



AS/Soc (2023) CB03

2 May 2023

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

### Synopsis of the meetings held in Strasbourg on 24-27 April 2023

The Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, meeting in Strasbourg on Monday, 24 April 2023, at 1 pm, with Ms Olena Khomenko (Ukraine, EC/DA), Second Vice-Chairperson of the Committee, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Political strategies to prevent, prepare for, and face the consequences of natural disasters** (*Rapporteur: Mr Simon Moutquin, Belgium, SOC*): heard the rapporteur's report on his fact-finding visit to Türkiye earlier in the month, considered and adopted a draft addendum, and adopted 8 amendments unanimously, and 1 with a large majority to the draft resolution and unanimously adopted 2 amendments to the draft recommendation as proposed by the Rapporteur, and decided to table them on behalf of the Committee;
- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
  - appointed Committee representatives to external events as follows (*subject to the availability of funds*):
    - ✓ 7<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Drafting Group on Human Rights and Environment (CDDH-ENV), 2-5 May 2023, Strasbourg – Mr Rik Daems (Belgium, ALDE) and Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
    - ✓ 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)
    - ✓ European and Mediterranean Major Hazards Agreement (EUR-OPA) 79<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Committee of Permanent Correspondents, 11 May 2023, online – Mr Simon Moutquin (Belgium, SOC) and Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
    - ✓ Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) Regional meeting, Building parliamentary co-operation towards health systems strengthening in the Eastern Europe and Central Asia region, UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health (UNITE), 15–17 May, 2023, Tbilisi, Georgia – Ms Eka Sepashvili (Georgia, 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)
    - ✓ Meeting of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) 31 May - 1 June 2023 – Joint plenary session with the European Committee on Legal co-operation (CDCJ) (date and time tbc, online) – Mr Bob van Pareren (Netherlands, EC/DA)
    - ✓ Strengthening National Child Participation Frameworks and Action in Europe – CP4EUROPE – Final Conference, 6-7 June 2023, Strasbourg – Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC/DA)
  - Proposal to create an *ad hoc* committee to participate in a UN HLPF event, 18 July 2023, New York City, NY (USA): decided to seek the Bureau's approval to apply to organise a side-event on "Decent work: building a sustainable future" on this occasion and to propose to the Bureau to create an *ad hoc* Committee to allow interested parliamentarians to take part in this side-event, subject to UN approval of the proposed side-event;
- **Wednesday, 26 April 2023, at 10.30 am**, with Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Türkiye, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:
  - **Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**: heard a report from Ms Carmen Leyte (Spain, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee, on the meeting held on 25 April 2023, and approved the proposals submitted by the Sub-Committee for the different distinctions (see the Appendix);

- **Deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and other civilians to Russian Federation or to Ukrainian territories temporarily occupied: create conditions for their safe return, stop these crimes and punish the perpetrators** (*Rapporteur: Ms Carmen Leyte, Spain, EPP/CD*): approved an oral opinion;
- **Political strategies to prevent, prepare for, and face the consequences of natural disasters** (*Rapporteur: Mr Simon Moutquin, Belgium, SOC*): took position on the 2 written sub-amendments and 2 amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
- **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
- considered the motion for a resolution on “**The foreseeable wealth gap in the automated future**”, transmitted to the Committee for consultation on possible follow-up, and asked the Chairperson to inform the Bureau of its proposal that, in view of the Committee's heavy workload and its currently on-going work on “**Safeguarding future rights for future generations**”, the motion be referred to it to be taken into account in the preparation of this report;
- heard back from the Committee representatives to external events as follows:
  - ✓ 37<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the Lanzarote Committee, 31 January-2 February 2023, Strasbourg/KUDO – Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
  - ✓ 6<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Drafting Group on Human Rights and Environment (CDDH-ENV), 8-10 February 2023, Strasbourg/KUDO – Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
  - ✓ 1<sup>st</sup> meeting of the Committee of Experts on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law (PC-ENV), 3-4 April, Strasbourg – Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ALDE)
- **Thursday, 27 April 2023, at 10.30 am**, with Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Türkiye, SOC), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:
  - **Committee's work programme and priorities:**
  - heard back from the Committee representatives to external events as follows:
    - ✓ 7<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF), followed by an international Conference on integrated Child protection systems organised by the Icelandic Presidency of the Committee of Ministers, 28-30 March 2023, Reykjavík – Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC/DA)
  - **Safeguarding democracy, rights and the environment in international trade** (*Rapporteur: Mr Geraint Davies, United Kingdom, SOC*): took position on the 7 amendments tabled to the draft resolution and on the 2 amendments tabled to the draft recommendation;
  - **Public health emergency: the need for a holistic approach to multilateralism and health care** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Türkiye, SOC*): held an exchange of views with Mr Timothy Fish Hodgson, Legal Advisor on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Commission of Jurists (ICJ), considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution as amended, with a view to presenting the report for debate during the third part-session 2023 of the Assembly;
  - **Changes in Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:
    - Sub-Committee on Children** - Mr Graziano Pizzimenti (Italy, EC/DA) became a full member with Mr Alessandro Giglio Vigna (Italy, EC/DA) as his alternate
    - Sub-Committee on European Social Charter** - Ms Elena Bonetti (Italy, ALDE) became a full member
    - Sub-Committee on Public Health and Sustainable Development** - Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) became a full member
    - Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize** - Mr Stefano Maullu (Italy, EC/DA) became a full member
  - **Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment:** heard a report from Mr Rik Daems (Belgium, ALDE), Network Chairperson, on the meetings held in Marrakech and Ben Guerir on 17-18 March 2023, and in Strasbourg on 26 April 2023, and endorsed the Statement of the Network on “A safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment: a universal human right” adopted on 26 April 2023;

– **Date and place of next meetings:**

**Plenary committee**

- Monday, 22 May 2023, 9 am-4.15 pm, Paris (Council of Europe Office)
- third part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 19-23 June 2023, Strasbourg
- 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)

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**The Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment**, meeting in Strasbourg on Wednesday, 26 April 2023, with Mr Rik Daems (Belgium, ALDE), Network Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- ***The 4<sup>th</sup> Summit of Heads of State and Government (Reykjavík, Iceland, 16-17 May 2023) – expected deliverables on the right to a healthy environment:*** held an exchange of views with Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and Ambassador Ragnhildur Arnljótsdóttir, Permanent Representative of Iceland to the Council of Europe;
- ***Statement on “A safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment: a universal human right”:*** considered and approved the statement, and transmitted it to the Plenary Committee for endorsement;
- ***Date and place of the next meetings:***
  - Monday, 22 May 2023, 4.15 - 5.30 pm Paris (Council of Europe Office)
  - third part-session 2023 of the Assembly, 19-23 June 2023, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)
  - Monday 18 September 2023, Paris (Council of Europe Office)
  - fourth part-session 2023 of the Assembly, 9-13 October 2023, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*)

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**The Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**, meeting in Strasbourg on Tuesday, 25 April 2023, with Ms Carmen Leyte (Spain, EPP/CD), Sub-Committee Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- ***Europe Prize 2023:*** proposed to award the prize to Bolesławiec (Poland);
- ***Plaques of Honour, Flags of Honour and European Diplomas for 2023:*** proposed to award these distinctions to 23 towns as shown in the Appendix;
- held a discussion on how to improve the visibility of the Europe Prize;
- ***Date and place of the next meetings:***
  - ceremony for the presentation of the 2023 European Diplomas, third part of the 2023 session of the Assembly, 19-23 June 2023, Strasbourg (*date to be confirmed*);
  - 2023 Europe Prize official presentation ceremony, Bolesławiec, Poland (*date to be confirmed*).

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**The Sub-Committee on Children**, in a joint meeting with the Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights (of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights), and the Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media), in Strasbourg on Thursday, 27 April 2023, with Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva (Azerbaijan, EC/DA), Sub-Committee Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- ***“Exploring AI in schools”:*** held a hearing as follows:
  - heard remarks by Mr Constantinos Efstathiou, acting Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport, and Ms Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights;
  - heard a presentation on the humanoid Niki by Ms Peggy Pelonis, President of the American Community Schools (ACS) of Athens (Greece), and students of the ACS: Adrianos, Olympia Ioanna, Eleni, and Hassib;
  - heard a presentation on the Council of Europe work on artificial intelligence and children by Mr Kristian Bartholin, Head of Digital Development Unit, Council of Europe;

- held a discussion with students of the Hans-Furler-Gymnasium of Oberkirch (Germany);
- ***Date and place of the next meeting: to be determined***

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  
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

**Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*****Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize***

**WINNERS OF THE EUROPE PRIZE,  
THE PLAQUE OF HONOUR, THE FLAG OF HONOUR  
AND THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA  
FOR 2023**

**1. EUROPE PRIZE**

The **Europe Prize**, which is the highest distinction, is awarded to:

Poland                      **Bolesławiec** (Lower Silesian Voivodship)

**2. PLAQUES OF HONOUR**

The **Plaque of Honour**, which is the second highest distinction after the Europe Prize, is awarded to six municipalities:

|         |                                                          |
|---------|----------------------------------------------------------|
| Germany | <b>Frankenberg</b> (Hessen)                              |
|         | <b>Monheim am Rhein</b> (North Rhine-Westphalia)         |
| Italy   | <b>Reggio Emilia</b> (Emilia-Romagna)                    |
| Poland  | <b>Ostrów Wielkopolski</b> (Voivodship of Wielkopolskie) |
|         | <b>Płońsk</b> (Mazovian Voivodship)                      |
| Ukraine | <b>Rivne</b> (Rivne Oblast)                              |

**3. FLAGS OF HONOUR**

The **Flag of Honour** is awarded to five municipalities:

|         |                                                     |
|---------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| Germany | <b>Nagold</b> ( <a href="#">Baden-Württemberg</a> ) |
| Spain   | <b>Bilbao</b> (Basque country)                      |
| Türkiye | <b>Beşiktaş</b> (Marmara region)                    |
|         | <b>Kırklareli</b> (Marmara region)                  |
| Ukraine | <b>Chernihiv</b> (Chernihiv Oblast)                 |

#### 4. EUROPEAN DIPLOMAS

The **European Diploma** is awarded to twelve municipalities:

Bosnia and Herzegovina **Sarajevo** (Sarajevo Canton)

Germany **Krefeld** (North Rhine-Westphalia)

**Markt Kleinwallstadt** (Bavaria)

**Siegen** (North Rhine-Westphalia)

Italy **Borriana** (Province of Biella, Piedmont region)

**Castagnole delle Lanze** (Province of Asti, Piedmont region)

**Gaglianico** (Province of Biella, Piedmont region)

**Graglia** (Province of Biella, Piedmont region)

**Massazza** (Province of Biella, Piedmont region)

**Ponza** (Lazio region)

**Verrone** (Province of Biella, Piedmont region)

Türkiye **Kadıköy** (Istanbul province)