



SECRETARIAT

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11 December 2023

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

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 4 and 5 December 2023

The **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media**, meeting in Paris on Monday 4 December 2023 from 9 am to 5.30 pm and on Tuesday 5 December 2023 from 9 am to 4.00 pm, with Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE) and Mr Rafael Huseynov (Azerbaijan, ALDE) in the chair,

#### **Monday 4 December 2023, 9 am – 12.30 pm**, as regards:

- **Opening**: agreed to the participation of Mr David Nezer, Deputy Chief of Mission of the Permanent Delegation of Israel to the Multilateral Organizations in France, in the meeting as an observer;
- **Minutes**: approved the minutes of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 10 and 12 October 2023;
- **Countering SLAPPs: an imperative for a democratic society** (*Rapporteur: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC*): approved two amendments proposed by the rapporteur to the draft resolution and agreed to table them as committee amendments in accordance with Rule 34.1;
- **Online education and special education needs of children with disabilities and learning difficulties** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pavlo Sushko, Ukraine, EC/DA*): considered an introductory memorandum and held an exchange of views with the online participation of Ms Judith Hollenweger Haskell, Zürich, Switzerland;
- **Guaranteeing media freedom and the safety of journalists: an obligation of member States** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mogens Jensen, Denmark, SOC*): took note of the explanatory memorandum and that Ms Zeynep Yildiz (Türkiye, NR) would present a dissenting opinion in accordance with Rule 50.4; then adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, thereby approving the report;
- **Propaganda and freedom of speech in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Tonia Antoniazzi, United Kingdom, SOC*): agreed to the request from the rapporteur to change the title to "Propaganda and freedom of information in Europe"; and held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Andrey Rikhter, Professor Researcher, Department of Journalism, Faculty of Arts, Comenius University Bratislava, Slovak Republic; Ms Katarína Klingová, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Democracy & Resilience, GLOBSEC Policy Institute, Bratislava, Slovak Republic; and Mr Craig Matasick, Team Lead, Information Integrity, Public Governance Directorate, OECD;

#### **Monday 4 December 2023, 2 pm – 5.30 pm**, as regards:

- **Priorities of the committee and proposals for new reports in 2024**:
  - considered a memorandum by the Chairperson of the committee; agreed to change the terms of reference of the sub-committees, as they appear in Appendix I to the present synopsis, in line with the strategic priorities specified in the Reykjavík Declaration; therefore, the sub-committees will be reconstituted in 2024 as follows:
    - Sub-Committee on Culture, Education and Democratic Values
    - Sub-Committee on Youth and the Society of the Future
    - Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society

- agreed to ask the Bureau to establish a General Rapporteur on Governance and Ethics in Sport, with the terms of reference which appear in Appendix II to the present synopsis;

- **Committee work programme**

**Draft motions for resolutions and recommendations:**

- decided to prioritise two draft motions for a resolution on:
  - *Socialising at schools: for an inclusive education fostering democratic values* presented by Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC) (with an aim to replace the motion for a recommendation on *Socialising at schools, a means for students' well-being*, Doc. 15702) and
  - *Media concentration and threats to media pluralism and independence*, presented by Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC);

in the absence of the requisite quorum to table them according to Rule 25.2, expressed support for the two draft motions, and encouraged members to sign them;

- endorsed two other draft motions for a resolution on:
  - *Preserving European rural culture and heritage*, presented by Ms Zeynep Yildiz (Türkiye, NR), and
  - *Media freedom in sport*, presented by Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC),

and asked the Secretariat to include them in the agenda of its meeting in either March or April 2024.

- **Cultural heritage and climate change** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andries Gryffroy, Belgium, NR*): held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Isabelle Palmi, Director of ICOMOS France; took note of the explanatory memorandum and then adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, thereby approving the report;
- **Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace** (*Rapporteur: Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk, Ukraine, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum and held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Kristin Hausler, Chairperson of the Committee on Safeguarding Cultural Heritage in Armed Conflict, International Law Association (ILA);

**Tuesday 5 December 2023, 9 am to 12.15 pm, as regards:**

- **Council of Europe Museum Prize** (*Representative of the committee for the Museum prize of the Council of Europe: Mr Constantinos Efstathiou, Cyprus, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Mathieu Viau-Courville (Luxembourg), member of the Jury for the Museum Prize, and decided to award the Museum Prize for 2024 to the Sybir Memorial Museum, Bialystok, Poland;

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

Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society:

- Mr Olivier Bitz (France, ALDE) becomes full member;
- Mr François Bonneau (France, ALDE) becomes full member;

- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers and follow-up by the committee:**

- took note of the reply from the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 2249 (2023) on “The Cultural Routes of the Council of Europe: a platform for intercultural dialogue” and asked the rapporteur, Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, NR), to prepare an analysis with, if necessary, proposals for follow-up, and report back to the committee;
- took note of the reply from the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 2250 (2023) on “Promoting online education and research across national borders” and asked the Chairperson of the future Sub-Committee on Culture, Education and Democratic Values to prepare an analysis with, if necessary, proposals for follow-up, and report back to the committee;

**References for consultation:** decided to reply to the Bureau that the motion for a recommendation on “*Socialising at schools, a means for students' well-being*” could be referred to the committee for information, bearing in mind that a new motion for a resolution on “*Socialising at schools: for an inclusive education fostering democratic values*” has been circulated for signature with a view to tabling it;

- **Declaration of absence of conflict of interests:** heard the declarations of absence of conflict of interests by Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE):
  - as committee representative to the Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment and
  - as rapporteur for opinion on “*Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly*” (Rapporteur: Mr Anastasios Chatzivasileiou, Greece, EPP/CD);
- **Other business:**
  - took note of the call for nominations for the 2024 Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment;
  - agreed with a proposal of Mr Constantinos Efstathiou and Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos to resume the discussion on the situation of the Hagia Sophia monument in Istanbul (Türkiye), registered on the UNESCO World Heritage list, and to hold an exchange of views with the Director of the UNESCO World Heritage Centre at a subsequent meeting in 2024;
- **Risks and opportunities of the Metaverse** (Rapporteur: Mr Andi-Lucian Cristea, Romania, SOC): considered an expert report and held a hearing with the participation of Ms Verity McIntosh, Researcher, Senior lecturer in virtual and extended realities at the University of the West of England, Bristol, and member of the Digital Cultures Research Centre, United Kingdom; and Ms Cristina Voinea, Hosted Research Fellow, Oxford Uehiro Centre for Practical Ethics, Faculty of Philosophy, University of Oxford, United Kingdom;

**Appointment of representatives for forthcoming events:** approved the participation, at no cost for the Assembly, of Mr Andi-Lucian Cristea (Romania, SOC), as Rapporteur on “*Risks and opportunities of the Metaverse*”, in the Central Eastern European Innovation Day on 12 December 2023 in Warsaw, Poland;

**Tuesday 5 December 2023, 2 pm – 4 pm**, as regards:

- **Olympic movement and peacekeeping: is sport neutrality serving sport values?** (Rapporteur: Ms Denisa Elena Neagu, Romania, ALDE): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Luigi Melica, Professor of Comparative Public Law, University of Salento, Italy; and Mr Bernard Hilgers, Treasurer of the European Olympic Academies (EOA);
- **Next meetings:** took note of the planning of committee meetings in 2024 and confirmed that the next committee meeting will be held on 22-26 January 2024 in Strasbourg.

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The Sub-Committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media) meeting in Paris on Tuesday, 5 December 2023 from 12:15 p.m. to 12:30 p.m., with Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC), Vice-Chairperson, in the chair.

as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee:** elected by acclamation Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC) Chairperson.
- **Other business:** heard the proposal of the Chairperson to hold a joint meeting of the future sub-committees responsible for culture, education and youth in Spain, in October 2024

Roberto Fasino, Dana Karanjac, Silvia Arzilli, Marc Gruber

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cc: Secretary General of the Assembly  
Directors 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

## APPENDIX I: NEW TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE SUB-COMMITTEES

### ***Terms of reference of the Sub-Committee on Culture, Education and Democratic Values (AS/Cult/CED)***

1. The sub-committee shall consider the role of culture, heritage and education in reinforcing human rights, democratic citizenship and social cohesion, in the context of the roadmap outlined in the Reykjavík Declaration of 17 May 2023 and taking account of the Resolution on the renewal of the civic mission of education, adopted on 29 October 2023 by the Council of Europe Standing Conference of Ministers of Education and of the Final Declaration “Creating our future: creativity and cultural heritage as strategic resources for a diverse and democratic Europe” adopted by the Council of Europe Conference of Ministers of Culture in April 2022.
2. The sub-committee shall in particular consider:
  - 2.1. the modernisation of culture and education policies, to ensure access to culture and quality education for all, as preconditions for human development, civil society empowerment, and adherence to democratic values;
  - 2.2. the development of innovative tools, synergies and partnerships of cultural, heritage and education institutions, to uphold cultural vitality, develop mutual understanding and promote respect for diversity;
  - 2.3. the mainstreaming of culture and education in other policy areas, to support the integration of people who feel vulnerable or marginalised, tackle the challenges raised by uncertainty about the future, mistrust and eroded civic bonds, and increase societal resilience to crises and capability to adapt to rapid transformations;
  - 2.4. the promotion of innovative Council of Europe legal instruments and tools, including the Reference Framework of Competences for Democratic Culture and the Framework Convention on the Value of Cultural Heritage for Society (Faro Convention), and their broadened use to strengthen adherence to democratic values and processes in member States.
3. Within its sphere of competence, the sub-committee shall support rapporteurs’ and committee work concerning the initiation and preparation of reports, as well as their follow-up; it may perform other tasks mentioned by the General terms of reference applicable to all Assembly committees, as in Resolution 1842 (2011).

### ***Terms of reference of the Sub-Committee on Youth and the society of the future (AS/Cult/Y)***

1. The sub-committee shall consider issues relating to youth policies and meaningful youth engagement in democratic life, in connection with – and taking account of – key societal transformations induced by scientific and technological progress and information society, seeking to identify opportunities and challenges for the society of the future, also in the context of the roadmap outlined in the Reykjavík Declaration of 17 May 2023, and of the Council of Europe Youth sector strategy 2030.
2. The sub-committee shall in particular consider:
  - 2.1. youth empowerment and access to political, social, economic, educational and cultural rights; policy responses to the increasing difficulties experienced by young people in the effective enjoyment of these rights;
  - 2.2. youth participation in policy making and in promoting fundamental values and democratic culture;
  - 2.3. youth engagement in building up inclusive societies; the establishment of a pluralistic democratic space for youth organisations and opportunities for intergenerational dialogue;
  - 2.4. youth and science: working with youth to foster research and innovative thinking in the digital age and steer progress towards sustainable societies.
3. Within its sphere of competence, the sub-committee shall support rapporteurs’ and committee work concerning the initiation and preparation of reports, as well as their follow-up; it may perform other tasks

mentioned by the general terms of reference applicable to all Assembly committees, as laid out in Resolution 1842 (2011). It will also seek to strengthen cooperation with the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth and other youth structures at national and international level.

***Terms of reference of the Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society (AS/Cult/MIS)***

1. The sub-committee shall consider issues related to the freedom of expression and information and deal with the legal, societal, educational, cultural and ethical challenges raised by the development of information and communication technologies (ICT) and of the information society, seeking to identify suitable policy responses at European and/or national levels.
2. The sub-committee shall in particular consider:
  - 2.1. threats to the right to freedom of expression, offline and online, and policy action to counter these threats, including the promotion and support of the Council of Europe Campaign for the Safety of Journalists;
  - 2.2. access to quality information, the transparency of information sources and the fight against the manipulation of information;
  - 2.3. the impact of the use of generative artificial intelligence, coupled with increasingly sophisticated and intrusive profiling methods, on the information flow and the reliability of the information available on the internet;
3. Within its sphere of competence, the sub-committee shall support rapporteurs' and committee work concerning the initiation and preparation of reports, as well as their follow-up; it may perform other tasks mentioned by the General terms of reference applicable to all Assembly committees, as in Resolution 1842 (2011).

## **APPENDIX II: DRAFT TERMS OF REFERENCE OF THE GENERAL RAPPORTEUR ON GOVERNANCE AND ETHICS IN SPORT**

**Denomination:** General Rapporteur on Governance and Ethics in Sport

**Term of office:** one year renewable, subject to a maximum of two years

**Subject:** it is the duty of the General Rapporteur on Governance and Ethics in Sport to consider and intervene on issues relating to sport policies, sport governance and the role of sport as a vector of values and a factor in social cohesion and peace keeping.

### **Responsibilities:**

The role of the General Rapporteur is to:

- follow activities of other Assembly committees and liaise with rapporteurs dealing with sport matters from other perspectives such as: human rights and fundamental freedoms in general, gender equality and non-discrimination, protection of vulnerable groups, fight against organised crime, migration and integration, health, social, cultural, economic, technological and environmental impact;
- ensure sound interaction of committee work in this area with the activities of other committees, seeking possible collaboration and synergies;
- follow activities and maintain working relations with the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS) of the Council of Europe and advise the Committee on emerging issues and relevant work of EPAS and the intergovernmental sector of the Council of Europe;
- follow activities and maintain working relations with major sports organisations and NGOs in the field of sport;
- liaise with national parliaments as well as with relevant international, intergovernmental, inter-parliamentary or other organisations;
- follow up and promote relevant Assembly resolutions and recommendations in his/her domain of work.