



SECRETARIAT

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14 March 2016

## 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 meetings held in Paris on 9 and 10 March 2016

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Paris on 9 March 2016, with Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- **Post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen, Norway, EC and Ms Nataša Vučković, Serbia, SOC): held a hearing on the recent developments in southeast Turkey and the resumption of the peace process with the participation of:
  - Dr Mehmet Tekinarslan, Deputy Undersecretary, Ministry of Interior of Turkey
  - Mr Osman Baydemir, Member of Parliament and former Mayor of Diyarbakir, Democratic Peoples' Party (HDP)
  - Mr Andrew Gardner, Researcher on Turkey, Amnesty international, and members of the Turkish delegation; adopted a statement on the developments in Turkey; decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the compatibility of the legal framework governing curfews in Turkey with Council of Europe standards and to request a debate on "Threats to the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey" during the June 2016 part-session;
- **Ukraine** (Co-rapporteurs: Mr Jordi Xuclà, Spain, ALDE, and Mr Axel Fischer, Germany, EPP/CD): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Kyiv (1-3 February 2016), held an exchange of views and agreed to declassify the information note; decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the law amending the law on the election of members of parliament (law 3700);
- **Preliminary draft reports on countries not under the monitoring procedure stricto sensu or engaged in a post-monitoring dialogue** (Rapporteur ex officio: Mr Cezar Florin Preda, Romania, EPP/CD): considered the preliminary draft reports on Austria, the Czech Republic and France and held an exchange of views with members of the delegations concerned; decided to transmit these reports to the authorities of the respective countries for their comments;
- **Post-monitoring dialogue with "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia"** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC and Mr Valeriu Ghiletschi, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD): heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Skopje, Tetovo and Gostivar (15-18 February 2016);
- **Republic of Moldova** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Valentina Leskaj, Albania, SOC, and Mr Ögmundur Jónasson, Iceland, UEL): heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Chisinau (22-23 February 2016);
- **Authorisation of fact-finding visits**: authorised visits to the Republic of Moldova, "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" and Ukraine;

– **Next meetings:**

- took note of an invitation by the Finnish delegation to hold a meeting in Helsinki in 2017 in the framework of the celebration of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the independence of Finland (*subject to the authorisation of the Assembly Bureau*);
- decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
  - Strasbourg**, 18-22 April 2016 (during the Assembly part-session)
  - Paris**, 23 May 2016
  - Strasbourg**, 20-24 June 2016 (during the Assembly part-session)
  - Tirana**, 22-23 September 2016 (*to be confirmed and subject to authorisation of the Assembly Bureau*)
  - Strasbourg**, 10-14 October 2016 (during the Assembly part-session)
  - Paris**, 9 November 2016 (*to be confirmed*)
  - Paris**, 14 December 2016 (*to be confirmed*).

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**The ad hoc Sub-Committee on Conflicts between member States of the Council of Europe**, meeting in Paris on 10 March 2016, with Mr Alan Meale (United Kingdom, SOC) and then Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) in the Chair:

- re-elected Mr Schennach (Austria, SOC) Chair of the ad hoc sub-committee by acclamation and agreed to postpone the election of the vice-chairperson to its next meeting;
- held an exchange of views on its work programme and the preparation of an evaluation of its work;
- agreed to invite at its next meeting the representatives of the countries concerned for an exchange of views on its work programme and evaluation of its work;
- agreed to hold its next meeting during the April part-session.

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Caroline Ravaud, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder

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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*