Council of Europe Bioethics Convention

1995/2122(INI) - 04/06/1996

The committee made clear its opposition to eugenics - attempts to create improved human beings by making changes to inherited characteristics - when it adopted an own-initiative report on the Council of Europe's draft Bioethics Convention. On 4 June the committee adopted the report (PE 215.245) by Mr Seppo PELTTARI (ELDR, Fin) on the Draft Convention for the protection of human rights and dignity of the human being with regard to the application of biology and medicine (Bioethics Convention). In its report, the committee accepted that there was a close connection between the admissibility of embryo research and the development of germ line treatment (which involves interference with sexual reproductive cells and with early embryonic development and subsequent inheritance of the changes made).