



## Information documents

SG-AS (2020) 03

6 October 2020

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### **Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1385<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (7 October 2020)**

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<sup>1</sup> This document covers past activities of the Assembly since March 2020.

## **I. Decisions taken by the Bureau**

### **A. October Enlarged Standing Committee, 12-13 October and 22-23 October**

#### ➤ **Personalities**

The following personalities will address the Standing Committee (in chronological order):

Mr Miltiadis Varvitsiotis, Alternate Minister for Foreign Affairs of Greece, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe

Mr Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD

Mr Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of Greece

Ms Dunja Mijatović, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

#### ➤ **Current affairs debates**

On 25 September 2020, Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL), on behalf of the UEL Group, requested that the Standing Committee hold a current affairs debate on “New crack down of political and social opposition in Turkey: how to safeguard human rights, fundamental freedoms and the protection of Turkish citizens by the European Court of Human Rights?”.

On 5 October 2020, the Monitoring Committee requested that the Standing Committee hold a current affairs debate on “Armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, failure of peaceful conflict resolution and a risk to regional stability”.

### **B. Part-sessions of 2020 – working methods during the pandemic**

#### ➤ **Second, Third and Fourth part-sessions of 2020 (Strasbourg, 20-24 April, 22-26 April, 12-16 October)**

On 16 March 2020, following a written consultation, the Bureau decided to cancel the April part-session 2020.

On 30 April 2020, the Bureau decided to postpone the summer part-session of the Assembly, scheduled to be held in Strasbourg on 22-26 June 2020, to a later date before the October part-session. Subsequently, the summer part-session was cancelled.

On 14 September 2020, the Bureau agreed with the Presidential Committee's proposal – in view of the current sanitary situation – to replace the October part-session of the Assembly by a meeting of the enlarged Standing Committee (on 12-13 October, to be continued on 22-23 October). On 22 September 2020, the President decided to convene this meeting in a remote mode.

More information on the measures taken by the Assembly to adapt its working procedures in response to the exceptional situation of the COVID-19 pandemic can be found on the Assembly's website COVID-19 special page: <https://pace.coe.int/en/pages/covid-19-special-page>.

#### ➤ **Organisation of the works of the Assembly in view of the COVID-19 pandemic: supplementary working methods and arrangements for the conduct of remote meetings**

On 30 April 2020, the Bureau approved the memorandum on Committees' decision-making framework and decided its entry into force as from the day of its approval; authorised the tabling of motions for resolutions and recommendations through electronic means with scanned signatures of members, until the next part-session of the Assembly in Strasbourg and extended by six months the validity of all current references to committees; and agreed to resume consideration of detailed arrangements for the conduct of remote committee meetings at its next meeting.

On 7 May 2020, the Bureau approved the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly, agreed that the arrangements for the conduct of remote meetings specified in it would apply *mutatis mutandis* to its own remote meetings and decided that these arrangements will enter into force as from the day of their approval and remain in force until the opening of the nearest part-session of the Assembly in Strasbourg. It approved the proposal to extend by six months the former rapporteurs' responsibility for ensuring the follow-up to their reports (Rule 50.1 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure).

➤ **Alternative arrangements for the organisation of Parliamentary Assembly part-sessions**

On 14 September 2020, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly on alternative arrangements for the organisation of Parliamentary Assembly part-sessions; requested the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs to propose to the Assembly necessary changes to its Rules of Procedure in order to enable a plenary session of the Assembly, including the election of personalities, to be held in January 2021 (physically or in hybrid or remote mode); decided to prolong the mandate of the current Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly until the end of February 2021, subject to agreement with the Committee of Ministers to be reached within the Joint Committee.

## C. Observation of elections

➤ **Azerbaijan: early parliamentary elections (9 February 2020)**

On 5 March 2020, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee which was subsequently submitted to the Standing Committee on 26 June 2020.

➤ **North Macedonia: early parliamentary elections (12 April 2020)**

On 5 March 2020, the Bureau approved the final list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections. On 14 September 2020, the Bureau took note of the cancellation of the observation of these elections.

➤ **Serbia: parliamentary elections (21 June 2020, initially foreseen on 26 April 2020)**

On 5 March 2020, the Bureau approved the final list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections. On 25 June 2020, the Bureau took note of the cancellation of the observation of these elections.

➤ **Poland: presidential election (28 June and 12 July 2020)**

On 5 March 2020, the Bureau approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe this election and appointed Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) as its Chairperson. On 14 September 2020, the Bureau took note of the memorandum submitted by the Chairperson of the Election Assessment Mission.

➤ **Montenegro: parliamentary elections (30 August 2020)**

On 25 June 2020, the Bureau decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 6, SOC: 6, ALDE: 4, EC/DA: 3, UEL: 1), as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee; to conduct a pre-electoral mission, and to authorise the President of the Assembly to appoint the Chairperson of the ad hoc committee. On 14 September 2020, the Bureau took note of the cancellation of the observation of these elections.

➤ **Georgia: parliamentary elections (31 October 2020)**

On 25 June 2020, the Bureau decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (EPP/CD: 10, SOC: 9, ALDE: 5, EC/DA: 4, UEL: 2), as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee; to conduct a pre-electoral mission. On 14 September, the Bureau approved the list of the members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections and appointed Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) as its Chairperson.

➤ **Republic of Moldova: presidential election (1<sup>st</sup> November 2020)**

On 25 June 2020, the Bureau decided to observe this election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 6, SOC: 6, ALDE: 4, EC/DA: 3, UEL: 1), as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee; to conduct a pre-electoral mission. On 14 September 2020, the Bureau approved the list of the members of the ad hoc committee to observe this election and appointed Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD) as its Chairperson.

➤ **Jordan: parliamentary elections (10 November 2020)**

On 14 September 2020, the Bureau decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 11 members (EPP/CD: 3; SOC: 3; ALDE: 2; EC/DA: 2; UEL: 1).

## **D. Other decisions taken by the Bureau**

On 14 September 2020, the Bureau took note of the request by the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons to set up an ad hoc sub-committee of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons to visit Moria camps and, subject to receiving an invitation by the Greek authorities and to sanitary conditions, authorised this ad hoc sub-committee to meet in Moria (Greece) at dates to be determined.

## **II. Standing Committees**

On 6 March 2020, the Standing Committee meeting in Paris held a current affairs debate on “Recent developments at the Turkish-Greek-Bulgarian borders: how to safeguard human rights? upon the request tabled by the UEL Group, with Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) as the first speaker in the debate.

On 30 April 2020, the Standing Committee meeting via videoconference held a current affairs debate on “Response of Council of Europe member States to the COVID-19 pandemic with respect to human rights, democracy and the rule of law”, upon the request by the five political groups, with Mr Jacques Maire (France, ALDE) as first speaker in the debate.

On 14 September 2020, the Standing Committee meeting via videoconference held a current affairs debate on “The events and current situation in Belarus”, upon the request tabled by Mr Kimmo Kiljunen (Finland, SOC) and 34 members of the Assembly, with Mr Kimmo Kiljunen as first speaker in the debate.

On 12-13 October 2020, to be continued on 22-23 October, the Standing Committee will held an “enlarged” meeting (see draft agenda in appendix ).

## **III. Joint Committee**

On 25 June 2020, the Joint Committee took note of the request by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for an exceptional prolongation of the mandate of the current postholder of Deputy Secretary General, Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, until the end of the month following the month of the election of her successor by the Parliamentary Assembly and decided to agree to this request.

On 23 October 2020, the Joint Committee will consider the request by the Assembly to prolong the mandate of the current Secretary General of the Assembly until 28 February 2021. It will also have an exchange of views on the situation in Belarus.

#### **IV. Prizes**

##### **➤ Council of Europe Museum Prize**

The 2020 Council of Europe Museum Prize has been awarded to The National Museum of Secret Surveillance “House of Leaves” (Tirana, Albania). The Award Ceremony will be held on 20 April 2021.

##### **➤ Europe Prize**

On 19 May, **The Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize**, proposed to award the Plaques of Honour, Flags and European Diplomas for 2020 to 28 towns (see Appendix 2). On 6 July, it decided to award the 2020 Europe Prize to Amilly (France).

##### **➤ Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**

On 27 August 2020, due to the COVID 19 pandemic and the related sanitary situation in Europe, the President of the Assembly, in consultation with the members of the Selection Panel of the Prize, decided to postpone the procedure leading to the selection of the laureate of the Prize. The Selection Panel envisaged to hold its meetings in December 2020/January 2021 in view of the selection of the Prize winner before the 2021 January part-session. The Award Ceremony of the Prize should be held on 25 January 2021.

#### **V. Activities of Committees and Networks**

##### **➤ Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**

On 28 May, the Committee, in the framework of the report on ***Democracies facing the COVID-19 pandemic*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, United Kingdom, EC/DA*) held an exchange of views with the participation of:

- Mr Rik Daems, President of the Assembly;
- Professor Meg Russell, Director, Constitution Unit; Department of Political Science, University College London, UK;
- Mr Iain Cameron, member of the Venice Commission; Professor, University of Uppsala, Sweden; and
- Mr Oliver Kask, Chairperson of the Council of Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission; Judge of the Court of Appeal of Estonia.

On 23 June, the Committee in the framework of the report on ***Democracies facing the COVID-19 pandemic*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, United Kingdom, EC/DA*) held an exchange of views with the participation of Dr Charles Clift, Senior Consulting Fellow, Global Health Programme, Chatham House.

On 8 September, the Committee, held an exchange of views on ***The situation in Belarus following Presidential elections on 9 August 2020*** with the participation of Mr Rik Daems, President of the Parliamentary Assembly; Ms Svetlana Tikhanovskaya, former Belarusian presidential candidate; and Mr Andrei Savinykh, Chairperson of the Standing Commission on International Affairs of the National Assembly of Belarus.

On 8 September, the Committee, held an exchange of views on ***Escalation of tensions at the border between Armenia and Azerbaijan*** with the participation of Mr Ruben Rubinyan, Chairperson of the Armenian delegation to the Assembly, and Mr Samad Seyidov, Chairperson of the Azeri delegation to the Assembly.

It also held an exchange of views on ***Rising tensions in the Eastern Mediterranean*** with the participation of:

- Ms Theodora Bakoyannis, Chairperson of the Greek delegation to the Assembly, and
- Mr Ahmet Yıldız, Chairperson of the Turkish delegation to the Assembly.

## ➤ Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

On 5 June, the Committee, in the framework of the report on ***The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on human rights and the rule of law*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Vladimir Vardanyan, Armenia, EPP/CD*) heard a presentation from Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General for Human Rights and Rule of Law, on the Secretary General's Toolkit to member States on respecting democracy, rule of law and human rights in the framework of the COVID-19 sanitary crisis and held an exchange of views on the topic in the light also of the webinars organised by the Chairperson and the Chairperson of the Sub-committee on Human Rights on 27 April 2020.

On 29 June, the Committee:

. in the framework of the report on ***Should politicians be prosecuted for statements made in the exercise of their mandate?*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC*) heard a statement by the Rapporteur following his fact-finding visit to Spain from 3-6 February 2020, and held an exchange of views with Dr Kerem Altiparmak, Legal Programme Consultant, recipient of the Franco-German Prize for Human Rights & the Rule of Law in 2017;

. in the framework of the ***Opinion by the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) on the Draft amendments to the Constitution of the Russian Federation related to the execution in the Russian Federation of decisions by the European Court of Human Rights***, held an exchange of views with Mr Nicos C. Alivizatos, member of the Venice Commission in respect of Greece (and co-rapporteur of the Venice Commission);

. heard a statement by its Chairperson on the recent indictment of Mr Hashim Thaçi, President of Kosovo,<sup>2</sup> and others for war crimes and crimes against humanity before the Kosovo Specialist Chambers, recalling Assembly Resolution 1782 (2011) on allegations of inhuman treatment of people and illicit trafficking in human organs in Kosovo based on the report by former committee chairperson Mr Dick Marty.

On 9 September, the Committee:

. in the framework of the report on ***The human rights situation in Belarus*** heard a statement by Ms Olga Karatch, activist and leader of the civil rights network "Nash Dom", Belarus, held an exchange of views and adopted a [statement](#) on behalf of the Committee,

. in the framework of the report ***Urgent need to strengthen Financial Intelligence Units – Sharper tools needed to improve confiscation of illegal assets*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Iceland, SOC*) held a hearing with the participation of:

- Ms Elżbieta Franków-Jaśkiewicz, Chair of Moneyval, Head of the International Cooperation Unit of the Financial Intelligence Unit (FIU) of Poland – General Inspector of Financial Information (GIFI)
- Mr Arakel Meliksetyan, member of Moneyval, Head of Financial Monitoring Centre (FMC), Armenia
- Ms Ilze Znotina member of Moneyval, Head of Office for Prevention of Laundering of Proceeds Derived from Criminal Activity, Latvia.

## ➤ Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

On 19 May, the Committee, in the framework of the report on ***Lessons for future public health emergencies from an effective and rights-based response to the COVID-19 pandemic*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL)*) held a public hearing with the participation of:

- Ms Stella Kyriakides, Commissioner for Health and Food Safety, European Commission;
- Ms Dunja Mijatović, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights;
- Mr David Nabarro, Special Envoy on COVID-19 to the World Health Organization Director-General;
- Ms Rebecca Katz, Director of the Center for Global Health Science and Security, Georgetown University, USA.

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

On 2 June, the Committee, in the framework of the report on **Artificial intelligence in health care: medical, legal and ethical challenges ahead** (*Rapporteur: Ms Selin Sayek Böke, Turkey, SOC*) held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Effy Vayena, Professor and Chair of Bioethics, Health Ethics and Policy Lab, Department of Health Sciences and Technology – ETH Zürich [Swiss Federal Institute of Technology].

On 6 July, the Committee, in the framework of the report on **Climate change and the rule of law: baseline study** (*Rapporteur: Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC*) held an exchange of views with the participation of:

- Mr Pawel Wargan, Council Member and Campaign Co-ordinator, Green New Deal for Europe;
- Mr Robert Vautard, Director, Institut Pierre-Simon Laplace, Université Versailles Saint-Quentin;

#### ➤ **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons**

On 23 June, the Committee on Migration, refugees and Displaced Persons held an exchange of views on **Humanitarian consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic for migrants and refugees** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Switzerland, SOC*) with the participation of:

- Mr Drahoslav Štefánek, Special Representative of the Secretary General on Migration and Refugees;
- Ms Nina Schrepfer, Senior Legal Officer, UNHCR Regional Bureau for Europe;
- Ms Tineke Strik, member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs (LIBE) of the European Parliament.

On 5 October, the Sub-Committee on Diasporas and Integration hold a webinar on the **Issue of remittances by diasporas** with the participation of:

- M. Killion Munyama, Chairperson of sub-committee on Diasporas and Integration;
- Mr Ralph Chami, Assistant Director, Institute for Capacity Development, IMF;
- Mr Pedro De Vasconcelos, Manager of the [Financing Facility for Remittances](#) at IFAD.
- Mr Christopher Williams, Chairman, RTPay.

Moreover, Lord Alexander Dundee (United Kingdom, EC/DA) will hold with the UK Parliament a follow-up video conference/webinar on humanitarian relocation of refugee children in the second half of October.

#### ➤ **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media**

On 25 September, the Committee held a hearing on **The Artificial Intelligence and the Human** with the participation of:

- Mr Fredrik Heintz, Associate professor of Computer Science at Linköping University, Sweden;
- Ms Karen Yeung, Professor of Law, Ethics and Informatics, Birmingham Law School and School of Computer Science, University of Birmingham, United Kingdom;
- Mr Daniel Leufer, Artificial Intelligence Policy Fellow – Access Now, Belgium;
- Ms Joanna Bryson, Professor at the University of Bath, United Kingdom; and
- Mr Johann Čas, Senior Researcher at the Institute of Technology Assessment, Academy of Sciences, Austria; and
- Mr Laurent Alexandre, Entrepreneur and writer, France.

#### ➤ **Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination**

On 11 September, the Committee, in the framework of the report on **Preserving Europe's linguistic, ethnic, cultural and national diversity** (*Rapporteur: Ms Elvira Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD*) held a hearing with the participation of Ms Marie Hagsgård, Acting President of the Advisory Committee on the Framework Convention for the Protection of National Minorities.

On 11 September, the Committee, in the framework of the report on **Strengthening the fight against so-called “honour” crimes** (*Rapporteur: Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo, Monaco, ALDE*) held a hearing with the participation of Mr Nazir Afzal, former Chief Prosecutor, United Kingdom. On 28-29 September, the Rapporteur held virtual bilateral meetings with representatives of the Ministries of Interior, Justice and Family, Labour and Social Services, in addition to members of Parliament. She was also able to speak with the Mayor of Gaziantep, the Turkish member of GREVIO and representatives of non-governmental organisations.

➤ **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)**

On 22 June, the Committee held a hearing on **Membership obligations and the conduct of democratic elections in the context of the pandemic of COVID-19**, heard a statement by Mr Oliver Kask, Chairperson of the Council of Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission, Judge of the Court of Appeal of Estonia.

On 10 September, the Committee, in the framework of the report on **Russian Federation** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Axel Schäfer, Germany, SOC and Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Netherlands, EPP/CD*) heard a statement by Mr Leonid Volkov, Anti-Corruption Foundation, and held an exchange of views on the recent developments in relation to Mr Alexei Navalny; held an exchange of views on the “All-Russian vote” of 1 July 2020 and on recent developments in the country; heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on the round table on Human Rights and Democracy in the Russian Federation (by videoconference on 9 September 2020).

Furthermore, several committees organised webinars on various issues during the reporting period.

## **VI. Relations with the Committee of Ministers**

Several meetings of the “Triologue” (Committee of Ministers/Parliamentary Assembly/Secretary General of the Council of Europe) were held during the past months.

## **VII. Co-operation with the Venice Commission**

On 27 May, the Monitoring Committee, in the framework of the report **on Russian Federation** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Axel Schäfer, Germany, SOC and Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Netherlands, EPP/CD*) agreed to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on constitutional amendments and the procedure for their adoption.

On 8 September, the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, in the framework of the report on **Fostering healthy democracies** (*Rapporteur: Ms Marie-Christine Dalloz, France, EPP/DC*) agreed to request a contribution by the Venice Commission with a view to gaining a better understanding of the Council of Europe’s constitutional *acquis* in this area.



**VIII. List of meetings of the committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee**

**OCTOBER 2020 // OCTOBRE 2020 (remote meetings/par vidéoconférence)**

<b>Date / Time of the meeting/heure réunion</b>	<b>Committees/Commissions</b>
<b>5 October/octobre</b>	Monitoring Committee / Commission de suivi
<b>7 October/octobre</b>	Sub-Committee on the European Social Charter (AS/SOC) Sous-Commission de la Charte sociale européenne (AS/SOC)
<b>7 October/octobre</b>	Hearing of the Sub-Committee on Public Health and Sustainable Development (AS/SOC) Audition de la Sous-commission de la santé publique et du développement durable (AS/SOC)
<b>9 October/octobre</b>	Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable
<b>12 October/octobre Morning/matin</b>	Bureau of the Assembly/Bureau de l'Assemblée
<b>12 October/octobre 14h30-18h00</b>	Enlarged Standing Committee / Commission permanente élargie
<b>13 October/octobre 9h30-13h00 &amp; 14h30 – 18h00</b>	Enlarged Standing Committee / Commission permanente élargie
<b>14 October/octobre</b>	Sub-Committee on Human Rights / Sous-commission des droits de l'homme Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme
<b>14 October/octobre</b>	Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la Culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias
<b>15 October/octobre</b>	Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination
<b>15 October/octobre</b>	Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie
<b>16 October/octobre</b>	Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons/ Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées
<b>22 October/octobre 9h30-13h00 &amp; 14h30 – 18h00</b>	Enlarged Standing Committee / Commission permanente élargie
<b>23 October/octobre 9h30-13h00</b>	Enlarged Standing Committee / Commission permanente élargie
<b>23 October/octobre 15h00-16h30</b>	Joint Committee / Comité mixte

**NOVEMBER 2020 // NOVEMBRE 2020 (remote meetings/par vidéoconférence)**

<b>Date / Time of the meeting/heure réunion</b>	<b>Committees/Commissions</b>
<b>2 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy (to be confirmed) / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie (à confirmer)
<b>3 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs / Commission du Règlement, des Immunités et des affaires institutionnelles
<b>6 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la Culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias
<b>6 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées
<b>9 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme
<b>10 November/novembre</b>	Parliamentary Network "Women free from violence" Réseau parlementaire pour le droit des femmes à vivre sans violence
<b>10 November/novembre 14h00-16h30</b>	Sub-Committee on Children (AS/SOC) Sous-commission sur les enfants
<b>13 November/novembre</b>	Monitoring Committee / Commission de suivi
<b>16 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs Commission du Règlement, des Immunités et des affaires institutionnelles
<b>17 November/novembre</b>	Bureau of the Assembly / Bureau de l'Assemblée
<b>20 November/novembre</b>	Standing Committee / Commission permanente
<b>27 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination
<b>30 November/novembre</b>	Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs Commission du Règlement, des Immunités et des affaires institutionnelles

**DECEMBER 2020 // DECEMBRE 2020 (physical or remote meetings/en présentiel ou par vidéoconférence)**

<b>Date / Time of the meeting/heure réunion</b>	<b>Committees/Commissions</b>
<b>1 December/décembre</b>	Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable
<b>2 December/décembre</b>	Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées
<b>3-4 December/décembre</b>	Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la Culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias
<b>8 December/décembre</b>	Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'Homme
<b>9 December/décembre</b>	Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie
<b>10 December/décembre</b>	Monitoring Committee / Commission de suivi
<b>11 December/décembre</b>	Bureau of the Assembly / Bureau de l'Assemblée
<b>11 December/décembre</b>	Standing Committee / Commission permanente
<b>14 December/décembre</b>	Meeting of the Parliamentary Network "Women free from violence" Réseau parlementaire pour le droit des femmes à vivre sans violence

## Appendix 1

AS/Per (2020) OJ 07 rev  
1 October 2020

# Standing Committee

## Revised draft agenda

of the meeting to be held by videoconference on:

**Monday 12 October 2020 from 14:30 to 18:00**

**Tuesday 13 October 2020 from 09:30 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 18:00**

**Thursday 22 October 2020 from 09:30 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 18:00**

**Friday 23 October 2020 from 09:30 to 13:00**

### Monday 12 October 2020 from 14:30 to 18:00

1. **Opening of the meeting by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly**
2. **Exchange of views with Mr Miltiadis Varvitsiotis, Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs of Greece, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe** (*to be confirmed*)
3. **Examination of new credentials** Doc. ...
4. **Modifications in the composition of committees** Commissions (2020) ...
5. **Request for a current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure**  
**(under Rules 52 and 53 of the Rules of Procedure)**  
  
Request for a current affairs debate:  
New crack down of political and social opposition in Turkey: how to safeguard human rights, fundamental freedoms and the protection of Turkish citizens by the European Court of Human Rights
6. **Agenda** AS/Per (2020) OJ 07 rev  
  
Adoption of the revised draft agenda

**This document is the convocation to the meeting  
for the members of the Standing Committee**

*Copy to: Secretaries of delegations and political groups*

**Members who wish to present amendments and sub-amendments are invited to table them in writing  
with the Table Office before the opening of the meeting.**

7. **Minutes** AS/Per (2020) PV 05  
Approval of the minutes of the meeting of 15 September 2020
8. **Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2023-2025)** AS/Bur (2020) 17
9. **References to committees** AS/Per (2020) ...  
Consideration of the proposals submitted by the Bureau of the Assembly
10. **Exchange of views with Mr Angel Gurría, Secretary-General of the OECD**
11. (Possibly) **Current affairs debate (under Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure)**
12. **Legal Affairs and Human Rights  
(vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation only)**  
Drug policy and human rights in Europe: a baseline study  
*Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:  
Ms Hannah Bardell (United Kingdom, NR)* [Doc. 15086](#)  
and amendments  
*Rapporteur of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable  
Development (for opinion):  
Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD)* [Doc. 15114](#)  
Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation
13. **Culture, Science, Education and Media  
(vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation only)**  
Time to act: Europe's political response to fighting the manipulation of sports  
competitions [Doc. 15116](#)  
*Rapporteur of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media:  
Mr Roland Rino Büchel (Switzerland, ALDE)*  
Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

## **Tuesday 13 October 2020 from 09:30 to 13:00**

### **14. Address by Mr Kyriakos Mitsotakis, Prime Minister of Greece (to be confirmed)**

Questions

## **JOINT DEBATE**

### **15. Democracies facing the Covid-19 pandemic**

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy:  
Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC/DA)*

Doc. ....

*Rapporteur of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by  
Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) (for opinion):  
Ms Yuliya Lovochkina (Ukraine, SOC)*

Doc. ....

### **16. The impact of the Covid-19 pandemic on human rights and the rule of law**

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:  
Mr Vladimir Vardanyan (Armenia, EPP/CD)*

[Doc. 15139](#)

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media  
(for opinion):  
Mr Bogusław Sonik (Poland, EPP/CD)*

Doc. ....

Debate

Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

## **Tuesday 13 October 2020 from 14:30 to 18:00**

### **17. Annual activity report 2019 by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights**

[CommDH\(2020\)7](#)

Ms Dunja Mijatović, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Questions

## **JOINT DEBATE**

### **18. Upholding human rights in times of crisis and pandemics: gender, equality and non-discrimination**

[Doc. 15129](#)

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:  
Ms Petra Stienen (Netherlands, ALDE)*

### **19. Humanitarian consequences of the Covid-19 pandemic for migrants and refugees**

[Doc. 15142](#)

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons:  
Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC)*

Debate

Vote on a draft resolution

Vote on a draft resolution

## **Thursday 22 October 2020 from 09:30 to 13:00**

### **JOINT DEBATE**

- 20. Need for democratic governance of artificial intelligence** [Doc. 15150](#)
- Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy:  
Ms Deborah Bergamini (Italy, EPP/CD)*
- 21. Justice by algorithm – the role of artificial intelligence in policing and criminal justice systems** [Doc. 15156](#)
- Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:  
Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)*
- 22. Preventing discrimination caused by the use of artificial intelligence** [Doc. 15151](#)
- Rapporteur of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:  
Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC)*

Debate

Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

## **Thursday 22 October 2020 from 14:30 to 18:00**

### **JOINT DEBATE**

- 23. The brain-computer interface: new rights or new threats to fundamental freedoms?** [Doc. 15147](#)
- Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:  
Mr Olivier Becht (France, ALDE)*
- 24. Artificial intelligence in health care: medical, legal and ethical challenges ahead** [Doc. 15154](#)
- Rapporteur of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development:  
Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Turkey, SOC)*
- 25. Artificial intelligence and labour markets: friend or foe?** Doc. ....
- Rapporteur of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development:  
Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC)*

**26. Legal aspects of “autonomous” vehicles**

[Doc. 15143](#)

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:  
Mr Ziya Altunaldiz (Turkey, NR)*

Debate  
Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation  
Vote on a draft recommendation  
Vote on ...  
Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

**Friday 23 October 2020 from 09:30 to 13:00**

**27. (Possibly) Debate under urgent procedure (under Rule 52 of the Rules of Procedure)**

**28. Legal Affairs and Human Rights**

The principles and guarantees of advocates

[Doc. 15152](#)

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:  
Mr Aleksandr Bashkin (Russian Federation, NR)*

Debate  
Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

**29. Equality and Non-Discrimination**

The gender dimension of foreign policy

[Doc. 15122](#)

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:  
Ms Petra Stienen (Netherlands, ALDE)*

Debate  
Vote on a draft resolution

**30. Culture, Science, Education and Media**

Threats to academic freedom and autonomy of higher education institutions in Europe

Doc. ....

*Rapporteur of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media:  
Mr Koloman Brenner (Hungary, NR)*

Debate  
Vote on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation

**31. Other business**

**32. Next meeting**

20 November 2020 (by videoconference)



## Appendix 2

### WINNERS OF THE EUROPE PRIZE, THE PLAQUE OF HONOUR, THE FLAG OF HONOUR AND THE EUROPEAN DIPLOMA FOR 2020

#### 1. EUROPE PRIZE

The **Europe Prize**, which is the highest distinction, is awarded to

**Amilly** (Centre-Val de Loire, France)

#### 2. PLAQUES OF HONOUR

The **Plaque of Honour**, which is the second highest distinction after the Europe Prize, is awarded to 8 municipalities:

France	<b>St-Germain-en-Laye</b> (Île-de-France)
Germany	<b>Aßlar</b> (Hessen) <b>Hannover</b> (Lower Saxony) <b>Kamen</b> (North Rhine-Westphalia)
Italy	<b>Formigine</b> (Province of Modena)
Serbia	<b>Kikinda</b> (Vojvodina)
Turkey	<b>Büyükçekmece</b> (Istanbul Municipality)
Ukraine	<b>Vinnytsia</b> (Vinnytsia oblast)

#### 3. FLAGS OF HONOUR

The **Flag of Honour** is awarded to 6 municipalities:

Germany	<b>Neustadt-bei-Coburg</b> (Bavaria)
Poland	<b>Mińsk Mazowiecki</b> (Mazovian Voivodship)
Spain	<b>Mollet del Vallès</b> (Catalonia)
Turkey	<b>Şişli</b> (Istanbul Municipality)
Ukraine	<b>Kyiv</b> (Kyiv oblast) <b>Rivne</b> (Rivne Oblast)

#### 4. EUROPEAN DIPLOMAS

The **European Diploma** is awarded to 12 municipalities:

Austria	<b>Neumarkt in der Steiermark</b> (Murau District)
France	<b>Bayeux</b> (Normandie)
Germany	<b>Velbert</b> (North Rhine-Westphalia)
Italy	<b>Cavaglià</b> (Piedmont) <b>Contigliano</b> (Latium) <b>Reggio Emilia</b> (Emilia-Romagna)
Spain	<b>Bilbao</b> (Basque country) <b>Tarragona</b> (Catalonia)
Turkey	<b>Çiğli</b> (Aegean Region) <b>Çorlu</b> (Marmara Region) <b>Selçuk</b> (Aegean Region)
Ukraine	<b>Poltava</b> (Poltava oblast)