



AS/Per (2015) PV 02
15 June 2015

Standing Committee

Minutes¹

**of the meeting held in Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
on 22 May 2015**

¹ Approved by the Assembly on 22 June 2015.

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

The meeting commenced at 9.30 am, with **Ms Brasseur** in the chair. She thanked the Speakers of the two houses of parliament for their invitation to hold this meeting of the Standing Committee in the Bosnia and Herzegovina Assembly. The country was taking over the chairmanship of the Committee of Ministers at a difficult time marked by the tragic events involving migrants, an escalation in human rights violations in Europe, a surge in hate speech, the conflict in Ukraine, not to mention the tensions in "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia". These challenges required people to step up and take responsibility on all sides and provided an opportunity to move forward towards the reforms which Bosnia and Herzegovina needed in order to honour its commitments to the Council of Europe.

The priorities of the chairmanship – the Istanbul Convention, Council of Europe policy towards neighbouring regions, intercultural dialogue and Eurimages - were welcomed. These issues were also important for Bosnia and Herzegovina, which would have to shoulder responsibility for the region where tensions remained high. The Council of Europe action plan had just been launched in the hope of progressing towards the completion of reforms by the end of the chairmanship. The most robust armoury against the challenges of today hinged on strong democratic institutions.

2. WELCOME ADDRESSES BY MR ŠEFIK DŽAFEROVIĆ, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, AND MR BARIŠA ČOLAK, SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF PEOPLES

Mr Dzaferovic was delighted to be able to receive the Standing Committee in the house he presided over. Bosnia and Herzegovina would spare no effort in attaining the goals set for it. The chairmanship was an opportunity to take things forward and bring the reforms to fruition. A substantial number of reforms had been launched prior to 2006, providing a solid basis for closer ties with Europe and NATO. Unfortunately, the situation had stagnated since then, and some of the ground gained had even been lost. The country had to step up to its responsibilities with the assistance of the international community. The positive results of the recent Germany-United Kingdom initiative geared to changing the sequencing of reforms, backed by the European Union and a great many countries, were there to see. The initiative was intended to culminate in a stabilisation agreement, paving the way for the country to apply for European Union membership.

Following the 2014 elections, Bosnia and Herzegovina appeared to be on the right track: institutional deadlock had been broken, making it possible to appoint delegations to international parliamentary bodies, including the Assembly. The international institutions, including the Council of Europe, had to work harder to ensure that the country was permanently committed to the path of European and Euro-Atlantic integration. It was also down to the authorities to act responsibly in order to put an end to the rhetoric stemming from disputes.

Mr Čolak welcomed the Standing Committee. Bosnia and Herzegovina would do everything in its power to make the chairmanship a success. There were many challenges to be taken up in an ambitious programme on which the Minister for Foreign Affairs would have more to say. The backing of the Council of Europe and its Assembly was crucial for carrying through the chairmanship's initiatives, which included two high-level conferences in Bosnia and Herzegovina and Morocco. A united front was called for in present times, marked by the rise of terrorism, as demonstrated by recent disturbing events in "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia". The change in the sequencing of reforms was a positive step and focused on fiscal, social, economic and administrative reform, with special emphasis on judicial reform, without which it would be impossible to fight organised crime.

The *Sejdić and Finci* judgment, and other judgments too, had to be executed. In this context, targeted work was being carried out on constitutional reform, which was a difficult task in a multi-ethnic country. The current text, dating from the peace agreement, had not been adopted by referendum and had yet to be published and translated in all the country's languages. Some of its provisions did not respect the rights deriving from the European Convention on Human Rights. There were numerous Assembly and European Parliament resolutions suggesting that changes be made in order to speed up European integration, which was now a shared objective of all the political forces.

The President thanked the speakers and welcomed the authorities' determination to commit to the path of reform. The Parliamentary Assembly was willing to provide the necessary assistance for attaining that goal.

3. EXCHANGE OF VIEWS WITH MR IGOR CRNADAK, MINISTER FOR FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA, CHAIRPERSON OF THE COMMITTEE OF MINISTERS OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE

CM/Inf (2015) 7

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Mr Crnadak welcomed the Standing Committee. The national authorities welcomed the action carried out by the Council of Europe and its Assembly and were keen for the Assembly to maintain its efforts, geared to achieving common goals. The current Bosnia and Herzegovina delegation to the Assembly was made up of individuals who held or had exercised key functions within the National Assembly. The office held by his country over the next six months represented an opportunity for improvement at national level, which would also highlight the value of the Council of Europe's input. Europe faced a difficult time, for the continent and its prosperity, which was asking questions of our integrity and loyalty to our democratic values. The chairmanship of Bosnia and Herzegovina coincided with Serbia's chairmanship of the OSCE, providing an opportunity to reinforce regional cooperation.

The chairmanship would strive to support the three pillars of the Council of Europe. Efforts to reinforce human rights protection would place special emphasis on the Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention). Bosnia and Herzegovina had been the sixth country to ratify the Convention and had now moved on to the implementation phase. A high-level conference on "Monitoring the Implementation of the Istanbul Convention – a Common Responsibility of Governments and Parliaments" would be organised in Sarajevo in October 2015. The 60th anniversary of the Eurimages convention would be crowned by a conference on "The Role of Women in the European Film Industry" organised during the famous Sarajevo Film Festival. Several initiatives related to Council of Europe policy towards neighbouring regions where values were regrettably under threat from acts of terrorism, civil wars and the situation in the Mediterranean. Given the importance of the topic, and after consultation with the Kingdom of Morocco, a high-level conference was planned for October 2015. The Assembly was cordially invited to participate in those events.

Promoting intercultural dialogue was another major component of the Committee of Ministers "troika". Bosnia and Herzegovina would host the "Council of Europe 2015 Exchange on the religious dimension of intercultural dialogue".

Bosnia and Herzegovina would seek the best possible strategies for implementing the action plan against extremism and radicalisation adopted at the last ministerial session. It would further support the reform of the Organisation launched by the Secretary General. Finally, it would continue to closely follow the work of Commissioner for Human Rights.

In reply to **Mr Kox** who wished to know the latest stance of the Committee of Ministers on the situations in Ukraine and in "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", **Mr Crnadak** observed that the last ministerial discussion in Brussels had not arrived at any official position on the countries mentioned. To continue fulfilling its mission, the Council of Europe needed Russia. The next six months would be put to good use in order to find a solution. It had to be hoped that the Minsk Protocol would be respected. Even if there was no official position, the Committee of Ministers had to keep a close eye on the situation in the "former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia".

In reply to **Mr Arieu**, who raised the issue of Russia's failure to abide by the Assembly Resolution condemning the annexation of Crimea, **Mr Crnadak** replied, in his capacity of Minister for Foreign Affairs, that Bosnia and Herzegovina respected Ukraine's territorial integrity and called for the withdrawal of illegal armed troops. The situation required constant close surveillance from the Committee of Ministers.

In reply to a question from **Mr Choje** concerning the absence from the priorities of the important issue of the European Union's accession to the Convention on Human Rights, **Mr Crnadak** provided assurances that putting forward a limited number of priorities would be no obstacle to close scrutiny of such an important question.

The President thanked **Mr Crnadak**

Mr Rouquet took over the chair.

4. EXAMINATION OF NEW CREDENTIALS

Doc. 13792

The Standing Committee **verified** the credentials of the new representatives and substitutes, as they appear in document Doc.13792.

5. CHANGES IN THE COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

Commissions (2015) 05

The Standing Committee **approved** the changes in the composition of Assembly committees, as they appear in document Commissions (2015) 05.

6. REQUEST FOR A CURRENT AFFAIRS DEBATE

The Standing Committee decided to hold a current affairs debate on 'The situation in 'the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"' following a request lodged the previous day by the four political groups.

7. AGENDA

AS/Per (2014) OJ 02 rev.

The revised draft agenda was **adopted**.

8. THIRD PART-SESSION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (22 – 26 June 2015)

AS/Bur (2015) 43rev.

In accordance with Rule 27.4 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure, the Standing Committee **took note** of the draft agenda of the third 2015 part-session of the Assembly.

9. REFERENCES, TRANSMISSIONS AND MODIFICATIONS OF REFERENCES TO COMMITTEES

AS/Per (2015) 05

The Standing Committee **ratified** the references and transmissions to committees, as they appear in appendix II.

Ms Brasseur returned to the chair.

10. CURRENT AFFAIRS DEBATE (UNDER RULE 53 OF THE RULES OF PROCEDURE)

Mr Walter opened the debate with a brief historical overview to demonstrate the ethnic diversity of present-day Macedonian society. The country faced problems of cronyism and corruption on an epidemic scale. There were major ethnic divisions, particularly between Macedonians and Albanians, with each of the communities having its own language and its own education system. An armed conflict between them from January to August 2001 had required the mobilisation of NATO troops to restore order. Negotiations had resulted in the Ohrid Agreement, which now ensured an ethnic balance in the administration, sometimes resulting in cases of over-employment. There had recently been clashes in Kumanovo between the police and people of Albanian origin, who had been regarded as terrorists. Several people had died. In 2005, the VMRO centre-right party had come to power after defeating the SDSM socialist party and had held the majority in parliament since then. The Albanian community had two parties, each with ties to one of the two previously mentioned parties. The 2014 elections, deemed to be free by international observers, had been won by the VMRO with a large majority (43% for the VMRO as opposed to 26% for the SDSM). After the announcement of the results the SDSM had called for new elections and a boycott of parliamentary work, as had been the case between December 2012 and summer 2013. In January 2015, the head of the SDSM had revealed illegally recorded intercepts of conversations between high-ranking political leaders which had resulted in a number of investigations and resignations. It was alleged, but not proven, that the United States was helping the SDSM to organise demonstrations. In May the European Parliament had attempted to mediate, in vain. Mr Walter, Mr Gross and Mr Schennach had recently visited "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia". The opposition was behaving unreasonably by boycotting the work of parliament. Finding a solution to the crisis lay solely within the competence of the national authorities.

Mr Gross regretted that the focus on ethnic tensions was diverting attention from the root of the problems, namely abuse of public office by politicians, the lack of independence of justice and the media. It was the political parties, including the Albanian parties that were responsible for the crisis. The manner in which the recordings of phone-tappings had been obtained and were being made public was contrary to the law. They should be passed on to a parliamentary commission of inquiry. The claim that the European Union wished to punish the country for its stance on the conflict in Ukraine was an attempt at instrumentalisation which harmed efforts to find a solution. The elected representatives of the opposition had to resume their parliamentary work. A possible debate and the report for the June part-session would pave the way for proposals for overcoming the crisis.

Ms Leskaj also warned against analysing the situation as an ethnic crisis. The lack of information on the incidents in Kumanovo made it impossible to comprehend the situation. Each country in the region, including Albania, could provide support for the resolution of the conflict. The Council of Europe had a role of observer since it was for the country itself to set up a credible investigation, implement the Ohrid Agreement, respect the rule of law and introduce the necessary reforms. A parliamentary commission of inquiry would be an asset.

Mr Schennach called on the members of the Assembly to pull together, leaving aside their allegiance to political groups, to find a solution to an institutional crisis and a crisis of confidence. The ethnic component was not the dominant one, even though problems linked to the implementation of the Ohrid Agreement remained. The reports on the observation of elections voiced criticism and referred to unfair tactics used by the parties. The opposition was a crucial component in the functioning of a democracy. Parliamentarians boycotting work of parliament must not receive allowances. The country's political players had to face up to their responsibility.

The President explained that the previous speakers had been allowed more speaking time owing to their recent visit to "the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and called on the other speakers to keep to the time allocated.

Mr Kox hoped that discussion of the situation by the Monitoring Committee would be continued in the plenary session. While the international community must not shirk its responsibility, it was for the national leaders to come up with a solution to ensure that the commitments entered into by the country when joining the Organisation were honoured. For its part, the Council of Europe had to remain open to requests for assistance.

Mr Xuclà agreed that this was not an ethnic conflict or an expression of geopolitical tensions, as some claimed, but a domestic power struggle. Bringing charges on the basis of illegally obtained phone-tapping evidence or boycotting the work of the democratically elected parliament was not in line with democratic standards. The debate should be continued during the June part-session, although it was regrettable that the opposition, which was not participating in parliamentary work, did not wish to be represented in the delegation. Any taking of sides should be avoided, given the Council of Europe's prime mission, which was to uphold the rule of law.

Mr Vitsas expressed his condolences to the families of the victims of the Kumanovo clashes. In the Balkans, the problem faced by democracies was instability which, at the same time, was the inherent aspect of those democracies. More standards and activities geared to restoring confidence were required. Europe could help this country by holding the political leaders of all groups responsible.

Mr Agramunt asked in what capacity Mr Schennach and Mr Gross had visited the country. This debate risked creating an undesirable precedent because it was being held in the absence of representatives of the country in question. Discussion in the Monitoring Committee at its next meeting or in the Assembly during the June part-session would be more appropriate. This case concerned a democratically elected parliament, as confirmed by the report on the observation of elections, and an irresponsible opposition which was boycotting the work of that parliament.

The President pointed out that the Monitoring Committee, of which Mr Agramunt was a member, had taken a decision, in accordance with the proper procedure, to organise a fact-finding visit. The group had comprised Mr Walter, rapporteur for post-monitoring dialogue with "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia", Mr Schennach, chair of the Monitoring Committee, and Mr Gross, chair of the political group belonging to the same political family as the Macedonian parliamentary opposition. Further discussion in June would provide a more detailed picture, the aim being to find a solution.

11. SOCIAL AFFAIRS, HEALTH AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT**The inclusion of children's rights in national constitutions as an essential component of effective national child policies** Doc. 13787

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development:
Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD)*

The rapporteur called for the incorporation of children's rights in national constitutions. It could be concluded from his report, based on a Venice Commission study, that this was an essential component of national policies for children. However, the effectiveness of such constitutional provisions would depend on their wording, which had to guarantee autonomous rights for children enforceable vis-à-vis the State. The main recommendation asked the governments to analyse national legislative provisions from the child protection viewpoint in order to establish whether all measures promoting the development and welfare of children had been incorporated and whether the current legislative framework corresponded to the specific national context. He pointed out, however, that the protection of children must not be limited to positive legal provisions or statements of intent but form a lasting commitment.

Mr Gardarsson wished to inform the participants of the recent initiative of the Icelandic Parliament launched to mark the 25th anniversary of the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child. One member from each political group had joined a network of reference persons. This worldwide network, supported by UNICEF and the Icelandic Children's Ombudsman, would contribute to the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the rights of the child, ensure that children's interests were upheld in parliamentary debates and provide a means for exchanging best practice. In addition, Iceland had created an investigations house where cases of child abuse were investigated by professionals grouped under the same roof.

Mr Ghiletschi welcomed the report. The "best interests of the child" formed the central focus of the committee's action. The draft resolution was aimed at securing constitutional guarantees that were sometimes difficult to implement owing to the need for a constitutional majority. For that reason the rapporteur also advocated awareness-raising measures to promote the rights of the child.

The rapporteur closed the debate by quoting Kofi Annan: "There is no task more important than building a world in which all of our children can grow up to realise their full potential, in health, peace and dignity".

The draft resolution **was adopted** unanimously [Resolution 2056 (2015)].

12. MIGRATION, REFUGEES AND DISPLACED PERSONS**Criminalisation of irregular migrants: a crime without a victim** Doc. 13788

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons:
Mr Ionuț-Marian Stroe (Romania, EPP/CD)*

The rapporteur reminded the participants that restrictive policies on migrants had long been a major concern of the committee. The report summarised national policies in terms of the right to housing, the right of asylum and the detention of irregular migrants. The criminalisation of migrants was being increasingly used in Europe today as a tactic to stem migratory flows, in a context of conflicts that were spreading in adjacent regions. The number of migrants and a rate of migration that was higher than the birth rate were making migration a growing problem in countries of origin and countries of transit as well as host countries. It was noted that migrants were often victims of traffickers in the country of transit or of discrimination in the host country. It was becoming difficult to obtain asylum. Consequently, many migrants were blocked at borders and classed as irregular migrants. They were refused a minimum of social rights and had to resort to illegal activities to meet their primary needs. It would be wise to guarantee a minimum of social rights for all irregular migrants. Using the term "irregular" instead of "illegal" would be helpful in promoting an unbiased view. Current policies were guided by considerations of security. These policies reinforced a shady image of migration and they were more dangerous than the supposed threat of migration.

Mr Kox agreed with the imperative of respecting human rights standards for the benefit of migrants. The term "illegal migrants" had to be replaced by the term "irregular migrants". Furthermore, the European Committee of Social Rights had reinforced the right to emergency aid for migrants and guarantees of minimum living conditions, previously provided by town mayors, which the Netherlands government wished to suspend.

Mr Chope pointed out that migration was a major concern for his voters, who doubted the European Union's ability to control its borders. Article 13 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights cited by the rapporteur did not guarantee the right of a person to freely enter a country of which they were not a national. Moreover, the principle of the rule of law did not preclude the discretionary power of a State to control access to its territory. The four amendments would make it possible to temper certain report's recommendations. Furthermore, rather than replacing the term "illegal migrants" with the term "irregular migrants", a distinction should be made between them in official statements and documents.

Mr Ariev deplored the fact that asylum seekers fleeing persecution and oppression in their own country ended up in detention in countries where they hoped to find refuge. Modern technology made alternative means of surveillance possible.

Mr Wach stressed that migrants, albeit in smaller numbers, did not arrive in Europe solely by boat.

Mr Nicoletti pointed out that the cooperation called for by Italy related to assistance with managing migratory flows and also action against trafficking in human beings. The distinction between "illegal" and the term "irregular", which must be preferred to avoid confusion, was important since the word "illegal" applied to an action or behaviour and not to a human being. Removing acts of rescue from the scope of the "offence of solidarity" posed problems of legal classification, as acts of rescue were often not limited to picking people up at sea.

Amendments no. 1, as sub-amended, and no. 2 were approved. Amendments no. 3 and no. 4 were rejected.

The draft resolution **was adopted** unanimously [Resolution 2059 (2015)].

13. CULTURE, SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND MEDIA Cultural heritage in crisis and post-crisis situations

Doc. 13758

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media:
Ms Ismeta Dervoz (Bosnia and Herzegovina, EPP/CD)*

As the **rapporteur** was no longer a member of the Assembly, Ms Gambaro, the chair of the committee, presented the report. The destruction or damaging of cultural heritage had sadly become a feature of modern conflicts, especially where these were ethnically driven. Accordingly, it was difficult to apply the relevant international instruments. Reconstruction following war damage could also be an aggressive act of reassertion of values in peacetime. It was important to help local people change their perceptions of "others"; strengthen the democratic component in the context of public responsibilities for the cultural heritage; guarantee preservation of heritage identity and diversity so that short-term projects did not take precedence over a longer-term, broad strategy for sustainable development; ensure that reconstruction became a positive factor for reconciliation; establish a balance between the reconstruction project and the needs of the local population. These projects had to be led by technical experts, free of political or religious considerations. It was important to make integration and the return of refugees and displaced persons part of that process. The relevant conventions should be revised with a view to providing for more robust protective mechanisms and stronger sanctions, including reparations for militarily unnecessary destruction. Finally, the Committee of Ministers was invited to initiate, in cooperation with the relevant national and international bodies, the drawing up of guidelines for the protection and reconstruction of damaged or destroyed cultural heritage.

Ms Kyriakides speculated as to the reasons for massive destruction of cultural heritage, perhaps intended to deprive communities of their identity and sense of belonging. The cultural heritage belonged to humanity and its future generations. It was sad to witness its destruction by the Islamic State in Syria and Iraq. Reconstruction was a key component of post-war reconciliation. Cyprus was proud of its heritage, which incorporated vestiges of several civilisations. Without wishing to politicise the debate, the damage caused to that heritage by the invasion of Cyprus was there for all to see. Today, the Cypriots were united, transcending their political differences, for the reconstruction and preservation of their heritage.

Mr Ariev deplored the fact that there were still instances of cultural heritage being destroyed in Europe. In Crimea paramilitary groups had destroyed cultural assets of the native people, the Crimean Tatars. The situation was beyond the control of international bodies and it was unlikely that the government of occupation would heed the proposals put forward in the report.

Mr Schennach noted with concern that Palmyra – a world heritage site – had fallen under the total control of the Islamic State several hours ago.

The draft resolution and draft recommendation **were adopted** unanimously [Resolution 2057 [2015] and Recommendation 2071 (2015)].

14. RULES OF PROCEDURE, IMMUNITIES AND INSTITUTIONAL AFFAIRS

The allocation of seats in the Parliamentary Assembly with respect to Turkey

Doc. 13782

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:
Mr Andreas Gross (Switzerland, SOC)*

The rapporteur stressed that the proposals were prompted by a desire to fairly reflect, in terms of the number of seats held by a national delegation in the Assembly, the demographic changes in Turkey over the last 20 years. In the light of the updated statistics, the representativeness of the Turkish Parliament in the Assembly was underestimated in comparison to other States with a comparable population size. While population size was not expressly stipulated as a criterion for allocating seats, there had been several instances where delegations had been allocated additional seats, at their request, on the grounds of an increase in their population. Consequently, the number of seats held by the Turkish delegation and, accordingly, the number of Turkish committee members should be increased, while also granting a permanent vice-presidency of the Assembly to the delegation. Furthermore, it was proposed to grant the Turkish language the status of working language in the Assembly.

Mr Walter backed the proposals and noted that a decision to increase the number of seats in line with the country's demographic growth would run parallel with Turkey's well-received decision to increase its contributions to the budget of the Council of Europe. He wished to know the proposed timetable for the entry into force of the changes suggested in the report.

Mr Kox warned against drawing parallels between the contribution to the Council of Europe budget and the number of seats held in the Assembly. This particular case was not about buying seats but bringing the representation of the Turkish Parliament into line with the size of the country's population.

Mr Xuclà, Mr Agramunt and Ms Wurm agreed with the points made by Mr Kox concerning the absence of pecuniary considerations from criteria for allocating seats within the Assembly and welcomed the enlarged Turkish delegation and the Assembly's new working language.

Mr Denemeç, chair of the Turkish delegation, thanked all those who supported the report and its proposals.

The rapporteur pointed out that Turkey's decision to become a "major contributor" had deliberately not been mentioned when the report had been presented, as the only factor to consider had been the population statistics. Given the need to amend the Statute of the Council of Europe, the procedure would continue within the Committee of Ministers in line with its schedule. However, the draft resolution did express the wish that the amendments be in force as of the June part-session.

The Secretary General of the Assembly reiterated that the procedure for changing the scale for allocating seats in the Assembly was a joint exercise of the Assembly and the Committee of Ministers. Once the Assembly had given its agreement in a recommendation, the Committee of Ministers would state its position. The Secretary General of the Organisation would then inform Member States about the wish of the two statutory bodies. In all likelihood, the changes would enter into force before the October part-session at the latest, so that an enlarged delegation, newly appointed following the June elections, could be received.

The draft resolution and the draft recommendation **were adopted** unanimously [Resolution 2058 (2015) and Recommendation 2072 (2015)].

15. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

16. NEXT MEETING

The Standing Committee **decided** to hold its next meeting in Sofia on 27 November 2015 [to be confirmed].

The meeting **rose** at 1 pm.

APPENDIX I

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS

President of the Parliamentary Assembly / Présidente de l'Assemblée parlementaire

Mme Anne BRASSEUR Luxembourg

Chairpersons of Political Groups / Président(e)s des groupes politiques

M. Pedro AGRAMUNT Group of the European People's Party /
Groupe du Parti populaire européen

Mr Andreas GROSS Socialist Group / Groupe socialiste

Mr Christopher CHOPE European Conservatives Group /
Groupe des conservateurs européens

Mr Jordi XUCLÀ Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe /
Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe

Mr Tiny KOX Group of the Unified European Left /
Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne

Vice-Presidents of the Assembly / Vice-président(e)s de l'Assemblée

Mr Piotr WACH Poland

M. René ROUQUET France

Mr Robert WALTER United Kingdom

Ms Valentina LESKAJ Albania

Mr Michele NICOLETTI Italy

Mr Reha DENEMEÇ Turkey

Mr Jacob LUND Denmark

Mr Axel E. FISCHER Germany

Ms Dana VÁHALOVÁ Czech Republic

Mr Volodymyr ARIEV Ukraine

Mr Dimitris VITSAS Greece

Mr Mladen BOSIĆ Bosnia and Herzegovina

Chairpersons of National Delegations / Président(e)s de délégations nationales

Ms Valentina LESKAJ Albania

Mme Meritxell MATEU PI Andorre

Ms Gisela WURM Austria

Mr Samad SEYIDOV Azerbaijan

Mr Henrik DAEMS Belgium

Mr Senad ŠEPIĆ Bosnia & Herzegovina

Mr Antoni TRENCHÉV Bulgaria

Ms Stella KYRIAKIDES Cyprus

Ms Dana VÁHALOVÁ Czech Republic

Mr Jacob LUND Denmark

M. René ROUQUET France

Mr Axel E. FISCHER Germany

Mr Dimitris VITSAS Greece

Mr Zsolt CSENGER-ZALÁN Hungary

Mr Karl GARDARSSON Iceland

Mr Michele NICOLETTI Italy

Ms Inese LĪBIŅA-EGNERE Latvia

Ms Birutė VĖSAITĖ Lithuania

M. Marc SPAUTZ Luxembourg

Mr Joseph DEBONO GRECH Malta

Mr Piotr WACH Poland

Mr Ionuț-Marian STROE Romania

Ms Aleksandra DJUROVIĆ Serbia

Mr Matjaž HANŽEK Slovenia

Mr Jonas GUNNARSSON	Sweden
Mr Reha DENEMEÇ	Turkey
Mr Volodymyr ARIEV	Ukraine
Mr Robert WALTER	United Kingdom

**Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights /
Président(e) de la Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme**

Mr Şaban DİŞLİ (in the absence of the Chairperson / <i>en l'absence du Président</i>)	Turkey
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**Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Président de la
Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable**

Mr Valeriu GHILETCHI	Republic of Moldova
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**Chairperson of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons /
Président(e) de la Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées**

M. René ROUQUET (in the absence of the Chairperson / <i>en l'absence du Président</i>)	France
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**Chairperson of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media /
Président(e) de la Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias**

Ms Adele GAMBARO	Italy
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**Chairperson of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination /
Président(e) de la Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination**

Mr Jonas GUNNARSSON (in the absence of the Chairperson / <i>en l'absence de la Présidente</i>)	Turquie
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**Chairperson of Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the
Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) / Président(e) de la Commission pour le respect des
obligations et engagements des Etats membres du Conseil de l'Europe (Commission de suivi)**

Mr Stefan SCHENNACH	Austria
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Rapporteurs (not members of the Standing Committee / non-membres de la Commission permanente)

M. Cezar Florin PREDA	Roumanie
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Invited personalities / Personalités invitées

Mr Igor CRNADAK	Minister for Foreign Affairs and Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers / ministre des Affaires étrangères et Président du Comité des Ministres
Mr Šefik DŽAFEROVIĆ	Speaker of the House of Representatives / Président de la Chambre des Représentants
Mr Bariša ČOLAK	Speaker of the House of Peoples / Président de la Chambre des Peuples

Delegation Secretaries /Secrétaires des délégations

M. Erick GARASA MINGORANCE	Andorre
Ms Sonja LANGENHAECK	Belgium
Ms Sevda VALJEVCIC	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr Ernest IMAMOVIC	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr Dejan VANJEK	Bosnia and Herzegovina
Mr Panicos POURGOURIDES	Cyprus
Ms Veronika KRUPOVÁ	Czech Republic
Ms Mette VESTERGAARD	Denmark
M. Xavier PINON	France
Mr Michael HILGER	Germany
Ms Aikaterini KARTSAKLI	Greece
Ms Judit GOTTSCHALL	Hungary

Ms Vilborg Ása GUÐJÓNSDÓTTIR	Iceland
M. Federico CASELLI	Italie
Mr Martins OLEKŠS	Latvia
Mme Hanna KUCHARSKA-LESZCZYNSKA	Pologne
Mr Vladimir FILIPOVIĆ	Serbia
Ms Alja ŠKIBIN	Slovenia
Ms Anette NILSSON	Sweden
Mr Daniel ZEHNDER	Switzerland
Mr Nicholas WRIGHT	United Kingdom

Secretaries of Political Groups / Secrétaires des Groupes politiques

Ms Denise O'HARA	EPP/CD / PPE/DC
Mme Francesca ARBOGAST	SOC
Ms Maria BIGDAY	ALDE / ADLE
Mr Tom VAN DIJCK	EC / CE
Ms Anna KOLOTOVA	UEL / GUE

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly / Secrétariat de l'Assemblée Parlementaire

Mr Wojciech SAWICKI	Secretary General / Secrétaire Général
Mr Mário MARTINS	Director General / Directeur Général
Mr Mark NEVILLE	Head of the Private Office / Chef du Cabinet
M. Alfred SIXTO	Head of the Table Office / Chef du Service de la Séance
Ms Sonia SIRTORI	Head of the Secretariat of the Bureau / Chef du Secrétariat du Bureau
Mme Kateryna GAYEVSKA	Secretary of the Standing Committee / Secrétaire de la Commission permanente
Mr Angus Macdonald	Administrative Officer, Communication Division / Administrateur de la Division de la communication
Ms Sally-Ann HONEYMAN	Administrative Assistant, Table Office / Assistante administrative du Service de la séance
Mme Naouelle TEFIFEHA	Assistant of the Bureau / Assistante du Bureau
Mr Martin McMILLAN	Assistant of the Standing Committee / Assistant de la Commission permanente

Council of Europe / Conseil de l'Europe

Ms Gabriella BATTAINI-DRAGONI	Deputy Secretary General / Secrétaire Générale Adjointe
Mr Markus ADELSBACH	Private Office of the Secretary General / Cabinet du Secrétaire Général
M. Christophe POIREL	Deputy Secretary of the Committee of Ministers / Secrétaire Adjoint du Comité des Ministres
Ms Mary Ann HENNESSEY	Head of the Council of Europe Office in Sarajevo / Chef du Bureau du Conseil de l'Europe à Sarajevo

Other participants / Autres participants

Mr Yauheni KRYZHANOUSKI	Advisor to the President of the Parliamentary Assembly / Conseiller de la Présidente de l'Assemblée parlementaire
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APPENDIX II

Decisions on documents tabled for references to committees

1. **Mr Dan Adamescu and the right to a fair trial**
Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Clappison and other members of the Assembly
Doc. [13761](#)

No further action

2. **Enhancing the efforts of the European Youth Foundation for the Balkans**
Motion for a recommendation by Mr Juratovic and other members of the Assembly
Doc. [13762](#)

No further action

3. **The impact of European populations dynamics on migration policies**
Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Rouquet and other members of the Assembly
Doc. [13766](#)

Reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced persons *for report*