



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2018) 05

23 April 2018

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 23 April 2018

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 23 April 2018 in Strasbourg with Mr Michele Nicoletti, President of the Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communication:** took note of the communication by the President of the Assembly;
- **Second part-session of 2018 (Strasbourg, 23-27 April):**
 - i. *Request for debate under urgent procedure:*
 - took note of the withdrawal of the request tabled by Mr Akif Çağatay Kiliç (Turkey, EC) and 25 members of the Assembly for the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Rising anti-Semitism, Islamophobia and xenophobia in Europe: Threat to European values*;
 - took note of the request tabled by the Unified European Left (UEL) and decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Copenhagen Declaration, appreciation and follow-up* and to refer the matter to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights;
 - took note of the request tabled by Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC), and 19 members of the Assembly, and decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Member States' respect for international rules-based agreements and principles in the context of the interventions by the Russian Federation in Ukraine, Georgia, Moldova and most recently in the United Kingdom and of a further recent transgression of international law by the regime in Syria and its sponsors* and, should the Assembly decide otherwise, to refer the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy;
 - took note of the request tabled by the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group (SOC) and decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on the *Follow-up to the report of the Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly* and to refer the matter to the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs;
 - ii. *Requests for current affairs debates:*
 - took note of the request of the Ukrainian delegation and decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold a current affairs debate on *Illegal election of the President of the Russian Federation on the temporarily occupied territory of the Autonomous Republic of Crimea: a human rights violation*;
 - took note of the request of the Icelandic delegation and decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a current affairs debate on *Europe's Role in Peace Making Initiatives in Syria* and appointed Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir (Iceland, UEL) as the first speaker;

- iii. *Draft agenda*: updated the draft agenda;
- iv. *Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights*: took note of the report drawn up by the Committee on the Election of Judges following interviews with candidates for the post of a judge in respect of Montenegro;
- **Elections observation**:
 - i. *Azerbaijan: presidential election (11 April 2018)*: took note of the statement of the observation mission;
 - ii. *Montenegro: presidential election (15 April 2018)*: took note of the statement of the observation mission;
 - iii. *Turkey: early presidential and parliamentary elections (24 June 2018)*: subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe this election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 31 members (EPP/CD-10; SOC-10; EC-5; ALDE-3; UEL-2; FDG-1), as well as of the 2 co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee, and to conduct a pre-electoral mission;
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (26 January – 21 April 2018)** (Rapporteur: Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC)): approved the Progress report;
- **Composition of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs**: on the basis of a proposal by the UEL Group, nominated Mr Nikolaj Villumsen, Denmark, subject to ratification by the Assembly;
- **Resolution 1376 (2004) relating to Cyprus**: took note of the letter from one of the Turkish Cypriot political parties (the National Unity Party) informing the President of the Assembly of the name of one of the "elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community" entitled to sit in the Assembly in 2018, namely Mr Hamsa Ersan Saner, subject to ratification by the Assembly;
- **Date and place of the next meeting**:

Friday 27 April 2018, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am.

Isild Heurtin, Angela Garabagiu

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
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
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Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
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