



.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

Synopsis No. 2012/001

1 February 2012

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg, on 23, 24, 25 and 26 January 2012, with first Ms Josette Durrieu (France, SOC), the oldest member present, and then Mr Andres Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

as regards:

- *Composition of the Committee's Bureau*¹:
 - . elected Mr Andres Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD) Chairperson
 - . elected Ms Lise Christoffersen (Norway, SOC) Vice-Chairperson
 - . elected Mr Telmo Correia (Portugal, EDG) Vice-Chairperson
 - . elected Mr Pieter Omtzigt (The Netherlands, EPP/CD) Vice-Chairperson
- *Bosnia and Herzegovina* (co-rapporteurs: Ms Karin S. Woldseth, Norway, EDG, and ...): heard a statement by Ms Woldseth on the latest developments, approved three amendments tabled on behalf of the committee, and took position on the amendments to the draft resolution on the functioning of democratic institutions in Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- *Russian Federation* (co-rapporteurs: Mr György Frunda, Romania, EPP/CD, and Mr Andreas Gross, Switzerland, SOC): heard an oral report on the post-electoral mission to Moscow (20-21 January 2012);
- *Georgia* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Kastriot Islami, Albania, SOC, and Mr Michael Aastrup Jensen, Denmark, ALDE): declassified a revised information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Tbilisi and Batumi (11-14 October 2011);
- *Council for Democratic Elections (Venice Commission)*: appointed, for the year 2012, Ms Karin S. Woldseth (Norway, EDG) as representative and Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin (Sweden, EPP/CD) as substitute of the Committee to the Council for Democratic Elections;

¹ At its meeting on 27 January 2012, the Bureau decided:

- . to ask the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs to provide an interpretation of the procedure for the establishment of the order of precedence of Vice-Chairpersons of Committees and to report back to the Bureau;
- . pending the reply from the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, to invite the Assembly committees not to apply an order of precedence of the elected Vice-Chairpersons.

- *Montenegro* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Jean-Charles Gardetto, Monaco, EPP/CD, and ...): considered a preliminary draft report on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Montenegro and decided to transmit it to the authorities of Montenegro for comments;
- *Armenia* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Axel Fischer, Germany, EPP/CD, and Mr John Prescott, United Kingdom, SOC): decided to consider this issue at a forthcoming next meeting;
- *Serbia* (co-rapporteurs: Mr Davit Harutyunyan, Armenia, EDG, and Mr Indrek Saar, Estonia, SOC): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia;
- *Hungary: motion to open a monitoring procedure* (co-rapporteurs: Ms Jana Fischerová, Czech Republic, EDG, and Ms Kerstin Lundgren, Sweden, ALDE): heard oral information from the co-rapporteurs on the latest developments, approved a statement of the Committee prepared by the co-rapporteurs and decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on five laws adopted by the Hungarian Parliament;
- *Republic of Moldova* (co-rapporteurs: Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC, and Mr Piotr Wach, Poland, EPP/CD): heard an oral report on the fact-finding visit to Chisinau (28 November – 1 December 2011) and decided to come back to this issue at its next meeting;
- *Bulgaria* (rapporteur: Mr Luca Volontè, Italy, EPP/CD): heard an oral report on the fact-finding visit to Sofia (20-21 December 2011);
- *Ukraine* (co-rapporteurs: Ms Mailis Reps, Estonia, ALDE, and Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin, Sweden, EPP/CD): took position on the amendments to the draft resolution on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine and decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the draft law on prosecution prepared by the Ukrainian Committee for the strengthening of the rule of law;
- *Authorisation of fact-finding visits*: authorised fact-finding visits to Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria and Ukraine;
- *Next meeting*: decided to hold its next meeting in Paris on 13 March 2012.

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 to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Observers to the Assembly

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 Developments 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