



SECRETARIAT

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18 December 2013

To the members of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Synopsis of the meeting held in Paris on 13 December 2013

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Paris on 13 December 2013, with Mr Andres Herkel (Estonia, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Development of the monitoring procedure:** adopted the mandate of the ad hoc sub-committee, as agreed by the Committee on 7 November 2013; asked the Chair to write to the political group leaders inviting them to submit their candidates for membership for the Committee's final approval in January 2014. This procedure should be done in consultation with the Chair to assure the criteria established in the mandate of the ad hoc sub-committee are met;
- **Ukraine** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Mailis Reps, Estonia, ALDE, and Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin, Sweden, EPP/CD): held an exchange of views on recent political developments; agreed to request a debate under urgent procedure on "The functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine" to be held during the January 2014 part-session if the situation does not improve; authorised the co-rapporteurs to carry out a fact-finding visit as soon as possible, and invited the Chair to raise this question at the Bureau of the Assembly and, if necessary, with the Ukrainian authorities;
- **Serbia** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Davit Harutyunyan, Armenia, EDG, and Mr Indrek Saar, Estonia, SOC): because of a lack of time, decided to postpone this item to its next meeting;
- **Albania** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Jonathan Evans, United Kingdom, EDG, and Mr Grigore Petrenco, Republic of Moldova, UEL): heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Tirana and Vlore (1-5 December 2013);
- **Post-monitoring dialogue with "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"** (rapporteur: Mr Robert Walter, United Kingdom, EDG): heard an oral report by the rapporteur on his fact-finding visit to Skopje (2-3 December 2013);
- **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD, and ...): appointed Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EDG) as co-rapporteur to replace Ms Woldseth (Norway, EDG);
- **France: motion to open a monitoring procedure:** appointed Mr Valeriu Ghiletschi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD) and Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) as co-rapporteurs;

- **European Union Enlargement and Neighbourhood Policy:** held an exchange of views with Mr Štefan Füle, European Commissioner for Enlargement and European Neighbourhood Policy;
- **Georgia** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC, and Mr Michael Aastrup Jensen, Denmark, ALDE): held an exchange of views with Mr Thomas Hammarberg, EU Special Advisor on Constitutional and Legal Reform and Human Rights in Georgia on his report of September 2013 entitled “Georgia in transition”;
- **Republic of Moldova** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC, and Mr Piotr Wach, Poland, EPP/CD): held an exchange of views on the report on “Human Rights in the Transnistrian Region of the Republic of Moldova” of 14 February 2013, with Mr Thomas Hammarberg, UN Senior expert;
- **Authorisation of fact-finding visits:** authorised visits to Albania, Bulgaria and Ukraine;
- **Misuse of administrative resources during elections:** agreed to hold a hearing, open to all members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, during the January 2014 part-session, and to invite representatives of the Venice Commission, as well as Ms Beate Martin, Head of the ODIHR Election Observation Department;
- **Other business:** took note of and accepted the invitation by Mr Joseph Debono Grech (Malta, SOC) to Valletta on 27 and 28 February 2014 (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau);
- **Next meetings:**

decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

Strasbourg, 27-31 January 2014 (during the Assembly part-session)

Valletta, Malta, 27-28 February 2014

Strasbourg, 7-11 April 2014 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 21 May 2014

Strasbourg, 23-27 June 2014 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 3 September 2014

Strasbourg, 29 September – 3 October 2014 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 5 November 2014

Paris, 11 December 2014

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
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