



SECRETARIAT

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8 September 2016

## To the members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

### Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 6 September 2016

The Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, meeting in Paris on 6 September 2016, with Mr Alain Destexhe (Belgium, ALDE) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Statement by Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, concerning his visit to Turkey on 1-2 September 2016** – heard a statement by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly on the current situation in Turkey following his recent visit and held an exchange of views;
- **25 years of the CPT, achievements and improvements needed** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jordi Xuclà, Spain, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur;
- Then with Mr Bernd Fabritius (Germany, EPP/CD), 1<sup>st</sup> Vice-Chair, presiding:
- **Co-operation with the International Criminal Court: towards a concrete and expanded commitment** (*Rapporteur: Mr Alain Destexhe, Belgium, ALDE*): considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
- Continuing with Mr Destexhe (Belgium, ALDE) in the Chair:
- **Legal remedies to human rights violations on the Ukrainian territories outside the control of the Ukrainian authorities** (*Rapporteur: Ms Marieluise Beck, Germany, ALDE*): considered a draft report and unanimously adopted a draft resolution;
- **Appointment of rapporteurs:**

**For report:**

*The crash of Polish Air Force TU-154 transporting the Polish delegation on 10 April 2010 on the Russian Federation's territory:* appointed Mr Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands, EPP/CD) and heard a declaration from him of absence of conflict of interests;

**For opinion:**

*Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic*  
*Rapporteur for the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Mr Alain Destexhe, Belgium, ALDE:* appointed Mr Antonio Gutiérrez (Spain, SOC) and heard a declaration from him of absence of conflict of interests;

*The "Panama Papers" and the concern about fiscal, social justice and public trust in our democratic system:* no appointment made;

- **Call for candidates for rapporteurships:** a call was made for candidates as rapporteurs for the following report and opinion:

**Report:**

*Restricting rights to protect national security – how far can States go?*

*Legal challenges arising from the hybrid war*

(two motions to be combined into one report)

**Opinion:**

*The status of journalists in Europe*

(Rapporteur for the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: Ms Elvira Drobinski-Weiß, Germany, SOC)

- **Towards a democratic approach to the issues of governance in European multinational States** (Rapporteur: Mr Alain Destexhe, Belgium, ALDE): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views. Authorised the rapporteur to send letters to the OECD, the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank and the European Commission;
- **Procedures for the adoption of reports in committees and in plenary session** (Opinion prepared for the Bureau of the Parliamentary Assembly by the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC)): took note of the opinion prepared for the Bureau of the Assembly;
- **Replies from the Committee of Ministers to recommendations emanating from the Committee:** took note of the reply from the Committee of Ministers to Assembly Recommendation 2082 (2015) on “The fate of critically ill detainees in Europe”;
- **World Forum for Democracy:** reiterated its call on members to express their interest to join the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate the World Forum for Democracy in Strasbourg on 7-9 November 2016;
- **Abusive use of the Interpol system: the need for more stringent legal safeguards** (Rapporteur: Mr Bernd Fabritius (Germany, EPP/CD): agreed to the participation of the Rapporteur in the General Assembly of Interpol in Bali (Indonesia) on 7-10 November 2016 and decided to request the necessary authorisation from the Bureau, subject to the availability of funds;
- **Reference extension: “Strengthening the rule of law in South-East European countries through targeted reform of the legal system”** (Rapporteur: Mr Bernd Fabritius (Germany, EPP/CD)). Heard a statement by the Rapporteur and decided to request the Bureau to extend this reference until 30 June 2017;
- **Other business:**
  - **How can inappropriate restrictions on NGO activities in Europe be prevented?** (former Rapporteur: Mr Yves Cruchten, Luxembourg, SOC): in the framework of the follow-up to Resolution 2096 (2016) on this subject, took note of the former Rapporteur’s intention to participate in a side-event during the Human Dimension Implementation Meeting at the OSCE/ODIHR, Warsaw (Poland), on 21 September 2016, at no cost to the Assembly;
  - **Joint meeting with AS/POL on Tuesday 11 October at 2pm “No Hate, No Fear”** – agreed to hold a joint hearing during the October part-session with the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy in the framework of the “No Hate, No Fear” campaign;
  - **Twitter:** took note of the Committee’s recently established “Twitter” account « [@PACE\\_LegalHR](#) »;

- **Next meetings:** took note of the forthcoming meetings and confirmed the meeting dates in November and December as follows:

*Plenary Committee:*

- Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4<sup>th</sup> part-session of 2016 (10-14 October 2016)
- Paris, 8 November 2016 (Council of Europe Office)
- Paris, 13 December 2016 (Council of Europe Office)

Günter Schirmer, Agnieszka Szklanna, Isild Heurtin

cc: Secretary General of the 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