



SECRETARIAT

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15 November 2023

## To the members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

### Synopsis

#### of the meeting held in Zagreb on 13 and 14 November 2023

**The Sub-Committee on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights**, meeting in Zagreb on the afternoon of 13 November and morning of 14 November 2023 with first Mr Givi Mikanadze (Georgia, SOC), Chairperson, and then Mr Damien Cottier (Switzerland, ALDE), Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, in the chair, as regards:

- **Welcoming address:** heard welcoming addresses by:
  - Ms Marijana Balić, Head of the Croatian Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe,
  - Mr Ivan Malenica, Minister of Justice and Public Administration,
  - Mr Furio Radin, Deputy Speaker of the Croatian Parliament;
- **Election of the vice-chairperson of the sub-committee:** noted the absence of eligible candidates;
- **Croatian implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights:** held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Štefica Stažnik, Government Agent before the European Court of Human Rights, Croatian Government;

#### **Reykjavik follow-up: The role of the Parliamentary Assembly and national parliamentarians in improving the timely and effective implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights**

- **Holding Governments to account for implementing judgments of the European Court of Human Rights: the role of national parliamentarians and the Parliamentary Assembly:** held a hearing with the participation of:
  - Mr Petr Konůpka, Government Agent of the Czech Republic at the European Court of Human Rights,
  - Ms Simona Drenik Bavdek, Counsellor to the Ombudsman and Assistant Head of the Centre for Human Rights, Slovenia,
  - Ms Clare Brown, Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe;
- **Proposing and driving through the reforms needed to implement judgments of the European Court of Human Rights – the role for parliamentarians:** held a hearing with the participation of:
  - Ms Maja Moračanin, Member of Parliament, North Macedonia,
  - Ms Bojana Nikolin, Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe;
- **The case for a Network of country-specific representatives from the Parliamentary Assembly on the implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights:** heard a statement by Mr Constantinos Efstathiou (Cyprus, SOC) and held an exchange of views;

- **Defamation cases: the need for legislative reform:** held a hearing with the participation of:
  - Ms Ioulietta Bisiouli, Director of the European Implementation Network,
  - Mr Nedim Kulenovic, Department for the Execution of Judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Council of Europe;
- **Hate crime cases: The need for legislation criminalising hate crime and the importance of effective investigations:** held a hearing with the participation of:
  - Ms Andrea Šurina Marton, Deputy Attorney General of Croatia,
  - Ms Nikolina Pilja, Deputy Municipal State Attorney in the Municipal State Attorney's Office in City of Sisak,
  - Mr Ivan Novosel, Director of Programs, Human Rights House Zagreb;
- **Other business:** decided to declassify the information notes concerning defamation and hate crimes; and to update the information note concerning post-Reykjavik follow-up, for discussion at the next meeting of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights;
- **Next meeting:** left it to its chairperson to propose the date of the next meeting.

Guillem Cano-Palomares, Eleanor Hourigan, George Stafford

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