



SECRETARIAT

AS/Cult (2023) CB 03

3 May 2023

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

### Synopsis

#### of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 25 and 27 April 2023

The **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media**, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday 25 April 2023 from 8.30 am to 12.30 pm and on Thursday 27 April 2023 from 8.30 am to 11.30 am, with Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE) and Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) in the chair,

**Tuesday 25 April 2023 from 8.30 am to 10.30 am**, as regards:

- ***Declaration of absence of conflict of interests:*** heard the respective declarations of absence of conflict of interests from:
  - Ms Denisa Elena Neagu (Romania, ALDE) rapporteur on “Excluding the athletes and officials of the Russian Federation and Belarus from participating in the international Olympic movement”;
  - Ms Linda Hofstad Helleland (Norway, EPP/CD) General Rapporteur on Science and Technology Impact Assessment;
- ***Publication and exhibition on “Free to Create: Artistic Freedom in Europe”:*** held an exchange of views with Ms Sara Whyatt, Member of the Expert Facility - UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions, and expert for the Directorate of Democratic Participation, DG II - Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe; and Ms Katalin Krasznahorkai, lead curator of the “Free to create, create to be Free” digital exhibition, Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe;
- ***Work Programme***

#### **Appointment of representatives for forthcoming events:**

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

- Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur on “Countering SLAPPs: an imperative for a democratic society”, at the next meeting of the Steering Committee on Media and Information Society of the Council of Europe (CDMSI) on 14-16 June 2023 in Strasbourg;
- Ms Nicole Durantou (France, ALDE), in her role as Vice-Chair of the Sub-committee on Education, Youth and Sport, in the Franco-German Youth meeting entitled “Escalation of Peace” in Tarbes, France on 24 May 2023;
- Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur on “Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace”, in the Conference on “The Nicosia Convention: the criminal justice response to offences relating to cultural property” in Riga on 15-16 June 2023, organised under the Latvian Presidency of the Council of Europe;

**Requests or information from rapporteurs:** approved the request of Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, NR), Rapporteur on “Cultural heritage and climate change”, to seek the assistance of an expert;

- **Museum Prize of the Council of Europe (open to the public):** (Committee representative for the Museum Prize of the Council of Europe: Mr Constantinos Efsthathiou, Cyprus, SOC): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Søren Bak-Jensen, Director of The Workers Museum, Denmark, Winner of the 2023 Museum Prize of the Council of Europe; and Ms Jette Sandahl, President of the European Museum Forum (EMF);

**From 10.30 am to 12.30 pm**, as regards:

- **Excluding the athletes and officials of the Russian Federation and Belarus from participating in the international Olympic movement** (Rapporteur: Ms Denisa Elena Neagu, Romania, ALDE): held a hearing (open to the public) with the participation of Ms Natallia Pinchuk, the wife of jailed Belarusian human rights activist and Havel Prize winner Ales Bialiatski (in person); Ms Amélie Oudéa-Castéra, Minister of Sports and the Olympic and Paralympic Games, France (video message); The Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport, United Kingdom (video message), represented by Mr Adam Conant, Head of Sport - Department for Culture, Media & Sport, United Kingdom; Mr Andriy Chesnokov, Deputy Minister for Youth and Sports of Ukraine for European Integration (online); Ms Alexandra Xanthaki, Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, United Nations (video message); Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti, President of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) (in person); Mr Gerd Kanter, Chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, European Olympic Committees (EOC) Estonia (online); Representatives of the International Olympic Committee (IOC): Mr Arsen Julfalakyan (Armenia), Olympic silver medalist, World and European Champion, Greco-Roman Wrestling, Chair of the United World Wrestling (UWW) Athletes' Commission (in person); Ms Gaby Ahrens (Namibia), Olympian, Shooting, Chair of the Athletes' Commission of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA) (in person);

**Thursday 27 April, from 8.30 am to 10.30 am**, as regards:

- **Minutes:** approved the minutes of the meeting held in Paris on 23 March 2023;
  - **Youth and the media** (Rapporteur: Ms Fiona O'Loughlin, Ireland, ALDE, Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Ruth Jones, United Kingdom, SOC): considered 3 amendments to the draft resolution, and adopted unanimously and tabled 1 written sub-amendment, following a proposal by the Rapporteur;
  - **Countering SLAPPs: an imperative for a democratic society** (Rapporteur: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC)
- and
- **Guaranteeing media freedom and the safety of journalists: an obligation of member States** Rapporteur: Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC):

held a hearing (open to the public) with the participation of Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe (DGI); Mr Jean-Paul Marthoz, Journalist and media expert, Coordinator of the 2023 Report of the Council of Europe Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists; and Ms Maja Sever, President, European Federation of Journalists (EFJ);

- **Committee work programme**

**Reports on recent meetings:** heard from Ms Marijana Balić (Croatia, EPP/CD), about her participation in the launching event of the EU/CoE South Programme V that was held in Lisbon, Portugal, on 13 and 14 March 2023 and in the North-South Centre's Executive Committee meeting (online) on 24 March 2023;

**Draft motion for a resolution:** took note of, and expressed support for a motion for a resolution on *The role of youth in revitalising democracy* and, in the absence of the quorum required to table it, agreed that it could be circulated and signed by members present who so wished;

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

Sub-committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage:

- Ms Valentina Grippo (Italy, ALDE) becomes a full member,

Sub-committee on Education, Youth and Sport:

- Mr Simone Billi (Italy EC/DA) becomes a full member,

Sub-committee on Media and Information Society:

- Mr Fabio Pietrella (Italy EC/DA) becomes a full member,
- Mr David Smoljak (Czech Republic, EPP/CD), who was a full member, becomes the alternate of Mr Jan Lacina (Czech Republic, EPP/CD);

- **Communication from the Chairperson of the committee:** took note of:

- the call for nominations for the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize for 2023;
- the programme of the next World Forum for Democracy, which will be held in Strasbourg on 6-8 November 2023;
- the establishment of an ad-hoc committee of the Bureau for participation in the launch of the Council of Europe Campaign for Safety of Journalists, which will take place on 5-6 October in Riga; and noted the interest of Mr Mogens Jensen and of Mr Constantinos Efstathiou in being designated as members of the ad hoc committee;

- **Next meetings**

decided on the forthcoming meetings of the committee as follows:

1-2 June 2023, London, United Kingdom  
 3<sup>rd</sup> part-session 2023 (19-23 June 2023)  
 4<sup>th</sup> part-session 2023 (9-13 October 2023)  
 4-5 December 2023, Paris

**Thursday 27 April, from 10.30 am to 11.30 am**, as regards:

- **Joint hearing on “Threats to life and safety of journalists and Human rights defenders in Azerbaijan”**(Rapporteur: Ms Hannah Bardell, UK, NR, Rapporteur for opinion (AS/Cult): Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC): held a joint hearing with the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), with the participation of Ms Arzu Geybullayeva, Journalist; Mr Ulvi Hasanli, Founder and Executive Director of AbzasMedia; and Ms Jeanne Cavelier, Head of Eastern Europe & Central Asia Desk, Reporters without borders;

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**The Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport**, meeting in Strasbourg on Thursday 27 April, from 11.30 am to 12.30 pm, with the Sub-Committee on Children (of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development) and the Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), held a hearing on “Exploring AI in schools”, with the participation of Ms Peggy Pelonis, President of the American Community Schools (ACS) of Athens (Greece), students of the ACS: Adrianos, Olympia Ioanna, Eleni, and Hassib (presenting the humanoid Niki), Mr Kristian Bartholin, Head of Digital Development Unit, Council of Europe, and students of the Hans-Furter-Gymnasium of Oberkirch (Germany).

Roberto Fasino, Dana Karanjac, Silvia Arzilli, Marc Gruber

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