



SECRETARIAT

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28 April 2017

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 Strasbourg on 24, 25, 26 and 27 April 2017

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg, on 24, 25, 26 and 27 April 2017, with Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD) and Mr Philippe Mahoux (Belgium, SOC) in the Chair:

• **on Monday 24 April 2017 at 2 p.m.**, as regards:

– **Post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen, Norway, EC, and Ms Marianne Mikko, Estonia, SOC): held an exchange of views on the constitutional referendum of 16 April 2017; considered an addendum to the report on the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey and approved seven amendments on behalf of the committee to the draft resolution on the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey;

– **Albania** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Andrej Hunko, Germany, UEL, and Mr Joseph O'Reilly, Ireland, EPP/CD): in the absence of members of the Albanian delegation, agreed to postpone this item to its next meeting;

• **on Tuesday 25 April 2017 at 8.30 a.m.**, as regards:

– **Post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen, Norway, EC, and Ms Marianne Mikko, Estonia, SOC): took position on 62 amendments tabled to the draft resolution on the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey;

• **on Wednesday 26 April 2017 at 2 p.m.**, as regards

– **Preliminary draft periodic review 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): approved a preliminary draft report on Greece and agreed to send it to the Greek delegation for comments to be submitted within three months;

– **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Roger Gale, United Kingdom, EC, and ...): considered a preliminary draft report on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Bosnia and Herzegovina and agreed to send it to the authorities of Bosnia and Herzegovina for comments to be submitted within three months; took note of the agreement between the UEL and EPP/CD groups to swap attribution of rapporteurs for Bosnia and Herzegovina and the Republic of Moldova for the upcoming appointments; agreed to appoint a co-rapporteur on Bosnia and Herzegovina at its next meeting.

– **Republic of Moldova** (Co-rapporteurs: Ms Valentina Leskaj, Albania, SOC, and Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD): appointed Mr Egidijus Vareikis (Lithuania, EPP/CD) co-rapporteur in place of Mr Ögmundur Jónasson (Iceland, UEL) and heard from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest;

– **Post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Ionuț Marian Stroe, Romania, EPP/CD and Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE): appointed Mr Rigoni (Italy, ALDE) co-rapporteur in place of Mr Terry Leyden (Ireland, ALDE) and heard from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest;

• on Thursday 27 April 2017 at 8.30 a.m., as regards:

– **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): in the absence of members of the delegation of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”, held an exchange of views on the political situation in the country and asked the co-rapporteurs’ to pay a fact-finding visit to the country at the earliest possibility;

– **Georgia** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Boriss Cilevičs, Latvia, SOC, and Ms Kerstin Lundgren, Sweden, ALDE): heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Tbilisi (28-30 March 2017) and held an exchange of views;

– **The functioning of democratic institutions in Poland** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Yves Cruchten, Luxembourg, SOC, and Mr Thierry Mariani, France, EPP/CD): heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Warsaw (3-5 April 2017) and decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the amendments to the law on the general prosecutor and an opinion on the new law on the National Council of the Judiciary, once it is adopted, should this law differ substantially from the draft text already evaluated by OSCE/ODHIR;

– **Serbia** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Samad Seyidov, Azerbaijan, EC, and Ms Maria Guzenina, Finland, SOC): in the absence of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the presidential election in Serbia, agreed to postpone this item to its June meeting;

– **Meetings in Helsinki, 15-16 May 2017**: took note of the draft programme and practical information;

– **Authorisation of fact-finding visits**: authorised visits to Bosnia and Herzegovina, Georgia and the Republic of Moldova;

– **Other business**: took note of the invitation from the Georgian delegation to hold a meeting in Tbilisi in 2018, thanked the delegation and agreed to accept the invitation (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly*);

– **Next meetings**: decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

Helsinki, 15 (afternoon)-16 May 2017

Strasbourg, 26-30 June 2017 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 7 September 2017 (*to be confirmed*)

Strasbourg, 9-13 October 2017 (during the Assembly part-session)

Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States:

Helsinki, 15 May 2017 (morning)

Vienna, 9 June 2017 (*subject to authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly*)

Caroline Ravaud, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder, Delphine Freymann

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