



## Information documents

SG-AS (2021) 01

18 January 2021

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### **Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1393<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (20 January 2021)**

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<sup>1</sup> This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 19 November 2020 (videoconference) and the future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 1 February 2021 (videoconference).

## **I. Decisions taken by the Bureau (19 November and 9 December 2020)**

### **A. First part-session of 2021 (25-28 January 2021)**

On 9 December 2020, the Bureau adopted the draft agenda of the 1<sup>st</sup> part-session of 2021 (appendix 1), agreed to hold this part-session in a hybrid manner and decided that the elections of personalities during this part-session shall be held by individual electronic voting.

The Assembly will proceed with the elections of the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe and of the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly on Tuesday 26 January 2021.

The Assembly has received the lists of candidates for the posts of judges to the European Court of Human Rights with respect to Greece and Switzerland. The elections will take place on Tuesday 26 January 2021.

### **B. Observation of elections**

- **Georgia: parliamentary elections (31 October 2020):** on 19 November, the Bureau took note of the press release by the ad hoc committee to observe these elections, authorised a post-electoral mission and approved its list of members. This post-electoral mission was then cancelled due to the sanitary crisis.
- **Republic of Moldova: presidential election (1<sup>st</sup> November 2020):** on 19 November, the Bureau took note of the cancellation of the observation mission of this election due to the sanitary crisis;
- **Jordan: parliamentary elections (10 November 2020):** on 19 November, the Bureau took note of the cancellation of the observation mission of these elections due to the sanitary situation;
- **Kazakhstan: parliamentary elections (10 January 2021):** on 19 November, the Bureau decided not to observe these elections.
- **Kyrgyzstan: presidential election (10 January 2021):** on 9 December, the Bureau decided to observe this election, subject to the sanitary conditions, constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 5 members (one representative of each political group). This observation mission was then cancelled due to the sanitary crisis.
- **Bulgaria: parliamentary elections (4 April 2021):** on 9 December, the Bureau decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (SOC: 7; EPP/CD: 6, ALDE: 3, EC/DA: 3, UEL: 1) as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee; and to conduct a pre-electoral mission.

### **C. Other decisions taken by the Bureau at its meetings on 19 November and 9 December 2020**

- **Organisation of committee meetings as from 20 November 2020:** on 19 November, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly, and decided, by anticipation and subject to the adoption by the Standing Committee on 20 November 2020 of the draft resolution on Modification of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure on alternative arrangements for the organisation of Parliamentary Assembly part-sessions presented by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, taking account of exceptional circumstances created by the Covid-19 pandemic, that committee meetings will be held in a hybrid manner (combined remote and in-person participation of members) or by electronic means of remote communication during the period from 23 November 2020 until 31 January 2021. In accordance with Rule 48.1, the committee chairperson shall decide on the format which he or she deems most appropriate when convening the meeting, taking into account safety and accessibility conditions;

- **Election of the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** on 19 November, the Bureau interviewed Mr Bjørn Berge (Norway) and Ms Leyla Kayacik (Turkey), candidates for the post of Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe (*in camera*);
- **Election of the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly:** on 9 December, the Bureau interviewed Ms Despina Chatzivassiliou-Tsovilis (Greece) and Mr Wojciech Sawicki (Poland), candidates for the post of Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly (*in camera*);
- **Expenditure of the Parliamentary Assembly for the 2021 financial year:** on 9 December, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly;
- **Parliamentary co-operation activities: work plan 2021:** on 9 December, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly;
- **Apportionment of the allocation to political groups for 2021:** on 9 December, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly and approved the proposal for the apportionment of the allocation.

## II. Prizes

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

The Award Ceremony of the 2020 Museum Prize to the National Museum of Secret Surveillance “House of Leaves”, took place in Tirana on 2 November 2020.

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

On 7 January 2021, the Selection Panel shortlisted 3 candidates (see appendix 2) for the 2020 edition of the Prize. A second meeting of the Panel will be held in April 2021 to select the laureate, the Award Ceremony is foreseen to be held on 19 April 2021.

On 15 January 2021, the Assembly launched a call for nominations for the 2021 edition of the Prize (appendix 3).

The deadline for submitting nominations is **30 April 2021**. Website: [Václav Havel Human Rights Prize](#)

## III. Activities of Committees and Networks

➤ On 15 October 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy** held exchanges of views:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Transparency and regulation of donations to political parties and electoral campaigns from foreign donors* (Rapporteur: Mr Konstantin Kuhle, Germany, ALDE) with the participation of Mr Yves-Marie Doublet, Deputy Director at the French National Assembly, expert to the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO); Mr Nicolae Eșanu (Republic of Moldova), Substitute member of the Venice Commission, Legal Advisor to the Prime Minister and Mr Fernando Casal Bértoa, Associate Professor at the University of Nottingham and member of the OSCE/ODIHR Core Group of Political Party Experts;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *More participatory democracy to tackle climate change* (Rapporteur: Mr George Papandreou, Greece, SOC) with the participation of Mr Thierry Pech, co-Chair of the Citizens' Convention on Climate, France;

➤ On 15 October 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination** held a hearing in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The situation of Crimean Tatars* (Rapporteur: Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Iceland, SOC) with the participation of Ms Liudmyla Denisova, Ukrainian

Parliament Commissioner for Human Rights; Mr Refat Chubarov, Chairman of the Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People; Mr Nariman Dzhelialov, Head of Information and Analysis Department, Mejlis of the Crimean Tatar People and Ms Tatiana Moskalkova, High Commissioner for Human Rights of the Russian Federation;

➤ On 16 October 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons** held exchanges of views:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The protection of victims of forced displacement under international law* (Rapporteur: Mr Fabien Gouttefarde, France, ALDE) with the participation of Ms Cecilia Jimenez-Damary, UN Special Rapporteur on the Human Rights of Internally Displaced Persons, Davao, Philippines;

. on *Pushbacks on land and sea* with the participation of Mr Nils Muiznieks, Director, Europe Regional Office of Amnesty International, Brussels;

. on *European Commission proposals for a New Pact on Migration and Asylum* with the participation of Ms Joanna Darmanin, Deputy Head of Asylum Unit, DG Migration and Home Affairs, European Commission, Brussels;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Climate and migration* (Rapporteur: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Switzerland, SOC) with the participation of Ms Dina Ionesco, Head of Migration, Environment and Climate Change Division, IOM, Geneva.

➤ On 6 November 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media** held a hearing in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Strengthening the role of young people in the prevention and resolution of conflicts* (Rapporteur: Ms Inka Hopsu, Finland, SOC) with the participation of Ms Seija Kinni, Coordinator, Focal Point for “women, peace and security”, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Finland, and Mr Jorge Aguado-Sanchez, Member of the Advisory Council on Youth of the Council of Europe (CCJ) and of the Youth Peace Ambassadors Network (YPAN).

➤ On 9 November 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** held hearings:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Restrictions on NGO activities in Council of Europe member States* (Rapporteur: Ms Alexandra Louis, France, ALDE) with the participation of Mr Jeremy McBride, barrister, President of the Expert Council on NGO law, INGO Conference, Ms Waltraud Heller, Programme Officer - Civil Society, Institutional Cooperation & Networks, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights, Austria and Mr Martin Kuijer, member of the Venice Commission for the Netherlands;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Addressing the issue of Daesh foreign fighters and their families returning from Syria and other countries to the member States of the Council of Europe* (Rapporteur: Mr Pieter Omtzigt, the Netherlands, EPP/CD) with the participation of Mr Sinan Can, Investigative journalist/ documentary director, Dutch public television BNNVARA, the Netherlands and Dr. Lars Otte, Senior public prosecutor, Office of the Federal Prosecutor General at the Federal Court of Justice, Germany;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Judges in Poland and in the Republic of Moldova must remain independent* (Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Orlando, Italy, SOC) with the participation of Mr Jędrzej Kondek, member of the National Council of the Judiciary, Poland, Mr Dariusz Mazur, judge at the Regional Court in Cracow, 3rd Penal Section, spokesman for the Judges' Association Themis, Poland, Mrs Anna Dalkowska, Deputy Minister of Justice, Poland and Mr Radu Foltea, State Secretary in the Ministry of Justice, Republic of Moldova.

➤ On 13 November 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)** held exchanges of views:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The Honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Titus Corlăţean, Romania, SOC and Mr Claude Kern, France, ALDE) with the

participation of Mr Nicolae Eșanu, Member of the Venice Commission for the Republic of Moldova, on the amendments to the Georgian law on the Common Courts with regard to the appointment of Supreme Court judges;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The Honouring of obligations and commitments by Turkey* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Thomas Hammarberg, Sweden, SOC and Mr John Howell, United Kingdom, EC/DA) held a hearing on the follow-up to [Resolution 2347 \(2020\)](#) on “New crackdown on political opposition and civil dissent in Turkey: urgent need to safeguard Council of Europe standards”, on the situation of dismissed and replaced mayors with the participation of Ms Yoomi Rendström, co-rapporteur on local and regional democracy in Turkey of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, Mr Peter Bußjäger, Member of the Venice Commission for Liechtenstein, on the replacement of elected candidates and mayors in Turkey and Mr Üzeyir Aziz Özeren, Deputy Director General of Provincial Administrations, Ministry of Interior of Turkey;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The Honouring of obligations and commitments by Albania* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Joe O’Reilly, Ireland, EPP/CD and Mr Petter Eide, Norway, UEL) held an exchange of views on the draft amendments to the law on Audiovisual Media Service with the participation of Ms Klotilda Bushka (Albania, SOC), PACE member of the delegation of Albania and rapporteur of the Albanian Parliament on the draft amendments, Ms Herdís Kjerulf Thorgeirsdóttir, Member of the Venice Commission for Iceland and Mr Patrick Penninckx, Head of the Information Society Department of the Council of Europe.

➤ On 27 November 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination** held hearings:

. on a *Charter of European Political Parties for a non-racist society* jointly with the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance, with the participation of Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow, General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance and Coordinator of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance (moderator); Mr Andreas Nick, First Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and Ms Samira Rafaela, Member of the European Parliament, Co-president of the Antiracism and Discrimination Intergroup (ARDI); Ms Maria Daniella Marouda, Chair of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI) and Mr Nicolae Eșanu, Substitute member of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission);

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Combating rising hate against LGBTI people in Europe* (Rapporteur: Mr Fourat Ben Chikha, Belgium, SOC) with the participation of Mr Victor Madrigal-Borloz, United Nations Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity; Ms Teodora Ion-Rotaru, Executive Director, ACCEPT Association, Romania; Ms Tina Kolos Orbán, Project Manager, Transvanilla Association, Hungary and Mr Miltos Pavlou, Project Manager – Social Research, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA).

➤ On 30 November 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs Democracy**, in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Guidelines on the scope of the parliamentary immunities enjoyed by members of the Parliamentary Assembly* (Rapporteur: Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL), held a hearing with the participation of Mr Sascha Hardt, Assistant Professor of Comparative Constitutional Law, Maastricht University; Ms Victoria Cherniyuchuk, Lawyer, Directorate of the Jurisconsult, Registry of the European Court of Human Rights; and Mr Rogier Huizenga, Secretary of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians and Human Rights Programme Manager, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

➤ On 1 December 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development**, held hearings:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Towards a Covid-19 vaccine: ethical, legal and practical considerations* (Rapporteur: Ms Jennifer De Temmerman, France, ALDE) with the participation of:

Session I: Developing a Covid-19 vaccine – our best hope of returning to normal life

- ✓ Ms Melanie Saville, Director of Vaccine & Research Development, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)
- ✓ Mr Marco Cavaleri, Head of Office, Anti-Infectives and Vaccines, Human Medicines, Evaluation Division of the European Medicines Agency (EMA)
- ✓ Ms Sarah Gilbert, Professor of Vaccinology, University of Oxford (UK)

Session II: Equity as an obligation at national and international level

- ✓ Ms Alena Buyx, Chair of the German Ethics Council
- ✓ Ms Emma Wheatley, Deputy General Counsel and Head of Business Development, Coalition for Epidemic Preparedness Innovations (CEPI)

Session III: Overcoming vaccine hesitancy towards Covid-19 vaccines - coordinated action with a view to effective, consistent and transparent communication

- ✓ Ms Heidi Larson, Professor of Anthropology, Risk and Decision Science, London School of Hygiene & Tropical Medicine, UK
- ✓ Mr Tim Nguyen, Head of Unit – High Impact Events, Global Infectious Hazard Preparedness Department, WHO Information Network for Epidemics (EPI-WIN)

on *For stronger action on climate change* with the participation of children and experts:

Session I: Inaction on climate change – a violation of children's rights

(*Rapporteur: Ms Jennifer De Temmerman, France, ALDE*)

- ✓ Mr Nathan Méténier, Member of the UN Secretary-General's Youth Advisory Group, Europe Director of Youth4Nature, and co-founder of Generation Climate Europe, France
- ✓ Aida, Eugénie and Nèle, Eco-delegates, and Mr Najib Benarafa, Earth and Life Sciences Teacher, Sustainable Development Co-ordinator, Joan of Arc High School, Colombes, France

Session II: Anchoring the right to a healthy environment: need for enhanced action by the Council of Europe

(*Rapporteur: Mr Simon Moutquin, Belgium, SOC*)

- ✓ Ms Catherine Le Bris, Researcher on international law of human rights and the environment, CNRS (National Centre for Scientific Research), France
- ✓ Mr David R. Boyd, UN Special Rapporteur on Human Rights and Environment, Associate Professor of Law, Policy, and Sustainability, Institute for Resources, Environment and Sustainability, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, University of British Columbia, Canada

➤ On 2 December 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons** held exchanges of views:

in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Gender mainstreaming of migration policies* (Rapporteur: Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir, Iceland, UEL) with the participation of Mr Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head of the International Migration Division, OECD;

in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Safe third countries for asylum seekers* (Rapporteur: Ms Stephanie Krisper, Austria, ALDE) with the participation of Mr Adel-Naim Reyhani, Researcher, Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Fundamental and Human Rights, Vienna;

on *Pushbacks on land and sea: illegal measures of migration management* with the participation of Ms Dunja Mijatović, Council of Europe Human Rights Commissioner and with Mr Andreas Wissner, Representative, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg;

. on *Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan* with the participation of Mr Andreas Wissner, Representative, UNHCR Representation to the European Institutions in Strasbourg and Mr Giorgi Gogia, Associate Director, Europe and Central Asia Division at Human Rights Watch.

➤ On 3-4 December 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media** held hearings:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The Observatory on history teaching in Europe* (Rapporteur: Mr Bertrand Bouyx, France, ALDE) with the participation of Mr Steven Stegers, Executive Director of the European Association of History Teachers (EuroClio), Mr Mark O'Neill, Chairperson of the Jury of the European Museum Forum (EMF) and Ms Monika Sommer, Director of the Museum of Austrian History;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on education and culture* (Rapporteur: Mr Constantinos Efstathiou, Cyprus, SOC) with the participation of Mr Philippe Kern, Managing Director, KEA European Affairs (International policy design research centre specialised in culture and creative industries), Brussels, and Mr Matjaž Gruden, Director, Directorate General of Democracy, Directorate of Democratic Participation;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Media freedom, public trust and the people's right to know* (Rapporteur : Mr Roberto Rampi, Italy, SOC) with the participation of Ms Helen Darbishire, Executive Director, Access Info Europe, Madrid; Mr Claudio Radaelli, Professor of Comparative Public Policy, School of Transnational Governance, European University Institute, Florence; Mr Ezechia Paolo Reale, Secretary General, Siracusa International Institute for Criminal Justice and Human Rights, Siracusa; and Ms Laura Harth, Representative to the UN Institutions for Nonviolent Radical Party, Transnational Transparty, Rome;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Football governance: business and values* (Rapporteur: Lord George Foulkes, United Kingdom, SOC) with the participation of Mr Charlie Marshall, Chief Executive Officer ECA; Mr Jacco Swart, Managing Director of European Leagues, Mr Giorgio Marchetti, Deputy General Secretary, UEFA; Ms Joyce Cook, Chief Social Responsibility and Education Officer, FIFA; Mr Stanislas Frossard, Executive Secretary, EPAS, Council of Europe; Mr Jonas Baer-Hoffmann, General Secretary Fifpro; and Ms Antonia Hagemann, Chief Executive Officer, Supporters Direct Europe.

➤ On 8 December 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** held hearings:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Political prisoners in the Russian Federation* (Rapporteur: Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Iceland, SOC) with the participation of Ms Karinna Moskalenko, Director, International Protection Centre, Moscow, Russian Federation; Mr Sergey Davidis, head of the programme "Support of Political Prisoners", Memorial Human Rights Centre, Moscow, Russian Federation and Mr Tony Brace, Chair, Religious Freedom Subcommittee, The European Association of Jehovah's Witnesses, Chelmsford, UK;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Human rights violations in Belarus require an international investigation* (Rapporteur: Ms Alexandra Louis, France, ALDE) with the participation of Professor Wolfgang Benedek (Austria), special rapporteur, OSCE Moscow Mechanism; Mr Valentin Stefanovich, Board Member, Human Rights Centre *Viasna*; Ms Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Leader of Democratic Belarus and Mr Aleh Hulak, Chairman of the Belarusian Helsinki Committee, Minsk, Belarus.

➤ On 10 December 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Ten years after the Lisbon Treaty: strengthening Council of Europe and European Union co-operation* (Rapporteur: Mr Titus Corlăţean, Romania, SOC) held a hearing including on EU accession to the European Convention on Human Rights, high-level political dialogue, rule of law developments and co-operation with the European Parliament, with the participation of Ms Fabienne Keller, Member of the European Parliament, Member of the Committee on Civil Liberties, Justice and Home Affairs; Mr Sandro Gozi, Member of the European Parliament, Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs; Mr Stefano Sannino, Deputy Secretary General for Global and Economic Issues, European External Action Service (appointed Secretary General of the EEAS as of 1 January 2021); Mr Jeroen Hooijer, Head of Unit, "Inter-institutional – international coordination", Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, European

Commission and Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General of Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe;

➤ On 11 December 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)** held exchanges of views:

. with Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The honouring of obligations by Bosnia and Herzegovina* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL and Mr Zsolt Németh, Hungary, EPP/CD) with the participation of Mr Stewart Dickson (United Kingdom, ILDG), Member of the delegation of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on the remote observation of local elections (15 November 2020 and 20 December 2020);

. on *Military hostilities between Armenia and Azerbaijan* (co-rapporteurs for Armenia: Mr Kimmo Kiljunen, Finland, SOC and Ms Boriána Åberg, Sweden, EPP/CD and co-rapporteurs for Azerbaijan: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC and Sir Roger Gale, United Kingdom, EC/DA) with the participation of Mr Thomas de Waal, expert, senior fellow with Carnegie Europe specialising in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus region.

➤ On 19 January 2021, by videoconference, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** held hearings:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Poisoning of Alexei Navalny* (Rapporteur: Mr Jacques Maire, France, ALDE) with the participation of Mr Leonid Volkov, Chief of staff of Founder of the Anti-corruption Foundation and Mr Christo Grozev, Lead investigator, Bellingcat

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Addressing issues of criminal and civil liability in the context of climate change* (Rapporteur: Mr Ziya Altunyaliz, Turkey, NR) with the participation of Ms Sibel Kulaksiz, Senior Economist and Task Team Leader, World Bank and Professor Marta Torre-Schaub, Research Director, Institut des sciences juridique et philosophique de la Sorbonne

➤ On 21 January 2020, by videoconference, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons** will hold exchanges of views:

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Alternative care for unaccompanied and separated migrant children* (Rapporteur: Ms Mariia Mezentseva, Ukraine, EPP/CD) with the participation of Ms Lilja Grétarsdóttir, Head of Division a.i., Head of Unit on Migration and Displacement, Human Rights Directorate, Council of Europe;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Voluntary relocation of migrants, asylum seekers and refugees in need of humanitarian protection* (Rapporteur: Lord Alexander Dundee, United Kingdom, EC/DA) with the participation of Ms Eirini Agapidaki, Special Secretary for the Protection of Unaccompanied Minors, Ministry of Migration and Asylum of Greece ;

. in the framework of the preparation of the report *Gender mainstreaming of migration policies* (Rapporteur: Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir, Iceland, UEL) with the participation of Ms Lomazzi Vera and Ms Isabella Crespi, Researchers and authors of the book: "Gender Mainstreaming and Gender Equality in Europe: Policies, Culture and Public Opinion" 2019;

. in the framework of the preparation of the reports on *Safe third countries for asylum seekers* Rapporteur: Ms Stephanie Krisper, Austria, ALDE and on *Pushbacks on land and sea: illegal measures of migration management* (Rapporteur: Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Switzerland, SOC) with the participation of Ms Tineke Strik, Member of the EU Parliament and Vice-Chair, Delegation to the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly and Ms Sophie Weidenhiller, Spokesperson, Sea-Eye e.V., Regensburg, Germany.



#### **IV. Seminars and conferences organised by the Assembly**

On 7 December 2020, the Secretariat of the Assembly organised a Round Table (by videoconference) on assessing the recommendations proposed in the Monitoring and Evaluation Report on the functionality of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine' Human Rights mechanism.

On 11 December 2020, the Secretariat of the Assembly organised a Conference on Institutional cooperation for execution of the European Court of Human Rights judgments in Ukraine (by videoconference).

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

On 23 October 2020, a joint committee meeting was held by videoconference. The triologue (SG, CM and PACE) also met several times in this period.

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

- On 13 November 2020, the **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)** decided to request the opinion of the Venice Commission on the recent amendments to the Law on Electronic Communications and the Law on Broadcasting in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The Honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Titus Corlăţean, Romania, SOC and Mr Claude Kern, France, ALDE).
- On 8 December 2020, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** decided to request the opinion of the Venice Commission on the compatibility with international human rights standards of a series of bills introduced to the Russian State Duma between 10 and 23 November 2020 to amend laws affecting so-called "foreign agents" in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Restrictions on NGO activities in Council of Europe member States* (Rapporteur: Ms Alexandra Louis, France, ALDE).
- On 8 December 2020, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** decided to request the opinion of the Venice Commission on the compatibility with European standards of the use of certain legal provisions to criminalise the opposition in the framework of the preparation of the report on *Human rights violations in Belarus require an international investigation* (Rapporteur: Ms Alexandra Louis, France, ALDE).
- On 11 December 2020, the **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)** decided to request the opinion of the Venice Commission on the final draft of the revised amendments on the Albanian law on Audio-visual Media before its adoption by the Albanian parliament, in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The Honouring of obligations of Albania* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Joe O'Reilly, Ireland, EPP/CD and Mr Petter Eide, Norway, UEL).

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

- . **15 October 2020:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **15 October 2020:** *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*
- . **15 October 2020:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **6 November 2020:** *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **9 November 2020:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **13 November 2020:** *Monitoring Assembly*
- . **19 November 2020 :** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **27 November 2020:** *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*
- . **30 November 2020:** *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*
- . **1 December 2020:** *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*
- . **2 December 2020:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **3 and 4 December 2020:** *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **4 December 2020:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **8 December 2020:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **9 December 2020:** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **10 December 2020:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **11 December 2020:** *Monitoring Committee*
- . **21 December 2020:** *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*
- . **14 January 2021:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **15 January 2021:** *Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights*
- . **19 January 2021:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **21 January 2021:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **21 January 2021:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **22 January 2021:** *Bureau of the Assembly*

## Appendix 1



Doc. 15196 prov1  
15 January 2021

### **First part of the 2021 Ordinary Session (25-28 January 2021)**

Draft agenda<sup>1</sup>

This part-session will be held in a hybrid manner.

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1. Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 9 December 2020.  
Updated, on 15 January 2021, under the authority of the Secretary General of the Assembly, to reflect modifications to be proposed to the Bureau of the Assembly (modifications are indicated in grey).



## Abbreviations

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Bur: Bureau of the Assembly

Per: Standing Committee

Pol: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Jur: Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Soc: Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Mig: Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons

Cult: Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Ega: Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

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

Pro: Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

Cdh: Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group

EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party

ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe





EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance

UEL: Group of the Unified European Left

NR: Members not belonging to a political group

## Symbols

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-  Presentation, statement
-  Deadline for tabling documents
-  Lists (speakers, questions)
-  Votes

## Meetings outside the Chamber

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### Bureau

Friday 22 January: 09:30-13:00

Monday 1st February: 09:30-13:00

### Committees

Monday: 14:00-15:30

Tuesday: 14:00-15:30

Wednesday: 14:00-15:30

Thursday: 08:30-09:00

### Political groups

Monday: 09:00-11:00

Wednesday: 08:30-10:00

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## Monday 25 January 2021

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### Sitting No. 1 (11:30-13:00)

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#### 1. Opening of the part-session

- 1.1. Examination of the credentials
  - List of delegations:
    - o (Doc. ...)
- 1.2. Election of the President of the Assembly
- 1.3. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly
- 1.4. Appointment of members of committees
- 1.5. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure
- 1.6. Adoption of the agenda
- 1.7. Approval of the minutes of the Standing Committee (Strasbourg, 4 December 2020) (AS/Per (2020) PV ...)

#### 2. Debate

- 2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER (United Kingdom, EC/DA), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. ...)
- 2.2. Observation of the parliamentary elections in Georgia (31 October 2020)
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Tiny KOX (Netherlands, UEL), Rapporteur (Doc. 15210)
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Sunday 24 January, 11:30)

### Sitting No. 2 (16:00-19:00)

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#### 3. Address (16:00-17:00)

- 3.1. Communication from the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
  - Presentation by:
    - o Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
  - Questions (deadline for registration: Sunday 24 January, 16:00)

#### 4. Debate

- 4.1. The progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure (January-December 2020)
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Michael Aastrup JENSEN (Denmark, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 15211)
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Sunday 24 January, 16:00)
  - Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 21 January, 16:00)
  - Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15211)

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## Tuesday 26 January 2021

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### Sitting No. 3 (09:00-13:00)

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#### 5. Elections (by individual electronic voting) (09:00-15:00)

##### 5.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

- List of candidates in respect of:
  - o Greece (Doc. 15187)
  - o Switzerland (Doc. 15153)

##### 5.2. Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

- List of candidates:
  - o (Doc. 15198)

##### 5.3. Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly

- List of candidates:
  - o (Doc. 15197)

#### 6. Debate

##### 6.1. The implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights

- Presentation by:
  - o Mr Constantinos EFSTATHIOU (Cyprus, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 15123, Doc. 15123 Add.)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 25 January, 09:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Friday 22 January, 09:00)
- Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 15123)

#### 7. Debate

##### 7.1. Judges in Poland and in the Republic of Moldova must remain independent

- Presentation by:
  - o Mr Andrea ORLANDO (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 15204)
- Statement by:
  - o Ms Sabine LEUTHEUSSER-SCHNARRENBERGER, Former Federal Minister of Justice of Germany
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 25 January, 09:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Friday 22 January, 09:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15204)

### Sitting No. 4 (16:00-19:00)

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#### 8. Address (16:00-17:00)

##### 8.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers

- Presentation by:
  - o Mr Heiko MAAS, Federal Minister for Foreign Affairs of Germany, Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
- Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 25 January, 16:00)
- Written questions (deadline for tabling: Monday 18 January, 11:30)

#### 9. Address (17:00-18:00)

##### 9.1. Mr Didier REYNERS, European Commissioner for Justice

- Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 25 January, 16:00)

## 10. Debate

**10.1. Modification of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure – follow-up to Resolution 2319 (2020) on the Complementary joint procedure between the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly in response to a serious violation by a member State of its statutory obligations**

Presentation by:

Sir Edward LEIGH (United Kingdom, EC/DA), Rapporteur AS/Pro ([Doc. 15093](#))

List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 25 January, 16:00)

Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 25 January, 16:00)

Vote on a draft resolution ([Doc. 15093](#))

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## Wednesday 27 January 2021

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### Sitting No. 5 (10:00-13:00)

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#### 11. [Possibly] Elections (2nd round) (by individual electronic voting) (10:00-15:00)

- 11.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights
- 11.2. Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- 11.3. Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly

#### 12. Debate

##### 12.1. Covid-19 vaccines: ethical, legal and practical considerations

- Presentation by:
  - o Ms Jennifer DE TEMMERMAN (France, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 15212)
- Statement by:
  - o Mr Tedros ADHANOM GHEBREYESUS, Director-General of the World Health Organization
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 26 January, 10:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 25 January, 10:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15212)

#### 13. Debate

##### 13.1. Discrimination against persons dealing with chronic and long-term illnesses

- Presentation by:
  - o Ms Martine WONNER (France, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 15208)
  - o Ms Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO (Monaco, ALDE), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Ega (Doc. ...)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 26 January, 10:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 25 January, 10:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15208)

### Sitting No. 6 (16:00-19:00)

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#### 14. Debate

##### 14.1. Post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro

- Presentation by:
  - o Mr Damien COTTIER (Switzerland, ALDE), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 15132)
  - o Mr Emanuelis ZINGERIS (Lithuania, EPP/CD), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 15132)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 26 January, 16:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 25 January, 16:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15132)

#### 15. Debate

##### 15.1. Restrictions on NGO activities in Council of Europe member States

- Presentation by:
  - o Ms Alexandra LOUIS (France, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 15205)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 26 January, 16:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 25 January, 16:00)
- Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 15205)



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## Thursday 28 January 2021

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### Sitting No. 7 (09:00-13:00)

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#### 16. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure or current affairs debate<sup>2</sup>

#### 17. Debate

##### 17.1. Ethnic profiling in Europe: a matter of great concern

Presentation by:

- o Mr Boriss CILEVIČS (Latvia, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 15199)

List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 27 January, 09:00)

Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 26 January, 09:00)

Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15199)

#### 18. Constitution of the Standing Committee

#### 19. Closure of the part-session

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2. (Subject to a decision by the Assembly.)

## Appendix 2



**PRESS RELEASE**  
Communication Division

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PACE 002 (2021)

### **Focus on womens' rights as three candidates shortlisted for the 2020 Václav Havel Prize**

Strasbourg, 07.01.2021 - The selection panel of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, which rewards outstanding civil society action in the defence of human rights in Europe and beyond, has today announced the shortlist for the 2020 Prize, with all three nominees involved in promoting women's rights or gender equality.

Meeting today by teleconference, the panel – made up of independent figures from the world of human rights and chaired by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe Rik Daems – decided to shortlist the following three nominees, in alphabetical order:

#### **Loujain Alhathloul (Saudi Arabia)**

The nominee is one of the leaders of the Saudi feminist movement. Ms Alhathloul is a prominent womens' rights activist known for defying the ban on women driving in Saudi Arabia and for opposing the Saudi male guardianship system. She has been detained on several occasions, sentenced and has been in prison since 2018.

#### **Nuns of the Drukpa Order (Nepal)**

The nominee is a group of young Buddhist nuns, promoting gender equality, environmental sustainability and intercultural tolerance in their home villages in the Himalayas. They are known for their delivery of supplies to hard-to-reach villages after an earthquake struck Kathmandu in 2015. The Nuns of the Drukpa Order have also taught self-defence classes for women and biked over 20,000 kilometres to protest against the trafficking of women and girls.

#### **Julienne Lusenge (Congo)**

The nominee is a Congolese human rights activist who has been documenting sexual abuse and acts of violence against women in Congo. She was instrumental in obtaining convictions of perpetrators who enlisted child soldiers and collected evidence of sexual slavery that led to further convictions, as well as obtaining the convictions of hundreds of perpetrators of

sexual violence against women at national level. She has been threatened for her work on several occasions.

The overall winner of the 60,000-euro annual Prize is due to be announced at the opening of PACE's spring plenary session on 19 April 2021. The usual timetable has been delayed by several months due to the exceptional situation caused by the COVID-19 pandemic.

"I would like to thank all those who put forward nominations for the 2020 Prize in this unusual year," said PACE President Rik Daems. "From a strong field, and after much discussion, we have chosen three excellent candidates who stand in the worthy tradition of Václav Havel himself. Selecting the final Prize winner will not be an easy task."

"The women and men who work every day to uphold our rights deserve our profoundest gratitude and admiration," he added. "Often at great personal cost, they hold governments to account and stand up for equal rights with courage and determination. They are on the front line of building a fairer and more just world, and we are all in their debt."

The Václav Havel Human Rights Prize is awarded each year by PACE, in partnership with the Václav Havel Library and the Charta 77 Foundation. It consists of a sum of 60,000 euros, a trophy and a diploma.

Since 2013, the Prize has been awarded in turn to Ales Bialiatski (Belarus), Anar Mammadli (Azerbaijan), Ludmilla Alexeeva (Russian Federation), Nadia Murad (Iraq), Murat Arslan (Turkey) and Oyub Titiev (Russian Federation).

Last year's Prize was awarded jointly to imprisoned Uyghur intellectual Ilham Tohti from China and the Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR), which brings together young people from across the Balkans to promote reconciliation.

[Prize web page](#)

## Appendix 3



**PRESS RELEASE**  
Communication Division

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PACE 003 (2021)

### **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2021: call for nominations**

Strasbourg, 15.01.2021 – The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), in partnership with the [Václav Havel Library](#) and the [Charta 77 Foundation](#), has today issued a call for nominations for the 2021 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize.

The Prize, created in 2013, aims to reward outstanding civil society action in defending human rights in Europe and beyond. Candidates should have made a real difference to the human rights situation of a given group, been instrumental in uncovering large-scale systemic violations, or have successfully mobilised public opinion or the international community for a cause.

The deadline for submitting nominations is **30 April 2021**.

Nominations should be sent to the Parliamentary Assembly by e-mail to the following address: [hrprize.pace@coe.int](mailto:hrprize.pace@coe.int), using the [form](#) available on the [Prize website](#). They should be signed by at least five sponsors and submitted in either English or French.

The Prize, which will be awarded in September 2021 in Strasbourg, consists of a sum of €60,000, a trophy and a diploma.

Since 2013, it was awarded successively to Ales Bialiatski (Belarus), Anar Mammadli (Azerbaijan), Ludmilla Alexeeva (Russian Federation), Nadia Murad (Iraq), Murat Arslan (Turkey), Oyub Titiev (Russian Federation) and jointly to Ilham Tohti (China) and the Youth Initiative for Human Rights (YIHR).

[Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize](#)

[Video](#)

For further information, please contact:

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