



AS/Pol (2020) CB 01  
4 February 2020

## To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

### Synopsis of the meetings held in Strasbourg from 27 to 30 January 2020

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting in Strasbourg from 27 to 30 January 2020, first with Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC), senior member present, and then Mr Andreas Nick (Germany, EPP/CD), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the chair:

#### Monday 27 January 2020, 14:00 – 15:00, as regards:

– **Election of the Bureau of the Committee:**

elected, by acclamation:

- Dame Cheryl Gillan (United Kingdom, EC/DA), Chairperson,
- Mr Andreas Nick (Germany, EPP/CD), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chairperson,
- Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC), 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice-Chairperson,
- M. Claude Kern (France, ALDE), 3<sup>rd</sup> Vice-Chairperson;

– **Open discussion on current issues:** held an open discussion on recent developments in the Middle East and on the situation in Libya, and the consequences for Europe;

– **Reconstitution of Sub-Committees:** decided to reconstitute the Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World and the Sub-Committee on External Relations;

– **Exchange of views with Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** heard a statement by the Secretary General, focusing on the *Complementary joint procedure between the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly in response to a serious violation by a member State of its statutory obligations*, on the European Union accession to the European Convention on Human Rights, and on problems in the ratification of the Istanbul Convention, followed by an exchange of views;

#### Tuesday 28 January 2020, 8:30 – 10:00, as regards:

– **Standing invitations:** decided, in accordance with Resolution 1376 (2004) and with the decision of the Bureau of the Assembly of 4 October 2004 approved the same day by the Assembly, and according to Article 48.7 of the Rules of Procedure, to invite the elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community to attend its meetings during the Assembly 2020 Ordinary Session;

– **Consideration of draft motions for resolution:** considered and adopted motions for a resolution on the *Relationship between the parliamentary majority and the opposition in a democracy* and on *More participatory democracy to tackle climate change*;

– **Call for candidates for the Institutional representation of the Committee:** in the framework of the Assembly's institutional representation, called for candidates for the Council for democratic elections of the Venice Commission (CDE) and for the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI);

- **Call for candidates for reports:** called for candidates for the reports on *The Assembly must contribute to restoring peace in Ukraine* and on *Strengthen the role of the Council of Europe as a cornerstone of the European political architecture*;
- **Composition of Sub-Committees:** appointed the members of its standing Sub-Committees (see Appendix);
- **Strengthening parliamentary dialogue with Algeria** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jacques Maire, France, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and upon his proposal agreed to request an extension of the reference until 15 December 2020;
- **Need for democratic governance of artificial intelligence** (*Rapporteur: Ms Deborah Bergamini, Italy, EPP/CD*): considered an outline for report and heard a statement by the Rapporteur, followed by an exchange of views with Mr Dario Fumagalli, legal expert in the field of privacy protection;

**Wednesday 29 January 2020, 14:00 – 15:30, as regards:**

- **Complementary joint procedure between the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly in response to a serious violation by a member State of its statutory obligations** (*Rapporteur: Mr Frank Schwabe, Germany, SOC*): took position on 32 amendments to the draft resolution;
- **Appointment of rapporteurs:** appointed:  
  
Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), Rapporteur on the *Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Jordan*,  
  
Mr Georgios Katrougkalos (Greece, UEL), Rapporteur on *The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)*,  
  
and heard from them their declarations of absence of conflict of interests;
- **Institutional representatives of the Committee:** in the framework of the Assembly's institutional representation, appointed the following members and substitutes, and decided to inform the Bureau of the Assembly accordingly:
  - Council for democratic elections of the Venice Commission (CDE):
    - . Member: Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC)
    - . Substitute: Mr Corneliu Mugurel Cozmanciuc (Romania, EPP/CD),
  - European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI):
    - . Member: Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC)
    - . Substitute: Ms Yelyzaveta Yasko (Ukraine, EPP/CD);

**Thursday 30 January 2020, 8:30 – 9:30, as regards:**

- **Countering ill democracies in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Marie-Christine Dalloz, France, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, including a declaration of absence of conflict of interests; considered an introductory memorandum, decided to change the title of the report to *Fostering healthy democracies in Europe*, and held a hearing with the participation of Mr Larry Diamond, Senior fellow at the Hoover Institution and at the Freeman Spogli Institute for International Studies of the Stanford University, and Mr Michael Frenzo, member of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) (both via video link);

**Thursday 30 January 2020, 14:00 – 15:30, as regards:**

- **Democracy hacked? How to respond?** (*Rapporteur: Mr Frithjof Schmidt, Germany, SOC*): took position on 10 amendments to the draft resolution;

- **Follow-up to the meeting of the Sub-committee on the Middle East and the Arab World of 30 January 2020:** heard a statement by Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee, held an exchange of views and approved a declaration by the Committee;
- **Authorisations by the Committee:** authorised:
  - Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC), Rapporteur on *Ten years after the Lisbon Treaty: strengthening Council of Europe and European Union co-operation* to carry out a fact-finding visit to Brussels in the framework of the preparation of his report (subject to the availability of funds),
  - Ms Deborah Bergamini, Italy, EPP/CD), Rapporteur on *Need for democratic governance of artificial intelligence* to carry out a fact-finding visit to Brussels, to meet with representatives of major internet companies, in the framework of the preparation of her report (subject to the availability of funds),
  - Mr Georgios Katrougkalos (Greece, UEL) Rapporteur on *The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)* to participate in the OECD Global Parliamentary Network meeting from 24 to 26 February 2020 in Paris (subject to the availability of funds);
- **Other business:** took note of the call for nomination for the 2020 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, and that the deadline for submitting nominations was 30 April 2020.
- **Next meetings:** decided on the forthcoming meetings as follows:
  - . Paris, 9 March 2020
  - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 2nd part-session, 20-24 April 2020
  - . Paris, 18 May 2020
  - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 3rd part-session, 22-26 June 2020
  - . Chania, Greece, 17-18 September 2020 (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly)
  - . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4th part-session, 12-16 October 2020
  - . Paris, 9 December 2020.

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The **Sub-Committee on External Relations** (of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy), meeting in Strasbourg on 30 January 2020 with first Mr Andreas Nick (Germany, EPP/CD), first Vice-President of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, and then Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Sub-Committee's Bureau:** elected, by acclamation, Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten (Netherlands, EPP/CD), Chairperson, and Mr Akif Çağatay Kiliç (Turkey, NR), Vice-Chairperson;
- **Meeting of the Sub-Committee, Rovaniemi, Finland, 16 December 2019:** held an exchange of views and agreed to the proposal by the Chairperson to prepare a motion for a resolution on the issues raised during the meeting related to the Arctic region;
- **External relations of the Parliamentary Assembly:** took note of the Memorandum on External relations of the Parliamentary Assembly approved by the Assembly on 27 January 2020, and agreed to hold a thorough discussion on its follow-up at a further meeting;
- **Future work:** took note that a meeting of the Sub-Committee is to be held in New York in 2020 (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau and to the availability of funds) and informed members that a written request regarding possible dates would be sent to them;
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** The Sub-Committee left it to the Chairperson to convene the next meeting.

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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 Strasbourg on 30 January 2020 with first Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten (Netherlands, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on External Relations, and then Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Election of the Sub-Committee's Bureau:** re-elected, by acclamation, Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), Chairperson, and elected Ms Nicole Duranton (France, EPP/CD), Vice-Chairperson;
- **Future work:** held an exchange of views; regretted that it had not been able to meet in the region since November 2014 and agreed to try to organise such a meeting in the region or in Cyprus in 2020 (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly and to the availability of funds);
- **Date and place of the next meeting:** 9 March 2020, Paris.

D. Chatzivassiliou, P. Chevtchenko, S. Arzilli; V. Giannias

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly  
Directors 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

## APPENDIX

**Sub-Committee on External Relations  
of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**

**Sous-commission des relations extérieures  
de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie**

30 seats / 30 sièges

**LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES**

**Chairperson / Présidente**

Ms Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (Netherlands, EPP/CD)

**Vice-Chairperson / Vice-président**

Mr Akif Çağatay KILIÇ (Turkey, NR)

**Full Members / Membres titulaires**

**Alternates / remplaçants**

1.	Mme BONELL Mònica (ALDE)	Andorra / Andorre	
2.	Mr RUBINYAN Ruben (NR)	Armenia / Arménie	Mr IGITYAN Hovhannes (NR)
3.	Mr LOPATKA Reinhold (EPP/CD)	Austria / Autriche	
4.	Mr SEYIDOV Samad (EC/DA)	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	Mr HAJIYEV Sabir (SOC)
5.	M. BOUCHEZ Georges-Louis (ALDE)	Belgium / Belgique	
6.	Mr LOUCAIDES George (UEL)	Cyprus / Chypre	
7.	Mr BENEŠÍK Ondřej (EPP/CD)	Czech Republic / République tchèque	
8.	Mr KILJUNEN Kimmo (SOC)	Finland / Finlande	
9.	Mme KARAMANLI Marietta (SOC)	France	Mme BLONDIN Maryvonne (SOC)
10.	Mr KUTCHAVA Kakhaber (SOC)	Georgia / Géorgie	Mr BAKRADZE David (EPP/CD)
11.	Mr HARDT Jürgen (EPP/CD)	Germany / Allemagne	Mr SCHÄFER Axel (SOC)
12.	Ms BAKOYANNIS Theodora (EPP/CD)	Greece / Grèce	Mr CHATZIVASILEIOU Anastasios (EPP/CD)
13.	Mr COWEN Barry (ALDE)	Ireland / Irlande	
14.	Mr RIBOLLA Alberto (NR)	Italy / Italie	Ms BERGAMINI Deborah (EPP/CD)
15.	Mr BUTKEVIČIUS Algirdas (SOC)	Lithuania / Lituanie	Mr ZINGERIS Emanuelis (EPP/CD)
16.	M. GRAAS Gusty (ALDE)	Luxembourg	
17.	Mr AZZOPARDI Jason (EPP/CD)	Malta / Malte	Mr MALLIA Emanuel (SOC)
18.	Mr SEKULIĆ Predrag (SOC)	Montenegro / Monténégro	
19.	Ms OOMEN-RUIJTEN (EPP/CD)	Netherlands / Pays Bas	
20.	Ms SCHOU Ingjerd (EPP/CD)	Norway / Norvège	
21.	Mr BERNACKI Włodzimierz (EC/DA)	Poland / Pologne	Mr TRUSKOLASKI Krzysztof (EPP/CD)
22.	Mr KORODI Attila (EPP/CD)	Romania / Roumanie	Mr COZMANCIUC Corneliu Mugurel (EPP/CD)
23.	Mr KALASHNIKOV Leonid (UEL)	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie	Mr KONDRATEV Aleksei (NR)
24.	Mr OBRADOVIĆ Žarko (SOC)	Serbia / Serbie	
25.	Mr GUTIÉRREZ Antonio (SOC)	Spain / Espagne	Mr ROBLES Gonzalo (EPP/CD)
26.	Ms ÅBERG Boriána (EPP/CD)	Sweden / Suède	
27.	Mr JUILLARD Charles (NR)	Switzerland / Suisse	Mr LEVRAT Christian (SOC)
28.	Mr KILIÇ Akif Çağatay (EC/DA)	Turkey / Turquie	Mr ÇEVİKÖZ Ahmet Ünal (SOC)
29.	Ms VASYLENKO Lesia (EPP/CD)	Ukraine	Ms YASKO Yelyzaveta (EPP/CD)
30.	Mr CHOPE Christopher (EC/DA)	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr MCGINN Conor (SOC)

Ex-officio: Dame Cheryl GILLAN

Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy /  
Présidente de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

**Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World  
of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**

**Sous-commission sur le Proche-Orient et le monde arabe  
de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie**

30 seats / 30 sièges

**LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES**

**Chairperson / Président**

Mr George LOUCAIDES (Cyprus, UEL)

**Vice-Chairperson / Vice-présidente**

Mme Nicole DURANTON (France, EPP/CD)

**Full Members / Membres titulaires**

**Alternates / Remplaçants**

1.	Mr IGITYAN Hovhannes (ALDE)	Armenia / Arménie	
2.	Mr LOPATKA Reinhold (EPP/CD)	Austria / Autriche	
3.	Mr MOLLAZADE Asim (NR)	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	
4.	Ms VAN VAERENBERGH Kristien (NR)	Belgium / Belgique	Mr MOUTQUIN Simon (SOC)
5.	Mr LOUCAIDES George (UEL)	Cyprus / Chypre	
6.	Ms VIROLAINEN Anne-Mari (EPP/CD)	Finland / Finlande	
7.	Mme DURANTON Nicole (EPP/CD)	France	Mme KARAMANLI Marietta (SOC)
8.	Mr BAKRADZE David (EPP/CD)	Georgia / Géorgie	
9.	Mr NICK Andreas (NR)	Germany / Allemagne	
10.	Mr KATROUGKALOS Georgios (UEL)	Greece / Grèce	Mr PAPANDREOU George (SOC)
11.	Ms BRYNJÓLFSDÓTTIR Rósa B. (UEL)	Iceland / Islande	
12.	Mr COWEN Barry (ALDE)	Ireland / Irlande	
13.	Mr FASSINO Piero (SOC)	Italy / Italie	Ms DE CARLO Sabrina (NR)
14.	Mr ZINGERIS Emanuelis (EPP/CD)	Lithuania / Lituanie	
15.	M. HAAGEN Claude (SOC)	Luxembourg	
16.	Mr AZZOPARDI Jason (EPP/CD)	Malta / Malte	Mr MALLIA Emanuel (SOC)
17.	Mr MULARCZYK Arkadiusz (EC/DA)	Poland / Pologne	Mr SZEJNA Andrzej (SOC)
18.	Mr BACELAR DE VASCONCELOS P. (SOC)	Portugal	
19.	Mr CORLĂȚEAN Titus (SOC)	Romania / Roumanie	Mr KORODI Attila (EPP/CD)
20.	Mr KONDRATEV Aleksei (NR)	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie	Mr KALASHNIKOV Leonid (UEL)
21.	Mr ROBLES Gonzalo (EPP/CD)	Spain / Espagne	Mr GUTIÉRREZ Antonio (SOC)
22.	Mr HAMMARBERG Thomas (SOC)	Sweden / Suède	Ms ÅBERG Borianna (EPP/CD)
23.	Ms ARSLAN Sibel (SOC)	Switzerland / Suisse	Mr HEER Alfred (ALDE)
24.	Mr TÜRKEŞ Yıldırım Tuğrul (EC/DA)	Turkey / Turquie	Mr KILIÇ Akif Çağatay (NR)
25.	Ms YASKO Yelyzaveta (EPP/CD)	Ukraine	
26.	Mr SHEPPARD Tommy (NR)	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr HOWELL John (EC/DA)
27.	Mr KOX Tiny	Chairperson UEL / Président GUE	
28.			
29.			
30.			

Ex-officio: Dame Cheryl GILLAN

Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy /  
Présidente de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie