



# INGOs Conference Council of Europe

Comenius Association Meeting  
Klingenthal  
Wednesday 22 May 2019

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- *The INGOs Conference (International Non-Governmental Organisations is one of the pillars of the Council of Europe (47 countries).*
  - *It is constituted by 307 INGOs and is the link between political representatives and citizens giving the voice of the civil society at the Council of Europe.*
  - *The Council of Europe and Non-Governmental Organisations are promoters of democracy and active citizenship in Europe*
  - *Comenius Association Comenius takes part since 2013 and obtained officially the participatory status since July 2017.*

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- *The INGOs Conference organizes two sessions a year and sessions for the committees and the workgroups.*
  - *Led by a Bureau and a Standing Committee (Including Richard Pirolt), the Conference of INGOs is made up of three thematic committees, an expert on gender equality and a council of experts.*



*Several representatives of member institutions of the Comenius Association were appointed by the assembly to follow more specifically the work of the three thematic committees.*

*I. Human Rights Committee : Thomas Schrei (Austria)*

***Working groups***

- Transversal group on Poverty: inequalities and enjoyment of Rights*
- Freedom expression and Media*
- Think tank on monitoring*

## **II. Democracy, Social Cohesion and Global Issues**

**Committee:** Jonathan Rooke (United Kingdom) & Niomi Kelly (Belgium)

### ***Working groups***

- Participation in democratic decision making
- Preventing corruption by engaging civil society
- Gender perspectives in political and democratic processes
- Transversal group on social and territorial cohesion

*III. Education and Culture Committee: Pieter Demeyer  
(Belgium) & George Camacho (Portugal)*

***Working groups***

- Intercultural cities
- Lifelong learning
- Europe of heritage and creation
- Transversal group Digital citizenship

- *The Board of management of the Comenius Association supports the plenary sessions of the Conference of INGOs and sometimes Committees as suppliants.*

# Some key dates

- **28 to 31 October 2019** – INGOs Conference  
Strasbourg
- **6 to 10 November 2019** – World Forum for  
Democracy 2019 will be dedicated  
to **information and democracy**.
- **29 to 31 January 2020** – Teacher Staff mid-  
week