COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Information Documents

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Implementation of Committee of Ministers' Resolution (2016)3 on participatory status for international non-governmental organisations with the Council of Europe

Granting of participatory status

Communication to the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities

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1. In accordance with the rules as set out in the Committee of Ministers' Resolution (2016)3 (Article 8 of its appendix), on participatory status for international non-governmental organisations (INGOs) with the Council of Europe, the Secretary General has the honour to communicate to the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, for their tacit approval, the names of the INGOs to which it has been decided to grant or refuse participatory status.

2. Further information on these INGOs and the reasons for the decisions are contained in the appendices to this document[1]:

Appendix 1: Granting of status: INGOs which applied for participatory status and which meet all the conditions set out in Article 2 of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3;

Appendix 2: Refusal of status: INGOs which applied for participatory status and which do not meet all the conditions set out in Article 2 of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3.

3. In conformity with Article 6 of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3, the Secretariat communicated the names of the INGOs concerned to the Standing Committee of the Conference of INGOs, which expressed a favourable opinion within the required 30 calendar days.

4. In the absence of any objection raised by the Committee of Ministers, the Parliamentary Assembly or the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, founded on the conditions set out in Article 9 of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3, the decision of the Secretary General will enter into force 60 calendar days from the date of this document.

[1] Two other requests are being processed as part of the ongoing procedure for 2025.

Appendix 1

INGOs which applied for participatory status and to which the Secretary General intends to grant participatory status

The following INGOs which applied for participatory status fulfil the conditions set out in Article 2 of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3 and are recommended for participatory status. Further information on each INGO is presented in this document.

- Centre de la Protection Internationale (CPI)
- Campaign to Uphold Rights in Europe (CURE)
- International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL)
- Missing Children Europe (MCE)
- Save the Children Europe

Conditions set out in Article 2 of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3:

"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs:

a. which respect and defend the values and principles of the Council of Europe;

b. which are able, through their work, to support the achievement of that closer unity mentioned in Article 1 of the Council of Europe's Statute;

c. which are created on the basis of a constitutive act adopted according to democratic principles;

d. which have a democratic structure and governance;

e. which are particularly representative in the field(s) of their competence, fields of action shared by the Council of Europe;

f. which are represented at European level, that is to say which have members in at least five member States of the Council of Europe;

g. which were created and have implemented activities at least two years before the moment of applying for participatory status;

h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe;

i. which are capable of contributing to and participating actively in Council of Europe deliberations and activities;

j. which are able to make known the work of the Council of Europe to society."

Centre de la Protection Internationale (CPI)

Founded: 2006

Type of NGO: Association

Headquarters:
22 Rue de la 1ère Armée
67000 Strasbourg
France
Internet site: https://cpingo.org/

Aims: protection of the human rights in Council of Europe member States - both directly and by assisting, collaborating with and supporting civil society in these countries.

Activities: legal assistance, consultations, dissemination of information, creation of a library of international human rights acts, existing legislation, precedents, literature, references in the field of human rights.

Geographical representation in Europe: France, Georgia, Germany, Switzerland, Ukraine.

Funding: private donations, grant agreements.

Reasons why the Centre de la Protection Internationale (CPI) should be considered for participatory status

The *Centre de la Protection Internationale* is a very active NGO specialised in defending cases before the European Court of Human Rights. It regularly co-operates with the Council of Europe, notably in the execution of judgments of the ECtHR and with PACE Committees.

CPI provides the Committee of Ministers with communications under Rule 9.2 of the CM Rules on the supervision of the execution of ECtHR judgments and participated in a joint hearing with the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons. On 11 March 2024, the Committee of Ministers invited the CPI Chairperson to an informal exchange with representatives of Russian NGOs on cases against the Russian Federation.

The *Centre de la Protection Internationale* is in a position to promote the work of the Council of Europe through the organisation of seminars, trainings and roundtables for lawyers, civil activists, human rights defenders and journalists.

Campaign to Uphold Rights in Europe (CURE)

Founded: 2022

Type of NGO: Network / Association

Headquarters:
44 Bad St.
13357 Berlin
Germany
Internet site: www.cure-campaign.org

Aims: contribute to the strengthening of the Council of Europe in fulfilling its statutory role as a guardian and promoter of a pan-European legal framework in human rights, democracy and rule of law, and as a pioneer in developing international norms and standards.

Activities: advocacy and awareness-raising.

Geographical representation in Europe: Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Ireland, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Serbia, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine.

Funding: governmental and private donations.

Reasons why the Campaign to Uphold Rights in Europe (CURE) should be considered for participatory status

CURE brings together eighteen civil society organisations, some of them already members of CINGO, and holds regular meetings with representatives of the Council of Europe. It participated in the first exchange of the former Council of Europe Secretary General with Civil Society on 15 September 2023 in Strasbourg. It also participated in the parallel civil society event at the ministerial meeting in Turin (May 2022) and co-organised the Civil Society Summit in The Hague ahead of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government in Reykjavík in co-operation with the Conference of INGOs (February-March 2023). It has also organised several webinars since 2023, including the dialogue and discussion format “This Is Only the Beginning: Council of Europe and Civil Society After Reykjavík” with preparation of The Hague Civil Society Declaration in February-March 2023.

CURE has prepared documents such as the input to the High-Level Reflection Group (July 2022) and follow-up documents on Council of Europe’s engagement with civil society (September 2023).

The Campaign is in a position to promote the work of the Council of Europe through social media and its newsletters.

International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL)

Founded: 1986

Type of NGO: Association

Headquarters:
81 Main Street
10601 New York
United States of America
Internet site: www.iafl.com

Aims: provide international legal advice and improve the practice of law and the administration of justice in the area of matrimonial and family law.

Activities: facilitate advice, representation and education to all and promote law reform internationally.

Geographical representation in Europe: Albania, Andorra, Belgium, Bulgaria, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovak Republic, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Funding: membership fees.

Reasons why the International Academy of Family Lawyers (IAFL) should be considered for participatory status

The International Academy of Family Lawyers co-operates actively with the CJ/ENF-IS Expert Committee. It regularly contributes to the development of draft Recommendations and implementation tools on the rights and the best interests of the child in parental separation and in care proceedings and participated in several surveys of the CJ/ENF-IS. In 2022, IAFL was invited by the CJ/ENF-IS to take part in a hearing which provided a platform for member States to engage with representatives of international non-governmental organisations, professional associations and international networks of lawyers, family mediators and other professionals, etc.

IAFL is in a position to promote the work of the Council of Europe through its official online communication channels, but also by inviting relevant Council of Europe representatives to make presentations at meetings and symposia of common interest.

Missing Children Europe (MCE)

Founded: 2001

Type of NGO: Federation

Headquarters:
Rue de l'Industrie
1000 Brussels
Belgium
Internet site: www.missingchildreneurope.eu

Aims: prevention of children going missing and protection of children from any violence, abuse or exploitation leading to or resulting from disappearance.

Activities: research, training, advocacy, awareness raising, facilitation of thematic exchanges and cross-order co-operation, co-ordination of the network of the missing child hotlines.

Geographical representation in Europe: Albania, Austria, Belgium, Bulgaria, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Netherlands, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Serbia, Slovak Republic, Spain, Switzerland, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Funding: membership fees, public funding, private donations, fundraising.

Reasons why Missing Children Europe (MCE) should be considered for participatory status

Missing Children Europe has an excellent and longstanding co-operation with the Children's Rights Division of the Council of Europe. Its experts participate in joint activities e, and it exchanges information and good practices and provides comments on draft documents.

MCE is a focal point at the Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU). It has also observer status with the Lanzarote Committee, the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF), the Committee of Experts on the Rights and the Best Interests of the Child in Parental Separation and in Care-Proceedings (CJ/ENF-ISE), the Committee of Experts on the Prevention of Violence (ENF-VAE) and participates in the Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine launched in November 2023.

Missing Children Europe is in a position to promote the work of the Council of Europe among its member organisations and pertinent stakeholders.

Save the Children Europe

Founded: 1919

Type of NGO: Organisation

Headquarters:
Rue Marie Thérèse 21
1000 Brussels
Belgium
Internet site: www.savethechildren.net

Aims: driving change for children most impacted by inequality and discrimination, ensuring policies and funding have a lasting and positive impact on children's lives.

Activities: advocacy, promotional campaigns, fundraising, international programmes, research and consultancy.

Geographical representation in Europe: Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Serbia, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, Türkiye, Ukraine, United Kingdom.

Funding: public funding, private donations.

Reasons why Save the Children Europe should be considered for participatory status

Save the Children Europe is the world's first and largest independent children's rights organisation collaborating with the Council of Europe, notably with the Division on Migration and Refugees.

It is also a regular and reliable partner of the Commissioner for Human Rights' Office.

Save the Children Europe is in a position to promote the work of the Council of Europe to general public, media and institutions through media and communication, policy and advocacy by referring to Council of Europe documents and recommendations.

Appendix 2

INGOs which applied for participatory status which do not meet the required conditions

Name of INGO	Aims	Headquarters	Reason for refusal
Association Justice and Environment (J&E)	Handling cases, participating in legislative processes and sometimes providing legal analyses and consultations for national governments	Czechia	The Association Justice and Environment (J&E) currently has no direct working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*
Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL)	Use the power of law to protect the environment, promote human rights and ensure a just and sustainable society.	United States of America	The Center for International Environmental Law (CIEL) is not represented at European level. It therefore does not meet condition 2.f of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: f. which are represented at European level, that is to say which have members in at least five member States of the Council of Europe".*
International Liaison Centre of Women's Freemasonry (CLIMAF)	Create for its members a space for reflection, exchange, dialogue and joint actions promoting the values of Universal Free Masonry, and particularly of Women's Free Masonry, and of democracy.	France	The International Liaison Centre of Women's Freemasonry (CLIMAF) currently has no working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*
Global Pact for the Environment	Encourage the promotion of a Global Pact for the Environment and of any international text enshrining the rights, duties and	France	The Global Pact for the Environment currently has no working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*

	fundamental principles relating to the environment.		
International Communities Organisation (ICO)	Empower communities, by giving them tools so that they may autonomously develop their skills and ideas and use peaceful channels to set out their self-development goals for their legitimate rights as they are guaranteed by the international humanitarian law and the human rights conventions.	United Kingdom	The International Communities Organisation (ICO) currently has no working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs:* *h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*
Ivanov School of Leaders – Alumni Association (ISLAA)	Stimulate the positive values of the young intellectual elite and future political, cultural and economic leaders of the country, to develop their capacities to take on the challenges emerged with the global technology, international competition and cultural and religious diversities.	North Macedonia	Ivanov School of Leaders – Alumni Association (ISLAA) is a national NGO and currently has no working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet conditions 2.f and 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: "*2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs:* *f. which are represented at European level, that is to say which have members in at least five member States of the Council of Europe;* *h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*
Mas Human Rights	Improve the quality of life and combat all forms of social exclusion and discrimination against migrants and women of all ages; support fragility; spread the culture and practice of solidarity and participation; enhance the experience, skills, creativity	Italy	Mas Human Rights is a national NGO, currently has no working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: "2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".

	and ideas of older people; develop solidarity and exchange relations with younger generations.		
OTHERS (Solidarity with)	Defend and promote human rights in Türkiye and elsewhere	Belgium	OTHERS (Solidarity with) currently has no working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*
SosyalBen	Support the social development and social identities of the children of 7-13 age living in disadvantaged regions; broaden their horizons; boost their self-confidence and contribute to raising these children as happier individuals; support them to gain sharing and social life awareness and maintain the continuity of all of these goals.	Türkiye	SosyalBen currently has no meaningful working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*
World Diplomatic Organization for Justice and Peace (WDOJP)	Engage global leaders and governments, provide strategic solutions to the most pressing issues facing the world, and generate ideas that help improve the state of the world.	United States of America	World Diplomatic Organization for Justice and Peace currently has no working relations with the Council of Europe. It therefore does not meet condition 2.h of the appendix to Resolution (2016)3: *"2. Participatory status may be granted by the Council of Europe to INGOs: h. which already have working relations with the Council of Europe".*