



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2020) 08

12 October 2020

To the Members of the Assembly

Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on Monday 12 October 2020

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 12 October 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 (12-13 October and 22-23 October 2020):**
 - i. *Request for debate under urgent procedure:* took note:
 - of the request by Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL), on behalf of the UEL Group, to transform their request tabled on 28 September 2020 to hold a current affairs debate on “*New crack down of political and social opposition in Turkey: how to safeguard human rights, fundamental freedoms and the protection of Turkish citizens by the European Court of Human Rights?*” into a request for a debate under urgent procedure and decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold this debate under urgent procedure and to refer the matter to the Monitoring Committee;
 - ii. *Request for current affairs debate:* took note:
 - of the request tabled by the Monitoring Committee on 5 October 2020 to hold a current affairs debate on “*Armed conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan, failure of peaceful conflict resolution and a risk to regional stability*” and decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold this current affairs debate and to appoint Mr Michael Aastrup Jensen (Denmark, ALDE), as first speaker in the debate;
 - iii. *Draft agenda:* took note of the revised draft agenda;
- **Joint Committee (by video conference, 23 October 2020 at 3 pm):** prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee;
- **Forthcoming meetings of the Assembly until the end of 2020:** took note of the calendar of meetings;
- **Election observations:**
 - i. *Georgia: parliamentary elections (31 October 2020):* approved the final list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 1);
 - ii. *Republic of Moldova: presidential election (1st November 2020):* approved the final list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe this election (Appendix 2);

iii. Jordan: parliamentary elections (10 November 2020): approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 3) and appointed Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/CD) as Chairperson of the ad hoc committee;

- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 4, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;
- **Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2023 - 2025):** approved the revised memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly (Appendix 5), subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee:** on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/CD Group, appointed Ms Milena Damyanova (Bulgaria) as member;
- **Dates and places of next meetings:** decided to hold its meetings as follows:

Tuesday, 17 November 2020, videoconference, time to be confirmed
Friday, 11 December 2020, Paris (to be confirmed), at 9.30 am.

Isild Heurtin

Copy to:
Secretary General of the Assembly
Director and 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

AS/BUR/GEO (2020) 1
9 October / octobre 2020

**AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE OBSERVATION OF THE
PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN GEORGIA**

31 October / octobre 2020

**COMMISSION AD HOC POUR L'OBSERVATION DES ELECTIONS LEGISLATIVES
EN GEORGIE**

List of members / Liste des membres

Chairperson / Président : Tiny KOX, Netherlands/Pays-Bas, UEL/GUE

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

Ms / Mme Erika BENKŐ, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Matern von MARSCHALL, Germany, Allemagne
Mr / M. Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Jacek PROTASIEWICZ, Poland / Pologne

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

Ms / Mme Petra BAYR, Austria / Autriche **
Ms / Mme Marietta KARAMANLI, France
Mr / M. Boriss CILEVIČS, Latvia / Lettonie**
Mr / M. Roberto RAMPI, Italy / Italie **
Ms / Mme Bela BACH, Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. Krzysztof ŚMISZEK, Poland / Pologne
Ms / Mme Jette CHRISTENSEN, Norway / Norvège
Mr / M. André VALLINI, France **
Mr / M. Andrzej SZEJNA, Poland / Pologne

**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) /
Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Ms / Mme Marija GOLUBEVA, Latvia / Lettonie
Mr / M. Hovhannes IGITYAN, Armenia / Arménie
Mr / M. Edmon MARUKYAN, Armenia / Arménie
Mr / M. Jacques LE NAY, France **

Substitutes / Suppléants

Ms / Mme Kathrine OLLDAG, Denmark / Danemark

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

Mr / M. Alberto RIBOLLA, Italy / Italie **
Mr / M. Ulrich OEHME, Germany / Allemagne

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

Mr / M. Georgios KATROUGKALOS, Greece / Grèce
Mr / M. Tiny KOX, Netherlands / Pays-Bas

Substitutes / Suppléants

Mr / M. Jussi SARAMO, Finland / Finlande
Ms / Mme Violeta TOMIČ, Slovenia / Slovénie
Mr / M. Sokratis FAMELLOS, Greece / Grèce

Co-Rapporteurs AS/MON (ex officio)

Mr / M. Claude KERN, France

Venice Commission / Commission de Venise

Ms / Mme Katharina PABEL, Austria / Autriche, substitute member

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

Secretariat / Secrétariat

Mr / M. Bogdan TORCĂTORIU, Administrative Officer, Election Observation and Interparliamentary Cooperation Division / Division de l'observation des élections et de la coopération interparlementaire

Ms / Mme Danièle GASTL, Assistant, Election Observation and Interparliamentary Cooperation Division / Assistante, 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

* election declaration missing

** has participated in at least 2 missions

Annexe 2

AS/BUR/MOLD (2020) 1
25 September / septembre 2020

**AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE OBSERVATION OF THE
PRESIDENTIAL ELECTION IN THE REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA**

1 November / novembre 2020

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

List of members / Liste des membres

Chairperson / Président: Joe O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande, EPP-CD/ PPE-DC

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

Ms / Mme Borina ÅBERG, Sweden / Suède **
Mr / M. Viorel Riceard BADEA, Romania / Roumanie **
Mr / M. Joe O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande * **
Mr / M. Aleksander POĆIEJ, Poland / Pologne **
Mr / M. Luís LEITE RAMOS, Portugal **
Mr / M. Vladimir VARDANYAN, Armenia / Arménie*

Substitutes / Suppléants

Mr / M. Eduard KÖCK, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania / Roumanie **
Mr / M. Francesco SCOMA, Italy / Italie

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

Ms / Mme Yulya LOVOCHKINA, Ukraine**
Lord Leslie GRIFFITHS, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni *
Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse **
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche **
Mr / M. Dino SOCOTAR, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. George FOULKES, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni **

Substitutes / Suppléants

Ms / Mme Margreet De BOER, Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Mr / M. Kimmo KILJUNEN, Finland / Finlande * **
Mr / M. Andrzej SZEJNA, Poland / Pologne

**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) /
Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Mr / M. BOUCHEZ Georges-Louis, Belgium / Belgique
Mr / M. Iulian BULAI, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Jean-Pierre GRIN, Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Christoph HOFFMANN, Germany / Allemagne

Substitutes / Suppléants

Ms / Mme Kathrine OLLDAG, Denmark / Danemark

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

Mr / M. Arkadiusz MULARCZYK, Poland / Pologne **
Ms / Mme Theo CLARKE, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)
Ms / Mme Violeta TOMIĆ, Slovenia / Slovénie

Substitutes / Suppléants

Mr / M. Georgios KATROUGKALOS, Greece / Grèce

Co-Rapporteurs AS/MON (ex officio)

Ms / Mme Maryvonne BLONDIN, France *

Mr / M. Egidijus VAREIKIS, Lithuania / Lituanie *

* election declaration missing

** has participated in at least 2 missions

Annexe 3

AS/BUR/JOR (2020) 1
30 September / septembre 2020

**AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE OBSERVATION OF THE
EARLY PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN JORDAN**

10 November / novembre 2020

**COMMISSION AD HOC POUR L'OBSERVATION DES ELECTIONS
LEGISLATIVES ANTICIPEES EN JORDANIE**

List of members / Liste des membres

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland / Pologne***

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

Mr / M. Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland / Pologne***
Mr / M. Aleksander STOKKEBØ, Norway / Norvège*
Ms / Mme Els VAN HOOF, Belgium / Belgique

Substitutes / Suppléants

Mr / M. Zsolt CSENGER-ZALÁN, Hungary / Hongrie
Ms / Mme Alina Ștefania GORGHIU, Romania / Roumanie**
Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche**
Mr / M. Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania / Roumanie**
Mr / M. Jacek PROTASIEWICZ, Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. Francesco SCOMA, Italy / Italie

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

Mr / M. Kimmo KILJUNEN, Finland / Finlande **
Mr / M. Paulo PISCO, Portugal
Ms / Mme Maria Luisa BUSTINDUY, Spain / Espagne

Substitutes / Suppléants

Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche***
Ms / Mme Bela BACH, Germany / Allemagne*
Ms / Mme Susana SUMELZO, Spain / Espagne*
Ms / Mme Zita GURMAI, Hungary / Hongrie*
Mr / M. André VALLINI, France**
Mr / M. Antonia GUTIÉRREZ, Spain / Espagne**
Mr / M. Krzysztof ŚMISZEK, Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse **
Mr / M. Roberto RAMPI, Italy / Italie**
Mr / M. Andrzej SZEJNA, Poland / Pologne

**Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) /
Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Ms / Mme Petra STIENEN, Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Mr / M. Fabien GOUTTEFARDE, France

Substitutes / Suppléants

Ms / Mme Fiona O'LOUGHLIN, Ireland / Irlande
Ms / Mme Alexandra LOUIS, France**
Mr / M. Bertrand BOUYX, France
Ms / Mme Maša KOCIPER, Slovenia / Slovénie

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

Mr / M. Axel KASSEGGGER, Austria / Autriche

Mr / M. Alberto RIBOLLA, Italy / Italie**

Substitutes / Suppléants

Mr / M. Arkadiusz MULARCZYK, Poland / Pologne **

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

Mr / M. Sergey KALASHNIKOV, Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie

Substitutes / Suppléants

Rapporteur AS/POL(ex officio)

Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES, Cyprus / Chypre

* election declaration missing

** has participated in at least 2 missions

Appendix 4 - References and transmissions to committees

A. References to committees

[Doc. 15137](#), Motion for a resolution, *Fighting and preventing excessive and unjustified use of force by the law enforcement officers*: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*

[Doc. 15140](#), Motion for a resolution, *The role of the media in times of crisis*: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*

[Doc. 15144](#), Motion for a resolution, *Safeguarding democratic values in international trade*: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*

[Doc. 15145](#), Motion for a resolution, *Overcoming the socio-economic crisis sparked by the Covid-19 pandemic*: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*

[Doc. 15146](#), Motion for a resolution, *Towards a Covid-19 vaccine: ethical, legal and practical considerations*: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report*

[Doc. 15155](#), Motion for a resolution, *Poisoning of Alexei Navalny*: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*

[Doc. 15160](#), Motion for a resolution, *Safeguarding peace and stability in the East Mediterranean Sea*: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*

[Doc. 15162](#), Motion for a resolution, *The impact of Brexit on human rights on the island of Ireland*: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*

B. Modification of a reference

[Doc. 14802](#), Motion for a resolution, *Should politicians be prosecuted for statements made in the exercise of their mandate?* (Reference 4428 of 1 March 2019 – validity: 1 September 2021): reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report* and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for opinion*

Appendix 5 – Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2023 - 2025)

AS/Bur (2020) 17rev

6 October 2020

Bureau of the Assembly

Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2023 - 2025)

Memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly

General principles

1. In 1994, the Bureau decided that the dates of Assembly part-sessions should be fixed for the last full week of the months of January, April, June and September in each year. However, at its meeting on 3 September 2002, taking note of the risk of an overlap with the session of the European Parliament (EP) in September, the Bureau decided to amend the general rule and to fix the 4th part-session of each year for the week after the last week in the month of September.

2. With a view to the co-ordination of national and international parliamentary timetables, the Bureau usually approves the dates of part-sessions for a 3-4-year period two to three years before the start of that period. The dates for 2020-2022 were approved by the Bureau in January 2017.

April part-sessions

3. On several occasions, the Bureau had to change the date of this part-session, either to avoid a clash with the Catholic or Orthodox Easter holidays or with the session of the EP.

4. In order to facilitate the travel arrangements for those MPs who are concerned by the Orthodox Easter dates, it was agreed that the April 2020 part-session would open on Monday at 4 pm instead of 11.30 am. Similar arrangements will have to be proposed for the April 2022 part-session.

5. April 2025 part-session will have to be advanced to 7-11 April also in order to avoid a clash with Easter holidays. In view of past experience with the EP, it cannot be excluded that a change of date may have to be envisaged depending on the dates still to be chosen by the EP. For the moment, the EP has fixed its plenary session dates only up to 2022.

October part-sessions

6. The issue of a clash of dates with the EP session has sometimes arisen also for the 4th part-session, despite the decision taken by the Bureau in 2002. This is particularly the case as the current practice of the EP is to fix two plenary sessions in Strasbourg in October, at present during the first and last week in October. According to the information received from the EP secretariat, this schedule is likely to continue in the foreseeable future.

Proposed decisions

7. Table 1 below gives the dates for the years 2020 to 2022 already approved for information. In order to have an overview for the years 2023-2025, table 2 below provides the dates of the part-sessions on the basis of the decision taken or indications given by the Bureau. The dates proposed do not coincide with public holidays in the host country of the Council of Europe. As a general rule, it is proposed that the Assembly should meet the second full week in October, unless it could meet during a week which starts the last days in September and ends the first days in October (e.g. in 2021, 2024 and 2025, see below).

8. The Bureau is invited to agree with the dates proposed below for the part-sessions for the years **2023-2025**, subject to ratification by the Assembly.

Table 1: part-sessions of the Assembly for 2020 - 2022 (dates already approved)

2020	2021	2022
27 - 31 January	25 - 29 January	24 - 28 January
20 - 24 April	19 - 23 April	25 - 29 April
22 - 26 June	21 - 25 June	20 - 24 June
12-16 October	27 September – 1 October	10 - 14 October

Table 2: part-sessions of the Assembly for 2023 - 2025 (dates to be agreed)

2023	2024	2025
23 - 27 January	22 - 26 January	27 - 31 January
24 - 28 April	22 - 26 April	7 - 11 April
19 - 23 June ¹	24 - 28 June	23 - 27 June
9 - 13 October	30 September – 4 October	29 September – 3 October

¹ - Dates of the 2023 June part-session advanced by one week due to the Muslim holiday Eid al-adha.