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Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme

SECRETARIAT

9 September 2011 Synopsis AS/Jur No 2011/06

# To the Members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

# Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 7 September 2011

**The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights,** meeting in Paris on 7 September 2011 with Mr Christos Pourgourides (Cyprus, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- Abuse of State Secrecy and National Security: Obstacles to Parliamentary and Judicial Scrutiny of Human Rights Violations (Rapporteur: Mr Dick Marty, Switzerland, ALDE): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation, with a view to presenting them at the Assembly's October 2011 part-session;
- **Human Rights and Fight against Terrorism** (Rapporteur: Lord John Tomlinson, United Kingdom, SOC): considered and approved a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution, with a view to presenting them at the Assembly's October 2011 part-session;
- The protection of privacy and personal data on the Internet and online media (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Rudy Salles, France, EPP/CD): considered and unanimously approved the Committee's opinion with a view to the debate at the Assembly's October 2011 part-session;
- Threats to the Rule of Law in Council of Europe member states: asserting the Parliamentary Assembly's authority (Rapporteur: Ms Marieluise Beck, Germany, ALDE): held a round table on the case of Sergey Magnitsky with the participation of:
  - Ms Elena A. Panfilova, General Director, Center for Anti-corruption Research and Initiative, Transparency International, Moscow
  - Ms Yevgenia M. Albats, Editor-in-Chief, The New Times, Moscow;
- Appointment of rapporteurs:
  - The protection of minors against sectarian influence: appointed Mr Rudy Salles (France, EPP/CD);
  - Parliamentary contribution to solving the Western Sahara conflict (for opinion): appointed Mr Egidijus Vareikis (Lithuania, EPP/CD);

### Other business

 Following an invitation from the Serbian delegation, decided to hold a meeting of the Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism on 28 October 2011 in Belgrade, Serbia;

- Decided to change the title of Mrs Bemelmans-Videc's report from "Ad hoc judges: a problem for the legitimacy of the European Court of Human Rights" to "Ad hoc judges at the European Court of Human Rights: an overview" and to present the report as an information report:
- Agreed to the participation of Mr Díaz Tejera in the hearing on "State media freedom in Europe" organised by the Sub-Committee on the Media of the Committee on Culture, Science and Education, to be held in Stockholm on 12 September 2011, subject to the availability of funds.
- Agreed that the Committee Chairman should address an urgent appeal to the Governor of Florida (USA), Mr Rick Scott, to order a stay of the execution of Mr Manuel Valle, on humanitarian grounds.

#### Next meetings

#### Plenary Committee:

- Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4<sup>th</sup> part-session of 2011 (3-7 October 2011)
- Paris, 16 November 2011 (Council of Europe Office)
- Paris, 13 December 2011, 9 am 1 pm (Council of Europe Office)

## Sub-Committee on Crime Problems and the Fight against Terrorism:

• Belgrade, 28 October 2011, 9 am - 1 pm (Belgrade, Serbia)

#### Sub-Committee on Human Rights:

• Paris, 13 December 2011, 2.30 - 5.30 pm (Council of Europe Office)

Andrew Drzemczewski, Günter Schirmer, Roland Klages

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly

Observers to the Assembly

Secretary General of the Congress Secretary to the Committee of Ministers Directors General

Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisational Development and Reform

Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights

**Director of Communication** 

Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe