



SECRETARIAT

AS/PoI (2017) CB 06

8 September 2017

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris 6 September 2017

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting in Paris on 6 September 2017, with Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- Enlarged debate on **The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2016-2017** with the participation of delegations of national parliaments of OECD member States which are not members of the Council of Europe, and of the European Parliament (*Rapporteur: Mr Alfred Heer, Switzerland, ALDE*): held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Juan Yermo, Deputy Chief of Staff, Office of the Secretary-General of the OECD, considered a draft report and adopted a draft resolution;
- **The evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Jordan** (*Rapporteur: Ms Josette Durrieu, France, SOC*): held an exchange of views, considered a draft report, amended and unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
- **Call for a Council of Europe Summit to defend and promote democratic security in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Michele Nicoletti, Italy, SOC*): held an exchange of views, considered a draft report, decided to change the title to: **Call for a Council of Europe Summit to reaffirm European unity and to defend and promote democratic security in Europe**, amended and unanimously adopted a draft resolution and a draft recommendation;
- **Open discussion on current issues:**
 - *Tunisia*: heard a statement by Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), former Rapporteur on *The political transition in Tunisia*, on the passing of a law on violence against women by the Tunisian Assembly of People's Representatives in July 2017;
 - *Turkey*: heard a statement by Ms Theodora Bakoyannis (Greece, EPP/CD) and agreed to hold an exchange of views on the situation in Turkey at its next meeting;
 - *Cyprus Peace Process*: heard statements by Messrs Mehmet Çağlar (representative of the Turkish Cypriot Community), George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), Ms Theodora Bakoyannis (Greece, EPP/CD) and Mr Cemalettin Kani Torun (Turkey, EC) on the recent failure of the Conference on Cyprus in Crans-Montana, Switzerland (June-July 2017), and agreed to put this issue on the agenda of one of its next meetings;

* In accordance with Resolution 1376 (2004).

– **Work programme:**

- appointed Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC) as Rapporteur on *A two-State solution in Israel and Palestine* and heard from him a declaration of absence of any conflict of interest;
- appointed Ms Marie-Françoise Perol-Dumont (France, SOC) as Rapporteur on *Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism* and heard from her a declaration of absence of any conflict of interest;
- called for candidates for opinion on *Establishment of a European Union mechanism on democracy, the rule of law and fundamental rights*;
- took note of the fact that, as regards the motion for resolution on *Towards a democratic approach to the issues of governance in European multinational States*, on which it was seized for opinion, the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, which was seized for report, had agreed to change the title to “*Towards a democratic approach to the issues of self-determination and secession*” and had approved an information report; agreed that an opinion by the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy was therefore no longer required and the item could be removed from its work programme;
- took note of the programme for the 2017 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 8-10 November 2017) and that the Assembly and GRECO have proposed a LAB on *Corruption and populism: can the international community help?*, with the participation of GRECO and OSCE/ODIHR representatives and of Mr Michele Nicoletti, in the context of the follow-up to his report on *Promoting integrity in public governance to combat political corruption*; proposed the following members to be appointed to the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly:
 - Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC),
 - Mr Luis Alberto Orellana (Italy, SOC);

– **Changes in the composition of the Sub-Committees:** approved the following change:

- Ms Arpine Hovhannisyan (Armenia, EPP/CD) becomes member of the Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD;

– **Next meetings:** confirmed the next meetings as follows:

- Strasbourg, during the Assembly’s 4th part-session, 9-13 October 2017
- 14 November 2017, Paris
- 14 December 2017, Paris.

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The **Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World** (of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy), meeting in Paris on 6 September 2017 with Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **A two-State solution in Israel and Palestine** (Doc. 14296, Reference 4295 of 30 May 2017 to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy): took note of the appointment as Rapporteur, by the Committee, of Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC), and held an exchange of views with the delegations from the Knesset and the Palestinian National Council;
- **Other business:** discussed the possibility of holding a meeting in Israel and Palestine in 2018;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** left it to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

D. Chatzivassiliou, J. Ary, P. Chevtchenko, A. Salanson

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe