

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Strasbourg, 25 November 2025

CDBIO / Abr RAP 8

**STEERING COMMITTEE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS
IN THE FIELDS OF BIOMEDICINE AND HEALTH (CDBIO)**

8th meeting

18-20 November 2025

Abridged report¹

¹ The full report of the meeting, including the list of participants, is available from the Secretariat (doc. CDBIO/RAP8).

Opening of the meeting and adoption of the agenda

The Steering Committee for Human Rights in the fields of Biomedicine and Health (CDBIO) held its 8th meeting in Strasbourg from 18 to 20 November 2025. The meeting was chaired by Tomas Dolezal (Czechia).

The agenda of the meeting is contained in the Appendix.

Rafael Benitez, Director of Social rights, Health and Environment, addressed the CDBIO at the opening of the meeting.

List of items for information of the Committee of Ministers

The CDBIO:

- Welcomed the outcome of the [Conference on health protection](#) held on 15 October 2025 and the key priorities for action identified.
- Welcome the outcome of the workshop on human rights and neurotechnologies that it has organised on 18 November 2025, which will now be presented in the report to be prepared by the three rapporteurs designated respectively by the CDDH, the T-PD and the CDBIO.
- Approved its new Strategic Plan (2026-2030) subject to some editorial changes by the Secretariat, in coordination with the Chair of the Drafting Group and CDBIO Chair.
- Agreed on the final report of the Strategic Action Plan (2020-2025), subject to some editorial changes by the Secretariat, in coordination with the Chair; entrusted the Secretariat, in coordination with the Chair, to finalise the report on the impact of the SAP (2020-2025) and to append it to the final report before its presentation to the Committee of Ministers.
- Took note of the information provided by the Secretariat concerning the Framework Convention on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights, Democracy and the Rule of Law and welcomed the invitation to collaborate in its implementation.
- Welcomed the perspective of addressing a case of AI use in the health field at the 2026 Huderia Academy.
- Designated Siobhan O'Sullivan (Ireland) and Aurélia Schwander (Luxembourg), as rapporteurs on AI.
- Welcomed the outcomes of the [10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth](#), held in Malta on 9 October 2025, namely the "Final Declaration" of the Conference of Ministers and the "Resolution on the Council of Europe Reference Framework on a Youth Perspective", presented by the Chairs of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ), respectively.
- Took note of the proposals, by its rapporteur, to integrate youth perspectives in the implementation of the Strategic Plan 2026-2030.
- Welcomed the information provided by Italy on the Conference on health literacy and human rights, to be held in Rome, on 5 December 2025.
- Welcomed the project of the Conference on children and social network considered by the CDENF in cooperation with the CDBIO, under Monaco Presidency of the Committee of Ministers in June 2026.

- Elected:
 - o As Chair, Tomas Dolezal (Czechia) for a new term of one year
 - o As Vice-Chair, Luisa Borgia (San Marino) for a term of one year
 - o As Bureau members, Sanne Van Weezel (Netherlands) for a new term of two years and Maija Miettinen (Finland) for a term of two years.
- Took note of the information provided by its representatives on the work progress in other Council of Europe committees where the CDBIO is represented.
- Following an exchange on its name, agreed not to consider any change.
- Adopted, by written procedure, the decisions of its 8th meeting.
- Agreed to hold the next meetings on:
 - o 9th plenary meeting: 2-5 June 2026, in Strasbourg
 - o 10th plenary meeting: 17-20 November 2026, in Strasbourg

Appendix
Agenda

Tuesday 18 November 2025 (09.00-18.00)	
Workshop on human rights and neurotechnologies	
Wednesday 19 November 2025 (9.30-18.00)	
	<p>1. Opening and adoption of the draft agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">○ Opening address by Rafael Benitez, Director for Social Rights, Health and Environment, on the outcome of the Conference on the Protection of Health (15 October 2025)
	<p>2. Neurotechnologies and human rights</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Short exchange on the outcome of the workshop held on 18 November 2025</i>
	<p>3. Strategic Action Plan</p> <p>a. SAP (2020-2025)</p> <p><i>Objective: Finalisation of the final report of the SAP including impact assessment</i></p> <p>b. Strategic Plan on Human Rights in Biomedicine and Health (2026-2030)</p> <p><u>Objectives:</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- <i>Approval of the Strategic Plan (2026-2030)</i>- <i>Agreement on the approach for the definition of the actions under each strategic objective</i>- <i>Where time allowed, preliminary discussion on possible actions</i>
	<p>4. Artificial Intelligence</p> <p><u>Objective:</u> <i>Presentation of the HUDERIA academy 2026</i></p>

5. Youth perspectives

Objective: Presentation of the newly adopted reference framework for a youth perspective

6. Other business

a. Access to origins

Objective: Brief report on the outcome of the meeting of the Committee of Experts on Access to Origins (CJ-OR)

In charge of developing a draft Recommendation on access to origin for children born out of gametes/embryo donation

b. Human Rights and drug policies

Objective: Brief report on the outcome of the first meeting of the Drafting Committee on Human Rights and Drug Policies (DH-PDA)

In charge of developing a draft Recommendation on bringing human rights to the heart of drug and addiction policies

c. Organ transplantation

Objective: Brief report on the last meeting of the European Committee on organ transplantation (CD-P-TO)

d. Human rights in mental health care

Objectives:

- Update on the examination process of the legal instruments by the Committee of Ministers
- Update on HELP course on mental health and human rights

e. Guide to children's participation in decisions about their health

Objective: Update of follow-up activities

f. Health literacy

Objective: Information on the 3rd Conference on health literacy and human rights, 5 December 2025 in Rome

g. Action Plan Armenia

Objective: Information on the progress made in the cooperation activities

h. Events foreseen in 2026

7. Bureau elections

Objectives:

- *Election of the Chair and Vice Chair (the Chair and Vice Chair first term is ending. The Chair is re-eligible for second term of one year. The Vice-Chair is not running for re-election as she is leaving the CDBIO)*
- *Subject to the outcome of the election of the Chair and Vice Chair, election of one Bureau member*

8. Dates of the next meetings

- *9th meeting of the CDBIO: 2-5 June 2026, Strasbourg*
- *10th meeting of the CDBIO: 17-20 November 2026, Strasbourg*

9. Adoption of decisions taken by the CDBIO at its 8th meeting

Objective: *Approval of the abridged meeting report*