



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2017) 06

1 June 2017

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Prague on 29 May 2017

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday, 29 May 2017 in Prague, with Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Assembly, and then Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communications:** took note of communications by the President of the Assembly and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **Standing Committee (Prague, 30 May 2017):** took note of the draft agenda;
- **Third part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 26-30 June):** drew up the draft agenda;
- **References and transmissions to committees:** considered and approved the references and transmissions as presented in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;
- **Composition of the independent external investigation body to look into allegations of corruption within the Assembly:** took note of two memoranda prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and, following a vote, appointed Sir Nicolas Bratza (United Kingdom), Mr Jean-Louis Bruguière (France) and Ms Elisabet Fura (Sweden) as members of the independent external investigation body, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- **Election observation:**
 - i. *Armenia: parliamentary elections (2 April 2017):* approved the report of the ad hoc committee;
 - ii. *Serbia: presidential election (2 April 2017):* approved the report of the ad hoc committee;
 - iii. *Turkey: referendum on the constitutional amendments (16 April 2017):* approved the report of the ad hoc committee, as amended;
 - iv. *Albania: parliamentary elections (25 June 2017):* took note of the change of date of the elections, approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee (Appendix 2) and authorised the President of the Assembly to approve changes to the list of members that might be proposed by the political groups, if any;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** took note of a memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and, following a vote, appointed Ms Marie-Louise Bemelmans-Videc (Netherlands) as member of the Selection Panel;
- **Institutional representation of the Assembly in 2017:** approved the appointment of Ms Adele Gambaro (Italy, ALDE) as member of the Committee for Works of Art, as proposed by the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media;

- **Other business:**

- following a vote, confirmed its position of no confidence in the President of the Assembly and its decision not to authorise him to undertake any official visits, attend any meetings or make any public statements on behalf of the Assembly;
- took note that, as of the June part-session 2017, the members of the delegation of the Assembly of Kosovo would be given access to the Assembly Chamber, without permanent seats being allocated to them;

- **Dates and places of next meetings:**

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;
Monday, 9 October 2017, Strasbourg at 8 am;
Friday, 13 October 2017, Strasbourg, 8.30 am.

Sonia Sirtori

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary 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

References and transmissions to committees

A. References and transmissions to committees

[Doc. 14271](#), motion for a resolution, Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;

[Doc. 14275](#), motion for a resolution, Co-operation with United Nations human rights mechanisms – a challenge for the Council of Europe and its member States: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;

[Doc. 14276](#), motion for a resolution, The humanitarian situation of refugees in the countries neighbouring Syria: transmission to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for information*;

[Doc. 14295](#), motion for a resolution, Sergei Magnitsky and beyond – fighting impunity by targeted sanctions: transmission to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for information*;

[Doc. 14296](#), motion for a resolution, A two-State solution in Israel and Palestine: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;

[Doc. 14299](#), motion for a resolution, A commitment to introduce rules to ensure fair referendums in Council of Europe member States: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;

[Doc. 14301](#), motion for a resolution, Human rights situation in the occupied regions of Georgia: consultation of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *on possible follow-up*;

[Doc. 14302](#), motion for a resolution, Review of regulations for election observations by the Parliamentary Assembly: no further action;

Bureau decision, The situation in Kosovo*: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*.

B. Replies after consultation

[Doc. 14188](#), motion for a resolution, Illegal elections in the occupied Autonomous Republic of Crimea and in the city of Sebastopol: no further action;

[Doc. 14094](#), motion for a resolution, Addressing the massive curtailment of democratic rights and freedoms in Israel, especially the “Transparency Law”/“NGO Law”: no further action.

C. Extension of references

[Doc. 13555](#), motion for a resolution, Establishing genuine parliamentary dialogue with Algeria (Reference 4065 of 3 October 2014 – validity: 30 June 2017 (extended on 20 June 2016)): extension until 31 January 2018;

[Doc. 13812](#), motion for a resolution, Libya's future between the threats of terrorism and a democratic prospect (Reference 4140 of 26 June 2015 – validity: 26 June 2017): extension until 31 January 2018;

[Doc. 13280](#), motion for a recommendation, Co-ordination for efficient Internet governance (Reference 4000 of 30 September 2013 – validity: 30 June 2017 (extended on 24 June 2016)): extension until 30 June 2018;

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

[Doc. 13484](#), motion for a resolution, Azerbaijan's Chairmanship of the Council of Europe: What follow-up on respect for human rights? (Ref. 4050 of 23 June 2014 – validity: 23 June 2017 (extended on 20 June 2016)): extension until 30 September 2017;

[Doc. 13614](#), motion for a resolution, Strengthening the rule of law in South-East European countries through targeted reform of the legal system (Ref. 4087 of 17 November 2014 – validity: 30 June 2017 (extended on 14 October 2016)): extension until 31 October 2017.

Appendix 2

List of members of the ad hoc committee to observe the parliamentary elections in Albania (25 June 2017)

Chairperson: Paolo CORSINI, Italy (SOC)

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

Elena CENTEMERO, Italy
Yves POZZO di BORGIO, France
Ionuț-Marian STROE, Romania
Attila TILKI, Hungary

Socialist Group (SOC)

Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria
Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro
Jan ŠKOBERNE, Slovenia
Paolo CORSINI, Italy *
Marianne MIKKO, Estonia
Florian KRONBICHLER, Italy
Luis Alberto ORELLANA, Italy
Idália SERRÃO, Portugal
Miroslav NENUTIL, Czech Republic
Joseph DEBONO-GRECH, Malta

Substitute

Muslum MAMMADOV, Azerbaijan

European Conservatives Group (EC)

Ingebjørg GODSKESEN, Norway *
Erkan KANDEMİR, Turkey
Serhii KIRAL, Ukraine
Jarosław OBREMSKI, Poland

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Reina BRUIJN-WEZEMAN, Netherlands
Eerik Niiles KROSS, Estonia *
Andrea RIGONI, Italy
Mart van de VEN, Netherlands

Substitute

Fernando MAURA, Spain

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)

Marco NICOLINI, San Marino *

Substitute

Miren Edurne GORROTXATEGUI, Spain

Co-rapporteur of the Monitoring Committee (ex officio)

Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland

Venice Commission

Nikolai VULCHANOV, Expert
Mesut BEDIRHANOGLU, Administrator

Secretariat

Bogdan TORCĂTORIU, Administrator, Election Observation and Interparliamentary Cooperation Division
Franck DAESCHLER, Principal Administrative Assistant, Election Observation and Interparliamentary Cooperation Division
Anne GODFREY, Assistant, Election Observation and Interparliamentary Cooperation Division

* members of the pre-election delegation