



Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

AS/Ega/Inf (2026) 01

8 January 2026

Work programme (2026)

Contents:

| | |
|---|----------|
| 1. Reports debated in 2025 | 2 |
| 1.1. Women in the economy: employment, entrepreneurship and gender budgeting | 2 |
| 1.2. Overcoming age-based discrimination against older persons | 2 |
| 1.3. Promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary life: gender equality, accessibility and inclusive policies | 2 |
| 1.4. Women's rights in Europe – Progress and challenges | 2 |
| 1.5. Sexual violence against men and boys..... | 2 |
| 1.6. Preventing and combating gender discrimination in health | 2 |
| 2. Reports tabled in 2025 | 2 |
| 2.1. For a ban on conversion therapies..... | 2 |
| 3. Reports under preparation | 3 |
| 3.1. The situation of national minorities in Ukraine | 3 |
| 3.2. Countering discrimination based on religion and protecting freedom of religion and belief in Europe..... | 3 |
| 3.3. Enhancing co-operation between parliaments and equality bodies..... | 4 |
| 3.4. Promoting the Istanbul Convention and improving its implementation: building on lessons learnt | 4 |
| 3.5. Violent pornography | 4 |
| 3.6. Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media | 5 |
| 3.7. Artificial intelligence and gender equality: risks and challenges | 5 |
| 3.8. Protecting ethnic and religious diversity in Syria..... | 5 |
| 3.9. The deterioration of women's rights in Afghanistan: a need for global response | 5 |
| 3.10. Paving the way for a culture of consent | 6 |
| 3.11. Equal share of unpaid care work between women and men: a pre-condition to achieving gender equality | 6 |
| 3.12. On the road to parity: supporting young women in politics | 6 |
| 4. Opinions under preparation | 6 |
| 4.1. Review of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic . | 6 |
| 4.2. Violence and hate speech against politicians: a threat to democracy | 6 |
| 4.3. The situation of Ukrainian soldiers who became disabled as a result of hostilities | 7 |
| 4.4. Climate and gender equality – Strengthening the protection of women's rights in the face of climate disruption | 7 |
| 5. Bureau of the committee | 7 |
| 6. General rapporteurs | 7 |
| 7. Sub-committees | 7 |
| 8. Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence | 7 |
| 9. No Hate Parliamentary Alliance | 8 |
| 10. Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe | 8 |
| 11. Meetings in 2025 | 8 |
| 12. The Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment | 9 |
| 13. Secretariat | 9 |
| 14. Website and social media | 9 |

1. Reports debated in 2025

1.1. **Women in the economy: employment, entrepreneurship and gender budgeting**

Rapporteur: Ms Sena Nur Çelik Kanat (Türkiye, NR)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15562](#), Ref. 4668 of 10.10.2022
- Debated during the 1st part-session 2025
- Resulted in [Resolution 2589 \(2025\)](#)

1.2. **Overcoming age-based discrimination against older persons**

Rapporteur: Ms Andrea Eder-Gitschthaler (Austria, EPP/CD)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15735](#), Ref. 4736 of 26.05.2023
- Debated during the 1st part-session 2025
- Resulted in [Recommendation 2291 \(2025\)](#) and [Resolution 2592 \(2025\)](#)

1.3. **Promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary life: gender equality, accessibility and inclusive policies**

Rapporteur: Ms Maryna Bardina (Ukraine, ALDE)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15291](#), Ref. 4590 of 21.06.2021
- Debated during the 3rd part-session 2025
- Resulted in [Resolution 2615 \(2025\)](#)

1.4. **Women's rights in Europe – Progress and challenges**

Rapporteur: Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC)

- Origin: Bureau decision, Reference 4890 of 23 June 2025
- Debated during the 3rd part-session 2025
- Resulted in [Resolution 2614 \(2025\)](#)

1.5. **Sexual violence against men and boys**

Rapporteur: Mr Edmunds Cepurītis, (Latvia, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15805](#), Ref. 4764 of 09.10.2023
- Debated during the 4th part-session 2025
- Resulted in [Resolution 2629 \(2025\)](#)

1.6. **Preventing and combating gender discrimination in health**

Rapporteur: Ms Camilla Fabricius (Denmark, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15806](#), Ref. 4765 of 09.10.2023
- Debated during the Standing Committee meeting on 21 November 2025
- Resulted in [Resolution 2631 \(2025\)](#)

2. Reports tabled in 2025

2.1. **For a ban on conversion therapies**

Former titles: For a ban on so-called conversion therapies; For a ban on so-called conversion practices

Rapporteur: Ms Kate Osborne (United Kingdom, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc.15883](#), Ref. 4786 of 26.01.2024
- To be debated during the 1st part-session 2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 25.06.2024 (Strasbourg) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 05.12.2024 (Paris) | | Mx Cianán B. Russell, Senior Policy Officer, ILGA-Europe, and Ms Lenna Cumberbatch, Co-Chair of Galop, National Helpline for LGBT+ Victims and Survivors of Abuse and Violence, United Kingdom. |
| 02.10.2025 (Strasbourg) | Statement by the rapporteur | |
| 03.12.2025 (Paris) | Draft report | |

3. Reports under preparation

3.1. *The situation of national minorities in Ukraine*

Former title: *The ongoing worsening of the access of Ukraine's national minorities to education in their mother tongues: need for a follow-up to Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2189 (2017) and Violation of the rights of national minorities in Ukraine*

Rapporteur: Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC)

Previous rapporteurs: Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD), Mr Randolph De Battista (Malta, SOC)

- Origin: motions for a resolution, Docs. [15334](#) and [15339](#), Ref. 4603 of 27.09.2021
- Expiry date for adoption: 27.09.2023, extended to 31.12.2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|-------------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 30.11.2021 (hybrid format) | Communication by the rapporteur | |
| 12.05.2022 (Stockholm) | | Exchange of views on "National minorities in Europe" with Ambassador Kairat Abdrakhmanov, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities. |
| 24.03.2023 (Paris) | Communication by the rapporteur | |
| 23.01.2024 (Strasbourg) | | Joint hearing with the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), with the participation of Ms Veronika Bilková, member of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) in respect of Czechia, Vice-President of the Venice Commission, and one of the rapporteurs on the opinion to the Law on National Minorities (Communities), Czechia; Mr Ashot Avanesyan, Chair of the Council of national communities of Ukraine, Ukraine (online); and Ms Olga Stefanishyna, Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Ukraine (online). |
| 09.04.2025 | Introductory memorandum | |
| 30.09.2025 (Strasbourg) | | Joint hearing in camera with the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), with the participation of Mr Christophe Kamp, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities, Mr Hallvard Gorseth, Director of the Directorate of Equal Rights and Dignity, Council of Europe, Mr Ashot Avanesyan, Chair of the Council of National Communities of Ukraine (online). |

3.2. *Countering discrimination based on religion and protecting freedom of religion and belief in Europe*

Former title: Global rules to eliminate all forms of religious oppression

Rapporteur: Mr Francesco Verducci (Italy, SOC)

Previous rapporteur: Ms Arta Bilalli Zendeli (North Macedonia, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15700](#), Ref. 4726 of 28.04.2023
- Expiry date for adoption: 28.04.2025, extended to 28.04.2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 11.10.2023 (Strasbourg) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 07.12.2023 (Paris) | | Exchange of views with Ms Nazila Ghanea, United Nations Special Rapporteur on freedom of religion or belief (online). |
| 06.06.2024 (Tirana) | | Mr Genti Kruja, Secretary General and Ms Sheldiana Jano Agaraj, lawyer, Inter-Religious Council of Albania; and Ms Susan Kerr, Senior Adviser on Freedom of Religion or Belief, OSCE/ODIHR. |

| | | |
|----------------------------|---------------------------------|--|
| 27.06.2024 (Strasbourg) | Communication by the rapporteur | |
| 12.09.2024 (Paris) | Information memorandum | |
| 12.05.2025 (Paris) | Statement by the rapporteur | |
| 02.10.2025 (Strasbourg) | Information memorandum | |

3.3. *Enhancing co-operation between parliaments and equality bodies*

Rapporteur: Ms Tuula Haatainen (Finland, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15905](#), Ref. 4791 of 07.03.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 30.06.2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 12.09.2024 (Paris) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 05.12.2024 (Paris) | | Ms Guri Hestflått Gabrielsen, Human Rights Policy Director, Norwegian Equality and Anti-Discrimination Ombud, and Ms Claire Hasenfrazt, Legal officer, Non-discrimination Unit, European Commission (online). |
| 23.06.2025 (Strasbourg) | Information memorandum | |

3.4. *Promoting the Istanbul Convention and improving its implementation: building on lessons learnt*

Rapporteur: Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC)

Previous rapporteur: Ms Etilda Gjonaj (Albania, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15942](#), Ref. 4807 of 19.04.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 19.04.2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 30.09.2024 (Strasbourg) | | Ms Maria-Andriani Kostopoulou, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO), and Ambassador Gilberto Jerónimo, First Vice-Chair of the Committee of the Parties (Istanbul Convention). |
| 29.01.2025 (Strasbourg) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 25.06.2025 | | Ms Anca Ciupa, senior manager, Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE) Network (online), Ms Pirkko Mahlamäki, Executive Committee member and Chair of the Women's Committee of the European Disability Forum (EDF) (online), and Ms Anne Bergheim-Negre, Vice-President, European Women's Lobby. |

3.5. *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)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15972](#), Ref. 4809 of 19.04.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 19.04.2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 03.10.2024 (Strasbourg) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 29.01.2025 (Strasbourg) | | Ms Noelia Igareda, Director, Antígona Research group, Autonomous University of Barcelona (online), Dr José Luís García Fernández, sexologist, clinic psychologist and researcher on the impact of violent pornography on children, and Ms Johanna Nelles, Head of Division and Executive Secretary of the Istanbul Convention. |

| | | |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--|
| 18.03.2025 (Strasbourg) | Information memorandum | |
| 08.04.2025 (Strasbourg) | | Ms Maree Crabbe, Director, It's Time We Talked, Australia (online); Ms Ruth Breslin, Director, The Sexual Exploitation Research and Policy Institute, Ireland. |
| 12.05.2025 (Paris) | Preliminary draft report | |

3.6. *Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media*

Rapporteur: Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE)

Rapporteur for opinion of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium, EPP/CD)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15975](#), Ref. 4812 of 24.05.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 24.05.2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-----------------------------|---|
| 05.12.2024 (Paris) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 23.06.2025 (Strasbourg) | Statement by the rapporteur | |
| 11.09.2025 (San Anton) | Information memorandum | |
| 02.10.2025 (Strasbourg) | | Joint hearing with the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, with the participation of Mr Gilles Fontaine, Head of the Department for Market Information, Dr Agnes Schneeberger, TV and VOD Markets Analyst, Department for Market Information, European Audiovisual Observatory, and Ms Anne Richardson, Senior Project Manager for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, European Broadcasting Union (EBU) (online). |

3.7. *Artificial intelligence and gender equality: risks and challenges*

Rapporteur: Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC)

Rapporteur for opinion of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: Ms Mia Karamehić-Abazović (Bosnia and Herzegovina, NR)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15986](#), Ref. 4816 of 24.06.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 24.06.2026

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 09.04.2025 (Strasbourg) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 03.12.2025 (Paris) | | Mr Leonhard den Hertog, Policy Officer, Gender Equality Unit, DG JUST, European Commission, (online); Ms Louise Hooper, Barrister, and independent expert at the Committee of Experts on Artificial Intelligence, Equality and Discrimination of the Council of Europe. |

3.8. *Protecting ethnic and religious diversity in Syria*

Rapporteur: Ms Bisera Kostadinovska-Stojchevska (North Macedonia, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16110](#), Ref. 4857 of 07.04.2025
- Expiry date for adoption: 07.04.2027

3.9. *The deterioration of women's rights in Afghanistan: a need for global response*

Rapporteur: Ms Maria Syrengela (Greece, EPP/CD)

Rapporteur for opinion of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons: to be appointed

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16115](#), Ref. 4859 of 07.04.2025
- Expiry date for adoption: 07.04.2027

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|--|
| 30.09.2025 (Strasbourg) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 03.12.2025 (Paris) | | Ms Nazifa Yusufi Bek, Professor and activist, human rights and women's rights defender, former Member of Parliament in Afghanistan, President of the Afghan Women Parliamentarians and Leaders Network (AWPLN) (online); Ms Shah Gul Rezaie, former Member of Parliament from Afghanistan; Ms Mobina Akbari, Founding Member, Afghan Women Parliamentarians and Leaders Network (AWPLN), and Former Policy and Programme Expert, Ministry of Women's Affairs of Afghanistan (online); Mr Richard Bennett, United Nations Special Rapporteur on Afghanistan (online). |

3.10. Paving the way for a culture of consent

Rapporteur: Ms Zita Gurmai (Hungary, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16133](#), Ref. 4873 of 11.04.2025
- Expiry date for adoption: 11.04.2027

Consideration in the committee

| Date and place | Document | Hearing with the participation of |
|----------------------------|-------------------------|---|
| 24.06.2025 (Strasbourg) | Introductory memorandum | |
| 03.12.2025 (Paris) | | Ms Evin Incir, member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs of the European Parliament, co-rapporteur on "The importance of consent-based rape legislation in the EU", Sweden (online); Ms Ellen O'Malley-Dunlop, member of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO) and former CEO for the Rape Crisis Centre, Ireland; Ms Sara Uhnoo, Associate professor in sociology, University of Gothenburg, Sweden. |

3.11. Equal share of unpaid care work between women and men: a pre-condition to achieving gender equality

Rapporteur: Ms Wanda Nowicka (Poland, SOC)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16158](#), Ref. 4882 of 23.05.2025
- Expiry date for adoption: 23.05.2027

3.12. On the road to parity: supporting young women in politics

Rapporteur: to be appointed

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16256](#), Ref. 4913 of 21.11.2025
- Expiry date for adoption: 21.11.2027

4. Opinions under preparation**4.1. Review of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic**

Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC)

Rapporteur for report of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Ms Marietta Karamanli (France, SOC)

Rapporteur for opinion of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Mr Serhii Kalchenko (Ukraine, ECPA)

- Origin: motion for a resolution [Doc. 15810](#), Ref. 4768 of 09.10.2023
- Expiry date for adoption: 09.10.2026

4.2. Violence and hate speech against politicians: a threat to democracy

Rapporteur for opinion: Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE)

Rapporteur for report of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Ms Elisabetta Gardini (Italy, ECPA)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15846](#), Ref. 4776 of 22.01.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 22.01.2026

4.3. The situation of Ukrainian soldiers who became disabled as a result of hostilities*Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD)**Rapporteur for report of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: Mr Jan Filip Libicki (Poland, EPP/CD)*

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16063](#), Ref. 4845 of 27.01.2025
- Expiry date for adoption: 27.01.2027

4.4. Climate and gender equality – Strengthening the protection of women’s rights in the face of climate disruption*Rapporteur for opinion: to be appointed**Rapporteur for report of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: to be appointed*

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 16224](#), Ref. 4903 of 29.09.2025
- Expiry date for adoption: 29.09.2027

5. Bureau of the committee**Chairperson:** Ms Catia Polidori (Italy, EPP/CD)**1st Vice-Chairperson:** to be appointed**2nd Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Lucia Plaváková (Slovak Republic, ALDE)**3rd Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Sevilay Çelenk (Türkiye, UEL)**6. General rapporteurs****General Rapporteur on violence against women:** Ms Luz Martinez Seijo (Spain, SOC)**General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance:** Mr Francesco Verducci (Italy, SOC)**General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons:** Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE)**General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers:** Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD)**Youth Rapporteur:** Ms Aysu Bankoğlu (Türkiye, SOC)**7. Sub-committees****Sub-Committee on Gender Equality**

Chairperson: Mr Edmunds Čepurītis (Latvia, SOC)

Vice-chairperson: ZZ...

Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities

Chairperson: ZZ...

Vice-chairperson: ZZ...

Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination

Chairperson: Ms Mariia Mezentseva-Fedorenko (Ukraine, EPP/CD)

Vice-chairperson: ZZ...

8. Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence**Website:** pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-violence-women

On the basis of [Resolution 1635 \(2008\)](#) and [Recommendation 1847 \(2008\)](#) “Combating violence against women”, the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination runs the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence.

This Network is a *sui generis* structure, composed of contact parliamentarians from national, observer and partner for democracy delegations to the Assembly. In 2011, following the opening for signature of the [Council of Europe Convention on preventing and combating violence against women and domestic violence \(Istanbul Convention, CETS No. 210\)](#), the Network decided that its main objective would be encouraging further signatures and ratifications of this instrument, so that it could enter into force as soon as possible. Since the entry into force of the Convention in August 2014, the Network has continued to promote its ratification and to develop activities linked to its implementation.

The Network is chaired by the General Rapporteur on violence against women, who acts as its political co-ordinator.

9. No Hate Parliamentary Alliance

Website: pace.coe.int/en/pages/no-hate

In follow-up to Assembly [Resolution 1967 \(2014\)](#) on “A strategy to prevent racism and intolerance in Europe”, the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination proposed setting up the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance.

The Alliance was officially launched on 29 January 2015 in Strasbourg. It is composed of parliamentarians, members of the Parliamentary Assembly, who commit to taking open, firm and pro-active stands against racism, hatred and intolerance on whatever grounds and however they manifest themselves. Their commitment is formalised by signing the Charter of Commitments for membership in the Alliance.

The main activities of the Alliance are conducted at national level. Its members commit to:

- raising awareness against racism and intolerance amongst politicians and civil society;
- promoting the respect of equality, non-discrimination and respect for diversity, as grounded in the European Convention on Human Rights and its Protocols;
- exchanging information on law and best practices in preventing and combating racism, hatred and intolerance with parliamentarians from other countries;
- supporting and participating in the work of the national committees of the Council of Europe "No Hate Speech Movement."

The Alliance is coordinated by the General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, who is supported by the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination.

10. Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe

Website: pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-rights-lgbti

In its [Resolution 2417 \(2022\)](#) “Combating rising hate against LGBTI people in Europe”, the Assembly called for the creation of a network of its interested members, in order to facilitate cooperation between national parliaments aimed at promoting full and effective equality for LGBTI persons throughout the continent.

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination adopted the terms of reference of the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe on 26 April 2022. The platform is composed of parliamentarians from national, observer and partner for democracy delegations to the Assembly, as well as members appointed by other Assembly committees and an associate member appointed by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of Europe. Members of other similar interparliamentary networks may also be invited to participate in its work.

In carrying out its work, the Platform is working for example to promote the exchange of good practices between national parliaments and the acknowledgement of LGBTI rights in the Assembly’s work, and to strengthen the Assembly’s voice and promote synergies with other Council of Europe activities in this field.

The Platform is coordinated by the General Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe, supported by the Bureau of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination.

11. Meetings in 2025

| | Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination | Sub-Committee on Gender Equality | Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities | Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Inter-sectional Discrimination | Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence | No Hate Parliamentary Alliance | Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe |
|------------|--|----------------------------------|---|---|--|--------------------------------|--|
| Strasbourg | 1st part-session of 2025 (27, 29 and 30.01.2025) | 30.01.2025 | 30.01.2025 | 30.01.2025 | | | |
| New York | | | | | 10.03.2025 | | |
| Strasbourg | 18.03.2025 | | | | | | 18.03.2025 |
| Strasbourg | 2nd part-session of 2025 (08-09.04.2025) | | | | | 08.04.2025 | |
| Paris | 12.05.2025 | | | | | 12.05.2025 | |
| Strasbourg | 3rd part-session of 2025 (23-27.06.2025) | | | | 25.06.2025 | | |

| | | | | | | | |
|-------------------|--|--|--|--|------------|------------|------------|
| San Anton (Malta) | 11.09.2025 | | | | | | 12.09.2025 |
| Strasbourg | 4th part-session of 2025 (29 and 30.09 and 02.10.2025) | | | | | 30.09.2025 | |
| Paris | 03.12.2025 | | | | 03.12.2025 | | |

12. The Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment

Launched in 2023 and named after Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, the first woman in the world to be elected as a Head of State, this annual Prize consists of a sum of 60,000 euros and a trophy. It rewards outstanding individuals, organisations or initiatives that have demonstrated significant commitment to empowering women and girls in all their diversity.

At a time when women's rights and gender equality face increasing challenges across Europe and beyond, the Prize recognises achievements in advancing gender equality, promoting equal participation in decision-making, and fostering inclusive policies and practices that contribute to women's full and equal participation in political, social, and economic life.

Individuals, civil society groups, associations or private companies may be nominated for the Prize. Nominations should be submitted in English or French, using the form available on the [Prize web page](#), and must be supported by the signatures of at least five sponsors.

The 2026 Vigdís Prize will be awarded at an official ceremony in Strasbourg on **22 June 2026**, during the Summer part-session of the Parliamentary Assembly.

The first edition of the Vigdís Prize was awarded in 2024 to the Irida Women's Center (Greece), a grassroots NGO supporting women experiencing poverty, social exclusion and gender-based violence. In 2025, the Prize was awarded to Women of the Sun (Palestine), in recognition of their work for women's rights and peacebuilding.

13. Secretariat

Ms Louise BARTON, Director of Committees, Directorate II – Inclusive and Sustainable Societies and Co-operation, Acting Head of the Secretariat of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

☎: +33 (0)3 88 41 29 59

E-mail: louise.barton@coe.int

Ms Carolina LASÉN DIAZ, Secretary

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 56 79

E-mail: carolina.lasen-diaz@coe.int

Mr Giorgio LODDO, Secretary

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 59 08

E-mail: giorgio.loddo@coe.int

Ms Elodie FISCHER, Secretary

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 56 34

E-mail: elodie.fischer@coe.int

Ms Louise MORLON, Project Manager

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 40 14

E-mail: louise.morlon@coe.int

Ms Anne-Marie KLEIN, Assistant

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 44 50

E-mail: anne-marie.klein@coe.int

Ms Sorina LECLER, Assistant

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 56 95

E-mail: sorina.lecler@coe.int

Committee e-mail: asega@coe.int

Alliance e-mail: nohatealliance@coe.int

Network e-mail: womenfreefromviolence@coe.int

Platform e-mail: LGBTI.platform@coe.int

14. Website and social media

pace.coe.int/en/pages/committee-29/AS-EGA

pace.coe.int/en/pages/networks

pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-violence-women

<https://www.facebook.com/NetworkWomenFreefromViolence/>

pace.coe.int/en/pages/no-hate

pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-rights-lgbt

[X.com/PACE_Equality](https://www.x.com/PACE_Equality)