



AS/Ega (2026) CB 05

26 June 2026

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

### Synopsis

### of meetings held in Strasbourg on 22, 23 and 25 June 2026

The Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, meeting in Strasbourg on 22, 23 and 25 June 2026,

- **Monday 22 June 2026 from 2pm to 3.30pm**, chaired first by Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), Chairperson, then by Ms Sevilay Çelenk (Türkiye, UEL), 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chairperson, as regards:
  - **Statement by the Chairperson of the committee**: heard a statement by the Chairperson;
  - **Debate under urgent procedure on “Women’s access to justice”**: appointed Ms Aysu Bankoğlu (Türkiye, SOC) as Rapporteur subject to the completion of the obligation to update her declaration of interests to include the rapporteur role, within the relevant deadline;
  - **Comprehensive protection of children in rainbow families across Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Lucia Plaváková, Slovak Republic, ALDE*): considered an introductory memorandum;
  - **Appointment of representatives**: appointed:
    - Mr Georgios Stamatīs (Greece, EPP/CD), Mr Francesco Verducci (Italy, SOC) and Mr István Gyöngyösi (Hungary, EPP/CD) as representatives to the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly to take part in the European Holocaust Memorial Day for Roma and Sinti (Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, 2 August 2026), subject to approval by the Bureau of the Assembly (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
    - Ms Kate Osborne (United Kingdom, SOC) to participate in the Human Rights Conference organised during the WorldPride Amsterdam 2026 (Amsterdam, 5-7 August 2026) (*subject to the availability of funds*);
  - **Work programme**: took note of the work programme;
  - **Consideration of two draft motions for a resolution with a view to their adoption by the committee and for tabling on its behalf**: considered and adopted two draft motions for a resolution on *Preventing and combating feminicides in Europe* and on *Access to support services, protection and assistance for all women victims of violence: from principles to reality on the ground*, to be tabled on behalf of the committee;
  - **Appointment of rapporteurs for reports**: appointed by acclamation:
    - Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) as Rapporteur for report on *Attacks on the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe: a threat to democracy* subject to the completion of the obligation to update her declaration of interests to include the rapporteur role, within the relevant deadline;
    - Ms Sevilay Çelenk (Türkiye, UEL) as Rapporteur for report on *Social media platforms, women and girls: harnessing democratic potential while safeguarding fundamental rights* subject to the completion of the obligation to update her declaration of interests to include the rapporteur role, within the relevant deadline;
  - **Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment 2026**: held an exchange of views with Ms Lana Čop, representative of My Voice, My Choice (Slovenia), laureate of the 2026 Vigdís Prize, as well as with

- Ms Ruth Njihia, representative of Girl Child Counselling Women Group (Kenya), and Ms Jeny Pokharel and Mr Sanjiv Upadhyaya, representatives of SASANE – Samrakshak Samuha (Nepal);
- **Tuesday 23 June 2026, from 8.30am to 9am**, with Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:
    - **Debate under urgent procedure on “Women’s access to justice”** (*Rapporteur: Ms Aysu Bankoğlu, Türkiye, SOC*): adopted a draft resolution as amended;
    - **Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination**: held a joint hearing with the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, with the participation of: Ms Nataliia Kalmykova, Minister for Veterans’ Affairs, Ukraine (*online*); Mr Ruslan Topchan, Veterans affairs expert at the National Assembly of People with Disabilities of Ukraine; Ms Kateryna Pryimak, Co-founder and leader of Veteranka, Ukraine; Ms Olga Rudneva, Chairperson of Superhumans, Ukraine (*online*), and Ms Dvenyslava Rymar, Veteran, military intelligence officer, Ukraine;
  - **Tuesday 23 June 2026, from 2pm to 3.30pm**, with Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:
    - **Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media** (*Rapporteur: Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk, Ukraine, ALDE; Rapporteur for opinion from the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: Mr Benjamin Dalle, Belgium, EPP/CD*): took position on 10 amendments to the draft resolution;
    - **On the road to parity: supporting young women in politics** (*Rapporteur: Ms Aysu Bankoğlu, Türkiye, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;
    - **The deterioration of women’s rights in Afghanistan: the need for a global response** (*Rapporteur: Ms Maria Syrengela, Greece, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the rapporteur read by the Chairperson, held an exchange of views on further support for Afghan women and decided to hold a joint hearing with the Committee on Migration, International Protection and Economic Co-operation during the Autumn part-session;
    - **Activities of the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence, the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance and the General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers**: heard statements by the General Rapporteurs, including a statement on the International Day for Countering Hate Speech (18 June 2026);
    - **Protecting ethnic and religious diversity in Syria** (*Rapporteur: Ms Bisera Kostadinovska-Stojchevska, North Macedonia, SOC*): considered an introductory memorandum;
    - **World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 2-3 November 2026**: appointed Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE) and Mr Francesco Verducci (Italy, SOC) as representatives to the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly to participate in the World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 2-3 November 2026) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
  - **Thursday 25 June 2026, from 8.30am to 10am**, with Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:
    - **Activities of the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe**: heard a statement by the General Rapporteur on the rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex (LGBTI) persons;
    - **Violent pornography: a test for human rights** (*Rapporteur: Laura Castel, Spain, UEL*): took position on 25 amendments to the draft resolution and on 5 amendments to the draft recommendation;
    - **Women’s access to justice** (*Rapporteur: Ms Aysu Bankoğlu, Türkiye, SOC*): took note that no amendment to the draft resolution had been tabled;
    - **Reporting back**: heard a report from Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE) on her participation in the Council of Europe Gender Equality Commission (GEC) annual conference, under the aegis of the Monegasque Presidency of the Committee of Ministers on “Women forging lasting peace: Dismantling barriers to gender-inclusive conflict resolution and peacebuilding” (9 June 2026, Strasbourg);
    - **Composition of sub-committees**: noted that there were no modifications in the composition of the sub-committees;
    - **Other business**: no other business was raised;

- **Next meetings:** took note of its next meetings as follows:
  - Paris, 18 September 2026 (Council of Europe office);
  - Strasbourg, during the fourth part-session 2026 of the Assembly (28 September- 2 October);
  - Paris, 30 November 2026 (Council of Europe office).

\*\*\*\*\*

**The Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination**, meeting in Strasbourg, on 23 June 2026, from 9am to 10am, with Ms Mariia Mezentseva-Fedorenko (Ukraine, EPP/CD), Chair, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Providing support and assistance to veterans with disabilities:** held a joint hearing with the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, with the participation of:
  - Ms Nataliia Kalmykova, Minister for Veterans' Affairs, Ukraine (*online*);
  - Mr Ruslan Topchan, Veteran, veterans affairs expert at the National Assembly of People with Disabilities of Ukraine;
  - Ms Kateryna Pryimak, Co-founder and leader of Veteranka, Ukraine;
  - Ms Olga Rudneva, Chairperson of Superhumans, Ukraine (*online*);
  - Ms Dvenyslava Rymar, Veteran, military intelligence officer, Ukraine.

\*\*\*\*\*

**The No Hate Parliamentary Alliance**, meeting in Strasbourg on 23 June 2026, from 1pm to 2pm, with Mr Francesco Verducci (Italy, SOC), Co-ordinator of the Alliance, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Countering hate speech in public discourse:** held an exchange of views, with the participation of:
  - Dr Natalie Alkiviadou, Senior Research Fellow, The Future of Free Speech, Vanderbilt University;
  - Mr Amos Wasserbach, Senior Manager Strategy and Business Development, Das NETTZ, Germany;
  - Ms Béatrice Fracchiolla, Professor in Language Sciences, University of Lorraine, France.

Louise Barton, Carolina Lasén Diaz, Giorgio Loddo, Elodie Fischer, Louise Morlon

---

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Directors and officers of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Secretaries of national delegations and political groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer delegations and partners for democracy  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers  
Director General and Directors General  
Director of the Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe



## Appendix 1

### Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities *Sous-commission sur les droits des minorités*

#### List of members / *Liste des membres*

##### Chairperson / *Président·e*

ZZ...

##### Vice-Chairperson / *Vice-Président·e*

ZZ...

##### Full Members / *Titulaires*

- |     |                             |                                |
|-----|-----------------------------|--------------------------------|
| 1.  | MAMIJANYAN Hayk [Mr]        | Armenia / <i>Arménie</i>       |
| 2.  | DE BRABANDERE Bob [M.]      | Belgium / <i>Belgique</i>      |
| 3.  | FRANKOVIĆ Mato [Mr]         | Croatia / <i>Croatie</i>       |
| 4.  | ZZ...                       | Denmark / <i>Danemark</i>      |
| 5.  | SILVANI Silvana [Mme]       | France                         |
| 6.  | POLAT Filiz [Mr]            | Germany / <i>Allemagne</i>     |
| 7.  | STYLIANIDIS Evripidis [Mr]  | Greece / <i>Grèce</i>          |
| 8.  | STEPHENSON Patricia [Ms]    | Ireland / <i>Irlande</i>       |
| 9.  | VERDUCCI Francesco [Mr]     | Italy / <i>Italie</i>          |
| 10. | DEŠIĆ Edina [Ms]            | Montenegro / <i>Monténégro</i> |
| 11. | NOWICKA Wanda [Ms]          | Poland / <i>Pologne</i>        |
| 12. | HOLBAN Georgeta-Carmen [Ms] | Romania / <i>Roumanie</i>      |
| 13. | KOVÁCS Elvira [Ms]          | Serbia / <i>Serbie</i>         |
| 14. | PEÑA Esther [Ms]            | Spain / <i>Espagne</i>         |
| 15. | MICHEL Matthias [M.]        | Switzerland / <i>Suisse</i>    |
| 16. | CANBEY Mustafa [Mr]         | Türkiye                        |
| 17. | KRAVCHUK Yevheniia [Ms]     | Ukraine                        |

##### Alternates / *Remplaçant·es*

- |                                 |
|---------------------------------|
| BERNARD Alice [Mme]             |
| THIÉBAULT-MARTINEZ Céline [Mme] |
| DROßMANN Falko [Mr]             |
| PSYCHOGIOS Georgios [Mr]        |
| MIELI Ester [Ms]                |
| CSOMA Botond [Mr]               |
| LATORRE José [Mr]               |
| HESS Erich [M.]                 |
| ÇELENK Sevilay [Ms]             |
| KAMELCHUK Yuriy [Mr]            |

##### Ex officio

Ms Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO, Chairperson of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination /  
*Mme Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO, Présidente de la Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination*



## Appendix 2

### Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination

#### *Sous-commission sur le handicap et la discrimination multiple et intersectionnelle*

##### List of members / Liste des membres

###### Chairperson / Président·e

MEZENTSEVA-FEDORENKO Mariia [Ms] Ukraine

###### Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président·e

STAMATIS, Georgios [Mr] Greece / Grèce

###### Full Members / Titulaires

GRIGORYAN Hripsime [Ms]

BERNARD Alice [Mme]

ZZ...

HAATAINEN Tuula [Ms]

SILVANI Silvana [Mme]

KERSTEN Franziska [Ms]

STAMATIS Georgios [Mr]

GRAVES Ann [Ms]

POLIDORI Catia [Ms]

ATTARD Ramona [Ms]

CSOMA Botond [Mr]

PEÑA Esther [Ms]

AMAUDRUZ Céline [Mme]

ZZ...

MEZENTSEVA-FEDORENKO Mariia [Ms]

OSBORNE Kate [Ms]

Armenia / Arménie

Belgium / Belgique

Denmark / Danemark

Finland / Finlande

France

Germany / Allemagne

Greece / Grèce

Ireland / Irlande

Italy / Italie

Malta / Malte

Romania / Roumanie

Spain / Espagne

Switzerland / Suisse

Türkiye

Ukraine

United Kingdom /  
Royaume Uni

###### Alternates / Remplaçant·es

DIERICX Manu [M.]

MARTEL Johann [Mr]

SYRENGELA Maria [Ms]

SIGHIARTĂU Robert Ionatan [Mr]

LATORRE José [Mr]

PILLER CARRARD Valérie [Mme]

BANKOĞLU Aysu [Ms]

KRAVCHUK Yevheniia [Ms]

BAKER Richard [Mr]

###### Ex officio

Ms Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO, Chairperson of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination /  
Mme Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO, Présidente de la Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination