

SECRETARIAT

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## To the members of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 21 March 2024

The **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media**, meeting in Paris on Thursday 21 March 2024 from 9.00 am to 5.30 pm, with Ms Linda Hofstad Helleland (Norway, EPP/CD), then Mr Birgir Thórarinnsson (Iceland, EPP/CD), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson, in the chair,

**Thursday 21 March 2024, 9 am to 12.00 pm**, as regards:

- **Opening:**
  - agreed to a request from 4 interpretation students from ESIT (Ecole Supérieure d'Interprètes et de Traducteurs, Paris) to follow the meeting from the interpretation booths,
  - agreed to a request from Mr Ričards Šlesers (Latvia, NR) to film the hearing on “Risks and opportunities of the Metaverse” to produce a short video in cooperation with the rapporteur;
- **Online education and special education needs of children with disabilities and learning difficulties** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pavlo Sushko, Ukraine, EC/DA*): following the rapporteur's request, agreed to change the title in English to “Quality education for children with special education needs: challenges of the pandemic, war and digitalisation”, and the title in French to « Un enseignement de qualité pour les enfants ayant des besoins éducatifs spéciaux : les défis posés par la pandémie, la guerre et le numérique »; and considered a preliminary draft report;
- **The role of sites of remembrance: places of commemoration and education for democratic citizenship** (*Rapporteur: Ms Luz Martínez Seijo, Spain, SOC*): held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Rafal Rogulski, Director of the European Network Remembrance and Solidarity (ENRS), Poland;
- **Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace** (*Rapporteur: Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk, Ukraine, ALDE*): considered a preliminary draft report and held a hearing with the participation of Mr Thomas de Waal, Senior Fellow at Carnegie Europe, journalist and writer on the Caucasus, United Kingdom (online); and Mr Robert Pickard, expert in cultural heritage law, United Kingdom;
- **Follow-up to the Reykjavík Declaration: Youth participation in the Committee's work**: held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Eric Guiochon, President of the Federation for Diplomacy and the United Nations, France;

- **Composition of the sub-committees:** approved the following changes:

Sub-Committee on Culture, Education and Democratic Values

- Mr Evripidis Stylianidis (Greece, EPP/CD) becomes full member, replacing Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos who has left the committee,
- Mr George Papandreou (Greece, SOC) becomes alternate to Mr Evripidis Stylianidis;

Sub-Committee on Youth and the Society of the Future

- Ms Ester Mieli (Italy, EC/DA) becomes alternate to Mr Simone Billi;

Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society

- Mr Andrius Vyšniauskas (Lithuania, EPP/CD) becomes full member,
- Ms Rita Tamašunienė (Lithuania, EC/DA) becomes alternate to Mr Andrius Vyšniauskas,
- Mr Evripidis Stylianidis (Greece, EPP/CD) becomes alternate to Ms Liana Kanelli, replacing Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos who has left the committee;

- **Committee work programme**

**References to the committee and appointment of rapporteurs:** appointed Ms Valentina Grippo (Italy, ALDE) rapporteur on *Public regulation of the freedom of expression on digital platforms*, to replace Ms Catarina Rocha Ferreira (Portugal, EPP/CD) who resigned from her role as rapporteur, and heard her declaration of absence of conflict of interests;

**Reports on recent meetings:** heard from:

- Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur on *Countering SLAPPs: An Imperative for a Democratic Society*, about his participation in the 24<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society (CDMSI) on 30 November 2023,
- Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC), former representative to ECRI, about her participation in 93<sup>rd</sup> plenary meeting of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), on 6 December 2023, in Strasbourg,
- Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), member of the *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau of the Assembly and guest-speaker, about his participation in the conference “Money and Democracy – an Uneasy Relationship”, on 7-8 December 2023, Cologne, Germany,
- Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), General Rapporteur on Governance and Ethics in Sport, and Ms Linda Hofstad Helleland (Norway, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the committee, about their participation in the conference “Play the Game 2024”, on 4-6 February 2024 in Trondheim, Norway;

**Appointment of representatives for forthcoming events:**

approved, with no costs to the Assembly, the participation of:

- Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Youth and the Society of the Future, and Ms Sona Ghazaryan (Armenia, ALDE), Rapporteur on *The role of youth in revitalising democracy*, in an online meeting of the Council of Europe Youth Advisory Council on 8 April 2024,
- Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, NR), in the EMYA2024 Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony from 2 to 4 May 2024 in Portimão, Portugal,
- Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC) in the 12<sup>th</sup> European Remembrance Symposium on 21-24 May 2024, in Warsaw, Poland;

approved, subject to the availability of funds, the participation of:

- Ms Mia Karamehić-Abazović (Bosnia and Herzegovina, NR), the committee’s representative to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), in ECRI’s 94<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting on 9-11 April 2024 in Strasbourg, France,
- Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC), to replace the representative of the Committee for the Council of Europe Museum Prize, at the EMYA2024 Annual Conference and Awards Ceremony on 2-4 May 2024 in Portimão, Portugal;

- **Proposal to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau for PACE participation in the Council of Europe Parliamentary Conference on "Promoting safety, integrity, equality and inclusion in sport" (4-5 November 2024, Athens, Greece):** upon the request by Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), General Rapporteur on Governance and Ethics in Sport, agreed to ask the Bureau to set up an *ad hoc* Committee for PACE participation in the Parliamentary Conference on "Promoting safety, integrity, equality and inclusion in sport";
- **Communication from the Chairperson of the Committee:**
  - heard information about the Committee meeting at the Parliament of Denmark in Copenhagen on Monday 27 and Tuesday 28 May 2024,
  - took note of the call for nominations for the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2024;

### From 2 pm

- **Committee work programme:**

**Appointment of representatives for forthcoming events:** approved, subject to the availability of funds, the participation of Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur on *Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace*, in the UNESCO International Conference "Cultural Heritage and Peace: Building on 70 years of the Hague Convention" on 13-15 May 2024, at The Hague, Netherlands;
- **Propaganda and freedom of information in Europe (Rapporteur: Ms Tonia Antoniazzi, United Kingdom, SOC):** considered an information memorandum and held a hearing with the participation of Ms Eliška Pírková, Global freedom of expression lead, Senior Policy Analyst, Access Now, Belgium; Ms Artemiza-Tatiana Chisca, Head of Freedom of Expression and CDMSI Division, DGII: Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe;
- **Risks and opportunities of the Metaverse (Rapporteur: Mr Andi-Lucian Cristea, Romania, SOC):** considered and declassified an expert report, and held a hearing with the participation of Mr Martin Signoux, Public Policy Manager, Immersive technology, Metaverse and AI policy, META, Paris; and Mr Patrick Penninckx, Head of Digital Development and Governance Department, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe;
- **Olympic Movement and peacekeeping: is sport neutrality serving sport values? (Rapporteur: Ms Denisa Elena Neagu, Romania, ALDE):** considered an introductory memorandum; held a hearing with the participation of Mr Jean-Pierre Siutat, Vice-President of the French National and Olympic Sports Committee (CNOSF) in charge of international relations; and approved the rapporteur's request to seek the assistance of Mr Luigi Melica, Professor of Comparative Public Law, University of Salento, Italy, in the preparation of her report;
- **Assembly's institutional representation:** designated, for their appointment by the Bureau of the Assembly, the following representatives to the Europa Nostra - Pan-European Federation for Heritage:
  - Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC) as representative and heard her declaration of absence of conflict of interests,
  - Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, NR) as substitute and heard his declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- **Next meetings:** took note that the next committee meeting will be held during the 2<sup>nd</sup> part-session of the Assembly, on 15-19 April 2024, in Strasbourg.

### Thursday 21 March 2024, 12.00 am to 12.30 pm (meetings of the sub-committees)

**The Sub-Committee on Culture, Education and Democratic Values** (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media), meeting in Paris on Thursday 21 March 2024 from 12 pm to 12.10 pm, with Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), the oldest member present, then Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC), in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee:** decided to hold the election and elected by acclamation:
  - Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC), Chairperson,
  - Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, NR), Vice-Chairperson;
- **Next meeting:** decided to leave it to the Chairperson to call the next meeting.

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**The Sub-Committee on Youth and the Society of the Future** (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media), meeting in Paris on Thursday 21 March 2024 from 12.10 pm to 12.20 pm, with Mr Constantinos Efstathiou (Cyprus, SOC), the oldest member present, then Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee:** elected by acclamation:
  - Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), Chairperson,
  - Ms Sona Ghazaryan (Armenia, ALDE), Vice-Chairperson;
- **Next meeting:** decided to leave it to the Chairperson to call the next meeting.

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**The Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society** (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media), meeting in Paris on Thursday 21 March 2024 from 12.20 pm to 12.30 pm, with Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), the oldest member present, in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee:** elected by acclamation:
  - Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC), Chairperson,
  - Ms Karin Brouwers (Belgium, EPP/CD), Vice-Chairperson;
- **Other business:** took note that the Chairperson was considering inviting the sub-committee to Edinburgh, after the summer break and warmly welcomed this initiative;
- **Next meeting:** decided to leave it to the Chairperson to call the next meeting.

Roberto Fasino, Dana Karanjac, Silvia Arzilli, Marc Gruber

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cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Director of Communication  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe