



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2020) 06

29 June 2020

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on Thursday 25 June 2020

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Thursday 25 June 2020 by videoconference, with Mr Rik Daems, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communications:** took note of the communications by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **Standing Committee meeting (by videoconference, 26 June 2020):**
 - i. Request for a current affairs debate:* took note that Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) withdrew the request tabled on behalf of the UEL Group to hold a current affairs debate on “The consequences of a possible Israeli annexation of the occupied Palestinian Territories”;
 - ii. Draft agenda:* took note of the revised draft agenda;
- **Joint Committee (by videoconference, 25 June 2020):** prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee, took note of the request by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for an exceptional prolongation of the mandate of the current postholder of Deputy Secretary General, Ms Battaini-Dragoni, until the end of the month following the month of the election of her successor by the Parliamentary Assembly and decided to support this request;
- **Organisation of work of the Assembly until the end of 2020:** took note that it would not be possible to hold the summer part-session of the Assembly, held an exchange of views on the preparation of the meetings of the Bureau and of the Standing Committee in Chania (Greece) on 14-16 September 2020, as well as on the next part-session in October (12-16 October 2020) and the Bureau and Standing Committee meetings in Berlin (19 and 20 November 2020);
- **Election observations – state of play:**
 - i. Poland: presidential election (28 June 2020):* approved the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to assess this election (Appendix 1);
 - ii. North Macedonia: parliamentary elections (15 July 2020):* approved the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 2);
 - iii. Georgia: parliamentary elections (October 2020):* decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (EPP/CD: 10, SOC: 9, ALDE: 5, EC/DA: 4, UEL: 2), as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee; to conduct a pre-electoral mission, and to authorise the President of the Assembly to appoint the Chairperson of the ad hoc committee;

- iv. *Montenegro: parliamentary elections (30 August 2020)*: decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 6, SOC: 6, ALDE: 4, EC/DA: 3, UEL: 1), as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee; to conduct a pre-electoral mission, and to authorise the President of the Assembly to appoint the Chairperson of the ad hoc committee;
- v. *Republic of Moldova: presidential election (1st November 2020)*: decided to observe this election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 6, SOC: 6, ALDE: 4, EC/DA: 3, UEL: 1), as well as of the co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee; to conduct a pre-electoral mission, and to authorise the President of the Assembly to appoint the Chairperson of the ad hoc committee;
- **References and transmissions to committees**: approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 3, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;
- **Budgetary matters - analysis of the use made by the Assembly's political groups of their allocations for 2019**: took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, and approved the communication submitted by the committee;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee and the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights**:
 - i. *Monitoring Committee*:
 - on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, appointed Mr Birgir Thórarinsson (Iceland) as member;
 - on the basis of a proposal by the EC/DA Group, appointed Mr Richard Bacon (United Kingdom), Mr Iván Espinosa De Los Monteros (Spain), and Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan), as members;
 - on the basis of a proposal by the ALDE Group, appointed Mr Damien Cottier (Switzerland) as member;
 - ii. *Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights*:
 - on the basis of a proposal by the SOC Group, appointed Mr Irakli Kobakhidze (Georgia) as member;
- **2020 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 16-18 November)**: took note of the concept paper and decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Forum;
- **Dates and places of next meetings**: decided to hold its meetings as follows:

Monday, 14 September 2020, Chania, Greece
Monday, 12 October 2020, Strasbourg, at 8 am
Friday, 16 October 2020, Strasbourg, at 8.30 am
Thursday, 19 November 2020, Berlin, at 3 pm
Friday, 11 December 2020, Paris, at 9.30 am.

Isild Heurtin

Copy to:
Secretary General of the Assembly
Directors 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

**AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE OBSERVATION OF THE
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN POLAND**

28 JUNE / JUIN 2020

**COMMISSION AD HOC POUR L'OBSERVATION DE L'ELECTION PRESIDENTIELLE
EN POLOGNE**

List of members / Liste des membres

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche (SOC)

Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)

Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche

Ms / Mme Yuliya LOVOCHKINA, Ukraine

Mr / M. Gerardo GIOVAGNOLI, San Marino / Saint-Marin

Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche

Venice Commission / Commission de Venise

Ms / Mme Renata TARDIOLI, Member / membre

Mr / M Gaël MARTIN-MICALLEF, Legal advisor, Venice Commission / Conseiller juridique, Commission de Venise

Secretariat / Secrétariat

Mr / M. Chemavon CHAHBAZIAN, Head, Election Observation and Interparliamentary Cooperation Division/
Chef, Division de l'observation des élections et de la coopération interparlementaire

Ms / Mme Anne GODFREY, Assistant, Election Observation and Interparliamentary Cooperation Division /
Assistante, Division de l'observation des élections et de la coopération interparlementaire

Appendix 2

**AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE OBSERVATION OF THE
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN NORTH MACEDONIA**

15 July / juillet 2020

**COMMISSION AD HOC POUR L'OBSERVATION DES ELECTIONS LEGISLATIVES
EN MACEDOINE DU NORD**

List of members / Liste des membres

Chairperson / Président: Lord BLENCATHRA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni (EC/DA / CE/AD)

Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Alina Ștefania GORGHIU, Romania / Roumanie

Ms / Mme Laurence TRASTOUR-ISNART, France

Mr / M. Aleksander POĆIEJ, Poland / Pologne*

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Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)

Mr / M. Erwin BUSHATI, Albania / Albanie

Ms / Mme Sibel ARSLAN, Switzerland / Suisse

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse

Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Turkey / Turquie

Mr / M. Valeriu Andrei STERIU, Romania / Roumanie

Substitutes / Suppléants:

Mr / M. Predrag SEKULIC, Montenegro / Monténégro

Ms / Mme Esther PEÑA, Spain / Espagne

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) /

Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)

Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, France

Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine

Mr / M. Andrii LOPUSHANSKYI, Ukraine

Mr / M. Jacques LE NAY, France

**European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC/DA) / Groupe des conservateurs
européens et Alliance démocratique (CE/AD)**

Lord David BLENCATHRA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine

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Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)

Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO, Germany / Allemagne

Co-Rapporteurs AS/MON (ex officio)

Ms / Mme Lise CHRISTOFFERSEN, Norway / Norvège

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Accompanying persons

Lady BLENCATHRA

* Awaiting non-conflict of interest declaration

Appendix 3 – References and transmissions to committees

A. References to committees

[Doc. 15068](#), Motion for a resolution, *Artificial intelligence and climate change* and [Doc. 15108](#), Motion for a resolution, *Anchoring the right to a healthy environment: need for enhanced action by the Council of Europe*: reference of both motions to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for a single report*

[Doc. 15106](#), Motion for a resolution, *Deinstitutionalisation of persons with disabilities*: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report* and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for opinion*

[Doc. 15107](#), Motion for a resolution, *Eradicating extreme child poverty in Europe: an international obligation and a moral duty*: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*

[Doc. 15111](#), Motion for a resolution, *Safe third countries for asylum seekers*: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*

[Doc. 15112](#), Motion for a resolution, *Alternative care for unaccompanied and separated migrant children*: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report* and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for opinion*

[Doc. 15113](#), Motion for a resolution, *Climate and migration*: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*

B. Request for a modification of reference

Bureau decision, *Democracies facing the COVID-19 pandemic*: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report* and to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *for opinion*