



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2017) 02

30 January 2017

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 27 January 2017

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 27 January 2017 in Strasbourg, with Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Statement by the President:** heard a statement by the President of the Assembly;
- **Allegations of corruption in the Assembly:** took note of a declaration adopted by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs; of letters from several national delegations as well as from the EPP/CD and the SOC groups; and, following an exchange of views, decided to ask the Secretary General of the Assembly to prepare a memorandum on the draft terms of reference (legal basis, composition, duration, tasks, competences) of an independent external investigation body as proposed by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, to be submitted to the Bureau at its meeting in Madrid on 9 March 2017;
- **First part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 23-27 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 Georgia:** 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 recommendation to reject the list, and transmitted the decision to the Assembly for ratification through the addendum to the Progress report;
- **Standing Committee meeting (Madrid, 10 March 2017):** took note of the draft agenda;
- **Second part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 24-28 April):** drew up the preliminary draft agenda;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved a reference subject to ratification by the Assembly and two extensions of references, as set out in Appendix 2;
- **Communication by the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** took note of the communication;
- **Election observation:**
 - i. *"The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia": early parliamentary elections (11 December 2016):* took note of the letter by Mr Stefan Schennach, Chairperson of the ad hoc committee which observed these elections, and decided not to organise a post-electoral mission;

- ii. *Bulgaria: early parliamentary elections (26 March 2017)*: took note of the invitation to observe these elections; decided to observe them and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 7; SOC: 6, EC: 3, ALDE: 3, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) as well as of the co-rapporteurs on post-monitoring dialogue; approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee (subject to receiving their declarations on conflict of interest) and appointed Ms Marie-Christine Dalloz (France, EPP/CD) as its Chairperson (Appendix 3);
- iii. *Armenia: parliamentary elections (2 April 2017)*: approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (subject to receiving their declarations on conflict of interest) and appointed Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC) as its Chairperson (Appendix 4);
- iv. *Serbia: presidential election (April 2017, date to be confirmed, subject to receiving an invitation)*: approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe this election (subject to receiving their declarations on conflict of interest) and appointed Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen (Norway, EC) as its Chairperson (Appendix 5);
- v. *Referendum on constitutional amendments in Turkey (April 2017, date to be confirmed)*: subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe this referendum and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (EPP/CD: 11; SOC: 10, EC: 4, ALDE: 4, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) as well as of the co-rapporteurs on post-monitoring dialogue; authorised the President of the Assembly to approve the list of members and appoint the Chairperson;
- **Follow-up to the President of the Assembly's proposal to hold a major debate devoted to the migration issue and the management of the current refugee crisis**: took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons; decided to hold such a debate during the 2017 June part-session and to ask the committees concerned to make contributions;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**: took note of the press release of the launch of the 2017 edition of the Prize as well as of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly; re-appointed Ms Nuala Mole and Mr Christos Pourgourides as members of the Selection Panel, for a third and last term of two years starting from 1 June 2017; invited Bureau members to propose candidatures for the vacant seat in the Selection Panel and to submit them to the Secretary General of the Assembly by 15 April 2017, in view of the Bureau taking a decision on the appointment at its meeting in Prague on 29 May 2017;
- **Assembly part-sessions at the European Parliament (April 2018 – January 2019)**: took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and approved the modalities of the organisation of the Assembly's part-sessions at the European Parliament;
- **Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2020 - 2022)**: considered the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and approved the following dates for the part-sessions for the years 2020-2022, to be ratified by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report:
 - . 2020: 27-31 January; 20-24 April; 22-26 June; 12-16 October;
 - . 2021: 25-29 January; 19-23 April; 21-25 June; 27 September-1 October;
 - . 2022: 24-28 January; 25-29 April; 20-24 June; 10-14 October;
- **Issues raised by committees**:
 - i. *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*: authorised Ms Elena Centemero (Italy, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the Committee and Rapporteur on *Women's empowerment in the economy*, to participate, from 13 to 15 March 2017, in the 61st session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women on *Women's economic empowerment in the changing world of work*, which will be held in New York, United States;
 - ii. *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*:
 - authorised Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), Rapporteur on *The Political transition in Tunisia*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Tunisia in 2017, in the framework of the preparation of his report;

- authorised Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE), Rapporteur on *The political transition in Egypt*, to carry out a fact finding visit to Cairo, Egypt, in 2017, in the framework of the preparation of his report;
- iii. *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*: authorised Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC), Rapporteur on *Detention of Palestinian minors in Israeli prisons*, to carry out a fact-finding visit to Israel in the framework of the preparation of her report;
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (27 January – 23 April 2017)**: appointed Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE) 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 Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine to be transmitted to the Committee of Ministers;
- **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 EC Group, appointed Ms Kelly Tolhurst (United Kingdom); on the basis of proposals by the ALDE Group, appointed Ms Ksenija Korenjak Kramar (Slovenia), Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross (Estonia) and Mr Anne Mulder (Netherlands), subject to ratification by the Assembly;
 - . *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*: on the basis of proposals by the ALDE Group, appointed Mr Hendrik Daems (Belgium), Ms Ksenija Korenjak Kramar (Slovenia), Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy) and Mr Mart van de Ven (Netherlands), subject to ratification by the Assembly;
 - . *Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights*: on the basis of proposals by the EPP/CD Group, appointed Mr Attila Tilki (Hungary) and Mr Konstantinos Tzavaras (Greece) as members, and Mr Rónan Mullen (Ireland) as alternate; on the basis of proposals by the ALDE Group, appointed Ms Olena Sotnyk (Ukraine) as full member, subject to ratification by the Assembly;
- **Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2017**: approved the appointments as set out in Appendix 6;
- **Meetings of the Bureau and Standing Committee in Madrid (9 and 10 March 2017)**: took note of the draft programme;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris**: authorised:
 - . the ad hoc Sub-Committee of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to participate in the events organised by the IPA CIS to be held in Saint-Petersburg, Russian Federation, on 27-28 March 2017;
 - . the Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media) to meet in Aarhus, Denmark, on 3-4 April 2017;
 - . the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination to meet in Milan, Italy, on 18-19 May 2017;
 - . the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to meet in Belgrade, on 18-19 May 2017;
 - . the Sub-Committee on Children and the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable to meet in Baku, on 31 May and 1 June 2017;
 - . the Sub-Committee on Integration and Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit (of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons) to meet in Lisbon, on 11-12 September 2017;
 - . the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media to meet in Budapest, on 4-5 December 2017;

- **Date and place of next meetings:** decided to hold its meetings as follows:

Thursday, 9 March 2017, Madrid, at 2.30 pm;
Monday, 24 April 2017, Strasbourg, at 8 am;
Friday, 28 April 2017, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am;
Monday, 29 May 2017, Prague, afternoon;
Monday, 26 June 2017, Strasbourg, at 8 am;
Friday, 30 June 2017, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am;
Monday, 4 September 2017, Paris, at 9 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 texts adopted during the first part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 23-27 January)

Current affairs debate, *The situation in Syria and its effects upon surrounding countries*

Follow-up: decided to seize the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*.

Resolution 2150 (2017)

The situation in Lebanon and challenges for regional stability and European security

(Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Mr Tobias Zech, Germany, EPP/CD)

“11. Finally, the Assembly decides to develop relations with the Lebanese Parliament, first by inviting Lebanese parliamentarians to follow its work and then by encouraging the Lebanese Parliament to consider applying for partnership for democracy status with the Assembly.”

Follow-up: decided to systematically invite the Lebanese Parliament to send its representation to the Assembly part-sessions.

Appendix 2

References and transmissions to committees

A. Reference to committee

Bureau decision, The situation in Syria and its effects upon surrounding countries, reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;

B. Extension of references

Bureau decision, Evaluation of the Partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic (Ref. 4045 of 11 April 2014 – validity: 31 January 2017 (extended on 29/01/2016)): extension until 31 December 2017;

Doc. 13400, motion for a resolution, The employment rights of female workers from Eastern Europe (Ref. 41111 of 6 March 2015 – validity: 6 March 2017): extension until 30 September 2017.

Appendix 3

List of members of the ad hoc committee to observe the early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (26 March 2017)

Chairperson: Marie-Christine DALLOZ (France, EPP/CD)

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

Marie-Christine DALLOZ, France
Nicole DURANTON, France
Duarte MARQUES, Portugal
Kęstutis MASIULIS, Lithuania
Jasen MESIĆ, Croatia
Rónán MULLEN, Ireland
Egidijus VAREIKIS, Lithuania

Substitutes

...

Socialist Group (SOC)

José CEPEDA, Spain
Anne-Yvonne LE DAIN, France
Luis Alberto ORELLANA, Italy
Idália SERRÃO, Portugal
Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro
Gordan MARAS, Croatia

Substitutes

Paolo CORSINI, Italy
Dimitri TSKITISHVILI, Georgia
Renata DESKOSKA, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"

European Conservatives Group (EC)

Suat ÖNAL, Turkey
Cheryl GILLAN, United Kingdom
Nino GOGUADZE, Georgia

Substitutes

John HOWELL, United Kingdom
Jarosław OBREMSKI, Poland

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Olena SOTNYK, Ukraine
Mart van de VEN, Netherlands
Alfred HEER, Switzerland

Substitutes

...

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)

...

Substitute

...

Co-rapporteurs on post-monitoring dialogue (ex officio)

Zsolt NÉMETH, Hungary
Franck SCHWABE, Germany

Appendix 4

List of members of the ad hoc committee to observe the parliamentary elections in Armenia (2 April 2017)

Chairperson: Liliane MAURY PASQUIER (Switzerland, SOC)

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

Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy
Bernard FOURNIER, France
Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland
Gabriela PECKOVÁ, Czech Republic
Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland
Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania

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...
...
...
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Substitutes

Boriana ÅBERG, Sweden
Colm BROPHY, Ireland
Nicole DURANTON, France
Andrzej HALICKI, Poland
Andres HERKEL, Estonia
Maura HOPKINS, Ireland
Luís LEITE RAMOS, Portugal
Kęstutis MASIULIS, Lithuania
Rónán MULLEN, Ireland
Virgilijus PODERYS, Lithuania

Socialist Group (SOC)

René ROUQUET, France
Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria
Angela SMITH, United Kingdom
Pascale CROZON, France
Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland
Petra De SUTTER, Belgium
Elvira DROBINSKI-WEIß, Germany
Eka BESELIA, Georgia
Liliane MAURY PASQUIER, Switzerland *
Claude ADAM, Luxembourg

Substitutes

Miroslav NENUTIL, Czech Republic
Zviad KVATCHANTIRADZE, Georgia
Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro
Gordan MARAS, Croatia
Geneviève GOSSELIN, France

European Conservatives Group (EC)

Ingebjørg GODSKESEN, Norway *
Kelly TOLHURST, United Kingdom
Richard BALFE, United Kingdom
Józef LEŚNIAK, Poland

Substitutes

...

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Nellija KLEINBERGA, Latvia

Adele GAMBARO, Italy *

Anne KALMARI, Finland

Jokin BILDARRATZ, Spain

Substitutes

Dovilė ŠAKALIENĖ, Lithuania

Alfred HEER, Switzerland

Simonas GENTVILAS, Lithuania

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)

Annette GROTH, Germany *

Substitute

Henk OVERBEEK, Netherlands

Co-rapporteurs on post-monitoring dialogue (*ex officio*)

Giuseppe GALATI, Italy *

Alan MEALE, United Kingdom *

* members of the pre-election delegation

Appendix 5

List of members of the ad hoc committee to observe the presidential election in Serbia (April 2017, date to be confirmed)

Chairperson: Ingebjørg GODSKESEN (Norway, EC)

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

Elena CENTEMERO, Italy
Giuseppe GALATI, Italy
Alina Ștefania GORGHIU, Romania
Sylvie GOY-CHAVENT, France
Liliana PALIHOVICI, Republic of Moldova
Jordi ROCA, Spain
Egidijus VAREIKIS, Lithuania

Substitutes

Colm BROPHY, Ireland
Nicole DURANTON, France
Maura HOPKINS, Ireland
Kęstutis MASIULIS, Lithuania
Jasen MESIĆ, Croatia
Rónán MULLEN, Ireland
Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland
Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania
Adão SILVA, Portugal

Socialist Group (SOC)

Maryvonne BLONDIN, France *
Paolo CORSINI, Italy
Antonio GUTIÉRREZ, Spain
Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria
Dimitri TSKITISHVILI, Georgia
Renata DESKOSKA, "The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"

Substitutes

Catherine QUÉRÉ, France
Deniz BAYKAL, Turkey
Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland
Idália SERRÃO, Portugal
Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro
Algirdas BUTKEVIČIUS, Lithuania
Gordan MARAS, Croatia
Luis Alberto ORELLANA, Italy
Sanja VLAHOVIĆ, Montenegro

European Conservatives Group (EC)

Dominik TARCZYŃSKI, Poland
Ingebjørg GODSKESEN, Norway *
Arkadiusz MULARCZYK, Poland

Substitute

Rita TAMAŠUNIENĖ, Lithuania

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Doris FIALA, Switzerland
Eerik-Niiles KROSS, Estonia *
Anne MULDER, Netherlands

Substitutes

Sabien LAHAYE-BATTHEU, Belgium
Andrea RIGONI, Italy
Mart van de VEN, Netherlands
Anne KALMARI, Finland

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)

Miren Edurne GORROTXATEGUI, Spain *

Substitute

...

Co-rapporteurs on post-monitoring dialogue (*ex officio*)

Samad SEYIDOV, Azerbaijan *
Maria GUZENINA, Finland *

* members of the pre-election delegation

Appendix 6**Institutional representation of the Assembly in 2017**

Body	Who represents the Assembly	Reference	2017 nominations
I. Council of Europe bodies			
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 Cozmanziuc - EPP/CD (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) Mr Leite Ramos - EPP/CD (AS/Cult) Substitutes: Mr Schennach - SOC (AS/Soc) Mr Corsini - SOC (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 Corlăţean - SOC (AS/Pol) Mr Thiéry - ALDE (AS/Ega) Mr Önal - EC (AS/Cult) Substitutes: Mr Korodi – EPP/CD (AS/Pol) Mr Čilevičs - SOC (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) ... (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: Mr van de Ven - ALDE (AS/Jur)
II. Other			
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