



.Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe
(Monitoring Committee)
Commission pour le respect des obligations et engagements des Etats membres du Conseil de l'Europe
(Commission de suivi)

FOR THE ATTENTION OF MEMBERS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE HONOURING OF OBLIGATIONS AND COMMITMENTS BY MEMBER STATES OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE (MONITORING COMMITTEE)

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

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17 November 2011

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg on 4, 5 and 6 October 2011, with Mr Dick Marty (Switzerland, ALDE) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Ukraine* (co-rapporteurs: Ms Mailis Reps, Estonia, ALDE, and Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin, Sweden, EPP/CD): held an exchange of views with Mr Mikael Lyngo of the Danish Helsinki Committee on his second preliminary monitoring report of the trials of four former government members; decided to invite the Minister of Justice of Ukraine for an exchange of views at one of the next meetings of the Committee; heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Kyiv and Simferopol (19-22 September 2011); authorised a fact-finding visit by the co-rapporteurs to Ukraine and asked them to prepare a report on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine with a view to proposing it for debate in the Assembly during the 2012 first part-session;
- *Montenegro* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto, Monaco, EPP/CD, and Mr Serhiy Holovaty, Ukraine, ALDE): held an exchange of views on the latest developments in Montenegro and authorised a fact-finding visit by the co-rapporteurs to the country;
- *Azerbaijan* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Pedro Agramunt Font de Mora, Spain, EPP/CD, and Mr Joseph Debono Grech, Malta, SOC): held an exchange of views on the situation in Azerbaijan; took note of the letter from Mr Seyidov, Chairman of the delegation of Azerbaijan to the PACE, on the decision of the authorities of Azerbaijan not to cooperate with AS/Jur's rapporteur, Mr Christoph Strässer (Germany, SOC), and asked its Chairman to bring this letter to the attention of the Bureau of the Assembly; agreed to invite Mr Thomas Hammarberg, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights, and a representative of Amnesty International, to its meeting on 15 December 2011 in the framework of the discussion on the developments in Azerbaijan with regard to human rights and freedom of expression;
- *The functioning of democratic institutions in Armenia* (co-rapporteurs: Mr John Prescott, United Kingdom, SOC, and Mr Axel E. Fischer, Germany, EPP/CD): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution;
- *Russian Federation* (co-rapporteurs: Mr György Frunda, Romania, EPP/CD, and Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC) : held an exchange of views on the timeline for the preparation of the report; was informed of the intention of the Russian delegation to assume the responsibility of examining, along with the Russian authorities, the option of requesting an opinion of the Venice Commission on five laws before the Committee's meeting on 15 December 2011; invited the Chairman to address a letter to the Russian delegation to the PACE urging its members to use their political influence in order to ensure that the OSCE/ODIHR election observation mission will be invited in time to observe the forthcoming parliamentary elections in conditions which will allow it to carry out its task properly; was informed by the co-rapporteurs that, if the situation so requires, they might suggest that the Committee propose a debate under urgent procedure on the functioning of democratic institutions in Russia during the 2012 first part-session;

- *Serbia* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Davit Harutyunyan, Armenia, EDG, and Mr Indrek Saar, Estonia, SOC): heard on oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Belgrade (19-22 September 2011);
- *Bosnia and Herzegovina* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Jean-Claude Mignon, France, EPP/CD, and Ms Karin S. Woldseth, Norway, EDG): heard an oral report by Mr Mignon on the fact-finding visit to Sarajevo (20-23 September 2011) and asked the co-rapporteurs to prepare a report on the functioning of democratic institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina with a view to proposing it for debate in the Assembly during the 2012 first part-session;
- *Authorisation of fact-finding visits*: authorised a fact-finding visit to Armenia ;
- *Next meetings*:

decided to hold its next meetings in Paris on 17 November 2011 and on 15 December 2011.

Caroline Ravaud, Agnieszka Nachilo, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder

cc: *Secretary General of the Assembly*
Director General, 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
Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe for Organisational Development and Reform
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