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Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Work Programme

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This document indicates forthcoming events relevant to the committee's work programme and is regularly up-dated. It is not restricted to events in which the committee itself necessarily takes part or is represented.

Members are invited to let the Committee Secretariat know of items of particular interest.

Please note that all details are subject to separate confirmation

I. Timetable of meetings and proposed order for the presentation of reports

September		
6	Paris	<i>Bureau of the Assembly</i>
15	Nafplion (Greece)	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
October		
2-6	Strasbourg	<i>4th part of the 2006 session (including Committee and Sub-Committee meetings)</i>
November		
6	Paris (CE)	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
17	San Marino	<i>Bureau of the Assembly Standing Committee</i>
December		
15	Paris	<i>Bureau of the Assembly</i>

* To be confirmed

II. Work programme

A. Reports tabled but not yet debated

1. Ratification of the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities by the Council of Europe member states

Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC (appointed 18.11.2004)

- Origin: Doc 10289, Reference 3003 of 08.10.2004; Petition, Reference 3043 of 24.01.2005
- Date of adoption: 18.05.2006 (Doc 10961)
- Presentation to the Assembly: 4th part-session of 2006

B. Reports under preparation

i. Human rights

2. 4th annual report on the activities of the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (1 January – 31 December 2003)

Rapporteur to be appointed

- Origin: Doc 10386, Reference 2997 of 07.09.2004
- Expiry date for adoption: 07.09.2006
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
16.09.2004: Appointment of first Rapporteur (Mr Rudolf Bindig, Germany, SOC)

3. Video surveillance of public areas

Mr Yuri Sharandin, Russia, EDG (appointed 23.05.2005)

- Origin: Doc 9869, Reference 2864 of 08.09.2003
- Expiry date for adoption: 31.12.2006 (extended by Assembly decisions of 24.06.2005 and 30.06.2006)
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
16.12.2004: Committee considered an introductory memorandum and decided to hold a hearing
23.05.2005: Mr Sharandin appointed to replace Mrs Maria Eduarda Azevedo, Portugal, EPP/CD (appointed 27.04.2004)
13.03.2006: Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur and authorised him to undertake fact-finding visits to London, Madrid and Vienna (subject to available Assembly budgetary funds)
27.06.2006: Statement by the Rapporteur and decision to invite a Senator from Belgium to present the state of work on this issue in the Belgian Parliament

4. Member states' duty to cooperate with the European Court of Human Rights

Mr Christos Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD (appointed 25.01.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10387, Reference 3040 of 24.01.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 24.01.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: 1st part-session of 2007
- State of work:
03.10.2005: Committee considered an introductory memorandum and decided to hold a hearing in early 2006
13.03.2006: Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur and invited him to submit to the Committee, at one of its next meetings, an information memorandum regarding the hearing to be held at a meeting during the June 2006 part-session
07.06.2006: Consideration of an introductory memorandum
29.06.2006: Hearing

5. **Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights**

Mr Erik Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC (appointed 13.06.1997)

- Origin: Res 1268 (2002) (Committee instructed to update the record of the execution of judgments and to report to the Assembly when it considers appropriate); Doc 10327, Reference 3048 of 24.01.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 28.01.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work: The Committee has so far submitted five reports: one general report (Doc 8808) and four specific ones on the implementation of decisions (Docs 9307 and 10351), including two reports on Turkey (Docs 9537 and 10192). A sixth report (on the implementation of judgments) is under preparation.
- 21.06.2005: Consideration of an introductory memorandum presented by the Rapporteur and of a working paper prepared by the secretariat; Committee declassified these two documents, proposed that the President of the Assembly send letters to the Chairpersons of the 13 national delegations concerned asking for their cooperation in implementing the Court judgments mentioned in the document, and decided to invite the Chairpersons of the delegations of the three countries presenting serious problems (Italy, Poland and Turkey) to report orally on progress made at a forthcoming meeting.
- 07.11.2005: Rapporteur authorised to undertake visits to Italy, Russia, Turkey, Ukraine and the United Kingdom
- 13.12.2005: Consideration and declassification of a supplementary introductory memorandum (AS/Jur (2005) 55 rev)
- 08-10.03.2006: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to the United Kingdom
- 05-07.04.2006: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to Turkey
- 30-31.05.2006: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to Russia
- 19-20.06.2006: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to Ukraine
- 05-07.07.2006: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to Italy

6. **The situation of the inhabitants of the Sovereign British Areas of Akrotiri and Dhekelia**

Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC (appointed 06.04.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10441, Reference 3057 of 18.03.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 18.03.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
- 16.09.2005: Consideration of an introductory memorandum. Rapporteur authorised to undertake fact-finding visits to Cyprus and the United Kingdom.

7. **Preserving and strengthening the leading role of the Council of Europe, also in relation to the European Union, in setting basic legal standards within Europe**

Mr Erik Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC (appointed 16.09.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10562, Reference 3100 of 20.06.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 20.06.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
- 23.01.2006: Committee heard a statement by Rapporteur on developments concerning the Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union, authorised him to go to Brussels with the Chairperson in February 2006 to meet the rapporteurs of the European Parliament, and decided to hold an exchange of views at its meeting on 13.03.2006
- 13.03.2006: Committee held an exchange of views on, inter alia, the proposed Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union, with Mrs Kinga Gál (EPP/CD) and Mr Cem Özdemir (The Greens/European Free Alliance), members of the European Parliament

8. The implementation of legal and other tools useful for fighting against violence and other forms of child exploitation and abuse

Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto, Monaco, EPP/CD (appointed 06.10.2005)

Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee, for opinion: Mrs Helena Bargholtz, Sweden, ALDE

- Origin: Doc 10660, Reference 3138 of 03.10.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 03.10.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: 2nd part-session of 2007
- State of work:
23.01.2006: Consideration of an introductory memorandum

9. Investigation of crimes allegedly committed by high officials during the Kuchma rule in Ukraine

Mrs Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, Germany, ALDE (appointed 06.10.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10653 rev, Reference 3142 of 03.10.2005 (referred on the understanding that the report will include the Gongadze case)
- Expiry date for adoption: 03.10.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
(Earlier work on "Launching a new enquiry into the murder of the Ukrainian journalist Georgiy Gongadze", Doc 10330, Reference 3044 of 24.01.2005, Rapporteur Mrs Sabine Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, Germany, ALDE, appointed 25.01.2005)
03.03.2005: Committee authorised the Rapporteur to make a fact-finding visit to Kyiv, Ukraine, as soon as possible
30.03-01.04.2005: Rapporteur visit to Kyiv
26.04.2005: Committee considered an introductory memorandum and authorised the Rapporteur to make a further fact-finding visit to Ukraine and to meet witnesses outside Ukraine, in Council of Europe member states, if necessary)
20-24.06.2005: Rapporteur met two witnesses in Strasbourg (Mr Melnichenko and Mr Ivasiuk)
11-12.07.2006: Second fact-finding visit of the Rapporteur to Kyiv

10. Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights – stock-taking and perspectives

Mr Alexander Arabadjiev, Bulgaria, SOC (appointed 26.01.2006)

- Origin: Doc 10681, Reference 3160 of 23.01.2006 and Doc 10573, Reference 3190 of 17.03.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 23.01.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

11. With respect to the "Pasat case"

Mrs Gültakin Hajiyeva, Azerbaijan, EPP/CD (appointed 13.04.2006)

Monitoring Committee, for opinion: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD

- Origin: Doc 10839, Reference 3189 of 17.03.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 17.03.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

12. UN Security Council black lists

Mr Dick Marty, Switzerland, ALDE (appointed 07.06.2006)

- Origin: Doc 10856, Reference 3214 of 29.05.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 29.05.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

13. **Council of Europe annual report on the state of human rights in Europe**

Mr Christos Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD (appointed 07.06.2006)

- Origin: Doc 10859 rev, Reference 3217 of 29.05.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 29.05.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

27.06.2006: Sub-Committee on Human Rights had a preliminary discussion on this question

14. **Protection of human rights in emergency situations**

Mr Erik Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC (appointed 07.06.2006)

- Origin: Doc 10641, Reference 3230 of 29.05.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 29.05.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

15. **Alleged secret detentions and unlawful inter-state transfers of detainees involving Council of Europe member states**

Rapporteur to be appointed

- Origin: Bureau decision of 30.06.2006, Reference 3253 of 30.06.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 30.06.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

[28.06.2006: In view of paragraph 21 of Resolution 1507 (2006) Committee asked its Chairperson to present a work programme for this issue at its meeting in September 2006]

ii. **Minorities**

16. **The 2003 guidelines on the use of minority languages in the broadcast media and the Council of Europe standards: need to enhance cooperation and synergy**

Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC (appointed 03.03.2005)

Committee on Culture, science and education, for opinion: Mr Pär-Axel Sahlberg (Sweden, SOC)

- Origin: Doc 10362, Reference 3037 of 24.01.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 24.01.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: Standing Committee, November 2006
- State of work:

16.09.2005: Committee decided to propose to the Assembly's Sub-Committee on the Media and the OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities to hold a joint hearing on the guidelines on the use of minority languages in the broadcast media at the beginning of 2006 in The Hague

28.04.2006: Hearing on the use of minority languages in the broadcast media (The Hague)

18.05.2006: Consideration of an introductory memorandum and declassification of the minutes of the hearing held in The Hague

27.06.2006: Consideration of a preliminary draft report

17. **The rights of national minorities in Latvia**

Mr Adrian Severin, Romania, SOC (appointed 23.05.2005)

- Origin: Docs 10481rev and 10482, Reference 3068 of 25.04.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 25.04.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: March 2007 Standing Committee
- State of work:

06.10.2005: Rapporteur authorised to undertake fact-finding visits to Latvia and to the Russian Federation;

20-21.03.2006: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to Latvia

18.05.2006: Consideration of an information memorandum

23-24.05.2006: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to the Russian Federation

18. **Precarious situation of national minorities in the Voivodina province of Serbia (and)**

Violation of the human rights of the Romanian ethnic minority in Serbia

Mr Jürgen Herrmann, Germany, EPP/CD (appointed 26.01.2006)

- Origin: Docs 10715 and 10726, References 3147 and 3148 of 25.11.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 25.11.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
17.05.2006: Sub-Committee on Rights of Minorities held an exchange of views on this issue
29.06.2006: Rapporteur authorised to carry out a fact-finding visit to Serbia on 26-28.09.2006

19. **Imvros and Tenedos**

Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC (appointed 13.03.2006)

- Origin: Doc 10536, Reference 3171 of 27.01.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 27.01.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

20. **Freedom of religion and other human rights for non-Muslim minorities in Turkey and for Muslim minorities in Thrace (Western Greece)**

Mr Michel Hunault, France, EDG (appointed 13.04.2006)

- Origin: Docs 10714 and 10724, Reference 3203 of 17.03.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 17.03.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

iii. **Crime problems and the fight against terrorism**

21. **The restriction of the use of firearms in peacetime within the member states of the Council of Europe**

Mrs Renate Wohlwend, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD (appointed 16.12.2004)

- Origin: Doc 10234, Reference 3011 of 08.10.2004
- Expiry date for adoption: 08.10.2006
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

22. **Respect for human rights in the fight against terrorism**

Mr Valery Grebennikov, Russia, EDG (appointed 16.09.2004)

- Origin: Doc 10248, Reference 2995 of 07.09.2004; Doc 10527, References 3081 of 29.04.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 31.12.2006 (extended by Assembly decision of 30.06.2006)
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: 1st part-session of 2007
- State of work:
23.05.2005: Consideration of an outline report
11.04.2006: Consideration of an introductory memorandum and approval of a questionnaire to be sent to national parliamentary delegations
03.07.2006: Questionnaire sent to five national parliamentary delegations

23. **Fair trial issues in criminal cases concerning espionage or divulging state secrets**

Mr Christos Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD (appointed 24.06.2004 and 03.03.2005)

- Origin: Docs 10086 and 10426, References 2978 and 3052 of 21.06.2004 and 28.01.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 28.01.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: 4th part-session of 2006

- State of work:

- 07.10.2004: Rapporteur authorised to make a fact-finding visit to Russia for the preparation of his report on the case of Igor Sutiagin
- 03.03.2005: Committee decided to deal with the motion on "The case of Igor Sutiagin" in this report. Rapporteur authorised to make a fact-finding visit to Russia and to other countries concerned
- 23.05.2005: Statement by Rapporteur on the preparation of his fact-finding visit to Russia
- 20.06.2005: Consideration of an introductory memorandum. Committee took note that the Rapporteur's fact-finding visit would take place soon.
- 21-23.09.2005: Rapporteur fact-finding visit to Moscow
- 03.10.2005: Statement by the Rapporteur on his visit to Moscow on 21-23.09.2005 and approval of his proposal to consult an expert concerning the nature of scientific data published by Mr Danilov
- 13.03.2006: Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur and authorised him to invite to its meeting on 7 June two experts concerning the case of Mr Danilov
- 07.06.2006: Exchange of views with Dr Andrew J. Coates, Expert

24. **Prosecution of offences falling within the jurisdiction of the International Criminal Tribunal for the Former Yugoslavia**

Mr Tony Lloyd, United Kingdom, SOC (appointed 20.06.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10528, Reference 3082 of 29.04.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 29.04.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: 2nd part-session of 2007

- State of work:

- 11.04.2006: Consideration of an introductory memorandum
- 18.05.2006: Exchange of views in Budapest with invited persons

25. **Towards decriminalisation of defamation**

Mr Jaume Bartumeu Cassany, Andorra, SOC (appointed 07.11.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10531, Reference 3087 of 06.06.2005
 - Expiry date for adoption: 06.06.2007
 - Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: 3rd part-session of 2007
- State of work:
- 16.09.2005: Appointment of first rapporteur, Mr Serhiy Holovaty (Ukraine, ALDE)

26. **Abuse of the criminal justice system in Belarus**

Mr Christos Pourgourides, Cyprus, EPP/CD (appointed 26.01.2006)

- Origin: Doc 10619, Reference 3155 of 25.11.2005
 - Expiry date for adoption: 25.11.2007
 - Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

iv. Other matters

27. **Principle of the rule of law**

Mr Erik Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC (appointed 07.11.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10180, Reference 2998 of 07.09.2004
 - Expiry date for adoption: 31.12.2006 (extended by Assembly decision of 30.06.2006)
 - Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: March 2007 Standing Committee
- State of work:
- 16.09.2004: Appointment of first rapporteur, Mr Serhiy Holovaty (Ukraine, ALDE)

28. The United States of America and international law

Mr Tony Lloyd, United Kingdom, SOC (appointed 25.01.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10388, Reference 3041 of 24.01.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 24.01.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
18.05.2006: Decision to appoint an expert

29. Improving CPT selection procedures

Mr Erol Aslan Cebeci, Turkey, EPP/CD (appointed 20.06.2005)

Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men, for opinion: Mrs Gisela Wurm, Austria, SOC

- Origin: Doc 10471, Reference 3066 of 18.03.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 18.03.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: March 2007 Standing Committee
- State of work:
20.06.2005: Appointment of new rapporteur to replace Mr Eker (Turkey, EPP/CD, appointed 06.04.2005)
16.09.2005: Consideration of an introductory memorandum. Decision to request from national delegations information on current internal procedures for the selection of CPT candidates
04.10.2005: Letter sent to national delegations requesting information
25.04.2006: Reminder letter sent to national delegations not having yet replied

30. Implementation of the Third Summit Declaration and Action Plan

Mrs Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Videc, Netherlands, EPP/CD (appointed 16.09.2005)

- Origin: Docs 10555 and 10556, References 3095 and 3096 of 06.06.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 06.06.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
26.01.2006: Committee endorsed a statement on further action planned, made by the Rapporteur at the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Human Rights on 25.01.2006
13.04.2006: At the April 2006 part-session the Committee presented a report on *Follow-up to the Third Summit: the Council of Europe and the Fundamental Rights Agency of the European Union*" (Rapporteur: Mr Erik Jurgens, Netherlands, SOC)
07.06.2006: Exchange of views with Mr Gil Carlos Rodriguez Iglesias, Chairperson of the Group of Wise Persons on the effectiveness of the control mechanism of the ECHR

31. Legal instrument for the recognition, protection and promotion of sign languages and the rights of their users

Mrs Renate Wohlwend, Liechtenstein, EPP/CD (appointed 03.10.2005)

- Origin: 10639, Reference 3133 of 01.09.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 01.09.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

32. Legal recognition of same-sex partnerships in Europe

Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC (appointed 16.09.2005)

- Origin: Doc 10640, Reference 3134 of 01.09.2005 and Doc 10832, Reference 3188 of 17.03.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 01.09.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
26.01.2006: Authorisation of Rapporteur fact-finding visits to Spain and Poland

C. Reports on which the Committee is seized for opinion

Political Affairs Committee:

1. **Accession of Belarus to the Council of Europe**

Rapporteur for opinion: *To be appointed*

Rapporteur: ...

- Origin: Request for an opinion from the Committee of Ministers, Doc 6814, Reference 1864 of 10.05.1993
- No expiry date for adoption
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:
17.12.1998: Bureau decided to freeze the membership procedure
30.01.2004: Bureau rejected granting special guest status to the Parliament of Belarus

2. **Situation in Belarus**

Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Tony Lloyd, United Kingdom, SOC

Rapporteur: Mr Bart van Winsen, Netherlands, EPP/CD

- Origin: Doc 8544, Reference 2444 of 04.11.1999
- No expiry date for adoption
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

3. **Compliance by Observer Countries with the values of the Council of Europe**

Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Erol Aslan Cebeci, Turkey, EPP/CD (appointed 07.11.2005)

Rapporteur: Mr David Wilshire, United Kingdom, EDG

- Origin: Doc 10626, Reference 3125 of 01.09.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 01.09.2007
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

4. **Inadmissibility of anti-Semitism in the social and political life of the Council of Europe member states**

Rapporteur for opinion: *To be appointed*

Rapporteur:

- Origin: Doc 10887, Reference 3226 of 29.05.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 29.05.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

5. **Accession of the Republic of Montenegro to the Council of Europe**

Rapporteur for opinion: *To be appointed*

Rapporteur: Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto, Monaco, EPP/CD

- Origin: Doc 10968, Reference 3245 of 26.06.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 26.08.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

Committee on Economic Affairs and Development:**6. Europe's interest in the continued economic development of Russia**

Rapporteur for opinion: Mrs Leutheusser-Schnarrenberger, Germany, ALDE (appointed 26.01.2006)

Rapporteur: Mr Kimmo Sasi, Finland, EPP/CD

- Origin: Doc 10343, References 3025 and 3045 of 23.11.2004 and 24.01.2005
- Expiry date for adoption: 23.11.2006
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen: 4th part-session of 2006
- State of work:
25.01.2005: Appointment of former Rapporteur, Mr Malcolm Bruce (United Kingdom, ALDE)

Social, Health and Family Affairs Committee:**7. Women in prison**

Rapporteur for opinion: *To be appointed*

Rapporteur for opinion AS/Ega:

Rapporteur:

- Origin: Doc 10900, Reference 3248 of 30.06.2006
- Expiry date for adoption: 30.06.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

Committee on Rules of Procedure and Immunities:**8. Mechanisms to ensure women's participation in decision-making**

Rapporteur for opinion: *To be appointed*

Rapporteur for opinion AS/Ega:

Rapporteur:

- Origin: Res 1489 (2006, Reference 3261 of 30.06.2006)
- Expiry date for adoption: 30.06.2008
- Presentation to the Assembly foreseen:
- State of work:

III. Bureaux of the Committee and of the Sub-Committees

Plenary Committee

Chairperson: Mr Dick Marty (Switzerland, ALDE)
 1st Vice-Chairperson: Mr Erik Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC)
 2nd Vice-Chairperson: Mr Adrian Severin (Romania, SOC)
 3rd Vice-Chairperson: Mr György Frunda (Romania, EPP/CD)

Sub-Committee on Human Rights

Chairperson: Mr Christos Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD)
 Vice-Chairperson: Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto (Monaco, EPP/CD)

Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism

Chairperson: Mr Jaume Bartumeu Cassany (Andorra, SOC)
 Vice-Chairperson: Mr Karol Karski (Poland, EDG)

Sub-Committee on Rights of Minorities¹

Chairperson: Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)
 Vice-Chairperson: Mr Kimmo Sasi (Finland, EPP/CD)

Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

Chairperson: Mrs Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Vidéc (Netherlands, EPP/CD)
 Vice-Chairperson: Mr Tony Lloyd (United Kingdom, SOC)

Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau on dialogue with the Parliament of Liechtenstein:

Representatives of the Committee:

Mr Abdülkadir Ateş (Turkey, SOC)
 Mr Christos Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD)

¹ For the terms of the reference of the Sub-Committee, see document AS/Jur/Min (2005) 01.

IV. Representation of the Committee at various events in 2006

Strasbourg, 6-7 March 2006	Group of States against Corruption (GRECO): Mr Bartumeu Cassany (Andorra, SOC)
Brasov (Romania), 7-10 March 2006	3 rd meeting of the Committee of Experts on Issues relating to the Protection of National Minorities (DH-MIN) and at the International Conference on "the participation of national minorities in public life": Mr Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC);
Venice (Italy), 17-18 March 2006	European Commission for Democracy through Law ("Venice Commission"): Mr Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC)
Venice (Italy), 18 March 2006	Council for Democratic Elections: Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC)
Strasbourg, 22-23 March 2006	European Commission against racism and intolerance (ECRI): Mr Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)
Strasbourg, 3-7 April 2006	European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC): Mr Tkáč (Slovakia, SOC)
Strasbourg, 3 May 2006	10 th Anniversary of the revised Social Charter: Mr Tkáč (Slovakia, SOC)
Strasbourg, 11-12 May 2006	Group of States against Corruption (GRECO): Mr Bartumeu Cassany (Andorra, SOC)
Strasbourg, 30 May - 2 June 2006	Steering Committee on the Media and New Communication Services (CDMC): Mr Tkáč (Slovakia, SOC)
Venice (Italy), 8 June 2006	Council for Democratic Elections: Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC)
Venice (Italy), 9-10 June 2006	European Commission for Democracy through Law ("Venice Commission"): Mr Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC)
Geneva (Switzerland), 16 June 2006	Roundtable on "Non-citizens and Minority Rights": Mr Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)
Strasbourg, 19-23 June 2006	Group of States against Corruption (GRECO): Mr Bartumeu Cassany (Andorra, SOC)
Strasbourg, 27-30 June March 2006	European Commission against racism and intolerance (ECRI): Mr Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)
Moscow, 5-6 July 2006	7 th Session of the Conference of Prosecutors General of Europe: Mr Grebennikov (Russian Federation, EPP/CD);
Rome (Italy), 6-7 July 2006	European Commission for the Efficiency of Justice (CEPEJ): Mr Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC)
Strasbourg, 29 September 2006	Joint Conference PACE / UEFA (Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau for the Bureau): Mr Ivanji (Serbia, EPP/CD)
Yerevan (Armenia) 12-13 October 2006	27 th Conference of the European Ministers of Justice: Mr Rustamyan (Armenia, SOC)

Representatives appointed by the Bureau for 2006:

Venice Commission: Mr Erik Jurgens (Netherlands, SOC)
Council for Democratic Elections: Mr Andreas Gross (Switzerland, SOC)
(alternate: Mme Meritxell Batet, Spain, SOC)
ECRI: Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)
GRECO: Mr Jaume Bartumeu Cassany (Andorra, SOC)

V. Secretariat of the Committee

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Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

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APPENDIX

Extract from Resolution 1425 (2005) - Revised terms of reference of Assembly committees, adopted on 28 January 2005

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A. General terms of reference applicable to all Assembly committees

1. Committees may examine any matter within their specific terms of reference (Rule 44.1 of the Rules of Procedure) and, possibly, table information reports on these matters (Rule 49.6).
2. Committees shall only prepare reports for debate in the Assembly:
 - on matters referred to them (Rule 24);
 - when so instructed by texts adopted by the Assembly (taking account of Rule 23.1.b);
 - when stipulated by the Assembly's Rules of Procedure;
 - when mandated to do so by their specific terms of reference.
3. Committees shall examine the action taken on texts adopted by the Assembly on the basis of their reports (Rule 44.2).
4. Committees may organise conferences and other events on matters within their specific terms of reference and which are linked to their work programme, subject to availability of funds.
5. Committees are entitled to establish and are responsible for developing working relations with:
 - the competent bodies (committees, etc.) of national parliaments of member states;
 - the competent bodies (committees, etc.) of European parliamentary assemblies (European Parliament, OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, CIS Interparliamentary Assembly and others) and of the Interparliamentary Union (IPU);
 - subject to decision by the Bureau of the Assembly, the competent bodies (committees, etc.) of national parliaments holding Observer or Special Guest status;
 - subject to decision by the Bureau of the Assembly, the competent bodies (committees, etc.) of national parliaments of non-member states;
 - the relevant rapporteur groups, working groups and liaison committees of the Ministers' Deputies and rapporteurs of the Ministers' Deputies;
 - the relevant Council of Europe structures and bodies such as the European Court of Human Rights, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, the Commissioner for Human Rights, the Council of Europe partial agreements, the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (Ecri), the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) and the relevant intergovernmental expert committees.
6. Committees shall follow the activities of the Committee of Ministers in the fields covered by their specific terms of reference.
7. Committees are entitled to be represented in the Assembly's delegations to the relevant European conferences of specialised ministers and to follow their activities.
8. Committees are entitled to establish and are responsible for developing working relations with the European and international non-governmental organisations which carry out activities within these committees' specific terms of reference (Rule 44.5).

B. Specific terms of reference of Assembly committees

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II. Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights (AS/Jur)

Number of seats: 83

Background: The committee was established in 1949 with the title "Legal and Administrative Questions" and known from 1956 until the end of 1989 as the "Legal Affairs Committee", when the title was changed to the "Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights".

Terms of reference:

1. The committee shall consider all legal and human rights matters (including proposals for and the preparation of statutory opinions on draft Council of Europe conventions) which fall within the competence of the Council of Europe.
2. The committee shall in particular consider:
 - i. human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law in the member states of the Council of Europe;
 - ii. judicial institutions (as well as ombudspersons and national human rights institutions), the police, detention centres and prisons in the member states of the Council of Europe;
 - iii. the rights of national and other minorities;
 - iv. questions of discrimination on any ground such as sexual orientation, race, colour, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, association with a national minority, property, birth or other status with the exception of discrimination on the grounds of gender to be considered by the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men;
 - v. all matters concerning the human rights treaties and mechanisms of the Council of Europe, notably the European Convention on Human Rights and its protocols, the European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment, and other international instruments;
 - vi. criminal law and criminology, the treatment of offenders and conditions of detention;
 - vii. legal and human rights issues relating to the fight against terrorism.
3. The committee shall give an opinion on the law, legal practice and the observance of human rights and fundamental freedoms of applicant states for membership of the Council of Europe, to assess compliance with Council of Europe standards.
4. The committee shall promote Council of Europe standard-setting legal instruments in the field of respect for human rights, fundamental freedoms and the rule of law in non-member states.
5. The committee shall be in charge of interviewing all candidates for posts of judges to the European Court of Human Rights and the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, before their election by the Assembly. It shall also examine the curricula vitae of candidates to the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment.

6. The committee shall follow the activities of and maintain working relations with the relevant European and international organisations, such as the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), the OSCE (notably the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (Odihr) and the High Commissioner on National Minorities), the Hague Conference on Private International Law (HCCH), the International Law Commission and the International Institute for the Unification of Private Law (Unidroit).

7. The committee shall follow the activities of the European Ombudsmen Conference.

8. The committee shall participate in the work of the Council of Europe Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission).

9. The committee shall represent the Assembly in and follow the work of the relevant intergovernmental expert committees of the Council of Europe².

10. The committee shall share the Assembly representation in the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (Ecri).

² As of 31 December 2005 these committees are the following: the European Committee on Legal Co-operation (CDCJ), the European Committee on Crime Problems (CDPC), the Steering Committee for Human Rights (CDDH) and the Steering Committee on the Media and New Communication Services (CDMC).