



**AS/Soc (2023) CB05**

23 June 2023

## To the members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

### Synopsis

#### of the meetings held in Strasbourg on 20-22 June 2023

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday, 20 June 2023, at 8.30 am, with first Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter, then Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Türkiye, SOC), Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Public health emergency: the need for a holistic approach to multilateralism and health care** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Türkiye, SOC*): took position on the 15 amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution;
- **Health and social protection of undocumented workers or those in an irregular situation** (*Rapporteur: Ms Ada Marra, Switzerland, SOC*): took position on the 6 amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution and on the amendment which had been tabled to the draft recommendation;
- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
  - appointed a rapporteur as follows:
    - ✓ Promoting universal health coverage (*for report*) – Ms Heike Engelhardt (Germany, SOC)
  - and heard a declaration of absence of conflict of interest from her;
  - appointed Committee representatives to external events as follows (*subject to the availability of funds*):
    - ✓ Meeting of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre, 30 June 2023, Strasbourg and online – Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC)
    - ✓ “The Collective Complaints Procedure: 25 Years in Pursuit of Human Rights and Social Justice”, Department of Social Rights of the Council of Europe, 6 July 2023, Strasbourg – Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
    - ✓ “Decent work: building a sustainable future”, Side Event at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, 14 July 2023, 8-9.30 am, UN Headquarters (Conference Room 2), New York, USA – appointed Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Türkiye, SOC), Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL) and Ms Eka Sepashvili (Georgia, EC/DA) as members of the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau;
    - ✓ World Trade Organization Public Forum 2023, 12-15 September 2023, Geneva, Switzerland – Ms Eka Sepashvili (Georgia, EC/DA)
    - ✓ Working group on governance, European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG), 21-22 September 2023, Strasbourg – (*at no cost to the Assembly*) Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA)
    - ✓ 8<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Drafting Group on Human Rights and Environment (CDDH-ENV), 27-29 September 2023, Strasbourg – Mr Simon Moutquin (Belgium, SOC)
    - ✓ Working group on green public administration (GT-A) European Committee on Democracy and Governance (CDDG), 2-3 October 2023, Strasbourg – Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA)
    - ✓ 45<sup>th</sup> Session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, 25-27 October 2023, Strasbourg – Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA)
    - ✓ Conference on “Promoting person's autonomy in mental health care” and 4<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the Steering committee for human rights in the fields of biomedicine and health (CDBIO), 14 and 15-17 November 2023, Riga, Latvia – Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC)

- ✓ United Nations Climate Change conference – COP28, including the Parliamentary Meeting organised by the IPU, 30 November-12 December 2023, Dubai, UAE (*participation limited to 3 days and subject to Bureau authorisation<sup>1</sup>*) – Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC), Ms Eka Sepashvili (Georgia, EC/DA) and (*at no cost to the Assembly*) Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
- heard back from Committee representatives to external events as follows:
  - ✓ OECD Global Parliamentary Network Meeting, 4-5 April 2023, Paris – Ms Eka Sepashvili (Georgia, EC/DA)
  - ✓ 6<sup>th</sup> Plenary meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the MEDICRIME Convention, 10-12 May 2023, Strasbourg – Mr Bob van Pareren (Netherlands, EC/DA)
  - ✓ 38<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Lanzarote Committee, 30 May-2 June 2023, Strasbourg and online – Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
- **World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 6-8 November 2023:** proposed Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA) for appointment as member of the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to participate in the Forum;
- considered and approved for tabling on behalf of the Committee the following motions for a resolution/recommendation:
  - ✓ Social mobilisation, social unrest, and police reaction in Council of Europe member States: need for a new social contract?, proposed by Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL)
  - ✓ Mainstreaming the human right to a safe, clean, healthy, and sustainable environment with the Reykjavík process, proposed by Mr Simon Moutquin (Belgium, SOC)
- took note of the Committee of Ministers' reply to Recommendation 2234 (2022) on "Eradicating extreme child poverty in Europe: an international obligation and a moral duty"
- **Changes in Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:
  - Sub-Committee on European Social Charter**
    - ✓ Ms Bernadeta Coma (Andorra, ALDE) became a full member
  - Sub-Committee on Public Health and Sustainable Development**
    - ✓ Ms Susanna Vela (Andorra, SOC) became a full member
- **Other business:** instructed the Chairperson to send a letter to the President, asking the Bureau for the prolongation of the references by six months for the reports on:
  - ✓ Right of the child to protection while using the internet (Rapporteur: Mr Joseph O'Reilly, Ireland, EPP/CD), and
  - ✓ Towards Council of Europe seas and oceans strategies against the climate crisis (Rapporteur: Ms Yuliia Ovchynnykova, Ukraine, ALDE)
- took note of the call for nominations for the 2023 Václav Havel Prize and of the deadline of 30 June 2023 for the submission of nominations;

**Wednesday, 21 June 2023, at 12 pm**, with Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Türkiye, SOC), Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
  - reappointed Mr Armen Gevorgyan (Armenia, EC/DA) as General Rapporteur on local and regional authorities and heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest;
  - appointed its Chairperson, Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Türkiye, SOC), as Rapporteur *for opinion* on "Globalisation in times of crises and war: The role of the OECD since the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine", following the resignation of Mr Hışyar Özsoy (Türkiye, UEL) as Rapporteur *for opinion*;

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<sup>1</sup> Bureau authorisation was given on 23 June 2023.

- appointed Committee representatives to external events as follows (*subject to the availability of funds*):
  - ✓ 39<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Lanzarote Committee, 26-28 September 2023, Strasbourg – Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC/DA)
- **Preventing addictive behaviours in children** (*Rapporteur: Ms Diana Stoica, Romania, ALDE*): heard a report on the rapporteur's fact-finding visit to Ireland and considered a preliminary draft report;
- **Addressing the social and economic effects of sanctions** (*Rapporteur: Ms Sibel Arslan, Switzerland, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Date and place of next meetings:**

#### Plenary committee

- Tuesday, 19 September 2023, Paris (Council of Europe Office)
- Fourth part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 9-13 October 2023, Strasbourg
- Wednesday, 6 December 2023, Paris (Council of Europe Office)

#### Sub-Committee on children

- Joint meeting with the Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment, Monday 18 September 2023, 2 pm-4.30 pm, Paris (Council of Europe Office) (*to be confirmed*)

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**The Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**, meeting in Strasbourg on Thursday, 22 June 2023, with Mr Christian Petry (Germany, SOC), Sub-Committee Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- held the presentation ceremony of the 2023 European Diplomas, which were awarded to 12 towns: Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), Krefeld (Germany), Markt Kleinwallstadt (Germany), Siegen (Germany), Borriana (Italy), Castagnole delle Lanze (Italy), Gaglianico (Italy), Graglia (Italy), Massazza (Italy), Ponza (Italy), Verrone (Italy), and Kadıköy (Türkiye)
- **Date and place of the next meetings:**
  - 18-19 August 2023, official 2023 Europe Prize presentation ceremony, Bolesławiec, Poland
  - Monday 18 September 2023, 4.30-5.30 pm, Paris (Council of Europe Office)
  - Fourth part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 9-13 October, Strasbourg (*to be confirmed*)

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**The Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment**, meeting in Strasbourg on Thursday, 22 June 2023, with first Mr Rik Daems (Belgium, ALDE), former Network Chairperson, and then Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC), newly elected Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- elected by acclamation Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC) Chairperson and Mr Rik Daems (Belgium, ALDE) Vice-Chairperson;
- held an exchange of views with Mr Michel Forst, UN Special Rapporteur on environmental defenders under the Aarhus Convention;
- held an exchange of views on the follow-up to the 4<sup>th</sup> Summit of the Council of Europe and on the work programme of the Network;
- **Date and place of the next meetings:**
  - Monday 18 September 2023, 9.30 am-4.30 pm, Paris (Council of Europe Office)
  - fourth part-session 2023 of the Assembly, 9-13 October 2023, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)

Tanja Kleinsorge, Aiste Ramanauskaite, Jannick Devaux, Anita Gholami, Guillaume Parent, Prisca Barthel

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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  
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