



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2016) 05

25 April 2016

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 22 April 2016

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday, 22 April 2016 in Strasbourg, with Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Second part-session of 2016 (Strasbourg, 18-22 April):**
 - o agreed that the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, Mr Nils Muižnieks, would address the Assembly in the context of the debate on *The case against a Council of Europe legal instrument on involuntary measures in psychiatry* on Friday, 22 April 2016;
 - o approved the proposals made by the Secretary General of the Assembly for the follow-up to adopted texts, as set out in Appendix 1;
- **Standing Committee (Tallinn, 27 May 2016):** took note of the draft agenda;
- **Third part-session of 2016 (Strasbourg, 20-24 June):** drew up the preliminary draft agenda;
- **Election observation:**
 - i. *Observation of local elections in Ukraine (25 October 2015):* took note of the report which was adopted by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities on 23 March 2016;
 - ii. *Kazakhstan: early parliamentary elections (20 March 2016):* took note of the press release;
 - iii. *Serbia: early parliamentary elections (24 April 2016):* took note of the statement of the pre-electoral mission and approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 2);
 - iv. *"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia": early parliamentary elections (5 June 2016):* approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 3);
 - v. *Schedule of elections for 2016:* took note of the elections calendar for 2016 as presented in the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** considered and approved the references and transmissions as presented in Appendix 4, subject to ratification by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report;
- **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau on the situation of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Greece:** approved composition, terms of reference and timetable of the ad hoc committee, subject to ratification by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report (Appendix 5);
- **Issues raised by committees:**
 - i. *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy:* authorised Ms Deborah Bergamini (Italy, EPP/CD), Rapporteur on *The political transition in Egypt*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Egypt by the end of 2016, in the framework of the preparation of her report;

- **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 Azerbaijan, to be transmitted to the Committee of Ministers;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee:** on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, nominated M. José Ramón García Hernández (Spain) to replace Mr Gabino Puche (Spain); on the basis of a proposal by the ALDE Group, nominated Ms Sirkka-Liisa Anttila (Finland), subject to ratification by the Assembly in the addendum of the Progress report;
- **Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2016:** approved the appointments of Mr Luís Leite Ramos (Portugal, EPP/CD) as member and Mr Paolo Corsini (Italy, SOC) as substitute of the Executive Committee of the North-South Centre (European Centre for Global interdependence and Solidarity), on behalf of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:** authorised:
 - o the Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society (Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media) to meet in Berlin on 4 July 2016;
 - o the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media to meet in Kyiv on 19-20 September 2016;
 - o the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) to meet in Tirana on 22-23 September 2016;
- **Meetings of the Bureau and the Standing Committee in Tallinn (26 and 27 May 2016):** took note of the practical information;
- **Other business:**
 - i. *Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (22 April – 19 June 2016):* appointed Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC) as Rapporteur;
 - ii. *Participation of the delegation of "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly:* took note of a letter by the Chairperson of the delegation informing that parliament had been dissolved on 15 April 2016, hence the absence of the delegation, and that early parliamentary elections would be held on 5 June 2016;
 - iii. *Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:* took note of the extension of the deadline for the submission of nominations to 30 June 2016;
- **Dates and places of next meetings:**

Thursday 26 May 2016, Tallinn, at 3 pm;
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;
Monday, 10 October 2016, Strasbourg at 8 am;
Friday, 14 October 2016, Strasbourg, 8.30 am.

Sonia Sirtori, Angela Garabagiu

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 second part-session of 2016 (Strasbourg, 18-22 April)

- **Current affairs debate on *The case of the “Panama Papers” and the concern about fiscal, social justice and public trust in our democratic system***: decided to postpone a decision on the follow-up to its next meeting;
- **Resolution 2111 (2016) on *Assessing the impact of measures to improve women’s political representation*** (Rapporteur: Ms Elena Centemero, Italy, Group of the European People’s Party)

14. The Assembly underlines the importance of the gender dimension in election observation missions. The Assembly is committed to promoting this dimension with its international partner organisations in the framework of election observation missions both concerning the composition of missions, which should be gender balanced, and the observation reports which should systematically include a specific focus on women’s participation in all stages of the electoral process.

Follow-up: to be taken into account in the context of the review of the Guidelines for the observation of elections.

Appendix 2

Ad hoc committee for the observation of the early parliamentary elections in Serbia (24 April 2016) – revised list of members

Chairperson: Volodymyr ARIEV (Ukraine, EPP/CD)

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

Viorel BADEA, Romania
Mónika BARTOS, Hungary
Nicole DURANTON, France
Samvel FARMANYAN, Armenia
Volodymyr ARIEV, Ukraine*
Egidijus VAREIKIS, Lithuania

Socialist Group (SOC)

George FOULKES, United Kingdom
Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria
René ROUQUET, France*
Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland
Snežana JONICA, Montenegro
Marit MAIJ, Netherlands
Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Alfred HEER, Switzerland
Carles JORDANA, Andorra
Andrea RIGONI, Italy*

European Conservatives Group (EC)

Nigel EVANS, United Kingdom

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)

Matjaž HANŽEK, Slovenia

Venice Commission Expert

Richard BARRETT, Ireland

Secretariat

Chemavon CHAHBAZIAN, Head of Secretariat, Election observation and Interparliamentary co-operation Division
Franck DAESCHLER, Principal Administrative Assistant, Election observation and Interparliamentary co-operation Division
Daniele GASTL, Assistant, Election observation and Interparliamentary co-operation Division
Gaël MARTIN-MICALLEF, Administrator, Venice Commission

* members of the pre-election delegation

Appendix 3

Ad hoc committee for the observation of the early parliamentary elections in “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” (5 June 2016) – revised list of members

Chairperson: Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC)

Group of the European People’s Party (EPP/CD)

Elena CENTEMERO, Italy
Samvel FARMANYAN, Armenia
Iryna GERASHCHENKO, Ukraine
Frank J. JENSSEN, Norway*
Giorgi KANDELAKI, Georgia
Inese LĪBIŅA-EGNERE, Latvia
Joe O’REILLY, Ireland
Attila TILKI, Hungary

Substitutes

Viorel Riceard BADEA, Romania
Şaban DIŞLI, Turkey
Nicole DURANTON, France
Denis JACQUAT, France
Yves POZZO di BORGIO, France
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

Substitutes

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Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Doris FIALA, Switzerland
Eerik-Niiles KROSS, Estonia*

Substitutes

Carles JORDANA MADERO, 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*

Substitutes

Ioanneta KAVVADIA, Greece

Rapporteurs AS/MON (*ex officio*)

Lise CHRISTOFFERSEN, Norway*

Valeriu GHILETCHI, Republic of Moldova*

Secrétariat

Bogdan TORCĂTORIU, Administrative Officer, Election observation and Interparliamentary co-operation Division

Amaya UBEDA DE TORRES, Administrator, Venice Commission

Anne GODFREY, Assistant, Election observation and Interparliamentary co-operation Division

* members of the pre-election delegation

Appendix 4

References and transmissions to committees

A. References and transmissions to committees

Doc. [13968](#), motion for a recommendation, Towards a fourth Council of Europe Summit: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Call for a Council of Europe Summit to defend and promote democratic security in Europe"*;

Doc. [13969](#), motion for a resolution, Means of enhancing the legal effectiveness of the ILO's core conventions: transmission to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for information*;

Doc. [13970](#), motion for a resolution, The status of journalists in Europe: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*;

Doc. [13971](#), motion for a resolution, Striking a balance between the best interest of the child and the need to keep the families together: consultation of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *on possible follow-up*;

Doc. [13972](#), motion for a resolution, Education and culture: new partnerships to support personal development and cohesion: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*;

Doc. [13973](#), motion for a resolution, Addressing the humanitarian needs of internally displaced persons: recent lessons and future challenges in Europe: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*;

Doc. [13974](#), motion for a resolution, Migration as an opportunity for European development: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*;

Doc. [13975](#), motion for a resolution, Refugees at risk in Greece: consultation of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*;

Doc. [13976](#), motion for a resolution, Funding of the Terrorist Group Daesh: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;

Doc. [13977](#), motion for a resolution, The plight of children who do not have any civil status: transmission to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development and to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for information*;

Doc. [13979](#), motion for a resolution, Detention of Palestinian minors in Israeli prisons: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*;

Bureau decision, The functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey: reference to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *for report*;

Doc. [14000](#), motion for a resolution, Protecting human rights defenders in Council of Europe member States: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;

Doc. [14005](#), motion for a resolution, A comprehensive humanitarian and political response to the migration and refugee crisis in Europe: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*;

Doc. [14006](#), motion for a resolution, Humanitarian consequences of the conflict in Ukraine: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*;

Bureau decision, How to prevent inappropriate restrictions on NGO activities in Europe?: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*.

B. Extension of references

Doc. [12866](#), motion for a resolution, The political transition in Egypt (Ref. 3857 of 23 April 2012 – validity: 30 April 2016: extension until 30 April 2018;

Doc. [13150](#), motion for a resolution, Effectively combating the adverse consequences of dirty money (Ref. 3952 of 26 April 2013 – validity: 26 April 2016): extension until 26 April 2017.

Appendix 5

Ad hoc committee of the Bureau on the situation of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Greece

At its meeting on 18 April 2016, the Bureau decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau on the situation of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Greece under Article 44.4 c of the Rules of Procedure, subject to receiving an invitation to visit Greece by the Greek authorities. At its meeting on 22 April 2016, the Bureau approved composition, terms of reference and timetable of the ad hoc committee.

1. Composition

The ad hoc committee will be composed of the members of the Presidential Committee, the Chairpersons of national delegations or their representatives, and a delegation of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons.

2. Terms of reference

- Raising awareness of the challenges facing Greece in relation to the inflow of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers as well as the issues of transit and returns.
- Raising awareness of the living conditions of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers in Greece, as well as their access to international protection.
- Following the implementation of the EU-Turkey agreement of 18 March 2016.

3. Timetable

The ad hoc committee should present its report to the Bureau in the course of 2016.