



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2016) 02

1 February 2016

## To the Members of the Assembly

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 29 January 2016

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday, 29 January 2016 in Strasbourg, with Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **First part-session of 2016 (Strasbourg, 25-29 January):** approved the proposals made by the Secretary General of the Assembly for the follow-up to adopted texts, as set out in Appendix 1;
- **Election of a judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Azerbaijan:** took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights, including its decision to reject the list, and transmitted the decision to the Assembly for ratification through the addendum to the Progress report;
- **Standing Committee meeting (Paris, 4 March 2016):** took note of the draft agenda;
- **Second part-session of 2016 (Strasbourg, 18-22 April):** drew up the preliminary draft agenda;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** considered and approved the references as presented in Appendix 2, subject to ratification by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report;
- **Communication by the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** took note of the communication;
- **Election observation:**
  - i. *Kazakhstan: early parliamentary elections (20 March 2016):* approved the composition of the ad hoc committee and appointed Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE) as its Chairperson (Appendix 3);
  - ii. *"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia": early parliamentary elections (24 April 2016, to be confirmed):* approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 4);
  - iii. *Serbia: early parliamentary elections (date to be confirmed):* subject to confirmation of the date and to receiving an invitation, decided to observe these elections, constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 8; SOC: 7; ALDE: 2; EC: 2; UEL: 1 - in accordance with the d'Hondt system) and the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee, and authorised a pre-electoral mission;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** took note of the launch of the 2016 edition;

- **General Rapporteurs:** took note of the appointment by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of Ms Meritxell Mateu (Andorra, ALDE) as General Rapporteur on abolition of death penalty and approved the terms of reference of a General Rapporteur on media freedom and safety of journalists established by the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media (Appendix 5), subject to ratification by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report;
- **Issues raised by committees:**
  - i. *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy:*
    - . authorised Mr George Loukaides (Cyprus, UEL), rapporteur on *The political transition in Tunisia*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Tunisia during the first semester of 2016, in the framework of the preparation of his report;
    - . authorised Mr Alain Destexhe (Belgium, ALDE), rapporteur on the *Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Kyrgyzstan during the first semester of 2016, in the framework of the preparation of his report;
    - . authorised Mr Tobias Zech (Germany, EPP/CD), rapporteur on the *Situation in Lebanon and challenges for regional stability and European security*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Lebanon during the first semester of 2016, in the framework of the preparation of his report;
    - . authorised Mr Atilla Korodi (Romania, SOC), rapporteur on *Libya's future between the threats of terrorism and a democratic prospect*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Tunisia, during the first semester of 2016, in the framework of the preparation of his report;
  - ii. *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons:* authorised Ms Annette Groth (Germany, UEL), rapporteur on *A stronger European response to the Syrian refugees crisis* to conduct a fact-finding visit to Lebanon and Jordan, to take place in February 2016, in the framework of the preparation of her report;
  - iii. *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:* authorised Ms Sahiba Gafarova (Azerbaijan, EC), General Rapporteur on violence against women, to participate in the 60<sup>th</sup> session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, to be held in New York (United States), on 15 and 16 March 2016;
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (29 January – 17 April 2016):** appointed Ms Ioanneta Kavvadia (Greece, UEL) as Rapporteur;
- **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT):** drew up the list of candidates for the CPT in respect of Malta and Romania, to be transmitted to the Committee of Ministers; approved the recommendation of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to invite the delegation of Azerbaijan to submit a new list of candidates to the CPT;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs and the Committee on the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights:**
  - . *Monitoring Committee:* on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, appointed Ms Inese Lībiņa-Egnere (Latvia), Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland), Mr Alja Šircelj (Slovenia) and Ms Elisabeth Schneider-Schneiter (Switzerland);
  - . *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:* on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, appointed Mr Vladyslav Golub (Ukraine) to replace Mr Volodymyr Ariev (Ukraine); on the basis of a proposal by the UEL Group, appointed Ms Anastasia Christodouloupoulou (Greece) to replace Mr Ögmondur Jónasson (Iceland);

- . *Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights*: on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, appointed Mr Konstantinos Tzavaras (Greece), Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland) and Mr Alja Šircelj (Slovenia) as alternates to vacant seats; on the basis of a proposal by the UEL Group, the Bureau appointed Mr Konstantinos Douzinas (Greece) as alternate to replace Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands);
- **Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2016**: approved the appointments as set out in Appendix 6;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris**: authorised:
  - . the Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society (Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media) to meet in London on 11 April 2016;
  - . the Sub-Committee on Gender Equality (Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination) and the Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence to meet in Berlin on 12 May 2016;
  - . the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance to meet in Stockholm, on 17 and 18 May 2016;
- **Date and place of next meetings**: decided to hold its meetings as follows:
  - Thursday, 3 March 2016, Paris at 3 pm
  - Monday, 18 April 2016, Strasbourg at 8 am
  - Friday, 22 April 2016, Strasbourg at 8.30 am
  - Thursday, 26 May 2016, Tallinn, afternoon
  - Monday, 20 June 2016, Strasbourg at 8 am
  - Friday, 24 June 2016, Strasbourg at 8.30 am
  - Monday, 5 September 2016, Paris, at 9 am

Sonia Sirtori, Ivi-Triin Odrats

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Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly  
Director General, Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Director of Communication  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

## Appendix 1

### Proposals for follow-up to the first part-session of 2016 (Strasbourg, 25-29 January)

- **Resolution 2085 (2016) on Inhabitants of frontier regions of Azerbaijan are deliberately deprived of water** (*Rapporteur of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: Ms Milica Marković, Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC*)

8. *The Assembly firmly condemns the lack of co-operation of the Armenian parliamentary delegation and the Armenian authorities during the preparation of the report on this issue. The Assembly regards such behaviour as incompatible with the obligations and commitments of a country which is a full member of the Council of Europe. The Assembly will consider what measures to take in this case and in any similar cases which may arise during the terms of office of its parliamentarians.*

Follow-up: to ask the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs to consider the matter in the context of the opinion on “**Challenges to the co-operation of member States with the Assembly as regards the free movement of Assembly members**”, by enlarging its scope;

- **Resolution 2086 (2016) on Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of Jordan** (*Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Ms Josette Durrieu, France, SOC*)

12. *In addition, the Assembly resolves to review, no later than two years from the adoption of this resolution, the state of progress achieved in implementing the political commitments entered into by the Jordanian Parliament, as well as the reforms in the areas mentioned in paragraph 9 above.*

Follow-up: to refer the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for the preparation of a report on “**Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Jordan**”;

- **Resolution 2090 (2016) on Combating international terrorism while protecting Council of Europe standards and values** (*Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL*)

21. *With a view to providing law-makers in particular with a sound constitutional basis, the Assembly finally asks the European Commission for Democracy through Law (the Venice Commission) for an opinion on the compatibility of the proposed draft revision of the French Constitution, aimed at incorporating rules on the operation of a state of emergency and on the deprivation of nationality into the Constitution, with the European Convention on Human Rights and with Council of Europe standards.*

Follow-up: to invite the President of the Assembly to transmit the request to the Venice Commission.

- **Resolution 2092 (2016) on Challenge on procedural grounds of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Republic of Moldova** (*Rapporteur of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD*)

4. *It invites the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) and the co-rapporteurs concerned to ensure, within the framework of dialogue with the Moldovan authorities, that the Moldovan Parliament is properly informed of the requirements laid down in the Assembly’s Rules of Procedure and that it will take due account of them in subsequent changes to the composition of its parliament delegation, particularly when filling the three remaining vacant seats on the delegation.*

Follow-up: to invite the Monitoring Committee to ensure the implementation of this recommendation in the context of its work.

- **Resolution 2093 (2016) on Recent attacks on women: the need for honest reporting and a comprehensive response** (*Rapporteur of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination: Mr Jonas Gunnarsson, Sweden, SOC*)

Follow-up: to ask the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination to prepare a report on “**Women in public space: putting an end to sexual violence and street harassment**”, and to seize the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media for opinion;

- **Resolution 2094 (2016) on The situation in Kosovo\* and the role of the Council of Europe** (*Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Mr Agustin Conde, Spain, EPP/CD*)

13. *The Assembly resolves to step up dialogue with the Assembly of Kosovo and recommends that its Bureau modify the current format for co-operation with the political forces elected to the Assembly of Kosovo, with a view to inviting the Assembly of Kosovo to designate a delegation which would ensure the representation also of minority communities, in addition to the majority and the opposition.*

Follow-up: to ask the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to draft, in consultation with the Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, a memorandum on the “**Implementation of paragraph 13 of Resolution 2094 (2016) on the situation in Kosovo\* and the role of the Council of Europe**”, to be discussed by the Bureau at one of its forthcoming meetings.

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\* All references to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

## **Appendix 2**

### **References and transmissions to committees**

#### **A. References to committees**

Doc. [13935](#), motion for a resolution, Brutal violations of human rights in Russia: new challenges, reference to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *to be taken into account in the report on the honouring of obligations and commitments by the Russian Federation*;

Doc. [13938](#), motion for a resolution, Protecting victims of natural disasters, transmission to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for information*;

Bureau decision, Resolution 2086 (2016) on *Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of Jordan*, reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, *for a report* on Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Jordan;

Bureau decision, Resolution 2093 (2016) on *Recent attacks against women: the need for honest reporting and a comprehensive response*, reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, *for a report* on Women in public space: putting an end to sexual violence and street harassment, and to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, *for opinion*.

#### **B. Replies after consultation**

Doc. [13893](#), motion for a resolution, How to encourage the migration of international students across Europe, reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*;

Doc. [13905](#), motion for a resolution, Jurisdictional immunity of international organisations and rights of their staff, reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*.

#### **C. Extension of references**

Bureau decision, Situation of Belarus (Ref. 3841 of 9 March 2012 – validity: 30 April 2016): extension until 31 January 2017.

Bureau decision, Political transition in Tunisia (Ref. 3889 of 29 June 2012 – validity: 29 June 2016): extension until 31 January 2017.

Bureau decision, Evaluation of the Partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic (Ref. 4045 of 11 April 2014 – validity: 11 April 2016): extension until 31 January 2017.

### Appendix 3

"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia": early parliamentary elections (24 April 2016, to be confirmed) - revised list of members of the ad hoc committee

**Chairperson: Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC)**

#### **Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD)**

David BAKRADZE, Georgia  
Samvel FARMANYAN, Armenia  
Frank J. JENSSEN, Norway\*  
Giorgi KANDELAKI, Georgia  
Inese LĪBIŅA-EGNERE, Latvia  
Joe O'REILLY, Ireland  
Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania  
Elisabeth SCHNEIDER-SCHNEITER, Switzerland

#### **Substitutes**

Viorel Riceard BADEA, Romania  
Elena CENTEMERO, Italy  
Şaban DIŞLI, Turkey  
Nicole DURANTON, France  
Iryna GERASHCHENKO, Ukraine  
Denis JACQUAT, France  
Yves POZZO di BORGO, France  
Attila TILKI, Hungary  
Egidijus VAREIKIS, Lithuania

#### **Socialist Group (SOC)**

Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria\*  
Marit MAJ, Netherlands  
Josette DURRIEU, France  
Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro  
Maryvonne BLONDIN, France  
Mogens JENSEN, Denmark  
Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina

#### **Substitute(s)**

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#### **Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)**

Doris FIALA, Switzerland \*  
Eerik-Niiles KROSS, Estonia

#### **Substitutes**

Carles JORDANA, Andorra  
Hendrik DAEMS, Belgium  
Andrea RIGONI, Italy

#### **European Conservatives Group (EC)**

Tom PACKALÉN, Finland\*  
Dominik TARCZYNSKI, Poland

#### **Substitutes**

Mark PRITCHARD, United Kingdom  
Ingebjørg GODSKESEN, Norway  
Daniel MILEWSKI, Poland  
Iwona ARENT, Poland

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**Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)**

Andrej HUNKO, Germany\*

***Substitute***

Ioanneta KAVVADIA, Greece

**Rapporteurs AS/MON (*ex officio*)**

Lise CHRISTOFFERSEN, Norway\*

Valeriu GHILETCHI, Republic of Moldova\*

**Secretariat**

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\* members of the pre-election delegation



## **Appendix 4**

### **Kazakhstan: early parliamentary elections (20 March 2016) – list of members of the ad hoc committee**

**Chairperson: Jordi XUCLÀ (Spain, ALDE)**

#### **Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD)**

Marie-Christine DALLOZ, France

Giuseppe GALATI, Italy

Karin STRENZ, Germany

#### ***Substitutes***

Ben-Oni ARDELEAN, Romania

Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy

Elena CENTEMERO, Italy

Şaban DİŞLİ, Turkey

Yves POZZO DI BORGO, France

Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania

Attila TILKI, Hungary

#### **Socialist Group (SOC)**

Paolo CORSINI, Italy

Marianne MIKKO, Estonia

Ermira MEHMETI DEVAJA, 'The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia'

#### ***Substitutes***

Ferdinando AIELLO, Italy

Claude ADAM, Luxembourg

Denis BAYKAL, Turkey

Sabir HAJIYEV, Azerbaijan

Florin IORDACHE, Romania

Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro

#### **Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)**

Jordi XUCLÀ, Spain

Karl GARDARSSON, Iceland

#### ***Substitutes***

Gedeminas JAKAVONIS, Lithuania

Anne KALMARI, Finland

#### **European Conservatives Group (EC)**

Ingebjørg GODSKESEN, Norway

Erkan KANDEMİR, Turkey

#### ***Substitutes***

Lord Richard BALFE, United Kingdom

Burhanettin UYSAL, Turkey

#### **Group of the Unified European Left**

Andrej HUNKO, Germany

#### ***Substitute(s)***

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#### **Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on The relations of Council of Europe with Kazakhstan**

Axel FISCHER (Germany, EPP/CD)

#### **Secretariat**

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## **Appendix 5**

### **Terms of reference of the General Rapporteur on media freedom and safety of journalists**

**Denomination:** General Rapporteur on Media Freedom and Safety of Journalists

**Term of office:** One year renewable, subject to a maximum of two years.

**Subject:** the General Rapporteur should deal with serious violations of media freedom and the safety of journalists in Europe.

The General Rapporteur should:

- follow-up the alerts posted on the Council of Europe Platform to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists, and report periodically on those cases to the Committee, keeping it informed on action taken, or to be taken, to deal with them;
- represent the Committee on behalf of the Assembly vis-à-vis other Council of Europe bodies and relevant external stakeholders, and cooperate with them as appropriate
- follow activities of other Assembly committees and liaise with rapporteurs dealing with related matters;
- follow-up and promote relevant Assembly resolutions and recommendations.

## Appendix 6 – Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2016

Body	who represents the Assembly	reference	2016 nominations
<b>I. Council of Europe bodies</b>			
European Commission for Democracy through Law Venice Commission	Representatives of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau to attend the sessions of the Commission	Article 2.4 of the Venice Commission Statute (Res CM (2002) 3)	Members: Ms Brasseur, ALDE appointment by the President  Mr Mahoux - SOC (AS/Jur)  Substitute: Mr Fabritius – EPP/CD (AS/Jur)
Council on Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission	Representatives of AS/Pol, AS/Jur and AS/Mon approved by the Bureau of the Assembly	Bureau decision of 10 March 2003	Members : Ms Durrieu - SOC (AS/Pol) Lord Balfe - EC (AS/Jur) Mr Xuclà - ALDE (AS/Mon)  Substitutes : Mr Frécon - SOC (AS/Pol) Ms Beselia - SOC (AS/Jur) Mr Kox - UEL (AS/Mon)
European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity North-South Centre	Two members of the Executive Council - appointed by the Bureau of the Assembly	Article 4.2 (b) of the North-South Centre revised Statute (Res CM (2011) 6)	Members : Ms Günay - EC (AS/Soc) Baroness Massey – SOC (AS/Cult)  Substitutes : Mr Schennach - SOC (AS/Soc) Mr Luís Leite Ramos – EPP/CD (AS/Cult)
European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance ECRI	Representatives of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau (representatives of the following three committees: AS/Pol, AS/Ega and AS/Cult)	Article 5 of the ECRI Statute (Res CM (2002) 8)	Members : Mr Corlatean – SOC (AS/Pol) Mr Čilevičs - SOC (AS/Ega) Mr Ōnal – EC (AS/Cult)  Substitutes : Mr Korodi – EPP/CD (AS/Pol) ... (AS/Ega) ... (AS/Cult)
Group of States against Corruption GRECO	A representative of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau	CM decision of 717th meeting in 2000 in accordance with Article 7.2 of the Statute of the GRECO	Member : Mr Vlasenko – EPP/CD (AS/Jur)  Substitute: Mr Sharma - SOC (AS/Jur)
CE Committee for Works of Art	Two members appointed by the Bureau of the Assembly (at present AS/Cult Committee member and Museum Prize rapporteur)	CM decision of 482nd meeting in 1992	Members: Lady Eccles – EC (AS/Cult) Ms Marjanović – SOC (AS/Cult)
MONEYVAL	A representative of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau	Article 4.1 of Resolution CM/Res (2010) 12	Member: Mr Omtzigt – EPP/CD (AS/Jur)  Substitute: Ms Mateu - ALDE (AS/Jur)
<b>II. Other</b>			
EUROPA NOSTRA Pan-European Federation for Heritage	One member (and substitute) to be nominated by the Assembly - to attend the Federation Council meetings as observer	Article 21.4 of the Statute of Europa Nostra	Lady Eccles – EC (AS/Cult) Vice-Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage