

AS/Ega (2025) CB 03

10 April 2025

To the members of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Synopsis

of the meetings held in Strasbourg on 8-9 April 2025

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg on 8-9 April 2025, with Ms Catia Polidori (Italy, EPP/CD), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Violent pornography** (*Rapporteur: Ms Laura Castel, Spain, UEL*); *Rapporteur for opinion of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: Mr Joseph O'Reilly, Ireland, EPP/CD*): held a joint hearing with the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, with the participation of:
 - Ms Maree Crabbe, Director, It's Time We Talked, Australia (*online*);
 - Ms Ruth Breslin, Director, The Sexual Exploitation Research and Policy Institute, Ireland;
- **The situation of national minorities in Ukraine** (*Rapporteur: Mr Christophe Lacroix, Belgium, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Artificial intelligence and gender equality: risks and challenges** (*Rapporteur: Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;
- **Promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary and political life** (*Rapporteur: Ms Maryna Bardina, Ukraine, ALDE*): decided to change the title of the report to *Promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary life: gender equality, accessibility and inclusive policies*;
- **Work programme**: took note of the work programme;
- **Equal share of unpaid care work between women and men: a pre-condition to achieving gender equality**: approved a motion for a resolution and decided to table it on its behalf;
- **Call for candidates for report**: called for candidates for the reports on:
 - *Protecting ethnic and religious diversity in Syria* (motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Max Lucks and other members of the Assembly);
 - *The deterioration of women's rights in Afghanistan: a need for global response* (motion for a resolution tabled by Ms Maria Syrengela and other members of the Assembly);
- **Third part-session 2025 of the Assembly**: decided to ask the President to submit to the Bureau a proposal for an urgent procedure debate on *Women's rights in Europe – Progress and challenges*;
- **Appointment of a general rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons**: appointed for a second mandate Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) as General Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI persons;
- **Activities of the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence, the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance and the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe**: heard communications by the General Rapporteurs;

- **Parliamentary Alliance for Good Governance and Integrity in Sport:** appointed Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD) as committee representative to participate in the Alliance;
- **Appointment of representatives:**
 - appointed Ms Sandra Regol (France, SOC) and Mr Mustafa Canbey (Türkiye, NR) to participate in the ad hoc committee of the Bureau of the Assembly established to participate in the parliamentary conference on “Envisioning effective public policy to prevent & address cases of missing migrants” organised as a follow-up to Resolution 2569 (2024) Missing migrants, refugees and asylum seekers – A call to clarify their fate (Strasbourg, 23-24 April 2025) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - appointed Mr Francesco Verducci, General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance to take part in the No Hate Speech Week (Strasbourg, 18 June 2025) (*subject to availability of funds*);
 - appointed Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD) and Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC) to attend the No Hate Speech Week (Strasbourg, 18-20 June 2025) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
- **Reporting back:** heard reports from:
 - Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC), on her participation in the 3rd meeting of the Committee of Experts on Artificial Intelligence, Equality and Discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI) (Strasbourg, 26-27 February 2025);
 - Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD), on his participation in the 19th meeting of the Council of Europe Dialogue with Roma and Traveller civil society (Strasbourg, 2-3 April 2025);
- **Composition of the sub-committees:** took note of the modifications in the composition of the sub-committees as reflected in the changes in the national delegations;
- **Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment:** heard a communication by the Chairperson;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** recalled the deadline of 30 April 2025 for the submission of nominations;
- **Next meetings:** in the framework of the Presidency of Malta of the Committee of Ministers, and at the invitation of the Chairperson of the Maltese Delegation, decided to hold a meeting on 11 September 2025 afternoon, followed by a joint conference with the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe, on “Ensuring equality for rainbow families in Europe”, on 12 September 2025, in Valletta (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly*); and confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Paris, Monday, 12 May 2025;
 - Strasbourg, during the third part-session 2025 of the Assembly (23-27 June 2025);
 - Valletta, 11-12 September 2025 (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly*);
 - Strasbourg, during the fourth part-session 2025 of the Assembly (29 September – 3 October 2025);
 - Paris, Friday, 5 December 2025.

Penelope Denu, Carolina Lasén Diaz, Giorgio Loddo, Elodie Fischer, Louise Morlon

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