Ress Release

Council of Europe Press Division Ref: 061a08 Tel: +33 (0)3 88 41 25 60 Fax:+33 (0)3 88 41 39 11 pressunit@coe.int internet: www.coe.int/press

47 members

Albania Andorra Armenia Austria Azerbaijan Belgium Bosnia and Herzegovina Bulgaria Croatia Cyprus Czech Republic Denmark Estonia Finland France Georgia Germany Greece Hungary Iceland Ireland Italy Latvia Liechtenstein Lithuania Luxembourg Malta Moldova Monaco Montenegro Netherlands Norway Poland Portugal Romania Russia San Marino Serbia Slovakia Slovenia Spain Sweden Switzerland "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" Turkev Ukraine United Kingdom

Commissioner Hammarberg to discuss human rights with UK national authorities

Strasbourg, 31.01.2008 - The Council of Europe's Commissioner for Human Rights, Thomas Hammarberg, will discuss the human rights situation in the UK with British authorities and non governmental organisations (NGOs) during a four-day visit to London starting on Tuesday 5 February. Discussions will focus on counter-terrorism, immigration and children's rights in particular.

During the visit, the Commissioner will meet several ministers (including the Minister for Human Rights), parliamentarians and ombudsmen as well as members of the newly-established Equalities and Human Rights Commission.

Mr Hammarberg will also meet NGO representatives and is due to speak at the conference on "Human Rights in the International Arena: Means of Protection and Prevention", organised by the British Institute of International and Comparative Law (Charles Clore House 17 Russell Square London WC1B 5JP) on Thursday 7 February.

For interview requests, please contact Dennis Van der Veur (dennis.van-derveur@coe.int, tel +33 662 167 995) or Sandra Ferreira (sandra.ferreira @coe.int).

* * *

The Commissioner for Human Rights is an independent, non-judicial institution within the Council of Europe, mandated to promote awareness of, and respect for, human rights in the organisation's 47 member states. Elected by the Council's Parliamentary Assembly, the present Commissioner, Thomas Hammarberg, took up his duties on 1 April 2006.

For further information on the Commissioner's activities, please visit <u>www.commissioner.coe.int</u>

To receive our press releases by e-mail, contact : Council.of.Europe.Press@coe.int

A political organisation set up in 1949, the Council of Europe works to promote democracy and human rights continent-wide. It also develops common responses to social, cultural and legal challenges in its 47 member states.

