



## Information documents

SG-AS (2021) 09

06 October 2021

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### **Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to the 1413<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (7 October 2021)**

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<sup>1</sup> This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 24 September 2021 (hybrid format) and future activities up to the end of the year.

## **I. 4th part-session of 2021 (27-30 September 2021)**

The September 2021 part-session was organised in a hybrid manner, with 210 members of the Assembly physically present in Strasbourg. Altogether, 330 members and delegation secretaries travelled to Strasbourg. Taking into account the evolution of the sanitary situation, parliamentary assistants were allowed into the premises (one assistant per member of the Assembly). All persons entering the premises had to fill in the Council of Europe Covid Self-Declaration.

Statistical terms, there is no major evolution between June and September in terms of participation of members (*pour mémoire*, in June 2021, 201 members were physically present). However, an increase in the physical participation of delegation secretaries and the presence of parliamentary assistants will have to be taken into account in for the preparation of the January 2022 part-session of the Assembly, paying due regard to the evolution of the epidemiological situation.

### **A. Personalities**

The following personalities addressed the Assembly (in chronological order):

- Ms Stella KYRIAKIDES, European Commissioner for Health and Food Safety
- Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- Mr Péter SZIJJÁRTÓ, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Trade of Hungary, Chair of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
- Mr Nikola DIMITROV, Deputy Prime Minister for European Affairs of North Macedonia

Their speeches can be found on the Assembly's website: <http://assembly.coe.int>.

The High-Level Panel on *Environment and human rights: right to a safe, healthy, and sustainable environment*, organised on Wednesday, 29 September, to complete the debates on 7 reports relating to issues of environment and climate change, was a major highlight of the part-session. The following high-level personalities participated in this event:

- Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- Mr Antonio GUTERRES, United Nations Secretary General (video message)
- H.E. János ÁDER, President of the Republic of Hungary
- Mr Roberto FICO, Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies
- Mr Eduardo PINHEIRO, Deputy Minister of Environment of Portugal
- Mr Tim EICKE, Judge to the European Court of Human Rights
- Ms Anuna DE WEVER VAN DER HEYDEN, Belgian climate and human rights activist.

The statements of the panellists, followed by an interactive exchange of views with the members of the Assembly, allowed to take stock of progress in addressing climate change and the numerous related national and international challenges, as well as the evolution of the international legal and human rights standards in this field.

### **B. Current affairs debate and debates under urgent procedure**

On 30 September 2021, the Assembly held a current affairs debate on *The Western Balkans between democratic challenges and European aspirations: what role for the Council of Europe?* As a follow-up, the Bureau decided to refer the issue to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, to be taken into account in the preparation of its report on *Supporting a European perspective for the Western Balkans*.

Three debates under urgent procedure were held, namely:

- . *The situation in Afghanistan: consequences for Europe and the region*
- . *Increased migration pressure on the borders of Latvia, Lithuania and Poland with Belarus*
- . *Draft Second Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime on enhanced co-operation and disclosure of electronic evidence*

### C. Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights

On 28 September 2021, the Assembly elected three judges to the European Court of Human Rights (in alphabetical order):

- . Mr Mikhail Borisovitch Lobov, as judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of the Russian Federation;
- . Ms Diana Scobioală, as judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of the Republic of Moldova;
- . Ms Katerina Šimáčková, as judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of the Czech Republic.

On 27 September 2021, the Assembly ratified the recommendation of the Committee on the Election of Judges to reject the list of candidates in respect of Ukraine (Doc. 15375 Addendum 2).

### D. Presidential Committee

The Presidential Committee of the Assembly met on 23 September (by videoconference) and 29 September 2021.

### E. Prizes

On 27 September 2021, the Assembly awarded the **2021 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize** to Ms Maria Kalesnikava, Belarusian human rights activist. Diplomas were also awarded to Reporters Sans Frontières and Mr Germain Rukuki, Burundian human rights defender (See [Press statement](#)).

On 30 September 2021, meeting in a hybrid format, the **Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize (of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development)** held the presentation ceremony of the 2020 and 2021 European Diplomas to the winning towns, with the participation of Mr Rik Daems, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Mr Kestutis Masiulis (Lithuania, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee, as well as the representatives from 18 winning towns from eight European countries (by videoconference).

### F. Media coverage

The 2021 Autumn Session of the Assembly generated considerable media coverage, with some 44 journalists physically present in Strasbourg to report on it, and around 514 articles appearing in the international press (as a provisional estimate, this figure represents a 20% increase in comparison with the June 2021 part-session). With almost half of the articles Russia (116) and Ukraine (86) lead the list of media coverage, followed by Armenia (45) and Azerbaijan (37).

The focus of the media attention was the 2021 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, awarded to the Belarusian human rights activist Maria Kalesnikava, with articles published in the main international newspapers (The Independent, Le Monde, Frankfurter Allgemeine Zeitung, Kommersant, La Libre Belgique...), as well as a large audiovisual coverage (Reuters, AP, Eurovision, ORF, ARD, Deutsche Welle, RFI, Radio Prague...).

The series of debates on climate challenges and on environment as a human right, as well as the high-level panel, were also mentioned in numerous articles (UPI, Agence Europe, L'Humanité, Jurist, Agence Belga, L'Avenir, TRT, Vatican News, ANSA, Corriere della Sera, La Repubblica, SIR, Dialogos, Cyprus News Agency, Panorama, Balkan Magazin...). The debate on the 'Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan / Nagorno-Karabakh conflict' was also a highlight of the session, the main Armenian and Azerbaijani media (Aravot, Trend, Armlinfo, Azernews,...) covering extensively the Assembly Resolution and Recommendation adopted.

As regards the Assembly's social media output, Twitter impressions over session week were 588,000 - a record figure, with more than half of these from a single tweet on the winner of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize. The

top post on Facebook was the Assembly's vote on a proposal for a new protocol to the European Convention on Human Rights explicitly recognising the right to a safe, clean, healthy and sustainable environment. The YouTube channel saw a growing number of viewers, with 228 hours of watch-time in total. The visit of Little Amal also featured consistently on all platforms.

The MediaBox, a web-TV studio available in physical presence or online, once again proved to be a useful tool for both Assembly members and journalists, with 16 interviews with parliamentarians recorded and published on the PACE website and social media supports.

## G. Adopted texts on the occasion of the fourth part-session of 2021 (Strasbourg, 27-30 September)

The Assembly adopted the following texts:

| No.                                        | Title                                                                                                    |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Resolution 2391 (2021)</a>     | Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan / Nagorno-Karabakh conflict     |
| <a href="#">Recommendation 2209 (2021)</a> | Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan / Nagorno-Karabakh conflict     |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2392 (2021)</a>     | Guidelines on the scope of the parliamentary immunities enjoyed by members of the Parliamentary Assembly |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2393 (2021)</a>     | Socio-economic inequalities in Europe: time to restore social trust by strengthening social rights       |
| <a href="#">Recommendation 2210 (2021)</a> | Socio-economic inequalities in Europe: time to restore social trust by strengthening social rights       |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2394 (2021)</a>     | Gender representation in the Parliamentary Assembly                                                      |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2395 (2021)</a>     | Strengthening the fight against so-called "honour" crimes                                                |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2396 (2021)</a>     | Anchoring the right to a healthy environment: need for enhanced action by the Council of Europe          |
| <a href="#">Recommendation 2211 (2021)</a> | Anchoring the right to a healthy environment: need for enhanced action by the Council of Europe          |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2397 (2021)</a>     | More participatory democracy to tackle climate change                                                    |
| <a href="#">Recommendation 2212 (2021)</a> | More participatory democracy to tackle climate change                                                    |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2398 (2021)</a>     | Addressing issues of criminal and civil liability in the context of climate change                       |
| <a href="#">Recommendation 2213 (2021)</a> | Addressing issues of criminal and civil liability in the context of climate change                       |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2399 (2021)</a>     | The climate crisis and the rule of law                                                                   |
| <a href="#">Recommendation 2214 (2021)</a> | The climate crisis and the rule of law                                                                   |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2400 (2021)</a>     | Combating inequalities in the right to a safe, healthy and clean environment                             |

|                                             |                                                                                                                                 |
|---------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <a href="#">Resolution 2401 (2021)</a>      | Climate and migration                                                                                                           |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2402 (2021)</a>      | Research policies and environment protection                                                                                    |
| <a href="#">Reccommendation 2215 (2021)</a> | Research policies and environment protection                                                                                    |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2403 (2021)</a>      | The situation in Afghanistan: consequences for Europe and the region                                                            |
| <a href="#">Resolution 2404 (2021)</a>      | Instrumentalised migration pressure on the borders of Latvia, Lithuania and Poland with Belarus                                 |
| <a href="#">Opi299 (2021)</a>               | Draft Second Additional Protocol to the Convention on Cybercrime on enhanced co-operation and disclosure of electronic evidence |

All these texts can be found on the website of the Assembly: <http://assembly.coe.int>.

## H. Hearings and events organised by committees during the part-session

| Monday 27 September 2021                                                                                                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                             |
|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p><b>Hybrid manner</b></p> <p><b>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</b></p>                                                                                          | <p>► <b>Hearing on “The situation in Afghanistan: consequences for Europe and the region”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Sir Tony Lloyd (United Kingdom, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Mette Knudsen, Deputy Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General for Afghanistan, United Nations Assistance Mission in Afghanistan (UNAMA)</li> <li>• Ambassador Zamir Kabulov, Presidential Envoy to Afghanistan, Russian Federation</li> <li>• Ms Laurel Miller, Programme Director for Asia, International Crisis Group</li> <li>• Mr Alexander Mundt, Senior Policy Advisor Office, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
| <p><b>Hybrid manner</b></p> <p><b>Sub-Committee on Disability and Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination</b></p> <p><b>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination</b></p> | <p>► <b>Hearing on “The Paralympic Games: what contribution to ending stereotypes and discrimination against persons with disabilities?”</b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Andrew Parsons, President of the International Paralympic Committee</li> <li>• Ms Elda Moreno, Head of the children’s rights and sport values department, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe</li> <li>• Mr Etienne Petitmengin, Rapporteur of the French National Consultative Commission on Human Rights on the report - available in French only - on “Knowing, defining, raising awareness and combating stereotypes and prejudices against persons with disabilities” (« Connaître, définir, sensibiliser et combattre les stéréotypes et les préjugés à l’égard des personnes handicapées »); expert to the French National Authority for Health</li> <li>• Ms Marie-Amélie Le Fur, President of the French Paralympic and Sports Committee, athlete, Paralympic medallist.</li> </ul> |

| Tuesday 28 September 2021                                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <p>Hybrid manner</p> <p><b>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</b></p> | <p>► <b>Exchange of views on “Socio-economic inequalities in Europe: time to restore social trust by strengthening social rights”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Turkey, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Jeffrey Sachs, Director of the United Nations Sustainable Development Solutions Network</li> </ul>                                                                                                                               |
| <p>Hybrid manner</p> <p><b>No Hate Parliamentary Alliance</b></p>                                  | <p>► <b>Hearing on “Countering Islamophobia in Europe”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report on “Raising awareness of and countering Islamophobia in Europe” prepared by Mr Momodou Malcolm Jallow (Sweden, UEL), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Ms Julie Pascoet, Policy Officer, European Network Against Racism (ENAR)</li> <li>• Mr Tufyal Choudhury, Associate Professor, Durham University</li> <li>• Ms Dunia Khalil, Dokustelle, Vienna.</li> </ul>                               |
| Wednesday 29 September 2021                                                                        |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <p>Hybrid manner</p> <p><b>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</b></p>                    | <p>► <b>Hearing on “The situation in Tunisia”</b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Gianni Buquicchio, President of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), Council of Europe</li> <li>• Ms Sophie Bessis, Historian and political scientist, specialist in the Maghreb</li> <li>• Ms Pilar Morales Fernández-Shaw, Coordinator of the Neighbourhood Policy with the Southern Mediterranean, Head of the Council of Europe Office in Tunis</li> </ul> |
| <p>Hybrid manner</p> <p><b>Monitoring Committee</b></p>                                            | <p>► <b>Exchange of views on “Human rights protection in Europe”</b></p> <p>in the context of a discussion on general trends with regard to Human Rights protection in Europe with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr Nils Muižnieks, Director for Europe, Amnesty International</li> </ul>                                                                                                                                                                                                       |

## **II. Elections**

### **➤ Morocco: parliamentary elections (8 September 2021):**

On 24 September 2021, the Bureau took note of the statement by the observation mission. The [press statement](#) of the delegation is available online.

### **➤ Russian Federation: parliamentary elections (19 September 2021):**

On 24 September 2021, the Bureau heard an oral statement by the Head of the Election Assessment Mission. The [press release](#) of the mission is available online. The Head of the Mission will submit a Memorandum to the Bureau of the Assembly in November 2021.

### **➤ Kyrgyzstan: parliamentary elections (28 November 2021):**

On 24 September 2021, the Bureau decided to observe these elections and to set up an ad hoc committee composed of 11 members (SOC-3; EPP/CD-3; EC/DA-2; ALDE-2; UEL-1).

On 30 September 2021, the Bureau approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee and appointed Ms Marina Berlinghieri (Italy, SOC) as the Chairperson of the ad hoc committee (Appendix 1).

### **➤ Bulgaria: presidential and early parliamentary elections (14 November 2021):**

On 30 September 2021, the Bureau approved the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe both elections (Appendix 2)

## **III. Other decisions taken by the Bureau (Strasbourg, 24 and 30 September 2021)**

### **➤ References and transmissions to committees:**

The Bureau approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 3 (24 September 2021) and Appendix 4 (30 September 2021).

### **➤ Assembly General Rapporteurs: stock-taking:**

On 24 September 2021, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly, approved its conclusions and decided:

- to invite committees to ensure that the terms of reference of General Rapporteurs correspond to the committee's general mandate and do not overlap with the terms of reference of existing General Rapporteur;
- to invite committees to ensure that the draft terms of reference of General Rapporteurs are linked to the provisions of the European Convention on Human Rights, to another Council of Europe key Convention, or have an institutional or intra-institutional role, and that they clearly spell out the added value of setting up such a function;
- to invite committees to ensure that General Rapporteurs do not cumulate these functions with that of chairperson of the committee or sub-committee, and to include the mandate of General Rapporteur amongst the limit of five rapporteurships mandates per Assembly member;
- to invite committees to set up no more than three General Rapporteurships;
- to extend the terms of reference of the General Rapporteur on the budget and the intergovernmental programme to four years, to be in line with the four-year cycle of the Council of Europe Programme and Budget;
- to invite committees to take note of the above criteria defined in the memorandum, and to accordingly review the terms of reference of their General Rapporteurs, in due course for the Bureau to reconsider them in January 2022 and, from then, regularly every second year in January.

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

On 24 September 2021, Bureau members were invited to propose candidatures for the vacant seat in the Selection Panel and to submit the names and CVs of candidates, together with the justification of fulfilment of the required condition ("recognised moral standing in the field of human rights") to the Secretary General of the Assembly by 15 December 2021, in view of the Bureau taking a decision on the appointment during the 2022 January part-session.

➤ **Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2021:**

On 24 September 2021, the Bureau approved the appointment of Ms Maria-Gabriela Horga (Romania, EPP/CD) as Assembly representative to the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO), as proposed by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights.

On 30 September 2021, the Bureau approved the appointment of Mr Claude Kern (France, ALDE) as substitute to the Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission, as proposed by the Committee on the Honoring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee).

➤ **Appointment of Assembly representatives for official activities:**

On 24 September 2021, the Bureau approved the appointment of Mr Simon Moutquin (Belgium, SOC) to participate in the pre-Parliamentary meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) at the 26th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP26), to be held on 8-9 October 2021, in Rome.

➤ **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:**

On 24 September 2021, the Bureau authorised the Sub-Committee on External Relations of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to meet in New-York, USA, in November/December 2021 (subject to the availability of funds), and the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to meet in Chania, Greece, on 19-20 May 2022.

On 30 September 2021, the Bureau authorised the Committee on the Honoring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) to meet in Copenhagen, on 14-15 December 2021 (subject to the availability of funds).

➤ **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) - Lists of candidates in respect of Bulgaria, Denmark, Estonia, Hungary, Netherlands and Norway:**

On 30 September 2021, the Bureau approved the lists of candidates in respect of these countries to be forwarded to the Committee of Ministers.

➤ **2021 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 8-10 November):**

On 30 September 2021, the Bureau approved the final composition of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Forum (Appendix 5).

#### **IV. Activities of Committees and Networks, and election observation missions**

➤ On 25 October 2021, in Paris, meeting in a hybrid manner, the **No Hate Parliamentary Alliance**, in cooperation with the Swedish Parliament

. will hold a *Parliamentary Conference on Diversity, inclusiveness and non-discrimination against racism and intolerance in Europe* with the participation of Dr Andreas Norlén, Speaker of the Swedish Riksdag; Ms Boriana Åberg, member of the Swedish Riksdag, Chairperson of the Swedish delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe; and other participants to be confirmed.

➤ On 3-4 November 2021, in Budapest, the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**

. will hold a hearing on *Supporting a European perspective for the Western Balkans*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr George Papandreu (Greece, SOC), with the participation of invited experts.

➤ On 5 November 2021, meeting in hybrid format, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights**

. will hold a hearing on *Legal aspects of the accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC), with the participation of invited experts.

. will hold a hearing on *“Emergence of lethal autonomous weapons systems (LAWS) and their necessary apprehension through European human rights law”*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Fabien Gouttefarde (France, ALDE), with the participation of invited experts.



➤ On 30 November 2021, in Strasbourg, meeting in a hybrid manner, the **Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination**

. will hold a hearing on *Combating antisemitism in Europe* in the context of the report prepared by Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC), with the participation of invited experts.

➤ **Election observation activities:**

An ad hoc committee of the Bureau will observe the presidential and early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria on 14 November 2021.

An ad hoc committee of the Bureau will observe the parliamentary elections in Kyrgyzstan on 28 November 2021.

## **V. Hearings and online meetings in the framework of the preparation of reports**

➤ **Football governance: business and values**

**Lord George Foulkes** (United Kingdom, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, met with Mr Bjorn Berge, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, on **27 September 2021**.

He held online meetings with:

- Mr Alasdair Bell, Deputy Secretary General of FIFA, and with FIFA experts on **28 September 2021**;

He will hold online meetings with:

- Mr Christian Rapp, Executive Vice-President of *The Football Forum*, and Mr Daniele Boccucci, Director of *The Football Forum*, on **7 October 2021**;
- Mr Giorgio Marchetti, Deputy General Secretary of UEFA, and with UEFA experts on **13 October 2021**.

He will hold an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Fernando Gomes, President of the Portuguese Football Federation (*tbc*) on **25 October 2021** in the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media in Lisbon.

➤ **Establishment of a “youth partner” status with the Parliamentary Assembly**

**Ms Inka Hopsu** (Finland, SOC), *rapporteur for opinion* of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, will hold an exchange of views with the participation of invited guests on **25 October 2021** in the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport in Lisbon

➤ **Health and social protection of undocumented workers**

**Ms Ada Marra** (Switzerland, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*, will hold a hearing with experts on **1 December 2021** (*to be confirmed*).

➤ **Track and trace applications: ethical, cultural and educational challenges**

**Mr Duncan Baker** (United Kingdom, EC/DA), rapporteur of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media* will hold an exchange of views with the participation of invited guests on **2 December 2021** during the meeting of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, in Strasbourg or Paris (*tbc*).

## **VI. Fact-finding visits in the framework of the preparation of reports**

### **➤ *Stopping harassment of women and men speaking out for the right to abort***

**Ms Magreet De Boer** (Netherlands, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, will carry out fact-finding visit to France (**5-6 October 2021**) and Poland (**17-18 November 2021**).

### **➤ *Addiction to prescription medicines***

**Mr Joseph O'Reilly** (Ireland, EPP/CD), rapporteur of the *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*, will carry out a fact-finding visit on **11-12 October 2021** to Copenhagen, Denmark.

### **➤ *Fighting corruption – General principles of political responsibility***

**Mr Sergiy Vlasenko**, (Ukraine, EPP/CD), rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Reykjavík, Iceland, week of **11 October 2021** (1 day).

### **➤ *The honouring of obligations and commitments by the Republic of Moldova***

**Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez** (Switzerland, SOC) and **Ms Inese Lībiņa-Egnere** (Latvia, EPP/CD), rapporteurs of the *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Chisinau on **12-15 October 2021**.

### **➤ *The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Malta***

**Mr Bernard Fournier** (France, EPP/CD) and **Mr George Loucaides** (Cyprus, UEL), rapporteurs of the *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Valletta on **25-27 October 2021**.

### **➤ *The honouring of obligations and commitments by Armenia***

**Mr Kimmo Kiljunen** (Finland, ALDE) and **Ms Boriana Åberg** (Sweden, EPP/CD), rapporteurs of the *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Yerevan on **3-5 November 2021**.

### **➤ *The continuing need to restore human rights and the rule of law in the North Caucasus region***

**Mr Frank Schwabe**, (Germany, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to the North Caucasus (Moscow, Dagestan, Ingushetia), from **22-26 November 2021**.

### **➤ *Alternative care for unaccompanied and separated migrant children***

**Ms Mariia Mezentseva** (Ukraine, EPP/CD), rapporteur of the *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Greece (**date to be defined**).

### **➤ *Pushbacks on land and sea: illegal measures of migration management***

**Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez** (Switzerland, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Turkey or Croatia (**date to be defined**).

## **VII. Conferences and seminars organised by the Assembly**

➤ The **European Conference of Presidents of Parliament** will take place in Athens on **21-22 October 2021**. Speakers of Parliament will gather to discuss and share experiences and best practices on the main three themes of the conference, namely Democracies facing the Covid-19 public health crisis: sharing experiences; #EnvironmentRightNow: national parliaments and the right to a healthy and sustainable environment; and The common future of all European citizens. A working breakfast of Women Presidents of Parliament, as well as a meeting of Secretaries General of Parliament, will also be organised in the margins of the conference. The draft programme of the Conference is available online.

➤ In the framework of the joint project “**Support to the development of the role of the Parliament in consolidating democracy in Morocco**”, funded by the European Union and implemented by the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly will organise a number of events in **Rabat, Morocco**, namely:

. 27-28 October 2021, a *Training in Public Policy Evaluation, Data collection: between myth and reality*.

. 16-17 November 2021, a study day entitled *Petitions and motions: between the Moroccan experience and international practices*.

. 14-15 December 2021, an open roundtable entitled *Opening Parliament to Citizens: Why and How?*

## **VIII. Prizes**

➤ **The Council of Europe Museum Prize**

**Mr Roberto Rampi (Italy, SOC)**, Representative for the Council of Europe Museum Prize of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, will take part in the Jury meeting of the European Museum Forum in Portimao, Portugal, on **19 November 2021**.

**Mr Roberto Rampi (Italy, SOC)**, again in his capacity as representative for the Council of Europe Museum Prize of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, will hold an online exchange of views with Ms Marlen Mouliou, Chairperson of the Jury for the Museum Prize (European Museum Forum) **on 3 December 2021**, prior to the election of the winner of the 2022 Council of Europe museum Prize by the Committee on Culture, Science Education and Media.

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

➤ The President of the Venice Commission took part in **a hearing on the Situation in Tunisia**, organised by the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on 29 September 2021.

➤ **128th Plenary session of the Venice Commission (15-16 October 2021) in Venice (hybrid format)**: Ms Alexandra Louis, (France, ALDE) will attend the session.

➤ Representatives of the Venice Commission will give **legal advice** to the ad hoc committee observing the presidential and early parliamentary elections in **Bulgaria on 14 November 2021**, and to the ad hoc committee observing the parliamentary elections in **Kyrgyzstan on 28 November 2021**.

## **X. Co-operation with the European Parliament and other European Union institutions**

➤ A European Parliament delegation shall observe the **parliamentary elections in Kyrgyzstan on 28 November 2021** (to be confirmed).

➤ A **meeting of the Secretaries Generals of the organisations usually involved in International Election Observation Missions (IEOM)**, including representatives of the European Parliament, is scheduled to take place in Copenhagen on **8-9 December 2021**.

## **XI. List of meetings of the Committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee (between 30 September to the end of year)**

- . **30 September 2021:** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **6 October 2021 (Warsaw):** *Presidential Committee*
- . **25 October 2021 (Lisbon):** *Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport (Committee on Culture, Education, Science and media)*
- . **25 October 2021 (Paris):** *No Hate Parliamentary Alliance*
- . **2 November 2021:** *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*
- . **3-4 November 2021 (Budapest):** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **5 November 2021:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **16 November 2021:** *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*
- . **22 November 2021 (to be confirmed):** *Sub-Committee on Children (Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development)*
- . **22-23 November 2021 (New York):** *Sub-Committee on External Relations (Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy)*
- . **24 November 2021:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **24 November 2021 (Rome):** *Presidential Committee*
- . **25 November 2021 (Rome):** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **25-26 November 2021 (Rome):** *Standing Committee*
- . **30 November 2021:** *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*
- . **1 December 2021:** *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*
- . **2-3 December 2021:** *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **6 December 2021:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **7 December 2021:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **9 December 2021 (Paris):** *Presidential Committee*
- . **10 December 2021 (Paris):** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **14-15 December 2021:** *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*

**Appendix 1 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the parliamentary elections in Kyrgyzstan (28 November 2021)**

**Chairperson / Présidente :** Ms / Mme Marina Berlinghieri (Italy / Italie)

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

Ms / Mme Marina BERLINGHIERI, Italy / Italie  
Mr / M. Constantinos EFSTATHIOU, Cyprus / Chypre  
Mr / M. Pere LÓPEZ, Andorra / Andorre

**Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s**

Ms / Mme Bela BACH, Germany / Allemagne  
Mr / M. Domagoj HAJDUKOVIĆ, Croatia / Croatie  
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche  
Mr / M. Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro / Monténégro  
Mr / M. André VALLINI, France  
Ms / Mme Róisín GARVEY, Ireland / Irlande  
Ms / Mme Tabea RÖSSNER, Germany / Allemagne  
Mr / M. Givi MIKANADZE, Georgia / Géorgie

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

Mr / M. Luís LEITE RAMOS, Portugal  
Mr / M. Kęstutis MASIULIS, Lithuania / Lituanie  
Mr / M. Krzysztof TRUSKOLASKI, Poland / Pologne

**Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s**

Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie  
Mr / M. Frank HEINRICH, Germany / Allemagne  
Ms / Mme Maria-Gabriela HORGA, Romania / Roumanie  
Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚĂGĂRLAȘ, Romania / Roumanie  
Mr / M. Aleksander STOKKEBØ, Norway / Norvège

**European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC/DA) / Groupe des conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE/AD)**

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine  
Mr / M. Alberto RIBOLLA, Italy / Italie

**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Ms / Mme Yolaine de COURSON, France  
Ms / Mme Diana STOICA, Romania / Roumanie

**Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s**

Mr / M. Jacques MAIRE, France  
Ms / Mme Isabelle RAUCH, France  
Mr / M. Claude KERN, France  
Mr / M. Jacques LE NAY, France  
Mr / M. Zeki Hakan SIDALI, Turkey / Turquie

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

Mr / M. Paul GAVAN, Ireland / Irlande

**Substitutes / Suppléants**

Mr / M. Antón GÓMEZ-REINO, Spain / Espagne

## **Appendix 2 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the presidential and early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (14 November 2021)**

**Chairperson / Président:** Mr / M. Alfred HEER, Switzerland / Suisse

### **Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)**

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse

Mr / M. Pedro CEGONHO, Portugal

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Turkey / Turquie

Mr / M. André VALLINI France

Ms / Mme Marina BERLINGHIERI, Italy / Italie

Mr Domagoj HAJDUKOVIĆ, Croatia / Croatie

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

Mr / M. Viorel BADEA, Romania / Roumanie

Mr Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie

Mr / M. Jacek PROTASIEWICZ, Poland / Pologne

Mr / M. Francesco SCOMA, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Raivo TAMM, Estonia / Estonie

Mr / M. Vladimir VARDANYAN, Armenia / Arménie

### **Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Mr / M. Fabien GOUTTEFARDE, France

Mr / M. Alfred HEER, Switzerland / Suisse

Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse

Mr / M. Jean-Pierre GRIN, Switzerland / Suisse

Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie

### **European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC/DA) / Groupe des conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE/AD)**

Mr / M. Alberto RIBOLLA, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Ulrich OEHME, Germany / Allemagne

### **Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)**

Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO, Germany / Allemagne

### **Co-rapporteurs AS/MON (*ex officio*)**

Mr / M. Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland / Pologne

Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE, Germany / Allemagne

### **Venice Commission / Commission de Venise**

Mr Richard BARRETT, member / membre

## Appendix 3 – References and transmissions to committees

### A. References to committees

- [Doc. 15328](#), Motion for a resolution, Implementation of [Recommendation No. R\(2000\)13](#) of the Committee of Ministers and the access of “Trophy” archives of the Russian Federation: transmission to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for information*
- [Doc. 15329](#), Motion for a resolution, The role of political parties in fostering diversity and inclusion: a new Charter for a non-racist society: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report* and to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for opinion*
- [Doc. 15330](#), Motion for a resolution, Towards a transparency register within the Parliamentary Assembly: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- [Doc. 15331](#), Motion for a resolution, Cases of torture and inhumane treatments in Azerbaijani prisons: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- [Doc. 15332](#), Motion for a resolution, The need for renewed, effective and inclusive multilateralism: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*
- [Doc. 15333](#), Motion for a resolution, Call for Famagusta’s return to its lawful inhabitants: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*
- [Doc. 15334](#), Motion for a resolution, The ongoing worsening of the access of Ukraine’s national minorities to education in their mother tongues: need for a follow-up to Parliamentary Assembly Resolution 2189 (2017) *and* [Doc. 15339](#), Motion for a resolution, Violation of the rights of national minorities in Ukraine: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for a single report*
- [Doc. 15335](#), Motion for a resolution, Integration of migrants and refugees: benefits for all parties involved: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*
- [Doc. 15336](#), Motion for a resolution, European Convention on Human Rights and national constitutions: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- [Doc. 15337](#), Motion for a resolution, The challenge of far-right ideology to democracy and human rights in Europe: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*
- [Doc. 15361](#), Motion for a resolution, Preventing vaccine discrimination: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for opinion*
- [Doc. 15373](#), Motion for a resolution, Pegasus and similar spyware and secret state surveillance: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- [Doc. 15374](#), Motion for a resolution, Supporting a European perspective for the Western Balkans: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*

### B. Reply after consultation

- [Doc. 15289](#), Motion for a resolution, Transnational repression as a growing threat to the rule of law and human rights: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*

### C. Request for an extension

- [Doc. 14382](#), Motion for a resolution, The continuing need to restore human rights and the rule of law in the North Caucasus region, Reference 4333 of 13 October 2017– validity: 30 September 2021: extension until 31 March 2022.

## Appendix 4 – References and transmissions to committees

### A. References to committees

- [Doc. 15383](#), Motion for a resolution, Right of the child to protection while using the internet: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*
- [Doc. 15384](#), Motion for a resolution, Political situation in Tunisia: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*
- Bureau decision, *The Western Balkans between democratic challenges and European aspirations: what role for the Council of Europe?*: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to be taken into account in the preparation of its report on *Supporting a European perspective for the Western Balkans*



## **Appendix 5 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the 2021 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 8-10 November)**

**Chairperson / Président:** Mr Rik Daems – President of the Parliamentary Assembly / Président de l'Assemblée parlementaire

Mr / M. Ziya Altunyaldiz (Turkey, NR / Turquie, NI)

Mr / M. Ahmet Ünal Çeviköz (Turkey, SOC / Turquie, SOC)

Mr / M. Constantinos Efstathiou (Cyprus / Chypre, SOC)

Ms / Mme Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC)

Mr / M. Sokratis Famellos (Greece, UEL / Grèce, GUE)

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland / Suisse, SOC)

Mr / M. Paul Gavan (Ireland, UEL / Irlande, GUE)

Mr / M. Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ADLE / Suisse, ADLE)

Ms / Mme Emine Nur Günay (Turkey, NR / Turquie NI)

Mr / Mme Danuta Jazłowiecka (Poland, EPP/CD / Pologne, PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Bogdan Klich (Poland, EPP/CD / Pologne, PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Luís Leite Ramos (Portugal, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC/DA / Royaume-Uni, CE/AD)

Ms / Mme Mariia Mezentseva (Ukraine, EPP/CD / PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Kate Osamor (United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni, SOC)

Mr / Mme Yuliia Ovchynnykova (Ukraine, ADLE / ADLE)

Mr / M. George Papandreou (Greece, SOC / Grèce, SOC)

Mr / M. Roberto Rampi (Italy / Italie, SOC)

Mr / M. Theodoros Rousopoulos (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Selin Sayek Böke (Turkey, SOC / Turquie, SOC)

Mr / M. Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)

Ms / Mme Diana Stoica (Romania, ADLE / Roumanie, ADLE)

Ms / Mme Liliana Tanguy (France, ALDE / ADLE)

Mr / M. Ahmet Yıldız (Turkey, NR / Turquie, NI)