



BUREAU OF THE ASSEMBLY

AS/Bur/CB (2020) 09rev

23 November 2020

To the Members of the Assembly

Revised Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on Thursday 19 November 2020

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Thursday 19 November 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;
- **Follow-up to the Standing Committee (12-13 and 22-23 October 2020):** approved the follow-up proposals by the Secretary General of the Assembly to the current affairs debate and decided to refer the issue of *Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan* to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons for report;
- **Standing Committee meeting (20 November 2020):**
 - i. Request for current affairs debate: decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold a current affairs debate on *The Athens Declaration by the Committee of Ministers' Presidency on "Effectively responding to a public health crisis in full respect for human rights, democracy and the rule of law"* and appointed Mr. Jacques Maire (France, ALDE) as the first speaker in the debate;
 - ii. Draft agenda: took note of the revised draft agenda;
- **Organisation of committee meetings as from 20 November 2020:** took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly, and decided, by anticipation and subject to the adoption by the Standing Committee on 20 November 2020 of the draft resolution on Modification of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure on alternative arrangements for the organisation of Parliamentary Assembly part-sessions presented by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, taking account of exceptional circumstances created by the Covid-19 pandemic, that committee meetings will be held in a hybrid manner (combined remote and in-person participation of members) or by electronic means of remote communication during the period from 23 November 2020 until 31 January 2021. In accordance with Rule 48.1, the committee chairperson shall decide on the format which he or she deems most appropriate when convening the meeting, taking into account safety and accessibility conditions;
- **First part-session of 2021 (Strasbourg, 25-29 January):** was informed of the state of preparation of the first part-session, held an exchange of views and took note of the options of draft agendas (physical part-session or remote/hybrid part-session) as presented by the Secretary General of the Assembly;
- **Election observations:**
 - i. Georgia: parliamentary elections (31 October 2020): took note of the press release by the ad hoc committee to observe these elections, authorised a post-electoral mission and agreed to update the list of members of the ad hoc committee at its next meeting;

- ii. Republic of Moldova: presidential election (1st November 2020): took note of the cancellation of the observation mission of this election;
 - iii. Jordan: parliamentary elections (10 November 2020): took note of the cancellation of the observation mission of these elections;
 - iv. Kazakhstan: parliamentary elections (10 January 2021): decided not to observe these elections.
- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the proposals as stipulated in the Appendix subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;
 - **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) - List of candidates in respect of Cyprus, Germany, Italy and the Russian Federation:**
 - . approved the list of candidates in respect of Germany, Italy and the Russian Federation and decided to forward it to the Committee of Ministers;
 - . approved the recommendation of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to invite the delegation of Cyprus to submit a new list of candidates to the CPT;
 - **Election of the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** interviewed Mr Bjørn Berge (Norway) and Ms Leyla Kayacik (Turkey), candidates for the post of Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe (*in camera*);
 - **Composition the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights:** on the basis of a proposal by the EC/DA Group, appointed Mr. Arkadiusz Mularczyk (Poland);
 - **Date and place of next meeting:** decided to hold its meeting as follows:

Wednesday, 9 December 2020, by videoconference, 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 – References and transmissions to committees

[Doc. 15165](#), Motion for a resolution, *Track and trace applications: ethical, cultural and educational challenges*: transmission to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*

[Doc. 15168](#), Motion for a resolution, *Combating antisemitism in Europe*: transmission to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*

[Doc. 15169](#), Motion for a resolution, *Raising awareness of and countering Islamophobia in Europe*: transmission to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*

[Doc. 15170](#), Motion for a resolution, *Closing the digital divide: promoting equal access to digital technologies*: transmission to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*

[Doc. 15175](#), Motion for a resolution, *Which measures can States legally take under the European Convention on Human Rights in order to crack down on Islamic extremism? no further action*

[Doc. 15176](#), Motion for a resolution, *Protecting the pillars of democracy during health crises*: transmission to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*

[Doc. 15180](#), Motion for a resolution, *Pushbacks on land and sea: illegal measures of migration management*: transmission to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*

[Doc. 15181](#), Motion for a resolution, *European Union Pact on Migration and Asylum: a human rights perspective*: transmission to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*

Bureau decision, *Humanitarian consequences of the conflict between Armenia and Azerbaijan*: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*