



Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

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17 September 2025

Work programme (2025)

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
2. Reports under preparation	2
2.1. The situation of national minorities in Ukraine	2
2.2. Countering discrimination based on religion and protecting freedom of religion and belief in Europe	3
2.3. Sexual violence against men and boys	3
2.4. Preventing and combating gender discrimination in health	3
2.5. For a ban on so-called conversion therapies	4
2.6. Enhancing co-operation between parliaments and equality bodies	4
2.7. Promoting the Istanbul Convention and improving its implementation: building on lessons learnt	4
2.8. Violent pornography	5
2.9. Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media	5
2.10. Artificial intelligence and gender equality: risks and challenges	5
2.11. Protecting ethnic and religious diversity in Syria	6
2.12. The deterioration of women's rights in Afghanistan: a need for global response	6
2.13. Paving the way for a culture of consent	6
2.14. Equal share of unpaid care work between women and men: a pre-condition to achieving gender equality	6
3. Opinions under preparation	6
3.1. Review of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic	6
3.2. Violence and hate speech against politicians: a threat to democracy	6
3.3. The situation of Ukrainian soldiers who became disabled as a result of hostilities	6
4. Bureau of the Committee	6
5. General Rapporteurs	7
6. Sub-Committees	7
7. Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence	7
8. No Hate Parliamentary Alliance	7
9. Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe	8
10. Meetings in 2025	8
11. Secretariat	8
12. 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 \(2025\)](#)

2. Reports under preparation

2.1. **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 Bílková, 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 (<i>online</i>); and Ms Olga Stefanishyna, Deputy Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic Integration, Ukraine (<i>online</i>).
09.04.2025	Introductory memorandum	

2.2. 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)

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, 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 (<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	
12.05.2025 (Paris)	Statement by the rapporteur	

2.3. Sexual violence against men and boys

Rapporteur: Mr Edmunds Cepurītis (Latvia, SOC)

Former rapporteur: Mr Fourat Ben Chikha (Belgium, 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 Vaucresson, President of the Independent National Authority for Recognition and Reparation (INIRR).
11.09.2025 (San Anton)	Draft report	

2.4. 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	Joint hearing with the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons on addressing discrimination against LGBTI persons in healthcare services, with the participation of Mr Graeme Reid, UN Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity (online), Ms Evgenia Giakoumopoulou, Head of the SOGIESC Unit, Council of Europe, Dr Eszter Mihály, LGBTQI+ Rights Officer, Amnesty International Hungary and Dr Serge Covaci, Leader of the University Clinic, Faculty of Medicine of Strasbourg, general practitioner.
12.05.2025 (Paris)	Information memorandum	Exchange of views with Dr Tlaleng Mofokeng, UN Special Rapporteur on the right to health (<i>online</i>).
11.09.2025 (San Anton)	Draft report	

2.5. For a ban on so-called conversion therapies

Rapporteur: Ms Kate Osborne (United Kingdom, SOC)

Former rapporteur: Mr Fourat Ben Chikha (Belgium, 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.

2.6. 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>).
23.06.2025 (Strasbourg)	Information memorandum	

2.7. 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	
25.06.2025		Ms Anca Ciupa, senior manager, Women Against Violence Europe (WAVE) Network (<i>online</i>), Ms Pirkko Mahlamäki, Executive Committee member and Chair of the Women's Committee of the European Disability Forum (EDF) (<i>online</i>), and Ms Anne Bergheim-Negre, Vice-President, European Women's Lobby.

2.8. 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	
08.04.2025 (Strasbourg)		Ms Maree Crabbe, Director, It's Time We Talked, Australia (<i>online</i>); Ms Ruth Breslin, Director, The Sexual Exploitation Research and Policy Institute, Ireland.
12.05.2025 (Paris)	Preliminary draft report	

2.9. 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	

2.10. 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	

2.11. 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

2.12. 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

2.13. 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	

2.14. 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. 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: 09.10.2026

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

3.3. 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. Bureau of the Committee**Chairperson:** Ms Catia Polidori (Italy, EPP/CD)**1st Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Etilda Gjonaj (Albania, SOC)**2nd Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Lucia Plaváková (Slovak Republic, ALDE)**3rd Vice-Chairperson:** Ms Sevilay Çelenk (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)

General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers: Mr Georgios Stamatīs (Greece, EPP/CD)

Youth Rapporteur: Ms Aysu Bankoğlu (Türkiye, SOC)

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

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

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

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 st 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 nd part-session of 2025 (7-11.04.2025)					08.04.2025	
Paris	12.05.2025					12.05.2025	
Strasbourg	3 rd part-session of 2025 (23-27.06.2025)				25.06.2025		
San Anton (Malta)	11.09.2025						12.09.2025
Strasbourg	4 th part-session of 2025 (29.09-03.10.2025)					4 th part-session of 2025 (29.09-03.10.2025)	
Paris	03.12.2025				03.12.2025		

11. 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
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Alliance e-mail: nohatealliance@coe.int

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12. 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-lgbti

X.com/PACE_Equality