAN, Chairperson of the European Committee on Social Rights; underlined its commitment to the social rights dimension of its work and expressed its interest in further developing its work in relation to the system of the European Social Charter; asked the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to make proposals to this end, to be examined at the meeting in November 2025;
- exchanged views on the results of the 3rd and 4th meetings of the Drafting Group on the eradication of impunity for serious human rights violations (CDDH-ELI) and asked members to reflect, in advance of the Group’s next meeting in October 2025, on whether issues it had identified would best be incorporated into a revised version of the Committee of Ministers Guidelines or (a) supplementary instrument(s);
- exchanged views on the results of the 3rd and 4th meetings of the Drafting Group on human rights and artificial intelligence (CDDH-IA) and on procedural issues relating to possible finalisation of the draft Handbook on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights at its next meeting in October 2025;
- exchanged views on the results of the 1st meeting of the Drafting Group on the safe third country concept (CDDH-PTS) and on preparations for its 2nd meeting in September 2025;
- took note of information provided by the Secretariat on the establishment of the Drafting Committee on Human Rights and Drug Policies (DH-PDA) in advance of its 1st meeting (1–2 July 2025);
- exchanged views on the possibility of conducting public consultations when preparing draft texts in future; agreed to return to this issue at its meeting in November 2025 and to this end, asked the Secretariat to prepare possible elements for criteria to be used by its subordinate bodies when deciding whether or not to hold a public consultation;
- exchanged views on the results of the 8th and 9th meetings of the Access Info Group (AIG) of the Tromsø Convention on access to official documents (CETS 205) and on the future work of the AIG and the Consultation of the Parties to the Tromsø Convention, including preparations for a joint event to be organised by the AIG and the T-PD committee of Convention 108 on data protection; exchanged views on its future thematic debate on the right of access to official documents;
- exchanged views on working methods for its future examination of the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendations CM/Rec(2019)6 (Ombudsperson institutions) and CM/Rec(2021)1 (national human rights institutions); agreed to hold a workshop on the occasion of its meeting in November 2025 and asked the Bureau to prepare a draft questionnaire to member States, to be administered in advance of the workshop;

- exchanged views on possible working methods for its future examination of the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendation [CM/Rec\(2019\)5](#) (the Convention in university education and professional training);
- exchanged views on the Committee of Ministers' mid-term review of intergovernmental committees' terms of reference, including proposals for possible new activities on the right to vote and to stand for election under the Convention and the human rights of older persons, and on the possible future status of the DH-SYSC;
- took note of discussions in the Committee of Ministers of issues relating to possible activation of the mandate of the Drafting Committee on human rights and the environment (DH-ENV);
- took note of the information provided by its thematic rapporteurs and its representatives to other committees ;
- received information from the Secretariat on the adoption by the Committee of Ministers of replies to certain recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on which the CDDH had submitted comments;
- took note of the state of signatures and ratifications of the Council of Europe treaties for which it is responsible, and of recent developments concerning derogations and reservations to the ECHR;
- took note of a recent publication of the work of the CDDH;
- adopted a revised calendar of meetings during the second semester of 2025 and took note of a provisional calendar of meetings during the first semester of 2026.

#### **Resource implications**

The CDDH noted that all of the above activities were conducted within the foreseen budgetary envelopes and that the DH-SYSC-PRO had completed its work ahead of schedule.

#### **Evaluation of completed activities**

The CDDH agreed to undertake the next annual evaluation of its activities, as required under its terms of reference for 2024 – 2027, at its meeting in November 2025.

## MEETING REPORT

1. The Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) held its 102nd meeting in Strasbourg, from 25 to 27 June 2025, with Krista OINONEN (Finland) in the Chair (see list of participants in [Appendix II](#)).

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

2. The CDDH adopted its agenda as it appears in [Appendix I](#) and agreed to the order of business proposed in the draft annotated agenda (CDDH(2025)OJ01 Annot.).

### ITEM 2: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY AND OF THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES

3. The CDDH received information from the Secretariat on the Committee of Ministers' adoption of replies to Recommendations [2291 \(2025\)](#) of the Parliamentary Assembly "Overcoming age-based discrimination against older persons" and [517 \(2024\)](#) of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, "Ageing communities – ensuring access to quality social care for older persons".

4. The CDDH examined draft comments on the Recommendations of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities [525 \(2025\)](#) "Foreign interference in electoral processes at local and regional levels" and [527 \(2025\)](#) "Empowering cities and regions to combat human trafficking for labour exploitation". The CDDH adopted the comments, as they appear in [Addendum 1](#) and decided to transmit them to the Committee of Ministers.

### ITEM 3: WORK ON THE SYSTEM OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS

#### 3.1 Committee of experts on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)

5. The Chairperson of the DH-SYSC, Barra LYSAGHT (Ireland), informed the CDDH about the DH-SYSC's examination by written procedure of the draft report on the evaluation of the first effects of Protocol No. 15 to the European Convention on Human Rights and the draft report on the evaluation of the first effects of Protocol No. 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights.<sup>1</sup> The DH-SYSC had adopted both draft reports with a view to their transmission to the CDDH. The Chairperson of the DH-SYSC noted that some technical amendments would be necessary to reflect developments in the case law of the European Court of Human Rights as well as a new signature of Protocol No.16. He also noted that there had been one amendment proposal on the draft report on the evaluation of the first effects of Protocol No. 15 to the European Convention on Human Rights on which the DH-SYSC had not taken a decision.

6. The CDDH examined the draft reports paragraph by paragraph and adopted them as they appear respectively in [Addendum 2](#) and [Addendum 3](#). It decided to transmit them to the Committee of Ministers for information.

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<sup>1</sup> These reports had been prepared by the DH-SYSC-PRO, a subordinate body of the DH-SYSC – see further below.



7. The Chairperson of the DH-SYSC also informed the CDDH of the results of the DH-SYSC's 7th meeting on 24 June 2025, including the Conference on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights: Responding to New Trends and Challenges. The Conference had involved three sessions, the first on new trends in litigation before the European Court of Human Rights (the Court), the second on challenges and opportunities in the Court's use of new technologies, and the third on the Court in 2025 and beyond, this latter session being an open forum. The programme of the conference appears in Appendix III. The Chairperson of the DH-SYSC informed the CDDH that the Secretariat would prepare written proceedings of the conference in advance of the next meeting of the DH-SYSC or the CDDH, whichever is the earlier. Members looked forward to preparation of future CDDH reports on new trends in litigation before the Court and the Court's use of new technologies.

8. The CDDH also exchanged views on the possible future status and role of the DH-SYSC, bearing in mind the political context related to the interplay between migration policy and Convention rights, including the open letter published by the heads of state and government of nine European States and the intervention by the United Kingdom Minister of Justice before the Ministers' Deputies. Whilst noting that any substantive work relating to these issues would depend on decisions by the Committee of Ministers, members underlined the experience and expertise of the CDDH and its subordinate body, the DH-SYSC, and their willingness to continue applying these to any matters relating to the Convention.

### **3.1.1 Drafting Group on the first effects of Protocols Nos. 15 and 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC-PRO)**

9. The Chairperson of the DH-SYSC-PRO, Babette KOOPMAN (Netherlands), informed the CDDH about the Group's 3rd meeting (12-14 March 2025). The Group had examined and adopted the draft report on the evaluation of the first effects of Protocol No. 15 to the European Convention on Human Rights, which had been prepared by the Rapporteur, Patricia Zimmerman (UK) with the support of the Secretariat. As regards the evaluation of Article 1 of the Protocol concerning the principle of subsidiarity and the margin of appreciation, the Group had used data prepared by an external expert, Professor Mikael RASK MADSEN (University of Copenhagen, Faculty of Law; Director of iCourts – the Danish National Research Foundation's Centre of Excellence for International Courts). The Group had not been able to evaluate the impact of Article 4 of Protocol No. 15 since it had not been provided with information on applications dismissed by the European Court of Human Rights solely on grounds of not being lodged within the new time limit of four months. The Chairperson informed the CDDH that the DH-SYSC-PRO, at its 3rd meeting, had also introduced some updates to the draft report on the evaluation of the first effects of Protocol No. 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights which it had adopted at its 2nd meeting (9–11 October 2024).

10. The CDDH congratulated the DH-SYSC-PRO and its Chairperson for having prepared the draft reports which contain rich and valuable information for the Committee of Ministers. The CDDH noted that the DH-SYSC-PRO had completed its work ahead of schedule and, on that basis, decided that it had fulfilled its terms of reference and would hold no further meetings.

### **3.2 CDDH ad hoc negotiation Group on the EU accession to the ECHR ("46+1" Group)**

11. The CDDH received information from Paolo STANCANELLI of the European Commission, on behalf of the European Union (EU), about developments since his participation in the previous plenary meeting. He recalled the judgment issued in September 2024 by the Court of Justice of the EU (CJEU) concerning jurisdiction over fundamental rights claims relating to acts and omissions under the EU's Common Foreign and Security Policy. The Commission remained convinced that this judgment had the potential to resolve the issue that the CJEU had raised in its Opinion 2/13 on the compatibility of the initial draft accession agreement with the EU treaties. One EU member State, however, had expressed doubts. Given the constitutional

dimension of accession to the Convention for the EU, the Commission wished to maintain the closest possible alignment between all parties to the process. It had therefore organised two meetings in 2025 with the EU member States' government agents, at which it had outlined submissions that it intended to make, when requesting an opinion of the CJEU on the compatibility of the revised draft accession agreement with the EU treaties, concerning jurisdiction over CFSP in the light of the September judgment and on mutual trust, these being the most sensitive points. The Commission would take into account remarks made during these meetings before submitting its request for an opinion to the CJEU. The Commission hoped to be in a position to submit the request in the coming weeks, following a decision by the College of Commissioners.

12. Mr Stancanelli also provided information on progress with preparation of the internal rules necessary for the EU to participate in the Convention system, following accession. The Working Party on Fundamental Rights, Citizens' Rights and Free Movement of Persons (FREMP) had held a meeting with the EU member States' government agents before the European Court of Human Rights, and the issue had been discussed at the Justice and Home Affairs Council meeting in June. The Commission's attention would focus on this work once the request for an opinion had been submitted to the CJEU. The internal rules would be prepared with the European Council and, where relevant, the European Parliament during the 18-24 month period before delivery of the CJEU's opinion.

13. The CDDH thanked Mr Stancanelli for the open and constructive exchange of views and asked to remain informed of any further developments, especially the submission of a request for an opinion to the CJEU.

14. The Secretariat informed the CDDH about the adoption by the Parliamentary Assembly of Resolution 2601 (2025) "Legal aspects of the accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights".

#### **ITEM 4: ERADICATION OF IMPUNITY FOR SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS**

15. The Chairperson of the Drafting Group on the eradication of impunity for serious human rights violations (CDDH-ELI), Hans-Jörg BEHRENS (Germany), informed the CDDH of the results of its 3rd (14–16 January 2025) and 4th (28-30 April 2025) meetings, notably on its preparation of a draft CDDH study on the need for and feasibility of (an) additional non-binding instrument(s) to complement the 2011 Committee of Minister's Guidelines on eradicating impunity for serious human rights violations (the Guidelines).

16. During its 3rd meeting, the CDDH-ELI held an exchange of views, with Amélie BECQUART, Judicial Cooperation Advisor, Office of the Prosecutor, International Criminal Court; Paolina MASSIDDA, Principal Counsel, Office of Public Counsel for Victims, International Criminal Court; Markiyani KLIUCHKOVSKIY, Executive Director, Register of Damage Caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine; and Johanna NELLES, Executive Secretary to the Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence. The CDDH-ELI also examined draft texts of the study, notably on issues relating to the scope of the Guidelines and definitions (cluster 1) and cooperation (cluster 2). During its 4th meeting, the Group provisionally agreed on the draft texts on clusters 1 and 2, and examined draft texts on issues relating to criminal law (cluster 3), the rights of victims (cluster 4), and other issues (cluster 5).

17. At its 5th meeting (14–16 October 2025), the CDDH-ELI will examine revised draft texts on clusters 3, 4 and 5, and a draft text containing conclusions on need and feasibility. It is expected that the CDDH-ELI will then finalise the draft study for presentation to the November CDDH plenary meeting.

18. The Chairperson of the CDDH-ELI recalled that the CDDH had informed the Committee of Ministers that it intended to interpret its mandate so as to consider also the possibility of revising the Guidelines, as well as that of (an) additional non-binding instrument(s) to complement the Guidelines. He invited members to reflect, in advance of the Group's next meeting, on whether the various issues it had identified would best be incorporated into a revised version of the 2011 Guidelines or (a) supplementary instrument(s).

19. The CDDH took note of this information and welcomed the progress being made by the CDDH-ELI.

#### **ITEM 5: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE**

20. The Chairperson of the Drafting Group on Human Rights and Artificial Intelligence (CDDH-IA), Alfonso BREZMES (Spain), informed the CDDH of the results of its 3rd (4–6 February 2025) and 4th (1–3 April 2025) meetings. Each meeting included an exchange of views with independent external experts and representatives from other Council of Europe committees working on AI and human rights. He further noted that the Handbook takes a sectoral approach, focusing on key areas of public governance where AI affects human rights. For each sector, the Handbook outlines key AI use cases, their human rights implications, and the relevant legal standards and principles derived from the Convention, as interpreted by the Court, and the European Social Charter, as interpreted by the European Committee on Social Rights, as well as from the Council of Europe Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence, Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law. The CDDH-IA has also identified cross-cutting human rights issues common to all sectors — including the right to an effective remedy, data protection and privacy, and non-discrimination — which will be addressed in a dedicated chapter. The Handbook will include a section on business and human rights, and a short chapter introducing AI systems and key technical concepts relevant to the human rights context.

21. The CDDH took note of this information and welcomed the progress being made by the CDDH-IA. It decided that, when circulating the final draft text of the Handbook to relevant Council of Europe committees in advance of its October meeting, the CDDH-IA should ask those committees to indicate whether the approach being taken by the CDDH-IA is consistent with their own AI-related work, and to invite their observers to consider submitting written comments on the draft Handbook to the CDDH-IA. On the basis of answers to the first question, the CDDH-IA would be able to advise the CDDH at its meeting in November 2025 on whether there may be a need to prolong the deadline for completion of its work in order to ensure consistency with the work of as many other committees as possible.

#### **ITEM 6: SAFE THIRD COUNTRY CONCEPT**

22. The Chairperson of the Drafting Group on the safe third country concept (CDDH-PTS), Elīna Luīze VĪTOLA (Latvia), informed the CDDH of the results of its 1st meeting (4–6 March 2025).

23. At this meeting, the Group held an exchange of views with experts, namely Andreas WISSNER, UNHCR Representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg; Elisa DE PIERI, Researcher at the Europe Regional Office of Amnesty International; and Thomas STRAUB, Senior Lawyer, Registrar of the European Court of Human Rights. The Group also exchanged views on its terms of reference and the scope of the study on the need for and the feasibility of updating Committee of Ministers Recommendation No. R 97(22) (the 1997 Recommendation). The Group held preliminary discussions on whether the 1997 Recommendation and its Explanatory Memorandum reflect and encompass developments in the European Court of Human Rights' case law since the Recommendation was adopted, whether the text of the

Recommendation and its Explanatory Memorandum is sufficiently clear, and how to take into account the current geopolitical context and different hybrid situations.

24. The Group will continue these discussions at its next meeting (23–25 September 2025), when it will exchange views with experts from the European Union, the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI), and academia.

25. The CDDH took note of this information, with some members welcoming the attention being paid by the Group to the ongoing EU legislative process, and welcomed the progress being made by the CDDH-PTS.

#### **ITEM 7: HUMAN RIGHTS AND DRUG POLICIES**

26. The Secretariat provided information on the new Drafting Committee on human rights and drug policies (DH-PDA), established by the Committee of Ministers in February 2025. The DH-PDA was mandated to prepare, under the authority of the CDDH, a draft Committee of Ministers recommendation, based on the document “Bringing human rights to the heart of drug and addiction policies: Guidance for aligning drug and addiction policies with human rights”, adopted by the Council of Europe International Co-operation Group on Drugs and Addictions (Pompidou Group) in May 2024. The DH-PDA had a multidisciplinary composition, with members designated by a number of Council of Europe bodies, including three by the CDDH. The CDDH had also designated, from amongst these three, Tonje MEINICH (Norway) as Chairperson of the DH-PDA. The DH-PDA would meet twice in 2025 and twice in 2026, with a view to completing its work by 31 December 2026. It would hold its 1st meeting on 1-2 July 2025.

#### **ITEM 8: PROHIBITION OF THE TRADE IN GOODS USED FOR TORTURE AND THE DEATH PENALTY**

27. The CDDH examined, paragraph by paragraph, the draft CDDH Report on the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec(2021)2 on measures against the trade in goods used for the death penalty, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment. The draft report had been prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of replies to a CDDH questionnaire received from 25 Council of Europe member States, the discussions and conclusions from the Workshop on Strengthening multilateral efforts to curb trade in torture and death penalty goods, held during the 101st plenary meeting of the CDDH in November 2024, and information provided by European, international, and civil society organisations working in this area.

28. The CDDH adopted this Report with certain amendments, as it appears in Addendum 4, and decided to transmit it to the Committee of Ministers for information and possible further action on the final recommendations.

#### **ITEM 9: NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS AND OMBUDSPERSON INSTITUTIONS**

29. The Chairperson reported to the CDDH on her participation in the High-level Conference for Ombudsperson Institutions and National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI), co-organised by the Council of Europe and the Luxembourg Presidency of the Committee of Ministers on 27-28 March 2025.

30. The CDDH then exchanged views on working methods for its future examination of the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendations CM/Rec(2019)6 (Ombudsperson institutions) and CM/Rec(2021)1 (national human rights institutions, NHRIs). It agreed to hold a workshop on the occasion of its meeting in November 2025, asked the Bureau to prepare a draft questionnaire to member States, to be administered in advance of the workshop, and asked the Secretariat to gather information on implementation of paragraph 6 of Recommendation CM/Rec(2021)1. It thanked the representative of the European Network of National Human Rights Institutions (ENNHRI) for the offer to provide further information, building on the baseline study presented to the CDDH in November 2023, and agreed to engage also with the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) in the course of its work on this issue.

#### **ITEM 10: ECHR IN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION AND PROFESSIONAL TRAINING**

31. The CDDH exchanged views on possible working methods for its future examination of the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec(2019)5 (the Convention on university education and professional training). It asked the Secretariat to prepare a list of possible networks and associations that could be consulted as sources of relevant information, for examination at the meeting in November 2025, and agreed also to consult young people.

#### **ITEM 11: INVITED PERSONALITIES**

32. The CDDH exchanged views with Mattias GUYOMAR, President of the European Court of Human Rights and Aoife NOLAN, Chairperson of the European Committee on Social Rights. President Guyomar's presentation appears in Appendix IV and that of Ms Nolan in Appendix V.

33. In response to questions from participants, President Guyomar underlined the importance of judicial independence to the rule of law and the need to protect judges against attack or sanction; reaffirmed the importance of open and respectful dialogue to the shared responsibility of States Parties and the Court for the Convention system, based on pragmatism rather than dogmatic originalism; recalled the respective roles of the Court and the Committee of Ministers and described the respective use and value of *restitutio in integrum* and awards of just satisfaction to successful applicants; expressed his appreciation for the efforts of the Ukrainian authorities to cooperate fully with the Court despite exceptionally difficult circumstances, and recalled the Court's willingness to be flexible; and mentioned three issues that would be priorities of his presidency in the short-, medium- and long-term, namely more frequent publication of information on decisions on requests for interim measures, reflection on the situation of the Court's judges, and preparations for EU accession to the Convention.

34. In response to questions from participants, Ms Nolan reflected on the possibility that increased national defence spending may have an impact on the protection of social rights; recalled that lack of delivery and resourcing for social rights was linked to democratic instability; underlined the growing impact of the work of the European Committee on Social Rights and recalled its work on gender-related issues; welcomed the growing collaboration between the European Committee on Social Rights and national human rights institutions; described developments in the respective roles of and relationship between the European Committee on Social Rights and the Governmental Committee of the European Social Charter; noted the importance of all States ratifying the revised European Social Charter; and observed that the CDDH would be able to provide insights that would further enhance the impact of the European Social Charter and reinforce the functioning of the European Social Charter system generally.

35. Reflecting on its exchange with Ms Nolan, the CDDH underlined its commitment to the social rights dimension of its work and expressed its interest in further developing its work in

relation to the system of the European Social Charter, building on the reports it adopted in 2018 and 2019<sup>2</sup> and its subsequent contribution to the work of the Committee of Ministers' Ad hoc working party on improving the European Social Charter system (GT-CHARTE). It asked the Bureau, with the support of the Secretariat, to make proposals to this end, to be examined at its meeting in November 2025.

## **ITEM 12: THEMATIC RAPPORTEURS AND REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER COMMITTEES**

36. The CDDH thematic rapporteur on human rights and artificial intelligence, Tim KOLK (Estonia), reported on the work of the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI), notably regarding the HUDERIA model, and on the state of signatures of the Framework Convention on artificial intelligence, human rights, democracy and the rule of law. He also provided information on the preparation of a draft Committee of Ministers recommendation by the Committee of Experts on Artificial Intelligence, Equality and Discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI) and of draft guidelines by the Committee of Experts on the Impacts of Generative Artificial Intelligence for Freedom of Expression (MSI-AI, a subordinate body of the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI)).

37. The CDDH thematic rapporteur on human rights and the environment, Nicola WENZEL (Germany), reported on the finalisation of its work by the Multidisciplinary Group on the Environment (GME) and the subsequent adoption at the Ministerial Session in May of a Council of Europe Strategy on the Environment, of which the first element is to integrate human rights into environmental policies and actions. The Committee of Ministers would also be considering the establishment of a new Steering Committee on the environment, which had been proposed by the GME. As regards follow-up to the CDDH Study on the need for and feasibility of a further instrument or instruments in the field of human rights and the environment, the Ministers' Deputies had not taken any decision, and the Ministerial Session had instructed the Deputies to move forward as quickly as possible in their consideration of the matter.

38. The CDDH thematic rapporteur on impunity for serious human rights violations, Hans-Jörg BEHRENS (Germany), informed the CDDH that President Zelenskyy of Ukraine and the Secretary General of the Council of Europe had signed an agreement on the establishment of a Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine, including the Statute of the Special Tribunal. He also recalled the work of the UN Committee on Enforced Disappearances on universal jurisdiction for the crime of enforced disappearance.

39. The CDDH representative to the Pompidou Group, Milène BLANCHARD (France), reported on her participation in the work of the Pompidou Group's Joint Expert Group on organised crime relating to drug trafficking (OC-DT). The OC-DT is a multidisciplinary group analysing the issue from a human rights and Convention-based perspective. It is preparing policy guidelines to serve as the foundation for a future Committee of Ministers recommendation to member States. It had so far met three times and had established a roadmap for its work and instructed two academics to prepare a background study. Its next meeting would be on 7-8 July 2025, with a further meeting in October.

40. The CDDH representative to the Steering Committee on human rights in the fields of biomedicine and health (CDBIO), Elias KASTANAS (Greece), reported on his involvement in the CDBIO's preparation of a workshop on human rights and neurotechnologies. The workshop was being organised by the CDBIO, with the support of the CDDH and the T-PD committee of

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<sup>2</sup> CDDH Analysis of the legal framework of the Council of Europe for the protection of social rights in Europe, CDDH(2018)R89add1, and CDDH Report identifying good practices and making proposals with a view to improving the implementation of social rights in Europe, CDDH(2019)R91Addendum3.

Convention 108 on data protection, to examine the extent to which the existing human rights framework provides adequate responses to challenges in this field, identify possible gaps, and consider how those gaps could be addressed.

41. The CDDH appointed Krista OINONEN (Finland) as its representative to the Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDEM).

### **ITEM 13: GENDER EQUALITY**

42. The thematic rapporteur on gender equality, Philippe WERY (Belgium), informed the CDDH that the DH-SYSC-PRO had upon careful examination concluded that there was no significant gender dimension to its work (see above). He also provided information on ongoing work of the Gender Equality Committee (GEC), including on violence against women and new technologies and on migrant women.

### **ITEM 14: PLANNING OF FUTURE ACTIVITIES**

43. The CDDH received information from the Secretariat on developments concerning the Committee of Ministers' mid-term review of the terms of reference of intergovernmental committees. The Committee of Ministers would consider instructing the CDDH to prepare a study on the protection of the right to vote and to stand for election under the Convention, and to report on its examination of the implementation of Committee of Ministers Recommendation CM/Rec(2014)2 on the promotion of human rights of older persons (see further under item 2 above). The Committee of Ministers would also consider the future status and activities of the DH-SYSC, with no consequences for the CDDH's own existing mandate in relation to issues relating to the Convention. The Secretariat also recalled that the Ministerial Session in May had instructed the Deputies to move forward as quickly as possible in their consideration of a possible binding or non-binding instrument in the field of human rights and the environment (see further under item 12 above), which could lead to a decision to activate the mandate of the Committee of experts on human rights and the environment (DH-ENV).

44. The Secretariat presented the document entitled "Public consultations on draft texts under preparation by intergovernmental committees of the Council of Europe" (doc. CDDH(2015)09), which set out practice in other committees. Members considered that any process of public consultation by the CDDH or its subordinate bodies should be meaningful, effective, cost-effective, transparent, and proportionate. A strict policy might lack flexibility and raise false expectations. A set of criteria on the context, nature, scope, and timing of any consultations, however, could provide sufficient guidance to subordinate bodies and ensure a broadly coherent approach. The CDDH invited the Secretariat to prepare such draft criteria, for examination at the meeting in November 2025.

### **ITEM 15: ACCESS TO OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS**

45. The Secretary to the monitoring bodies of the Convention on Access to Official Documents (CETS No. 215, Tromsø Convention), Elvana THACI, informed the CDDH about the 8th (3–5 February 2025) and 9th (14–16 May 2025) meetings of the Council of Europe Access Info Group (AIG). The AIG had adopted its baseline evaluation reports on the implementation of the Convention in respect of Albania, Armenia and Slovenia and was working on the draft report in respect of Spain. It was also in the final stages of preparing its draft opinion on the interpretation of the definition of "official documents" contained in Article 1, paragraph 2, sub-paragraph b, to the Tromsø Convention. As regards its next evaluation round, the AIG had decided to work on the practical measures taken by Parties to the

Convention to ensure expeditious processing of access requests, and on measures aimed at ensuring the effective management of documents so that they are easily accessible.

46. The Consultation of the Parties will meet from 1 to 2 October 2025 to consider conclusions and recommendations to Albania, Armenia and Slovenia on the basis of the AIG's baseline evaluation reports (see preceding paragraph). It will also elect at least 10 members of the AIG for the four-year mandate starting in April 2026; a call for candidates had been launched with the 17 Parties to the Convention.

47. The Secretariat also shared information about the admission of the Council of Europe as an observer to the International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC). The President and Vice-President of the AIG had participated in a session dedicated to the Tromsø Convention in the ICIC meeting in Berlin (23-24 June 2025), which raised visibility for the Convention and encouraged stakeholders to promote its ratification in their own countries. Various bilateral meetings had been held with Information Commissioners from Council of Europe member States which have not ratified the Convention, as well as countries in Latin America and Africa. The Secretariat is also exploring the possibility of the AIG holding a joint meeting with the Committee of Convention 108 on the protection of personal data (T-PD) in November 2025, to explore the intersection between access to information and personal data protection and the relation to other issues, including the fight against corruption, and to raise awareness of the Tromsø Convention.

48. The CDDH noted with interest the progress of work of the Tromsø Convention's monitoring mechanism and the efforts to promote further ratification. It then considered holding a thematic debate on the right of access to official documents, as required under its terms of reference, at its 103<sup>rd</sup> plenary. It asked the Secretariat to prepare proposals for this debate, in consultation with the AIG, for consideration by its Bureau. To this end, CDDH members are invited to indicate to the Secretariat possible specific themes relating to the right access of access to official documents.

#### **ITEM 16: ELECTIONS**

49. The CDDH took note of the resignation of Barra LYSAGHT (Ireland) as a member of its Bureau and decided to defer the election of his successor until its meeting in November 2025, so that the newly elected person would be able to serve a full two-year mandate instead of only the six months remaining of Mr Lysaght's current mandate. The full composition of the CDDH Bureau and the presidencies of its subordinate bodies appear at [Appendix VII](#).

#### **ITEM 17: CONVENTIONS**

50. The CDDH took note of information provided by the Secretariat on recent signatures and ratifications of Council of Europe conventions under the responsibility of the CDDH, as well as of recent developments concerning derogations and reservations to the European Convention on Human Rights.

#### **ITEM 18: PUBLICATIONS**

51. The CDDH noted the publication of the Proceedings of the Workshop on facilitating the implementation of the Committee of Ministers' Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on measures against the trade in goods used for the death penalty, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Strasbourg, 27 November 2024).

**ITEM 19: CALENDAR**

52. The CDDH adopted its calendar of meetings for the second semester of 2025 and took note of a proposed calendar of meetings for the first semester of 2026, as they appear in Appendix VIII.

**ITEM 20: OTHER BUSINESS**

53. The CDDH expressed its warm thanks to Barra LYSAGHT (Ireland) for his long and valuable contribution to its work over the years, including as a member of its Bureau and as Chairperson of the DH-SYSC, and wished him every success in his new functions.

54. The CDDH also thanked Daniel PAP and Anna-Lisa LAFAY for their contributions to the work of its secretariat and wished them well in their future endeavours.

**ITEM 21: ADOPTION OF THE ABRIDGED REPORT**

55. The CDDH adopted the abridged report of the present meeting.

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## Appendix I

## Agenda

<b>1: OPENING OF THE MEETING, ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND ORDER OF BUSINESS</b>	<b>1 : OUVERTURE DE LA RÉUNION, ADOPTION DE L'ORDRE DU JOUR ET DE L'ORDRE DES TRAVAUX</b>
<a href="#">CDDH(2024)R101</a> – Report of the 10st meeting <a href="#">CDDH-BU(2025)R113</a> – Report of the 113th meeting of the Bureau	<a href="#">CDDH(2024)R101</a> – Rapport de la 101 <sup>e</sup> réunion <a href="#">CDDH-BU(2025)R113</a> – Rapport de la 113 <sup>e</sup> réunion du Bureau
<b>2: RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY &amp; THE CONGRESS OF LOCAL AND REGIONAL AUTHORITIES</b>	<b>2 : RECOMMANDATIONS DE L'ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE &amp; DU CONGRÈS DES POUVOIRS LOCAUX ET RÉGIONAUX</b>
<a href="#">CDDH(2025)05</a> – CDDH comments on PACE Recommendations <a href="#">CDDH(2025)02</a> – CDDH comments on Recommendations of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities	<a href="#">CDDH(2025)05</a> – Commentaires du CDDH sur des Recommandations de l'APCE <a href="#">CDDH(2025)02</a> – Commentaires du CDDH sur des Recommandations du Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux
<a href="#">CDDH(2025)08</a> – CDDH comments on Recommendations 525 (2025) and 527 (2025) of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities	<a href="#">CDDH(2025)08</a> - Commentaires du CDDH sur les Recommandations 525 (2025) et 527 (2025) du Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux
<b>3: SYSTEM OF THE EUROPEAN CONVENTION ON HUMAN RIGHTS</b>	<b>3 : SYSTÈME DE LA CONVENTION EUROPÉENNE DES DROITS DE L'HOMME</b>
<b>3.1. Committee of Experts on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)</b>	<b>3.1 Comité d'experts sur le système de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme (DH-SYSC)</b>
<a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)R7</a> – Report of the 7th meeting <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)01</a> – Draft CDDH Report on the first effects of Protocol No. 15 to the European Convention on Human Rights <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)02</a> – Draft CDDH Report on the first effects of Protocol No. 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)OJ1</a> – Draft annotated agenda of the 7th meeting of the Committee of experts on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)03</a> – Concept note and programme of the conference	<a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)R7</a> – Rapport de la 7 <sup>e</sup> réunion <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)01</a> – <a href="#">Projet de Rapport du CDDH évaluant les premiers effets du Protocole n° 15</a> à la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)02</a> – <a href="#">Projet de Rapport du CDDH évaluant les premiers effets du Protocole n° 16</a> à la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)OJ1</a> – Projet d'ordre du jour annoté de la 7 <sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité d'experts sur le système de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme <a href="#">DH-SYSC(2025)03</a> – Synthèse et programme de la conférence
<b>3.1.1. Drafting Group on the first effects of Protocols Nos. 15 and 16 to the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC-PRO)</b>	<b>3.1.1. Groupe de rédaction sur les premiers effets des Protocoles n° 15 et n° 16 à la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme (DH-SYSC-PRO)</b>
<b>3.2 CDDH ad hoc negotiation group (“46+1”) on EU accession to the ECHR</b>	<b>3.2 Groupe de négociation ad hoc du CDDH (« 46+1 ») sur l'adhésion de l'UE à la CEDH</b>
<a href="#">CDDH(2023)R EXTRA</a> – Report of the CDDH extraordinary meeting, 4 April 2023 <a href="#">CDDH(2023)R EXTRA ADDENDUM</a> – Interim report to the Committee of Ministers, for information, on the negotiations on the accession of the EU to the ECHR, including the revised draft accession instruments in appendix	<a href="#">CDDH(2023)R EXTRA</a> – Rapport de la réunion extraordinaire du CDDH, 4 avril 2023 <a href="#">CDDH(2023)R EXTRA ADDENDUM</a> – Rapport intérimaire au Comité des Ministres, pour information, relatif aux négociations sur l'adhésion de l'UE à la CEDH, contenant les projets d'instruments d'adhésion en annexe

<a href="#">Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2601 (2025)</a> on legal aspects of the accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights	<a href="#">Résolution 2601 (2025) de l'Assemblée parlementaire</a> sur les aspects juridiques de l'adhésion de l'Union européenne à la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme
<b>4: ERADICATION OF IMPUNITY FOR SERIOUS HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS</b>	<b>4 : ÉLIMINATION DE L'IMPUNITÉ POUR LES VIOLATIONS GRAVES DES DROITS HUMAINS</b>
<a href="#">CDDH-ELI(2025)R3</a> – Report of the 3rd meeting <a href="#">CDDH-ELI(2025)R4</a> – Report of the 4th meeting	<a href="#">CDDH-ELI(2025)R3 – Rapport</a> de la 3 <sup>e</sup> réunion <a href="#">CDDH-ELI(2025)R4 – Rapport</a> de la 4 <sup>e</sup> réunion
<b>5: ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE</b>	<b>5: INTELLIGENCE ARTIFICIELLE</b>
<a href="#">CDDH-IA(2025)R3</a> – Report of the 3rd meeting <a href="#">CDDH-IA(2025)R4</a> – Report of the 4th meeting	<a href="#">CDDH-IA(2025)R3</a> – Rapport de la 3 <sup>e</sup> réunion <a href="#">CDDH-IA(2025)R4</a> – Rapport de la 4 <sup>e</sup> réunion
<b>6. SAFE THIRD COUNTRY CONCEPT</b>	<b>6. NOTION DE PAYS TIERS SÛR</b>
<a href="#">CDDH-PTS(2025)R1</a> – Report of the 1st meeting	<a href="#">CDDH-PTS(2025)R1</a> – Rapport de la 1 <sup>e</sup> réunion
<b>7: HUMAN RIGHTS AND DRUG POLICIES</b>	<b>7 : DROITS HUMAINS DANS LES POLITIQUES EN MATIÈRE DE DROGUES</b>
<a href="#">CDDH(2025)06</a> – Terms of reference for the Drafting Committee on Human Rights and Drug Policies (DH-PDA)	<a href="#">CDDH(2025)06</a> – Mandat pour le Comité de rédaction sur les droits humains et les politiques en matière de drogues (DH-PDA)
<b>8. PROHIBITION OF THE TRADE IN GOODS USED FOR TORTURE AND THE DEATH PENALTY</b>	<b>8. INTERDICTION DU COMMERCE DE BIENS UTILISÉS POUR LA TORTURE ET LA PEINE DE MORT</b>
<a href="#">CDDH(2025)03</a> – Summary of the discussions held during the Workshop on strengthening multilateral efforts to curb trade in torture and death penalty goods  <a href="#">CDDH(2025)04</a> – Report on the implementation of Recommendation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2021)2</a> on measures against the trade in goods used for the death penalty, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment	<a href="#">CDDH(2025)03</a> – Résumé des débats tenus lors de l'Atelier sur le renforcement des efforts multilatéraux visant à limiter le commerce des biens utilisés pour la torture et la peine de mort  <a href="#">CDDH(2025)04</a> – Rapport sur la mise en œuvre de la Recommandation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2021)2</a> sur des mesures contre le commerce de biens utilisés pour la peine de mort, la torture et autres peines ou traitement cruels, inhumains ou dégradants
<b>9: NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS &amp; OMBUDSPERSON INSTITUTIONS</b>	<b>9: INSTITUTIONS NATIONALES DES DROITS HUMAINS &amp; INSTITUTIONS DE L'OMBUDSMAN</b>
Recommendation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2019)6</a> of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the development of the Ombudsman institution Recommendation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2021)1</a> of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the development and strengthening of effective, pluralist and independent national human rights institutions	Recommandation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2019)6</a> du Comité des Ministres aux États membres sur le développement de l'institution de l'Ombudsman Recommandation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2021)1</a> du Comité des Ministres aux États membres sur le développement et le renforcement d'institutions nationales des droits de l'homme efficaces, pluralistes et indépendantes
<b>10: ECHR IN UNIVERSITY EDUCATION &amp; PROFESSIONAL TRAINING</b>	<b>10: LA CEDH DANS L'ENSEIGNEMENT UNIVERSITAIRE ET LA FORMATION PROFESSIONNELLE</b>
Recommendation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2019)5</a> of the Committee of Ministers to member States on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights in university education and professional training	Recommandation <a href="#">CM/Rec(2019)5</a> du Comité des Ministres aux États membres sur le système de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme dans l'enseignement universitaire et la formation professionnelle

<b>11: INVITED PERSONALITIES</b>	<b>11 : PERSONNALITÉS INVITÉES</b>
<b>12: THEMATIC RAPORTEURS &amp; REPRESENTATIVES TO OTHER COMMITTEES</b>	<b>12 : RAPORTEURS THÉMATIQUES ET REPRÉSENTANTS DANS D'AUTRES COMITÉS</b>
<b>13: GENDER EQUALITY</b>	<b>13: ÉGALITÉ DE GENRE</b>
<p><a href="#">CDDH(2025)07</a> – The gender equality dimension in the work of the CDDH and its subordinated bodies</p> <p><a href="#">CDDH(2020)13</a> – Thematic Form on Gender Equality</p>	<p><a href="#">CDDH(2025)07</a> – La dimension d'égalité de genre dans les travaux du CDDH et de ses instances subordonnées</p> <p><a href="#">CDDH(2020)13</a> – Fiche thématique sur l'égalité de genre</p>
<b>14: PLANNING OF FUTURE ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>14 : PLANIFICATION DES ACTIVITÉS FUTURES</b>
<p><a href="#">Terms of reference</a> for the CDDH, DH-SYSC and DH-ENV 2024-2027</p>	<p><a href="#">Mandats</a> pour le CDDH, le DH-SYSC et le DH-ENV 2024-2027</p>
<b>15: ACCESS TO OFFICIAL DOCUMENTS</b>	<b>15 : ACCÈS AUX DOCUMENTS PUBLICS</b>
<p><a href="#">AIG(2025)R8 – Report of the 8th meeting of the Access Info Group</a></p> <p>AIG(2025)LD9 – <a href="#">Decisions adopted</a> at the 9th meeting of the Access Info Group</p> <p><a href="#">AIG(2025)R9 – Report of the 9th meeting of the Access Info Group</a></p>	<p><a href="#">AIG(2025)R8 – Rapport de la 8<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe Accès à l'Information</a></p> <p>AIG(2025)LD9 – <a href="#">Décisions adoptées</a> lors de la 9<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe Accès à l'Information</p> <p><a href="#">AIG(2025)R9 – Rapport de la 9<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe Accès à l'Information</a></p>
<b>16: ELECTIONS</b>	<b>16 : ÉLECTIONS</b>
<b>17: CONVENTIONS</b>	<b>17 : CONVENTIONS</b>
<p><a href="#">CDDH(2025)01</a> – State of signatures and ratifications of certain treaties under the responsibility of the CDDH</p>	<p><a href="#">CDDH(2025)01</a> – État des signatures et ratifications de certains traités sous la responsabilité du CDDH</p>
<b>18: PUBLICATIONS</b>	<b>18 : PUBLICATIONS</b>
<p><a href="#">Proceedings</a> of the Workshop on facilitating the implementation of the Committee of Ministers' Recommendation CM/Rec(2012)2 on measures against the trade in goods used for the death penalty, torture and other cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment (Strasbourg, 27 November 2024).</p> <p><a href="#">CDDH Publications' website</a></p>	<p><a href="#">Actes</a> de l'Atelier sur la facilitation de la mise en œuvre de la Recommandation CM/Rec(2012)2 du Comité des Ministres sur des mesures contre le commerce de biens utilisés pour la peine de mort, la torture et autres peines ou traitements cruels, inhumains ou dégradants (Strasbourg, 27 novembre 2024).</p> <p><a href="#">Site internet des publications du CDDH</a></p>
<b>19: CALENDAR</b>	<b>19 : CALENDRIER</b>
<b>20: OTHER BUSINESS</b>	<b>20 : QUESTIONS DIVERSES</b>
<b>21: ADOPTION OF THE ABRIDGED REPORT</b>	<b>21 : ADOPTION DU RAPPORT ABRÉGÉ</b>

Appendix II**List of participants**

<b>ALBANIA / ALBANIE</b>	<b>Arlinda GJATA</b> State Advocate, Office for Legal Representation in Foreign Courts and International Arbitration Tribunals, State Advocates Office
<b>ANDORRA / ANDORRE</b>	<b>Carlos PUENTE GALINDO</b> Third Secretary, Department of International Legal Affairs and Human Resources, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>ARMENIA / ARMÉNIE</b>	<b>Armine TSHNGRYAN</b> Third Secretary of Bilateral International Treaties Division, Department of International Treaties and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs <b>Nelly SAROYAN</b> Head of Department International Treaties and Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>AUSTRIA / AUTRICHE</b>	<b>Brigitte OHMS</b> Deputy Government Agent, Division for European and International Law, Human Rights Protection (dpt. V 7), Federal Chancellery
<b>AZERBAIJAN / AZERBAIDJAN</b>	<b>Habib ABDULLAYEV</b> Head of the Human Rights Division, Department for Work with Law Enforcement Bodies, Administration of President of the Republic
<b>BELGIUM / BELGIQUE</b>	<b>Philippe WERY</b> Chef du Service des droits de l'homme, SPF Justice, Service des Droits de l'Homme <b>Isabelle NIEDLISPACHER</b> Agent to the European Court of Human Rights for the Government of Belgium
<b>BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA / BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE</b>	<i>APOLOGISED</i>
<b>BULGARIA / BULGARIE</b>	<b>Hristiana GROZDANOVA</b> Head of Unit for Human Rights, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>CROATIA / CROATIE</b>	<b>Ana KLASIČEK POPOVIĆ</b> Assistant Representative, Office of the Representative of the Republic of Croatia before the European Court of Human Rights
<b>CYPRUS / CHYPRE</b>	<b>Thelma PRODROMITOU</b> Counsel of the Republic of Cyprus, Law Office
<b>CZECHIA / TCHÉQUIE</b>	<b>Petr KONŮPKA</b> Deputy Agent of the Government for the representation before the European Court of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice
<b>DENMARK / DANEMARK</b>	<b>Josefine FIBIGER BUNDESEN</b> Head of Section, Ministry of Justice

<b>ESTONIA / ESTONIE</b>	<b>Tim KOLK</b> Agent du gouvernement estonien auprès de la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme, ministère des Affaires étrangères
<b>FINLAND / FINLANDE</b> <i>Chairperson / Présidente</i>	<b>Krista OINONEN</b> Government Agent before the ECtHR, Director, Unit for Human Rights Courts and Conventions, Ministry for Foreign Affairs
<b>FRANCE</b>	<b>Milène BLANCHARD</b> Sous-directrice des droits de l'Homme, Direction des affaires juridiques, ministère de l'Europe et des affaires étrangères
<b>GEORGIA / GÉORGIE</b>	<b>Nino NIKOLAISHVILI</b> Head of the Department of State Representation to International Courts of the Ministry of Justice
<b>GERMANY / ALLEMAGNE</b>	<b>Nicola WENZEL</b> LL.M., Head of Unit IV C 1 (Human Rights), Government Agent before the European Court of Human Rights, Federal Ministry of Justice  <b>Hans-Jörg BEHRENS</b> LL.M., Head of Unit IV C 1 (Human Rights), Government Agent before the European Court of Human Rights, Federal Ministry of Justice
<b>GREECE / GRÈCE</b>	<b>Elias KASTANAS</b> Senior Legal Counselor, Legal Department, Public International Law Section, Hellenic Ministry of Foreign Affairs  <b>Ourania PATSOPOULOU</b> Conseil Juridique de l'Etat, Bureau de l'Agent du Gouvernement devant la CEDH
<b>HUNGARY / HONGRIE</b>	<b>Zoltan TALLODI</b> Government Agent before the ECtHR, Ministry of Justice, Department of International Criminal Law and Office of the Agent before ECHR
<b>ICELAND / ISLANDE</b>	<b>Elísabet GISLADOTTIR</b> Senior Legal Advisor, Prime Minister's Office, Department of Equality and Human Rights
<b>IRELAND / IRLANDE</b>	<b>John Finbarr LYSAGHT</b> Agent of the Government before the ECHR, Department of Foreign Affairs  <b>Darina FLYNN</b> Assistant legal adviser, Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade
<b>ITALY / ITALIE</b>	<b>Francesco FORTE</b> Représentant permanent adjoint auprès du conseil de l'Europe
<b>LATVIA / LETTONIE</b>	<b>Elīna Luīze VĪTOLA</b> Agent of the Government, Representative of Latvia before International Human Rights Institutions, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>LIECHTENSTEIN</b>	<b>Sasha BILLARD</b> Adviser, Deputy Permanent Representative, Permanent Representation of the Principality of Liechtenstein to the Council of Europe

<b>LITHUANIA / LITUANIE</b>	<b>Ričard DZIKOVIČ</b> Government agent before ECtHR, Head of Legal Representation, Ministry of Justice
<b>LUXEMBOURG</b>	<b>Anne GOSSET</b> Responsable du service droits humains – Ministère de la Justice
<b>MALTA / MALTE</b>	<i>APOLOGISED</i>
<b>REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA / RÉPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA</b>	<b>Andrei BRICEAC</b> Government Agent, Ministry of Justice
<b>MONACO</b>	<b>Raphaël SIMIAN</b> Adjoint au Directeur des Affaires juridiques, Agent du Gouvernement auprès de la CEDH
<b>MONTENEGRO / MONTÉNÉGRO</b>	<i>APOLOGISED</i>
<b>NETHERLANDS / PAYS-BAS</b>	<b>Babette KOOPMAN</b> Government Agent before the EctHR, Ministry of Foreign Affairs  <b>Vincent de GRAAF</b> Government expert, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>NORTH MACEDONIA / MACÉDOINE DU NORD</b>	<b>Elena BODEVA</b> Head of Unit - Directorate for Multilateral Relations, Ministry of Foreign Affairs
<b>NORWAY / NORVÈGE</b>	<b>Tonje MEINICH</b> Deputy Director General, Legislation Department, Ministry of Justice and Public Security
<b>POLAND / POLOGNE</b>	<b>Agnieszka KOZIŃSKA-MAKOWSKA</b> Agent of the Government before the European Court of Human Rights
<b>PORTUGAL</b>	<b>Helena LEITÃO</b> Agente du Gouvernement du Portugal auprès de la Cour
<b>ROMANIA / ROUMANIE</b>	<b>Adriana-Mihaela BĂRBIERU</b> Co-agent before the European Court of Human Rights, Deputy to the Permanent Representative
<b>SAN MARINO / SAINT MARIN</b>	<i>APOLOGISED</i>
<b>SERBIA / SERBIE</b>	<b>Zorana JADRIJEVIĆ MLADAR</b> State Attorney Deputy Government Agent of the Republic of Serbia before the ECHR
<b>SLOVAK REPUBLIC / RÉPUBLIQUE SLOVAQUE</b>	<b>Miroslava BÁLINTOVÁ</b> Government Agent before the ECHR, Ministry of Justice
<b>SLOVENIA / SLOVÉNIE</b>	<b>Matija VIDMAR</b>

	Adjoint à la Représentante Permanente, Représentation permanente de la Slovénie auprès du Conseil de l'Europe
<b>SPAIN / ESPAGNE</b>	<p><b>Francisco SANZ</b> Agent du Gouvernement auprès de la CEDH, Service juridique des Droits de l'Homme, ministère de la Justice</p> <p><b>Alfonso BREZMES</b> Agent before the ECtHR, Head of the Human Rights Area of the Constitutional Law &amp; Human Rights Department, Ministry of Justice</p>
<b>SWEDEN / SUÈDE</b>	<p><b>Fredrik BERGIUS</b> Deputy Director, Department for International Law, Human Rights and Treaty Law, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p>
<b>SWITZERLAND / SUISSE</b>	<p><b>Xavier-Baptiste RUEDIN</b> Agent du Gouvernement auprès de la CEDH, Département fédéral de justice et police DFJP, Office fédéral de la justice OFJ Représentation de la Suisse devant la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme</p> <p><b>Livia KELLER</b> Juriste, Département fédéral des affaires étrangères DFAE Direction du droit international public DDIP, Droits de l'homme, état de droit et droit international en matière de lutte contre le terrorisme</p>
<b>TÜRKIYE</b>	<p><b>Ayşen EMÜLER</b> Experte Juridique, ministère des Affaires Etrangères, Représentation Permanente de Türkiye auprès du Conseil de l'Europe, Strasbourg</p> <p><b>Ahmet Metin GÖKLER</b> Chef du Département, Ministère de la Justice</p>
<b>UKRAINE</b>	<p><b>Marharyta SOKORENKO</b> Agent of Ukraine before the European Court of Human Rights, Ministry of Justice of Ukraine</p>
<b>UNITED KINGDOM / ROYAUME-UNI</b>	<p><b>Alison WILLIAMS</b> Legal Counsellor at the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office</p>

#### INVITEES

**Mattias GUYOMAR**

President of the European Court of Human Rights / Président de la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme

**Aoife NOLAN** (*online*)

Chairperson of the European Committee on Social Rights / Présidente du Comité européen des droits sociaux

**PARTICIPANTS**

<b>HOLY SEE / SAINT-SIÈGE</b>	<b>Christine JEANGÉY</b> Officiel, Chargée des Droits de l'Homme et du Droit Humanitaire, Dicastère pour le service du développement humain intégral
<b>CONFERENCE OF INGOs OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE / CONFÉRENCE DES OING DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE</b>	<b>Simon MATTHIJSEN</b> Standing Committee conference of INGOs at the Council of Europe <b>Cirian KING</b> Representative of CINGO
<b>EUROPEAN UNION / UNION EUROPÉENNE</b>	<b>Paolo STANCANELLI</b> Principal Legal Advisor, Legal Service, European Commission

**OBSERVERS / OBSERVATEURS**

<b>EUROPEAN NETWORK OF NATIONAL HUMAN RIGHTS INSTITUTIONS / LE RÉSEAU EUROPÉEN DES INSTITUTIONS NATIONALES DES DROITS DE L'HOMME (ENNHRI)</b>	<b>Debbie KOHNER</b> Secretary General <b>Marta GATTINI</b> Adviser to the Secretary General <b>Louise HOLCK</b> Executive Director of the Danish NHRI <b>Edyta TUTA-LORENZ</b> Senior Human Rights Officer
<b>AMNESTY INTERNATIONAL</b>	<b>Patrick WILCKEN</b> ( <i>online</i> ) Researcher, Arms Control, Security & Human Rights, International Secretariat / <i>Chercheur, Contrôle des armes, sécurité et droits humains, Secrétariat international,</i> <b>Rita PATRICIO</b> Senior Executive Officer for the Council of Europe
<b>OMEGA RESEARCH FOUNDATION</b>	<b>Michael CROWLEY</b> ( <i>online</i> ) Research Associate / <i>Adjoint de recherche,</i> Omega Research Foundation

**SECRETARIAT / SECRÉTARIAT**

<b>Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law / Direction générale Droits humains et État de droit (DG I)</b>	
	<b>Sébastien POTAUFEU</b> Coordinator for the abolition of death penalty / <i>Coordinateur pour l'abolition de la peine de mort</i>
<b>Human Rights Intergovernmental Cooperation Division / Division de la coopération intergouvernementale en matière de droits humains</b>	
	<b>David MILNER</b> Head of Division, Secretary of the CDDH / <i>Chef de Division, Secrétaire du CDDH</i>
	<b>Elvana THACI</b> Head of the Tromsø Convention Unit, Secretary of the Committee of experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights / <i>Chef de l'Unité Convention de Tromsø, Secrétaire du Comité d'experts sur le système de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme (DH-SYSC)</i>
	<b>Véra MANUELLO</b> Administrator / <i>Administratrice</i> , Secretary of the Drafting Group on the eradication of impunity for serious human rights violations / <i>Secrétaire du Groupe de rédaction sur l'élimination de l'impunité pour les violations graves des droits humains (CDDH-ELI)</i> , Secretary of the Drafting Group on the safe third country concept / <i>Secrétaire du Groupe de rédaction sur la notion de pays tiers sûr (CDDH-PTS)</i>
	<b>Daniel PAP</b> Administrator / <i>Administrateur</i> , Secretary of the Drafting Group on Human Rights and artificial intelligence / <i>Secrétaire du Groupe de rédaction sur les droits humains et l'intelligence artificielle (CDDH-IA)</i>
	<b>Anna-Lisa LAFAY</b> Assistant lawyer / <i>Juriste assistante</i>
	<b>Corinne GAVRILOVIC</b> Administrative assistant / <i>Assistante administrative</i>
	<b>Céline DEWAELE</b> Assistant / <i>Assistante</i>
	<b>Linda ARDENGHI</b> Trainee / <i>Stagiaire</i>

**INTERPRETERS / INTERPRÈTES**

DEVICTOR Gregoire

DEBURLET-SUTER Lucie

MAGALLON Corinne

Appendix III

**Programme of the DH-SYSC Conference**  
**“The system of the European Convention on Human Rights: Responding to new trends and challenges”**

**10:00 Opening session**

**Welcome Address** by

- Krista OINONEN, Chairperson of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH)
- Daniele CANGEMI, Head of the Department of Justice and Legal Co-operation standard-setting activities, Council of Europe

**10:15 Session 1: New trends in litigation before the European Court of Human Rights**

*There are new trends in litigation before the Court, including but not limited to a rise in inter-State applications, strategic litigation on issues such as climate change, as well as cases with joinders and large groups of applicants. These developments involve distinct substantive, procedural and administrative challenges. Complex jurisdictional issues, reliance on expert or scientific evidence, and third-party interventions are also becoming more common. At the same time, the Court faces heightened public interest and media attention in certain cases. These together also have implications for its internal coordination, hearing formats, and communication with parties.*

*This session will identify these challenges and how the Court is adapting to these evolving dynamics, how applicants and respondents are experiencing and addressing them, and whether any other approaches might be considered in order to ensure continued effective management of new litigation trends.*

**MODERATOR**

**Ed BATES**

Associate Professor in Law at the University of Leicester

**SPEAKERS**

- Lətif Hüseyinov, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights elected in respect of Azerbaijan
- Isabella RISINI, Professor at Technische Hochschule Georg Agricola
- Isabelle NIEDLISPACHER, Agent of the Belgian Government before the European Court of Human Rights
- Jenny SANDVIG, Partner, SVW, former Policy Director at the Norwegian National Human Rights Institution
- Abel CAMPOS, Deputy Registrar of the European Court of Human Rights

**Q&A / Open discussion with the audience**

\*\*\*\* 11:30 – 11:45 | Coffee break \*\*\*\*

## 11:45 Session 2: Challenges and opportunities in the Court's use of new technologies

*The Court has put in place the Gateway case-management project with a view to enhancing its efficiency and productivity, uses artificial intelligence in the language department,<sup>3</sup> and plans to use it to assist lawyers during the drafting process and to improve translation capabilities. The integration of new technologies into its processes is expected to continue. This session will take stock of the Court's use of new technologies, including artificial intelligence, and will bring experiences from the use of new technologies in other international and national jurisdictions. It will explore the following questions: what are the benefits in terms of efficiency and effectiveness in carrying out case-processing tasks, the quality and consistency of the courts' decisions, and terms of increasing accessibility and transparency of applicants? What are the risks? What principles should govern the use of artificial intelligence in international judicial processes?*

### MODERATOR

Tim KOLK

Member of the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) in respect of Estonia, CDDH thematic rapporteur on human rights and artificial intelligence

### SPEAKERS

- Klaudiusz RYNGIELEWICZ, Director of filtering and support services, European Court of Human Rights
- Mateja ĐUROVIĆ, Judge of the European Court of Human Rights elected in respect of Serbia
- Veronika FIKFAK, Professor of Human Rights and International Law at University College London, School of Public Policy and a co-Director of the UCL Institute for Human Rights (online)
- Matthieu QUINIOU, Avocat, member of the CEPEJ Artificial Intelligence Advisory Board (AIAB), Chair of UNESCO ITEN

### Q&A / Open discussion with the audience

\*\*\*\* 13:00 – 14:30 | Lunch break \*\*\*\*

## 14:30 Session 3: The European Court of Human Rights in 2025 and Beyond (Open Forum)

*This open forum offers space for exchanges on persistent and emerging challenges facing the system of the European Convention on Human Rights. Participants will be invited to reflect on the Court's procedures and working methods, as well as the execution of its judgments.*

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*At the same time, the session will look ahead: How can the Court and member States anticipate and adapt to future demands while maintaining the high standards of human rights protection set by the Convention system? What are areas for future work?*

*This session encourages a constructive dialogue between stakeholders, aimed at identifying practical suggestions, sharing experiences, and contributing to a collective vision for a resilient and responsive Court in the years to come.*

#### MODERATOR

##### Tonje MEINICH

Vice-chairperson of the CDDH, Chair of the CDDH ad hoc negotiation group (46+1)  
on the Accession of the EU to the ECHR

#### SPEAKERS – PANEL 1

- Alex TALLON, Vice-President of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE)
- Babette KOOPMANN, Agent to the European Court of Human Rights for the Government of the Netherlands
- Philip LEACH, Professor of Human Rights Law, Middlesex University London

#### Q&A / Open discussion with the audience

\*\*\*\* 15:30– 15:45 | Coffee break \*\*\*\*

#### SPEAKERS – PANEL 2

- Marius EMBERLAND, Professor, Department of Law and Governance, Norwegian Business School
- [Vassilis TZEVELEKOS](#), Reader in Law (Associate Professor) at Liverpool University School of Law and Social Justice, Co-Editor-in-Chief of The European Convention on Human Rights Law Review
- Ioulietta BISIOULI, Director, European Implementation Network

#### Q&A / Open discussion with the audience

\*\*\*\*16:30 | Closing Session \*\*\*\*

John Finbarr (Barra) LYSAGHT, Chair of the Committee of Experts on the System of the European Convention on Human Rights (DH-SYSC)

Appendix IV

**Presentation by Mattias GUYOMAR**  
President of the European Court of Human Rights

**(to come)**

Appendix V**Presentation by Aoife NOLAN**

Chairperson of the European Committee on Social Rights

I'm delighted to be meeting today. I'm very sorry not to be there in person but certainly will be next time.

The CDDH's current TOR talk about the CDDH "follow the activities of the relevant monitoring and other bodies protecting human rights". We are delighted to engage with CDDH around your efforts to follow and engage with the ESC system work and we hope that today will be the first of many conversations in that regard. As you will all know, social rights and the Charter system have historically been marginalised in the CoE and given CDDH's hugely influential role, it is very important that the Charter would receive regular and accurate attention from you. The 2018 and 2019 reports CDDH produced around the Charter system were hugely important drivers of the change led by GT-Charte and ultimately the Committee of Ministers reform package of September 2022.

And CDDH/ECSR conversations are vital. Our work is of direct relevance to your activities. A key recent example is the environment, where of course one of the options considered by CDDH was an additional protocol to the ESC on the right to a healthy environment. Another area is your work AI – on which an ECSR member, Miriam Kullmann currently serves as a consultant expert for the CDDH-IA drafting group, thereby ensuring the Charter system is effectively integrated into that work.

Looking forward, I understand that the CDDH is likely to be working on the rights of older persons again soon – an area in which we have extensive case-law reflecting the detailed protection accorded to older persons under the 1996 Charter. Indeed, our Committee has repeatedly engaged with a range of UN and European initiatives around the question of older persons rights, including OHCHR and the UN Independent Expert on older persons. We will also input into the work of the international open-ended working focused on producing a UN human rights treaty on older persons' rights.

2025 is an important moment for CDDH and the ECSR to connect. It is a long time since the 2019 which is the last time that the CDDH as a whole worked specifically on social rights. As I mentioned and many of you will know, the last few years have seen a major reform package adopted by the CM with regard to our reporting system, including the introduction of a new tool – the ad hoc review. In 2024, we produced an ad hoc review on social rights and the cost-of-living crisis, which has received very significant attention both within and beyond the CoE. In contrast to our statutory reporting and collective complaints work, the ad hoc review does not involve legal assessments. Rather, with ad hoc reports, the ECSR furnishes a general overview of a new or critical issue arise with a broad or transversal scope or a pan-European dimension. We analyse positive and negative state practice, provide a broad legal analysis, and make recommendations. Our 2024 review included a detailed statement of interpretation which provides a key framework for states with regard to tackling cost of living crises in a Charter-compliant way.

Over the last two years, we have been working on implementing the reform package changes while also keeping an eye on both substantive and procedural changes to the system envisaged by the 15 March 2023 decision of the CM on Improving the European Social Charter system: long-term substantive and procedural issues – I'll come back to one particular aspect of this – the pending CM recommendation on the promotion of education and training on the Council – of Europe social rights framework in Q&A. Other possible changes include the lifting of the 4-month embargo on collective complaints decisions which is proving ever more challenging to maintain in a time of social media. And of course there is still ongoing discussion around more

long-term potential changes – e.g., the introduction of an express RTHE into the Charter and the amendment of the personal scope as outlined in the appendix to the Charter.

There are also other developments that CDDH will want to be aware of. As many of you will know, last year saw the High-Level Conference on the European social Charter envisaged in the Reykjavik document. This event which featured high-level representation from all most all COE member states was very positive in atmosphere and outcome. Participants included Ministers and high-level officials competent in the field of social rights and social policy from across Europe, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly, the President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, the Commissioner for Human Rights, as well as representatives from the European Union, the ILO, other UN entities, social partners and civil society.

A key outcome of the conference was the Vilnius Declaration, a reaffirmation of the indivisibility and interdependence of all human rights, including social rights. Building upon the Reykjavik Declaration (May 2023), the Declaration underlined the importance of having a robust and responsive social rights framework across Europe. It welcomed the efforts made by member States to accept a high level of commitment to social rights, as well as the effective action taken by the States Parties to the European Social Charter to address the findings and conclusions of the ECSR. A key part of the conference – and which will also be true of the forthcoming High-Level conference in March 2026 in Chisinau – was a treaty event. Vilnius resulted in new Charter commitments by Ireland and Andorra, with the Republic of Moldova and Armenia also confirming their intentions to increase commitments—with Republic of Moldova adopting eight additional provisions of the revised European Social Charter less than two months after the event. A crucial milestone at the conference was Iceland's ratification of the Revised Charter, further contributing to the coherence and unity of the European social rights system.

What would we like from the CDDH moving forward?

First and foremost: to build our relationship with CDDH. Several of you your governments' representative in complaints proceedings before the ECSR. The ESC system of course benefits from having the Governmental Committee who have a valuable supportive role in relation to follow-up to our legal assessment work. However, they are not a legal expert body and their mandate is limited to preparing the follow-up decisions of CM. The GC is not an inter-governmental committee with responsibility for the ESC in the way that CDDH has for the ECHR - and that is not the role envisaged for them in the CM reform package of Sept 2022 or subsequent CM decisions. As such, my Committee is very keen to benefit from CDDH's insights and experience in areas such as effective follow-up, ensuring national implementation of international law standards and the other areas in which you do such important work. We know how your efforts have contributed to the Court's work and we would like them to contribute to ours also.

As such, we are very keen to ensure the work of the Charter is meaningfully mainstreamed into CDDH's council of Europe-wide thematic work generally. I've already flagged the areas of AI and the environment but our work in areas like the relationship between energy and human rights, living standards, children's rights, disabled people's rights and the right to protection from poverty and social exclusion are ground-breaking in European human rights law and in terms of IHRL more broadly. The CDDH should be able to bring that and our other work to bear in its work on contemporary human rights challenges. I do think it's worth saying that the work on the environment was a missed opportunity in this regard. We have significant case-law on this point but we were not consulted as effectively as we could have been to ensure that that work was reflected as usefully in the CDDH's report as it could have been. This contrasts for instance with the way in which our work has helped shape the work of PACE and other CoE entities on relevant social rights issues. I want to underline that we are very much available for such consultation in future.

Finally, CDDH has a key role to play in encouraging their governments to take on more charter commitments. In particular, it is especially to be hoped that there will be further progress in terms

of the long overdue shift of the (now six) remaining States Parties still bound by the 1961 Charter to the 1996 Revised Charter. The existence of the two Charters remains the primary obstacle to a unified, coherent social rights system within the Council of Europe. It is directly within States Parties' power to remove this obstacle and the fractured, undesirable complexity it gives rise to in terms of European human rights law protection of social rights. It is my sincere hope that the Chişinău conference will prove a watershed moment in this regard and hope that CDDH members can share that message at home.

I'll leave it here. I welcome questions.

Appendix VI**CDDH rapporteurs and representatives**

- Rapporteur on gender equality: Philippe WERY (Belgium)
- Thematic rapporteur on human rights and artificial intelligence: Tim KOLK (Estonia)
- Thematic rapporteur on human rights and the environment: Nicola WENZEL (Germany)
- Thematic rapporteur on impunity for serious violations of human rights: Hans-Jörg BEHRENS (Germany)
- Thematic rapporteur on human rights and business: Nicola WENZEL (Germany)
- Representative to the Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO): Elias KASTANAS (Greece)
- Representative to the International Cooperation Group on Drugs and Addictions (Pompidou Group): Milène BLANCHARD (France)
- Representative to the Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDEM): Krista OINONEN (Finland)

## Appendix VII

## Composition of the Bureau of the CDDH and Chairpersons of subordinate bodies

BUREAU	END OF THE MANDATE	REFERENCES
Krista OINONEN (Finland) Chairperson	31 December 2025 (elected for 1 year, non-renewable)	101st CDDH meeting (November 2024)
Tonje MEINICH (Norway) Vice-chairperson	31 December 2025 (elected for 1 year, non-renewable)	101st CDDH meeting (November 2024)
Nicola WENZEL (Germany) Member	31 December 2025 (elected for 2 years, non-renewable)	99th CDDH meeting (November 2023)
Tim KOLK (Estonia) Member	31 December 2025 (elected for 2 years, renewable once)	99th CDDH meeting (November 2023)
Elias KASTANAS (Greece) Member	31 December 2025 (elected for 18 months, 2-year term renewable once)	100th CDDH meeting (June 2024)
Milène BLANCHARD (France) Member	31 December 2026 (elected for 2 years, renewable once)	101st CDDH meeting (November 2024)
Elīna Luīze VĪTOLA (Latvia) Member	31 December 2026 (elected for 2 years, renewable once)	101st CDDH meeting (November 2024)
<i>Position vacant</i>	31 December 2025	102nd CDDH meeting (June 2025)
CHAIRPERSONS		
<b>"46 + 1"</b> Tonje MEINICH (Norway)		92nd CDDH meeting (November 2019)
<b>CDDH-IA</b> Alfonso BREZMES (Spain)		99th CDDH meeting (November 2023)
<b>CDDH-ELI</b> Hans-Jörg BEHRENS (Germany)		99th CDDH meeting (November 2023)
<b>CDDH-PTS</b> Elīna Luīze VĪTOLA (Latvia)		1st CDDH-PTS meeting (March 2025)
<b>DH-PDA</b> Tonje MEINICH (Norway)		102nd CDDH meeting (June 2025)

## Appendix VIII

### **Calendar**

*As adopted (for the second semester 2025) and approved (for the first semester 2026)  
by the CDDH at its 102nd meeting (25–27 June 2025)*

01 – 02/07/2025	<a href="#"><u>1st meeting of the Drafting Committee on Human Rights and Drugs / 1<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité de rédaction sur les droits humains dans les politiques en matière de drogues</u></a> (DH-PDA)
09 – 11/09/2025	1st meeting of the Drafting Committee on human rights and the environment / <i>1<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité de rédaction sur les droits humains et l'environnement</i> (DH-ENV) <sup>4</sup>
23 – 25/09/2025	<a href="#"><u>2nd meeting of the Drafting Group on the safe third country concept / 2<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur la notion de pays tiers sûr</u></a> (CDDH-PTS)
01 – 02/10/2025	<a href="#"><u>5th meeting of the Consultation of the Parties to the Tromsø Convention / 5<sup>e</sup> réunion de la Consultation des Parties à la Convention de Tromsø</u></a>
07 – 09/10/2025	<a href="#"><u>5th meeting of the Drafting Group on human rights and artificial intelligence / 5<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur les droits humains et l'intelligence artificielle</u></a> (CDDH-IA)
14 – 16/10/2025	<a href="#"><u>5th meeting of the Drafting Group on the eradication of impunity for serious human rights violations / 5<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur l'élimination de l'impunité pour les violations graves des droits humains</u></a> (CDDH-ELI)
28 – 30/10/2025	2nd meeting of the Drafting Committee on human rights and the environment / <i>2<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité de rédaction sur les droits humains et l'environnement</i> (DH-ENV) <sup>5</sup>
03 – 05/11/2025	<a href="#"><u>10th meeting of the Council of Europe Access Info Group / 10<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe Accès à l'information du Conseil de l'Europe</u></a> (AIG)
13 – 14/11/2025	<a href="#"><u>114th meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Human Rights / 114<sup>e</sup> réunion du Bureau du Comité directeur pour les droits humains</u></a> (CDDH-BU)
19 – 21/11/2025	<a href="#"><u>3rd meeting of the Drafting Group on the safe third country concept / 3<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur la notion de pays tiers sûr</u></a> (CDDH-PTS)
24 – 27/11/2025	<a href="#"><u>103rd meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights / 103<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité directeur pour les droits humains</u></a> (CDDH)

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<sup>4</sup> Meeting subject to the Committee of Ministers having taken the decisions necessary for the activation of the mandate of the DH-ENV / *Réunion sous réserve que le Comité des Ministres ait pris les décisions nécessaires à l'activation du mandat du DH-ENV.*

<sup>5</sup> Meeting subject to the Committee of Ministers having taken the decisions necessary for the activation of the mandate of the DH-ENV / *Réunion sous réserve que le Comité des Ministres ait pris les décisions nécessaires à l'activation du mandat du DH-ENV.*

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- 17 – 18/12/2025 [2nd meeting of the Drafting Committee on Human Rights and Drugs / 2<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité de rédaction sur les droits humains dans les politiques en matière de drogues](#) (DH-PDA) <sup>6</sup>
- 13 – 15/01/2026 3rd meeting of the Drafting Committee on human rights and the environment / 3<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité de rédaction sur les droits humains et l'environnement (DH-ENV)
- 03 – 05/02/2026 [4th meeting of the Drafting Group on the safe third country concept / 4<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur la notion de pays tiers sûr](#) (CDDH-PTS)
- 09 – 13/02/2026 [11th meeting of the Council of Europe Access Info Group / 11<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe Accès à l'information du Conseil de l'Europe](#) (AIG)
- 17 – 19/03/2026 1st meeting of the Drafting Group on the system of the European Convention on Human Rights / 1<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur le système de la Convention européenne des droits de l'homme (CDDH-SYSC) <sup>7</sup>
- 31/03 – 02/04/2026 1st meeting of the Drafting Group on the protection of the right of vote / 1<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur la protection du droit de vote (CDDH-VOTE) <sup>8</sup>
- 13 – 17/04/2026 [12th meeting of the Council of Europe Access Info Group / 12<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe Accès à l'information du Conseil de l'Europe](#) (AIG)
- 11 – 13/05/2026 4th meeting of the Drafting Committee on human rights and the environment / 4<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité de rédaction sur les droits humains et l'environnement (DH-ENV) <sup>9</sup>
- 27 – 29/05/2026 [1st meeting of the Drafting Group on the eradication of impunity for serious human rights violations \(follow-up\) / 1<sup>e</sup> réunion du Groupe de rédaction sur l'élimination de l'impunité pour les violations graves des droits humains \(suites\)](#) (CDDH-ELI/2) <sup>10</sup>
- 11 – 12/06/2026 [115th meeting of the Bureau of the Steering Committee for Human Rights / 115<sup>e</sup> réunion du Bureau du Comité directeur pour les droits humains](#) (CDDH-BU)
- 30/06 – 03/07/2026 [104th meeting of the Steering Committee for Human Rights / 104<sup>e</sup> réunion du Comité directeur pour les droits humains](#) (CDDH)

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<sup>6</sup> Dates agreed by the DH-PDA at its 1st meeting / Dates convenues par le DH-PDA lors de sa 1<sup>e</sup> réunion

<sup>7</sup> Proposed new drafting group mandated to prepare deliverables 14 & 15 under the CDDH terms of reference for 2024 – 2027 / Proposition d'un nouveau groupe de rédaction chargé de préparer les livrables 14 et 15 dans le cadre du mandat du CDDH pour 2024 - 2027.

<sup>8</sup> Proposed new drafting group, subject to Committee of Ministers decisions on the mid-term review of the CDDH terms of reference for 2024 – 2027 / Proposition d'un nouveau groupe de rédaction, sous réserve des décisions du Comité des Ministres sur l'examen à mi-parcours du mandat du CDDH pour 2024 - 2027.

<sup>9</sup> Meeting subject to the Committee of Ministers having taken the decisions necessary for the activation of the mandate of the DH-ENV / Réunion sous réserve que le Comité des Ministres ait pris les décisions nécessaires à l'activation du mandat du DH-ENV.

<sup>10</sup> Proposed new drafting group mandated to prepare deliverable 11 under the CDDH terms of reference for 2024 – 2027, subject to the results of deliverable 8 / Proposition d'un nouveau groupe de rédaction chargé de préparer le livrable 11 dans le cadre du mandat du CDDH pour 2024 – 2027, sous réserve des résultats du livrable 8 .