



AS/Pol (2022) CB 05

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis

of the meeting held in a hybrid manner on 16 March 2022

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting in a hybrid manner on 16 March 2022, with first Mr Zsolt Németh (Hungary, EC/DA), Chairperson, and then Mr Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland, SOC), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Fostering healthy democracies in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Ms Marie-Christine Dalloz, France, EPP/CD*): considered a draft report, agreed to a proposal by the Rapporteur to change the title of the report to *Safeguarding and promoting genuine democracy in Europe* and unanimously adopted a draft resolution as amended and a draft recommendation;
- **Beyond the Lisbon treaty: strengthening the strategic partnership between the Council of Europe and the European Union** (*Rapporteur: Mr Titus Corlăţean, Romania, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visit to European Union institutions on 23-24 February 2022 and considered a preliminary draft report;
- **The impact of Brexit on human rights on the island of Ireland** (*Rapporteur: Mr George Katrougalos, Greece, UEL*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visits to Dublin on 23 February 2022, Belfast on 24-25 February 2022 and London on 28 February 2022, and considered a revised introductory memorandum;
- **Call for Famagusta's return to its lawful inhabitants** (*Rapporteur: Mr Piero Fassino, Italy, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, held an exchange of views on the basis of an introductory memorandum and agreed to the request by the Rapporteur to carry out fact-finding visits to Athens and Ankara in addition to an already authorised visit to Cyprus (subject to the availability of funds);
- **The need for renewed, effective and inclusive multilateralism** (*Rapporteur: Ms Dora Bakoyannis, Greece, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, took note of her proposal to invite the Presidents of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly for a discussion on this issue to be organised during the meeting of the Committee in Chania, Crete (Greece) on 16-17 May 2022, and held an exchange of views;
- **The challenge of far-right ideology to democracy and human rights in Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Samad Seyidov, Azerbaijan, EC/DA*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views;
- **Protecting the pillars of democracy during health crises** (*Rapporteur: Ms Marietta Karamanli, France, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views;
- **Call for an inclusive national political process in Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Mr Kimmo Kiljunen, Finland, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur;
- **Meeting of the OECD Global Parliamentary Network (Paris on 17-18 March 2022)**: appointed Ms Isabel Meirelles (Portugal, EPP/CD) as a member of the ad hoc Sub-Committee;

- **Appointment of a Rapporteur:** appointed, following a secret vote, Ms Dora Bakoyannis (Greece, EPP/CD), Rapporteur on *The situation in Kosovo**, and heard her declaration of absence of conflict of interests;
- **Meeting of the Committee in Chania, Crete (Greece):** took note that the meeting would be held on 16 and 17 May 2022;
- **Changes to the composition of Sub-Committees:** approved the following change:
Mr Krzysztof Truskolaski (Poland, EPP/CD) to become a member of the Sub-Committee on Democracy;
- **Next meetings:** took note of its next meetings as follows:

17-18 March 2022, Paris, ad hoc Sub-Committee to participate in the meeting of the OECD Global Parliamentary Network
During the April part-session (25-29 April 2022), manner to be decided
16-17 May 2022 , Chania, Crete (Greece), physical presence only
During the June part-session (20-24 June 2022), manner to be decided
13 September 2022, place and manner to be decided
During the October part-session (10-14 October 2022), manner to be decided
November 2022, date, place and manner to be decided (tbc)
13 December 2022, place and manner to be decided

Sonia Sirtori, Pavel Chevtchenko, Ayşegül Elveriş, Elia Boggia

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

*All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.