

Western European MEP VI: Lier

DROI PREP MODULE: COMMITTEE ON HUMAN RIGHTS

1 Content of this document

This document provides a comprehensive overview of committee meetings, resolution writing, and the rules governing the process. It emphasizes the collaborative effort required to formulate resolutions, detailing the process from brainstorming to the final formulation. This document also includes the evaluation criteria for every individual during meetings.

2 Necessary information

Before we dive into this preparational document regarding the DROI committee, the committee presidents mentioned below would like to invite you to deliver us the following information by mail **before 15/2/2024:**

- 1) Your phone number to add to a WhatsApp group of the DROI committee in which useful information can and will be shared
- 2) Your **point of view** document:
 - A document with a maximum length of 1 page, containing your opinion regarding the 4 sub-topics, substantiated with strong arguments.

3 Introduction to committee meetings

3.1 The purpose of committee meetings

Essentially, the committee meetings will be used to ultimately write the best possible resolution for the existing issue. This resolution will then be presented and advocated during the General Assembly with the aim of its approval.

Performing this task effectively requires good cooperation, structure, preparation and last, but not least a decent amount of dedication.

The presidents will strive to keep the committee meetings on a firm footing in order write the resolution as convenient as possible.

3.2 The content of a good resolution

The idea of a resolution is to first introduce the problems, in what is called an 'Introductory Clause' (IC), and then find the solutions to that problem in what is called an 'Operative Clause' (OC). In doing so, the intention is that all ICs together cover the issue and all OC's together cover all IC's. Consequently, these are the only rules for the resolution, consisting of ICs and OCs, following in terms of content.

In terms of writing style, IC's and OC's require to start with certain initial words first, which you will receive.

3.3 What will the committee meetings look like

1. **IC-brainstorm:** We will start with an IC-brainstorm, in which all committee members can submit a number of (brainstorming-)ICs. The presidents will select the most useful.
2. **Merge or remove:** After delegation members have been given time to read through the ICs, they will have the opportunity to merge or remove existing ICs.
3. **Adjust or define the resolution:** On the merged or non-removed ICs, it will then have to be decided whether they should be included in the resolution in the existing way or whether they need further content adjustments.
4. **Formulate:** Finally, the approved ICs, if necessary, will remain to be formulated according to the prescribed guidelines.
5. **The OC's:** This same order will be followed when discussing OCs, but more time will be provided for them, given their higher importance.

3.4 Rules during committee meetings

In the interests of a good constructive meeting, a number of rules will need to be followed.

- **Electronic devices:** in theory, electronic devices are not allowed during the committee meetings to encourage research prior to the sessions and to ensure attention at the meeting. However there will be specific periods where additional research is necessary. At such moments, the use of your electronic devices will be permitted.
- **Politeness:** insults are not tolerated at all times. This means we won't accept the usage of personal pronouns and/or personal attacks.
For example:
Wrong: I do not agree with the argument you brought up
Right: To respond on what the delegate of X brought up
- **Dresscode:** No sneakers allowed.
Boys: suit/shirt with bow or tie.
Girls: appropriate chique/casual-chique clothing.
Others: appropriate clothing for this formal gathering.
- **Respect for presidency:** Stand up when the presidency enters the room to observe the discussions.
- **The counting of words:** As the president will always be the one who gives the committee members the turn to speak and as this must be done fair, the turns will be counted.
- **Assignment of word:** You need to speak through the president.
- **Right of word:** You don't need to thank for the word, because we find that you have the right to speak. Please note that you will need to thank the presidency for the word during the GA.
- **Addressing:** Address your fellow committee members with 'the delegate of'.
- **Asking for word:** If one of the presidents asks for a new item or proposal, you need to raise your plaque-card of your delegation (which you will receive) if you want the word.
- **Usage of word:** You only start speaking when the president assigns you to.
- **Ways to react:** During the formal debates you will have two manners to react to a proposal or anyone's word: giving reaction or assent. Giving reaction means you do not agree with the proposed or with someone's opinion, whereas giving assent means that you approve of this.
- **Interruption:** It is forbidden at all times to raise your plaque card while another delegate is speaking as well as interrupting someone by speaking.

4 General assembly

The ultimate goal of this resolution is to be voted through during the General Assembly. On this day, delegates will present their resolution to those who were not part of the DROI committee. This will be followed by answering questions and explaining chosen strategies, possibly leading to defence against amendments or entire counter-speeches. Finally, delegates, committee presidents and presidents will vote in favour, against or in withdrawal of the resolution. More information about the General Assembly proceedings can be found on the official MEP Belgium website through this link:

https://www.mepbelgium.be/files/ugd/d47537_5e37713be2474cfb830538de46e0fee7.pdf

5 Evaluation

On which criteria will an individual be evaluated during the committee meeting?:

- **Research/knowledge:** Thoroughly understand the position you want to represent, including historical context, current policies, and your constituency's interests.
- **Participation:** Contribute actively to debates, engage with other delegates, and participate in negotiations to mirror the collaborative nature of parliamentary decision-making. Do keep in mind that quality is more important than quantity. But the degree of participation will still be noted.
- **Embrace diplomacy:** Approach discussions with a diplomatic mindset, emphasizing cooperation and seeking common ground to foster consensus and compromise.
- **Negotiation:** Engage in negotiations, find common ground, and demonstrate a willingness to compromise when appropriate.
- **Respect:** Pay close attention to the arguments presented by other delegates and engage respectfully with others, fostering a positive and inclusive environment for dialogue and collaboration.
- **Attendance:** Be on time for every meeting during the entire MEP session.

6 CONTACT INFORMATION

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