

Human rights

**A continuing challenge
for the Council of Europe**

CONTENTS

	Page
I. INTRODUCTION	1
Q. THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE'S MAIN SUPERVISORY MECHANISMS IN THE FIELD OF HUMAN RIGHTS	5
1. The Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms (1950).	5
(a) The European Commission of Human Rights	7
(b) The European Court of Human Rights.	9
(c) The Committee of Ministers.	12
(d) Effect of the Convention.	14
(e) Reform of the European Convention on Human Rights: Protocol No. 11.	15
(f) A single Court of Human Rights in Strasbourg	16
2. The European Social Charter (1961).	20
3. The European Convention for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (1987).	25
III. OTHER COUNCIL OF EUROPE ACTION IN THE HUMAN RIGHTS FIELD	29
1. Introduction	29
(a) The development of human rights.	29
(b) The promotion of human rights.	33
2. Equality between women and men.	38

	Page
3. Efforts to combat racism, xenophobia, antisemitism and intolerance.	43
4. Protection of the rights of persons belonging to national minorities.	45
5. Activities in the social field.	50
6. Activities in the media field.	57
7. Activities in the field of education and culture.	62
8. Activities in the legal field.	66
9. Human rights and genuine democracy.	76
IV. CO-OPERATION AND ASSISTANCE PROGRAMMES WITH RESPECT TO COUNTRIES OF CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPE.	79
V. RELATIONS WITH OTHER INTERGOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS AND NON-GOVERNMENTAL ORGANISATIONS.	85
1. United Nations and its specialised agencies.	85
2. Organisation on Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE).	88
3. Non-governmental organisations.	92

APPENDICES

Appendix 1:	Types of cases referred to the European Court of Human Rights	96
Appendix 2:	National reforms attributable to the European Social Charter.	115
Appendix 3:	Countries visited by the CPT and reports made public.	121
Appendix 4:	Key texts concerning equality between women and men.	127
Appendix 5:	Synopsis of Council of Europe Co-operation and Assistance Programmes with respect to countries of Central and Eastern Europe.	131
Appendix 6:	Selected list of recommendations, resolutions, opinions and orders adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly.	134
Appendix 7:	Selected list of recommendations, resolutions and declarations adopted by the Committee of Ministers.	137
Appendix 8:	Select Bibliography.	139
Appendix 9:	Sources of information.	141