



European Economic and Social Committee

Liaison Group - Civil Society Organisations

Record of proceedings

Meeting of 17 April 2018

1. Welcome by Conny Reuter

The Liaison Group Co-chair, Conny Reuter, opened the meeting by welcoming the participants and invited them to a short presentation round.

2. Election of the co-chair of the Liaison Group/renewal of Conny Reuter's mandate

According to the Operating Rule of the Liaison Group, the term of the Co-chair had to be renewed. The decision needs simple majority and needs then to be ratified by all members of the Liaison group, scheduled for the first week of July. Conny Reuter asked for the renewal of his mandate as co-chair of the Liaison Group. As there were no objections the mandate was formally renewed. The Co-chair thanked the participants for their confidence and their support.

3. Adoption of the Action Plan for the implementation of Articles 11(1) and 11(2) of the Treaty on European Union

The Action Plan for the implementation of Articles 11(1) and 11(2) of the Treaty on European Union (revised Riga Roadmap) was adopted unanimously. It will be presented to the full Liaison Group in July for adoption and then translated into all official languages. Members of the Liaison Group will be invited to disseminate it at the local level. The institutional follow-up should include actions and contacts with the Commission (Commissioner Jourovà), the EP (President Tajani and LIBE committee), the CoR (President Karl-Heinz Lamberts) the Council (to be decided) and the COREPER.

4. Confirmation of Front Line Defenders as alternate member of the Liaison Group in the field of human rights

Pierluigi Brombo presented the organisation *Front Line Defenders*, whose specific aim is to protect human rights defenders at risk. Members were asked if they could agree that this organisation becomes a Liaison Group alternate, covering the *Human Rights* sector. There were no objections and

therefore the Co-chair will make the proposal, in agreement with the EESC President, to appoint Front Line Defenders as an LG alternate member, in next meeting of the full LG.

5. Update on the Civil Society Days 2018

Karen Serafini explained that Members of the Liaison Group have the possibility to hold a stand in Foyer 6 during Civil Society Days. She asked who is interested. ECAS, LLP and RED were interested. Volunteering Matters might be interested but will confirm later. Maximum 6 stands are available.
