



**Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination**

**AS/Ega/Inf (2025) 01 rev2**

2 April 2025

## Work programme (2025)

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## 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 1<sup>st</sup> part-session 2025
- Resulted in [Resolution 2589 \(2024\)](#)

### 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 1<sup>st</sup> part-session 2025
- Resulted in [Resolution 2592 \(2024\)](#)

## 2. Reports under preparation

### 2.1. **Promoting inclusive participation in parliamentary and political life**

Rapporteur: Ms Maryna Bardina (Ukraine, ALDE)

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15291](#), Ref. 4590 of 21.06.2021
- Expiry date for adoption: 21.06.2024, extended to 27.06.2025

#### **Consideration in the Committee**

Date and place	Document	Hearing with the participation of
30.11.2021 (Hybrid format)	Introductory memorandum and questionnaire to be sent to ECPRD	
20.06.2022 (Strasbourg)	Information memorandum	
01.12.2022 (Paris)	Statement by the rapporteur	
18.03.2024 (Paris)	Statement by the rapporteur	Presentation by Ms Carlien Scheele, Director of the European Institute for Gender Equality (EIGE) and Ms Elena Anchevska, EIGE Gender Mainstreaming team, on their toolkit for gender-sensitive parliaments
12.09.2024 (Paris)	Information note	Exchange of views with Mr Saša Gavrić, Gender Adviser, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR)
29.01.2025 (Strasbourg)	Preliminary draft report	

### 2.2. **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 03.10.2025

#### **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 on the Law on National Minorities (Communities), Czechia; Mr Ashot Avanesyan, Chair of the Council of national communities of Ukraine, Ukraine ( <i>online</i> ); and Ms Olga Stefanishyna, Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Ukraine ( <i>online</i> )
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### 2.3. **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)

Former 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

#### 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 ( <i>online</i> )
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	

### 2.4. **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
- Expiry date for adoption: 09.10.2025

#### Consideration in the Committee

Date and place	Document	Hearing with the participation of
07.12.2023 (Paris)	Introductory memorandum	
18.03.2024 (Paris)	Information memorandum	Mr Gary Williams, CEO of SurvivorsUK, London and Ms Katherine Gambir, Senior Research Advisor at the Women's Refugee Commission ( <i>online</i> )
29.01.2025 (Strasbourg)	Statement by the rapporteur	
18.03.2025 (Strasbourg)	Information memorandum	Mr Matthew McVarish, Co-Founder, Brave Movement; Ms Taina Laajasalo, Research Professor, Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare and Mr Tom Pakkanen, clinical forensic psychologist (PhD), Forensic Psychology Centre for Children and Adolescents of Helsinki University Hospital, Finland ( <i>online</i> ); Ms Marie Derain de Vauresson, President of the Independent National Authority for Recognition and Reparation (INIRR).

### 2.5. **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
- Expiry date for adoption: 09.10.2025

**Consideration in the Committee**

Date and place	Document	Hearing with the participation of
25.06.2024 (Strasbourg)	Introductory memorandum	
12.09.2024 (Paris)		Ms Melanie Hyde, Gender, Equity and Human Rights Technical Officer, World Health Organisation (WHO) Regional Office for Europe, and Ms Marina Kvaskoff, epidemiologist and tenured scientist, French National Institute for Health and Medical Research (INSERM)
05.12.2024 (Paris)		Joint hearing with the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence on “Addressing gender-based violence in the healthcare sector and providing support for survivors by medical staff”, with the participation of Ms Violette Perrotte, Executive director of La Maison des Femmes; Dr Sophie Tellier, Head of the unit on sexual violence of La Maison des Femmes of Saint-Denis; Dr Gilles Lazimi, General practitioner, France
18.03.2025 (Strasbourg)	Information memorandum	

**2.6. For a ban on so-called conversion therapies**

*Rapporteur: Ms Kate Osborne (United Kingdom, SOC)*

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc.15883](#), Ref. 4786 of 26.01.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 26.01.2026

**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)

**2.7. 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: 07.03.2026

**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 Hasenfratz, Legal officer, Non-discrimination Unit, European Commission ( <i>online</i> )

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

*Rapporteur: Ms Etilda Gjonaj (Albania, SOC)*

- Origin: motion for a resolution, [Doc. 15942](#), Ref. 4807 of 19.04.2024
- Expiry date for adoption: 07.03.2026

**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	

**2.9. 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 ( <i>online</i> ), 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	

**2.10. Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media***Rapporteur: Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE)**Rapporteur for opinion of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: Ms Fiona O'Loughlin (Ireland, ALDE)*

- 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	

**2.11. 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

**2.12. Protecting ethnic and religious diversity in Syria***Rapporteur: to be appointed*

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

**3. Opinions under preparation****3.1. 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: 09.10.2025

**3.2. 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. Bureau of the Committee

**Chairperson:** Ms Catia Polidori (Italy, EPP/CD)  
**1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Etilda Gjonaj (Albania, SOC)  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Franziska Hoop (Liechtenstein, ALDE)  
**3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Sevilay Çelenk Özen (Türkiye, UEL)

#### 5. General Rapporteurs

**General Rapporteur on violence against women:** Ms Etilda Gjonaj (Albania, 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)

#### 6. Sub-Committees

##### Sub-Committee on Gender Equality

**Chairperson:** Mr Edmunds Cepurītis (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...

#### 7. Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence

**Website:** [pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-violence-women](https://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.

#### 8. No Hate Parliamentary Alliance

**Website:** [pace.coe.int/en/pages/no-hate](https://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.

## 9. Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe

**Website:** [pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-rights-lgbti](https://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.

## 10. 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	1 <sup>st</sup> 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	2 <sup>nd</sup> part-session of 2025 (7-11.04.2025)						
Paris	12.05.2025						
Strasbourg	3 <sup>rd</sup> part-session of 2025 (23-27.06.2025)						
Paris	12.09.2025						
Strasbourg	4 <sup>th</sup> part-session of 2025 (29.09-03.10.2025)						
Paris	05.12.2025						

## 11. Secretariat

Ms Penelope DENU, Head of the Secretariat

☎: +33 (0)3 88 41 32 15

E-mail: [penelope.denu@coe.int](mailto:penelope.denu@coe.int)

Ms Carolina LASÉN DIAZ, Secretary

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 56 79

E-mail: [carolina.lasen-diaz@coe.int](mailto:carolina.lasen-diaz@coe.int)

Mr Giorgio LODDO, Secretary

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 59 08

E-mail: [giorgio.loddo@coe.int](mailto:giorgio.loddo@coe.int)

Ms Elodie FISCHER, Secretary

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 56 34

E-mail: [elodie.fischer@coe.int](mailto:elodie.fischer@coe.int)

Ms Louise MORLON, Project Manager

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 40 14

E-mail: [louise.morlon@coe.int](mailto:louise.morlon@coe.int)

Ms Anne-Marie KLEIN, Assistant

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 44 50

E-mail: [anne-marie.klein@coe.int](mailto:anne-marie.klein@coe.int)

Ms Sorina LECLER, Assistant

☎: +33 (0)3 90 21 56 95

E-mail: [sorina.lecler@coe.int](mailto:sorina.lecler@coe.int)

**Committee e-mail:** [asega@coe.int](mailto:asega@coe.int)

**Alliance e-mail:** [nohatealliance@coe.int](mailto:nohatealliance@coe.int)

**Network e-mail:** [womenfreefromviolence@coe.int](mailto:womenfreefromviolence@coe.int)

## 12. Website and social media

[pace.coe.int/en/pages/committee-29/AS-EGA](http://pace.coe.int/en/pages/committee-29/AS-EGA)

[pace.coe.int/en/pages/networks](http://pace.coe.int/en/pages/networks)

[pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-violence-women](http://pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-violence-women)

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

[pace.coe.int/en/pages/no-hate](http://pace.coe.int/en/pages/no-hate)

[pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-rights-lgbti](http://pace.coe.int/en/pages/network-rights-lgbti)

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