



Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire

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COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

AS/Per (2020) PV 02

8 June 2020

Standing Committee

Minutes

**of the meeting held by videoconference
on 30 April 2020**

1. OPENING OF THE MEETING

Mr Rik Daems, President of the Assembly, **opened** the meeting at 3 pm. He reported on the discussions and decisions taken by the Bureau of the Assembly at its morning meeting. The Bureau had approved a memorandum on the adaptation of the working procedures of the committees in response to the COVID-19 pandemic exceptional situation. The Bureau would meet again on 7 May 2020, followed by a meeting of the Standing Committee to ratify the decisions taken with regard to references to committees. The Bureau and the Standing Committee would meet again in the week of 22-26 June 2020. The summer part-session of the Assembly would be postponed from June to September, before the autumn part-session scheduled for October 2020.

2. EXAMINATION OF NEW CREDENTIALS

Doc. 15097

The Standing Committee **ratified** the credentials of new members and substitutes in respect of the parliamentary delegations of Azerbaijan, Germany and Norway, as set out in Doc. 15097.

3. MODIFICATIONS IN THE COMPOSITION OF COMMITTEES

Commissions (2020) 04

The Standing Committee **ratified** the changes in the composition of Assembly committees in respect of the delegations of Azerbaijan, Germany, Norway, Poland and Slovenia, as set out in document Commissions (2020) 04.

4. REQUEST FOR A CURRENT AFFAIRS DEBATE

The President informed the Standing Committee that a request for a current affairs debate had been submitted by the chairpersons of the five political groups on the "Response of the Council of Europe member States to the COVID-19 pandemic with respect to human rights, democracy and the rule of law". The Bureau of the Assembly had decided to recommend the holding of such a current affairs debate and appointed Mr Maire as the first speaker.

5. AGENDA

AS/Per (2020) OJ 03 rev2

The revised draft agenda was **adopted**.

6. MINUTES OF THE MEETING OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE (PARIS, 6 MARCH 2020)

AS/Per (2020) PV 01

Sir Roger Gale went over the circumstances that had led to an Italian member being unable to attend the Bureau meeting on 5 March and the Standing Committee meeting on 6 March, and which needed to be explained. He reminded members that the Parliamentary Assembly had had to respect the position of the French host authorities and abide by the decisions of the Speaker of France's National Assembly where the meetings were held, with regard to persons who might be infected with the coronavirus because they came from an infected region and were therefore not permitted to enter the buildings. The National Assembly had seen a cluster of cases, two of which had already been reported at the time of the March meetings.

Ms Stienen requested that her statement under item 10 be amended to reflect her exact words, which had been twisted.

The minutes of the Standing Committee meeting held in Paris on 6 March 2020, as amended, were **approved**.

7. SUMMER PART-SESSION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (22-26 JUNE 2020)

The Standing Committee **took note** of the decision by the Bureau of the Assembly to postpone to a later date, before the October part-session, the summer part-session of the Assembly, which was to have taken place in Strasbourg from 22 to 26 June 2020.

8. REFERENCES TO COMMITTEES

The President told the Standing Committee that the Bureau had been unable to examine the document on references to committees and that this item was postponed until the next meeting on 7 May 2020.

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

Mr Maire introduced the debate on the "*Response of the Council of Europe member States to the COVID-19 pandemic with respect to human rights, democracy and the rule of law*" pointing out that the request had been supported by all the chairpersons of the political groups, thus showing the very firm common determination with which the Assembly, as a vigilant guardian of democracy, was working to provide answers to the challenges facing member States. It was vital to share information on the national legislation and practice of member States in their health, political, legal and economic responses to the COVID-19 pandemic and the parliamentary assessment as to the impact of these responses in terms of the Council of Europe's values. The Secretary General of the Council of Europe had given an overview of the situation at the Bureau meeting that morning. It was not a question of targeting a particular member State. Whatever names States gave them, these measures had meant disruption to the checks and balances that were the basis of democracy, with an increase in the powers wielded by governments and a very clear correlative reduction in the powers of parliaments and the judiciary.

In the area of human rights, serious concerns had been expressed with respect to certain countries regarding the proportionality of the restrictions on fundamental public freedoms, and about the situation being instrumentalised for political ends. The lockdown measures had interfered with freedom of movement and freedom of assembly at all levels and had in some cases been accompanied by sanctions. Legislation criminalising fake news was impacting freedom of expression and freedom of the press. The closure of borders had drastically reduced freedom of movement throughout Europe. The measures taken had also had implications for data protection and privacy. Belgium, the Czech Republic, the Slovak Republic and Spain had introduced requirements for access providers to share data with the authorities. In Austria, France, Germany and Italy, mobile operators could be compelled to share anonymised location data with public authorities in order to locate citizens. In Belgium, France and Italy, drones were being used to provide information to communities in prohibited areas and to enforce social distancing rules. Most countries had suspended the right of asylum and concerns remained about the situation in reception centres.

With regard to respect for democracy, there was a serious risk that fundamental electoral principles might not be respected during this period. One consequence of the pandemic was the postponement of elections because it was not possible to hold democratic elections without freedom of assembly and freedom of expression. The checklist developed by the Venice Commission invited us to ask ourselves the following questions: was the decision to postpone elections provided for by law? Was this decision subject to independent judicial review, including by the Supreme Court? Had all political parties been involved in the decision? Was election campaigning technically feasible? Were measures in place to ensure the safety of staff and electoral commissions? Were candidates in a position to campaign properly? These were the questions that national authorities needed to answer before deciding whether or not to postpone an election during a health crisis. Concerns had been raised about the decision of the Polish authorities to go ahead with the presidential election, given the impossibility of ensuring a proper political debate and meaningful participation by citizens. It was crucial that safeguards be put in place to ensure the legitimacy of the elected representative.

With regard to respect for the rule of law, the principle of legality must be observed and any action on the part of public authorities must be prescribed by law. Any new emergency legislation must comply with the constitution and applicable international standards. Emergency measures should be time-limited; the exceptional powers of the executive should not be extended indefinitely, and measures taken under a state of emergency should have clear time-limits, beyond which they automatically lapsed. The principle of necessity must prevail. Emergency measures should interfere as little as possible with the normal rules of procedure. Parliaments must retain the power to oversee the executive and check regularly to ensure that the powers granted were warranted. All too often emergency measures were approved by parliamentary majorities without ensuring that the above principles had been adhered to.

These were the main areas of vigilance on which the Assembly must express its views and which the Assembly committees mandated would examine in greater depth in their respective reports.

Mr Pocij, on behalf of the Group of the European People's Party, felt that any use of the pandemic to undermine democratic institutions should be identified and condemned in the strongest terms. Many countries had taken action, but this should not be used to concentrate more power in the hands of those who already

held it. There was an impact on democracy and the holding of democratic elections. Poland was faced with a major problem: according to a poll, 90% of the population were against going ahead with the presidential election; it was impossible for candidates to campaign, except for the President, who had public resources on which to draw. Domestic violence and violence against women were also a major issue in Poland, the pandemic being an aggravating factor due to the lockdown.

Mr Schwabe, on behalf of the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group, said that the vast majority of people in the Council of Europe were anxious to discuss the state of human rights and democracy in Europe and that it was important to stand up for those values. The European Convention on Human Rights remained a framework for any measures envisaged or decided by member States, whether it be the use of contact tracing apps or school closures. Abuses were occurring in many countries. In Hungary, there were no curbs on the powers of the Prime Minister to act in place of parliament. In Turkey, so-called political prisoners were still being held and their conditions of detention had deteriorated. In Poland, the upcoming elections were going to be held in conditions that were unacceptable. In the Russian Federation, the leader of Chechnya was talking about reintroducing the death penalty.

Mr Becht, on behalf of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe, noted that the health shock had been compounded by an economic and social shock. In some countries, the temptation to restore authoritarian practices was noticeable, but there was also a temptation to retreat into nationalism. In the current geopolitical context, with the United States turning in on itself and away from multilateralism and China bent on pursuing its own economic interests, Europe must react. The Assembly should use the work in progress, particularly on artificial intelligence, to explore new fields of inquiry, such as the right to health. The current health, economic and social crisis was forcing the Council of Europe to reinvent itself and, as in 1949, to be responsive in the post-COVID-19 era.

Mr Liddell-Grainger, on behalf of the European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance, said the crisis had focused attention on what was, and ought to be, important: all States had had to suspend democratic rights, a unique situation that had not happened on a global scale for a long time. What was happening in western Europe, in certain countries close to us which called themselves liberal, was very worrying: riots, police brutality, as in France, the suspension of citizens' rights. Being asked for ID when walking the dog was not something we were used to. There was no point in writing lengthy reports in such circumstances. Rather than looking at the United States or China, we should look at ourselves first.

Mr Kox, on behalf of the Group of the Unified European Left, expressed his support for all those who were working courageously to fight the pandemic on a daily basis, and for the citizens who were showing solidarity. He also expressed his condolences to all those who had lost a loved one. The UN Secretary General had cautioned against the risk that a human rights crisis could quickly emerge, with the health crisis providing an excuse for some States to take measures that went beyond simply fighting the pandemic. A clear message from the Assembly was needed: the European Convention on Human Rights was the "checklist" of commitments that must not be transgressed; red lines had been crossed and, as free societies, we must not allow our core values to be destroyed. The Polish Government had acted in a matter detrimental to fundamental democratic values. Free and fair elections were impossible in this context, and proceeding with the poll posed a threat to the rights of Polish citizens. In Hungary, the absence of any oversight of the state of emergency meant there was no way to ensure that fundamental principles would be respected. In Turkey, certain politicians, journalists and academics had deliberately been excluded from the amnesty laws, in flagrant breach of the European Convention on Human Rights; legal measures must be taken immediately to rectify these discriminatory measures. The Standing Committee must call on the authorities of Hungary, Poland and Turkey to refrain from any further abuses. Our societies and our citizens were facing grave perils; we were moving into uncharted territory. It was important to stay united and to uphold democratic values and human rights.

Ms Bayr observed that some people were more affected by the pandemic than others and raised the issue of access to health care and health services, including reproductive health, in particular for persons with disabilities, persons with serious illnesses such as HIV and the elderly. Children might not have access to education. Women were even more vulnerable than before to domestic violence. Members of ethnic and linguistic minorities were also suffering increased discrimination due to lack of access to information. The Assembly, therefore, should widen the scope of its thinking and include all these people when deciding which good practices to put in place. Also, support should be given to the United Nations General Assembly resolution which sought to promote and ensure global access to medicines, vaccines and medical equipment, so that any vaccine or medicine developed with public funding would be available to everyone, before private laboratories filed patents and started marketing them.

Dame Cheryl Gillan expressed her condolences to those who had lost a loved one. It was important to ensure that democracy itself did not become a casualty of this global crisis and to find the right vaccine for it. The Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy had begun its exploratory process by compiling information on the situation in the member States thanks to contributions received directly from committee members and via the European Centre for Parliamentary Research and Documentation (ECPRD). The Council of Europe was facing new and extremely tough challenges, particularly in terms of respect for individual freedoms and data protection, with initiatives such as tracking and contact tracing apps, or the obligation to be vaccinated. The Council of Europe must equip itself with mechanisms to enable it to address these challenges in an open and transparent manner, in order to increase the level of public confidence. The Council of Europe had played a vital role in the past in strengthening democracy and must continue to provide a platform for finding common solutions.

Mr Seyidov referred to the recent news in Azerbaijan concerning the protection of human rights and the rule of law. The Supreme Court of Azerbaijan had acquitted Ilgar Mammadov and Rasul Jafarov after reviewing their cases in the light of the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights. This decision would open up fresh prospects for dialogue with the Council of Europe. In addition, all prisoners over 65 years of age, 176 in total, had been granted an amnesty. The government had set up a task force in response to the pandemic: closure of borders, factories, schools, etc., following the recommendations of the World Health Organisation (WHO). The parliament had not stopped work, however, and had, for example, passed a law on wider access to the Internet. With 23 deaths and 476 people hospitalised, the situation in Azerbaijan was less dramatic than in other countries.

Mr Corlaţean believed that, after the crisis, the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly would have the difficult but essential task of learning lessons and developing rigorous recommendations. There was no better time than now, when some rulers of non-democratic States were wielding absolute power. The role of parliaments was fundamental and it was essential that they maintain their capacity to function, including the physical presence of MPs. Safeguards must be put in place to ensure respect for fundamental freedoms and democracy. Romania, too, was no role model.

Mr Nemeth expressed his sincere appreciation to the staff who were working tirelessly to combat the pandemic and care for the sick. In response to those who claimed that Hungary had taken disproportionate measures, he pointed to some recent statements, for example from Věra Jourová, European Commissioner for Values and Transparency, saying that Hungarian law did not contain any features that were incompatible with human rights and democracy. The Speaker of the Bundestag had made a similar statement. It was important, therefore, to scrutinise laws before making hasty judgments. Such legislation must respect the principle of proportionality, and that was the case with the Hungarian legislation. As for setting time-limits, many countries had not done this. In Hungary, parliament could revoke the measures taken at any time.

In the opinion of **Ms Schou**, the current health crisis was a test for national health systems but also for elected representatives and citizens. The crisis must be managed without compromise and in a way that respected democratic principles, human rights and the rule of law. In Norway, since the introduction of exceptional measures on 13 March, the Storting had implemented several measures to ensure that it carried on functioning as a legislative body. During the examination of a bill to introduce temporary measures to combat the pandemic under a fast-track procedure, the Storting had reduced the duration of these measures from six months to one month. The government was thus required to refer the matter back to parliament within a short period and if one third of its members objected, the measures would cease to apply. The Norwegian Parliament could be proud of the way it had handled the crisis and shouldered its responsibilities by incorporating the necessary safeguards in the relevant legislation.

In the view of **Ms Yasko**, a balance must be maintained between monitoring the situation and access to health care, without politicising the issue. Everyone should have the right to access medical treatment, health facilities and hospitals. But what about homeless people, prisoners, members of the Roma community or people in the occupied territories? The way in which the health situation was being used for political purposes, including spreading fake news and untruths, was alarming. In Donbass, the Red Cross had confirmed that the health situation had worsened and that the population did not have access to health care, as medical facilities and infrastructure had been destroyed and not rebuilt. In Crimea, international observers had drawn attention to the plight of illegally imprisoned persons who were not receiving the necessary medical treatment. She also noted that some States were using the pandemic to have international sanctions lifted. These sanctions had been imposed because of violations of international law and aggressive policies and should be lifted only when the territories concerned ceased to be occupied.

Ms Stienen agreed with the statement by the President of the Assembly on 23 April, saying that the exception should not become the "new normal" (let's not normalise the abnormal): exceptional measures taken in

member States must not cross the red lines when human rights, the rule of law and democracy were at stake. Such values were not a luxury but a necessity in difficult times. Three points were worth bearing in mind in the Assembly's future discussions on the challenges facing us. Firstly, the role of the Parliamentary Assembly as an institution: how to carry on working? The innovative working methods introduced were invaluable, but members were looking forward to being able to meet up again in Strasbourg. Secondly, the protection of civil liberties must be guaranteed. It needed to be determined what a good exit strategy might look like: how to ensure freedom of movement, freedom of assembly and open borders? How and where had States imposed majority laws on the minority? How to safeguard the rights of migrants and refugees and the right to asylum? How to assess discriminatory, racist or gender-biased measures introduced in the name of combating the pandemic? The plight of vulnerable groups who did not have access to health care information must also be considered. Lastly, when reflecting on the issue of the organisation of elections, due account should be taken of the work of the Venice Commission. Ultimately, it was to be hoped that, once free of the pandemic, every State would be able to say it had remained true to the fundamental values of the Council of Europe.

Mr Kiliç also expressed his gratitude to all those who were fighting COVID-19. The Turkish Parliament was open and actively functioning. Turkey had come in for criticism from some colleagues, to whom he intended to respond in writing, with detailed information. The fundamental freedoms were those enjoyed by individuals. The pandemic knew no boundaries, neither geographic nor social. Unity was crucial if the fight against COVID was to be effective. It demanded sacrifices, but what price would those who did not have access to basic health care have to pay? Naturally, freedom of expression and freedom of assembly were issues that needed to be addressed, but access to health care was a fundamental human right too. We should listen to the appeals from health care workers who were saving lives and asking for certain measures to be taken. Turkey had responded to requests for assistance from 54 countries, thus demonstrating the need for collective co-operation.

Mr Rau joined previous speakers in extending his condolences to those who had lost a loved one. With regard to the outlook for the presidential election in Poland, he pointed out that under the Polish Constitution, the election had to be held no sooner than 100 days and no later than 75 days before the end of the term of office, i.e. in May. The alternative would have been to amend the constitution, but to do that, the amendment required the support of two thirds of MPs. Discussions between the ruling coalition and the opposition on this issue had failed. No solution – be it a traditional-style election campaign or a postal vote – was ideal, but it was too early to make judgments about Poland.

Ms Brynjólfssdóttir emphasised the relevance of Council of Europe recommendations in constantly reminding people of the importance of preserving human rights, democracy and the rule of law in the context of the pandemic, when all countries had been affected by restrictive measures. She observed that the pandemic did not affect everyone to the same extent and that it had had disastrous consequences for the most vulnerable or marginalised groups, women and children at risk of domestic violence, journalists deprived of freedom of expression, low-income families who did not have access to health care, the elderly and persons with disabilities. The functioning of democratic institutions was being undermined in Poland and Hungary. Governments must combat domestic violence through clear, effective measures such as opening shelters and setting up helplines, and provide the necessary funding for these. For refugees and migrants, the risks of infection and damage to health were real, with services overwhelmed and relocation taking longer. The Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) had reminded member States of their obligations with regard to places of deprivation of liberty, including places where migrants were held. She referred to the initiative by the Earl of Dundee, Chair of the Sub-Committee on Refugee and Migrant Children and Young People, and Lord Dubs, member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, calling on Council of Europe and OSCE member States to take action to facilitate the resettlement of migrant and refugee children in the Greek islands and family reunification. Member States must also provide financial support for the EU's resettlement policy. The health crisis was going to evolve into a severe recession, but action must be taken to prevent any humanitarian crisis.

Mr Tolstói called for concrete initiatives. He had tabled a written declaration suggesting that the Council of Europe show solidarity by using the money which the Assembly had saved by cancelling its part-session to help the hardest-hit European countries to fight the pandemic. Solidarity was essential. We must promote best practices in the fight against COVID-19 but also identify the worst practices. The Assembly should introduce human rights monitoring of this kind in all member States in the context of the pandemic, making it easier to identify benchmarks. In response to the regrettable remarks made by Ms Yasko, who had sought to politicise the debate, he said that the health situation in the independent republics of eastern Ukraine was under control and that in Crimea the population was receiving care from the Russian health authorities.

The fact that she was a doctor and that she and her family had been infected with the coronavirus meant that **Ms Novaković Bursać** had a good understanding of the health and medical situation. Confronting the pandemic also meant tackling social and economic challenges. Knowledge about this new virus was

fragmentary. It was just as important to fight the virus as it was to try to assuage the fears of the population and to do that, it was essential to promote international co-operation to increase knowledge about the virus. The health system must be supported and strengthened, and public health measures were paramount in combating the pandemic. The measures taken concerned all areas of society, however. We must not compromise on democratic values, but the focus must be on protecting vulnerable groups and individuals. Good practices should be promoted based on sound medical and scientific practice. International co-operation between countries must be underpinned by the same standards, whether in the health sphere or in matters relating to democracy and human rights.

Mr O'Reilly joined previous speakers in thanking carers. The restrictions applied were necessary to save human lives. But the role of the Council of Europe was to be vigilant and to ensure that these measures were lifted as soon as possible. The secretariat should compile an inventory of all such national measures in order to monitor them and check whether they had been lifted or, if not, whether they should be lifted, if objective information and evidence showed that they were no longer necessary. Particular attention must be paid to domestic violence, which called for monitoring at national and local level, but also to mental health issues. If, as feared, businesses went bankrupt, there would be greater economic insecurity. The only positive repercussions concerned the environment, with the reduction in transport-related emissions, which should lead us to consider putting in place a new economic system in the future. We must build the future on solidarity.

Ms Bakoyannis likewise expressed her condolences and gratitude to health care staff. In his funeral oration to commemorate the Athenians who had died in the first Peloponnesian War, Pericles had said that democracy must not become a casualty of war. It must not become a casualty of the present crisis either and the best way to address that crisis was to uphold democracy. The COVID-19 pandemic was a challenge greater by far than anything our countries had had to contend with in recent decades. Restrictions had had to be imposed, with bans on travel and gatherings, and new rules on social distancing. Interference with freedom of expression and the media, the detention of political prisoners, or elections that failed to respect international standards were a very different matter, of a completely different kind, however. The responsibility of the Council of Europe was to defend democratic values and fundamental freedoms.

In the view of **Ms Jufereva-Skuratovski**, abuses of power could not be tolerated and must clearly be condemned. When it came to dealing with the coronavirus pandemic, national minorities could find themselves in a vulnerable position. Estonia had set a good example in this respect and other countries could learn from certain practices, such as communicating information to national minorities in their own language. The Estonian Government had extended the state of emergency until 17 May, in order to continue implementing the measures put in place and which remained vital for monitoring the spread of the virus, given that new clusters had been detected, even though the peak had passed. The lifting of restrictions would be considered, in stages, as soon as health conditions permitted. Some restrictions would remain in place beyond the end of the state of emergency. There were 1,600 cases of COVID-19, and 75 people in hospital in Estonia. 52 people had died. 52,000 tests had been carried out, of which 3% had turned out to be positive. The health situation had now stabilised, but vigilance was still required.

Mr Stier said the Croatian Parliament was continuing its activities. There seemed to be an ideological competition to see which regimes were the most effective in fighting the pandemic, democratic or authoritarian. Europe could fight COVID-19 whilst still preserving its democratic values. The Council of Europe offered the right framework for this.

The President concluded the debate by thanking the speakers for their contributions. A questionnaire covering a large number of questions relating to the current situation in the member States, including measures taken by governments, the impact on human rights and the rule of law, relations between the executive and the legislature, etc., had been sent to national delegations; the findings would be used in the reports currently being prepared by the committees.

10. OTHER BUSINESS

None.

11. NEXT MEETING

The Standing Committee **decided** to hold its next meeting on 7 May 2020 by videoconference.

APPENDIX I

List of participants / Liste des participants

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

Mr Rik DAEMS Belgium / Belgique

Chairpersons of Political Groups / Présidents des groupes politiques

Mr Frank SCHWABE Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group (SOC) /
Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)

Mr Aleksander POCIEJ Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) /
Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)

M. Jacques MAIRE Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) /
Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)

Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC/DA) /
Groupe des Conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique
(CE/AD)

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

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

Sir Roger GALE United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Mr Kimmo KILJUNEN Finland / Finlande

Mr Egidijus VAREIKIS Lithuania / Lituanie

Ms Susanne EBERLE-STRAUB Liechtenstein

Mr Antonio GUTIÉRREZ Spain / Espagne

Mme Nicole TRISSE France

Mr Andreas NICK Germany / Allemagne

M. Petr TOLSTOI Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie

Mr Akif Çağatay KILIÇ Turkey / Turquie

Ms Inese LIBINA-EGNERE Latvia / Lettonie

Mr Irakli KOBAKHIDZE Georgia / Géorgie

Chairpersons of National Delegations / Président·e·s de délégations nationales

Mr Ruben RUBINYAN Armenia / Arménie

Mr Reinhold LOPATKA Austria / Autriche

Mr Samad SEYIDOV Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan

Mr Rik DAEMS Belgium / Belgique

Ms Snježana NOVAKOVIĆ BURSAĆ Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine

Mr Ivo Davor STIER Croatia / Croatie

(in the absence of the Chairperson /
en l'absence du Président)

Mr Nicos TORNARITIS Cyprus / Chypre

Ms Maria JUFEREVA-SKURATOVSKI Estonia / Estonie

Mr Kimmo KILJUNEN Finland / Finlande

Mme Nicole TRISSE France

Mr Irakli KOBAKHIDZE Georgia / Géorgie

Mr Andreas NICK Germany / Allemagne

Ms Theodora BAKOYANNIS Greece / Grèce

Mr Zsolt NEMETH Hungary / Hongrie

Ms Rósa Björk BRYNJÓLFSDÓTTIR Iceland / Islande

Mr Joseph O'REILLY Ireland / Irlande

Ms Inese LIBINA-EGNERE Latvia / Lettonie

Ms Susanne EBERLE-STRAUB Liechtenstein

Mr Emmanuel MALLIA Malta / Malte

Mr Predrag SEKULIĆ	Montenegro
Ms Petra STIENEN	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Mr Zbigniew RAU	Poland / Pologne
Mr Titus CORLATEAN	Romania / Roumanie
(in the absence of the Chairperson / <i>en l'absence du Président</i>)	
M. Petr TOLSTOI	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie
Mr Antonio GUTIÉRREZ	Spain / Espagne
Ms Boriana ABERG	Sweden / Suède
Mr Alfred HEER	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr Akif Çağatay KILIÇ	Turkey / Turquie
Ms Yelyzaveta YASKO	Ukraine
Sir Roger GALE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

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

Dame Cheryl GILLAN United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

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

Mr Boriss CILEVIČS Latvia / Lettonie

**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**

M. Luis LEITE RAMOS Portugal

**Chairperson of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media /
Président de la Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias**

M. Olivier BECHT France

**Chairperson of the Committee on Equality and Non Discrimination /
Président de la Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination**

Ms Petra BAYR Austria / Autriche

**Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs /
Commission du Règlement, des immunités et des affaires institutionnelles**

Ms Ingrid SCHOU Norway / Norvège

Other members of the Parliamentary Assembly

Mr Ulrich OEHME Germany / Allemagne
Mr Oleksii GONCHARENKO Ukraine

Secretaries of National Delegations / Secrétaires de délégations nationales

Ms Karine SHIMSHIRYAN	Armenia / Arménie
Ms Nadine DRAGAN	Austria / Autriche
Mr Georg MAGERL	Austria / Autriche
Ms Lala BABAYEV	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan
Mr Emin MAMMADOV	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan
Ms Sonja LANGENHAECK	Belgium / Belgique
Mr Tom de PELSMACKER	Belgium / Belgique
Ms Adisa FIŠIĆ-BARUKČIJA	Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine
Ms Maria YANEVA	Bulgaria / Bulgarie
Ms Martina PETEK-STUPAR	Croatia / Croatie
Ms Gabriella MARANGO D'AVERNAS	Cyprus / Chypre
Ms Eva VALIUS	Estonia / Estonie

Ms Maria FAGERHOLM	Finland / Finlande
Mme Claire MOISSET	France
M. Laurent SAUNIER	France
Mr Michael HILGER	Germany / Allemagne
Ms Voula SYRIGOS	Greece / Grèce
Ms Judit GOTSCHALL	Hungary / Hongrie
Ms Bylgja ÁRNADÓTTIR	Iceland / Islande
Ms Eileen LAWLOR	Ireland / Irlande
Ms Fabrizi BIENTINESI	Italy / Italie
Mr Federico CASELLI	Italy / Italie
Mr Martins OLEKSS	Latvia / Lettonie
Ms Sandra GERBER-LEUENBERGER	Liechtenstein
Ms Selija LEVIN	Lithuania / Lituanie
M. Yves CARL	Luxembourg
Ms Jovana KOVACEVIC	Montenegro
Ms Femmy BAKKER-DE JONG	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Mr Arjen WESTERHOFF	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Ms Marija STEFANOVA	North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord
Mr Artur ZANIEWSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr Razvan TANASE	Romania / Roumanie
Ms Anna KUCHEREVSKAYA	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie
Ms Alja ŠKIBIN	Slovenia / Slovénie
Ms Maria Teresa GOMEZ-BERNARDO	Spain / Espagne
Mr Luis Manuel MIRANDA	Spain / Espagne
Ms Petra SJOSTROM	Sweden / Suède
Mr Daniel ZEHNDER	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr Cemil DINMEZPINAR	Turkey / Turquie
Mr Borys KOLISNYCHENKO	Ukraine
Mr Iaroslav ZHYDENKO	Ukraine
Mr Nicholas WRIGHT	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
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Mme Isild HEURTIN	Head of the Secretariat of the Bureau / Chef du Secrétariat du Bureau
Mme Martine MEYER	Administrative assistant of the Standing Committee / Assistante administrative de la Commission permanente
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