

TERMS OF REFERENCE OF ECRI'S WORKING GROUP ON RELATIONS WITH CIVIL SOCIETY AND SPECIALISED BODIES

Preamble

In order to pursue all aspects of its mandate, which extend beyond country monitoring and General Policy Recommendations,

In accordance with its Statute, which provides that ECRI shall adopt its programme which shall include an aspect of relations with civil society (Article 10), develop relations with civil society, have activities aimed at promoting dialogue and mutual respect among the general public and organise awareness-raising and information activities (Article 13),

Following its long-established working methods, aimed at strengthening the link between its three main areas of activity (country monitoring, General Policy Recommendations and relations with civil society), through mutual reinforcement

And recognising the special importance of relations with the specialised bodies entrusted with the fight against racism and racial discrimination at national level,

ECRI sets up a permanent Working Group on Relations with Civil Society and Specialised Bodies, with the following terms of reference and composition:

Terms of Reference

1. The Working Group, subject to the approval of its proposals by ECRI's plenary, shall
 - organise discussions with the specialised bodies entrusted with the fight against racism and racial discrimination as per ECRI's General Policy Recommendations Nos. 2 and 7
 - organise round tables to discuss the findings and recommendations of ECRI's country reports with representatives of the competent authorities and civil society of the member State(s) concerned
 - organise conferences or other appropriate activities on civil-society matters relevant to ECRI's mandate
 - develop and follow up on ECRI's media strategy in order to publicise ECRI's message and work.
2. The Working Group shall perform any other tasks assigned to it by ECRI's plenary.

Composition

3. The Working Group shall consist of five members of ECRI elected by ECRI's plenary for a term of three years, which shall be once renewable.
4. Should a member of the Working Group resign or be unable for any other reason to complete his/her term of office, he/she will be replaced by another ECRI member elected by ECRI's plenary for a new three-year term.
5. The Chair of the Working Group shall be elected by its members.