



SECRETARIAT

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

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on Wednesday 3 December 2014

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Paris on 3 December 2014, with Ms Gisela Wurm (Austria, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Tackling intolerance and discrimination in Europe with a special focus on Christianity** (*Rapporteur: Mr Valeriu Ghiltechi, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD*): decided to change the title of the report in its English version to "Tackling intolerance and discrimination in Europe with a special focus on Christians"; took note of a draft report as amended and unanimously adopted a draft resolution as amended;
- **Equality and the crisis** (*Rapporteur: Mr Nikolaj Villumsen, Denmark, UEL*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur following his fact-finding visit to Greece and his participation in the High-level Conference on the European Social Charter "Europe restarts in Turin" (Turin, 17-18 October 2014); heard a statement by the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni; took note of a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
- **Equality and inclusion for people with disabilities** (*Rapporteur: Ms Carmen Quintanilla Barba, Spain, EPP/CD*): took note of a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, as amended, and a draft recommendation;
- **Recognising and preventing neo-racism** (*Rapporteur: Ms Milena Santerini, Italy, NR*): considered a memorandum and held an exchange of views with Ms Christine Lazerges, Chairperson of the French National Advisory Commission on Human Rights;
- **Gay to straight conversion therapy and regulation of psychotherapists**: following the referral for consultation of the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Geraint Davies and other members of the Assembly (Doc. 13498), held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Dominic Davies, Director, Pink Therapy (United Kingdom), decided to ask the General rapporteur on the rights of LGBT people to consider this matter in the framework of his activities and to propose to the Bureau that no follow-up be given to this motion;
- **The employment rights of female workers from Eastern Europe**: following the referral for consultation of the motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Viorel Riceard Badea and other members of the Assembly (Doc. 13400), held an exchange of views with Ms Marina Manke, Regional Labour Migration and Human Development Specialist, International Organization for Migration, Regional Office for South-Eastern Europe, Eastern Europe and Central Asia, Vienna; and decided, having regard to its mandate, to propose to the Bureau that the Committee give no follow-up to this motion;

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- **The 16 Days of Activism against Gender-based Violence:** heard statements by its Chairperson and other members on their respective activities;
- **No Hate Parliamentary Alliance:** heard a statement by its Chairperson with regard to the composition of the Alliance and its launch event; and agreed to ask the President of the Assembly for the photo exhibition that won the competition organised by the No Hate Speech Movement of the Council of Europe to be displayed outside the hemicycle during the January part-session 2015;
- **Work programme:**
 - a. **Appointment of rapporteurs for report:** appointed:
 - Mr Valeriu Ghiltechi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD) rapporteur for a report on “The protection of the rights of parents and children belonging to religious minorities”;
 - Ms Elena Centemero (Italy, EPP/CD), rapporteur for a report on “Assessing the impact of measures to improve women’s political representation”;
 - Ms Maria Edera Spadoni (Italy, NR) rapporteur for a report on “Systematic collection of data on violence against women”;

and heard from each of them a declaration on the absence of conflict of interest;

- b. **Consideration of motions referred for consultation:** decided to propose to the Bureau the merging of the motion on the “Creation of a European Institute to counter prejudices about Roma, Sinti and Kales by promoting research about their culture and history” (tabled by Mr Philip Mißfelder, Germany, EPP/CD and other members of the Assembly) and the motion on “Promoting Roma inclusion at the local level” (tabled by Ms Guguli Magradze, Georgia, SOC and other members of the Assembly) into one single report on “Promoting Roma inclusion” and to ask to be seized for report;
- c. **Consideration of motions referred for information:** considered the following motions:
 - on “Promoting gender education in the member States of the Council of Europe” - motion tabled by Ms Guguli Magradze, Georgia, SOC and other members of the Assembly;
 - on “Non-discrimination and the right to use sign languages in Europe” - motion tabled by Ms Pirkko Mattila, Finland, NR and other members of the Assembly; and
 - on “Improving the prevention of socio-economic abortions in Europe - motion tabled by Mr Valeriu Ghiltechi, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD and other members of the Assembly;
- **Appointment of representatives:** appointed Ms Milena Santerini (Italy, NR) to participate in the International Seminar “A policy response towards inclusive education: Introducing Roma history teaching into school curricula”, in Rome on 11-12 December 2014, at no cost to the Assembly;
- **Reporting back:** heard a statement by Ms Maria Giannakaki (Greece, SOC), General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, on her participation in the 8th meeting of the ad hoc Committee of Experts on Roma Issues (CAHROM) on 29- 30 October 2014 in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina);
- **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - London, 9 December 2014, Parliamentary Seminar, Sub-Committee on Gender Equality and Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence and All-Party Parliamentary Group on Equalities;
 - Strasbourg, during the 1st Part-Session 2015 of the Assembly (26-30 January);
 - Strasbourg, during the 2nd Part-Session 2015 of the Assembly (20-24 April);
 - Strasbourg, during the 3rd Part-Session 2015 of the Assembly (22-26 June);
 - Strasbourg, during the 4th Part-Session 2015 of the Assembly (28 September-2 October).

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