



SECRETARIAT

**AS/Mon (2018) CB 02**

29 January 2018

## **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 23, 24, and 25 January 2018**

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 and 25 January 2018, with Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC), and then Ms Marianne Mikko (Estonia, SOC) in the Chair:

• on Tuesday 23 January 2018 at 8.30 am., as regards:

– **Composition of the committee's Bureau** (with Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC) as oldest member present in the Chair): elected by acclamation:

- Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC) Chairperson
- Ms Marianne Mikko (Estonia, SOC) First Vice-Chair

– **Sub-committee on conflicts between Council of Europe member States**: decided to re-constitute the sub-committee (the list of the members is attached in Appendix 1) and heard an oral report from Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) on the meeting of the sub-committee held in Paris on 16 January 2018;

– **Armenia** (Co-rapporteurs: Mr Giuseppe Galati, Italy, EPP/CD and Ms Yuliya Liovochkina, Ukraine, SOC): appointed Ms Yuliya Liovochkina (Ukraine, SOC) as co-rapporteur, to replace Mr Alan Meale (United Kingdom, SOC) who left the Assembly, and heard a declaration of non-conflict of interest from her; agreed to postpone the consideration of an information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Yerevan (6-7 November 2017) to its next meeting;

• on Wednesday 24 January 2018 at 2 pm., as regards:

– **Composition of the committee's Bureau**:

- took note of the resignation of Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC) as Chairperson of the Committee, agreed to place the appointment of his successor on the agenda for the present meeting and elected by acclamation Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC) Chairperson of the Committee;
- Mr Egidijus Vareikis (Lithuania, EPP/CD) Second Vice-Chair;
- Mr Giorgi Kandelaki (Georgia, EPP/CD) Third Vice-Chair;

– **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (Co-rapporteurs: Sir Roger Gale, United Kingdom, EC and Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL): took position on 4 amendments to the draft resolution;

– **Serbia** (Co-rapporteurs: Mr Samad Seyidov, Azerbaijan, EC and Ms Maria Guzenina, Finland, SOC): considered a preliminary draft report on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia, held an

exchange of views and agreed to send the preliminary draft report to the Serbian authorities for comments within 3 months;

• on **Thursday 25 January 2018 at 8.30am.**, as regards

– **The progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure (January-December 2017) and the periodic review of the honouring of obligations by Estonia, Greece, Hungary and Ireland:** (*Rapporteur: Mr Cezar Florin Preda, Romania, EPP/CD*): took position on 18 amendments to the draft resolution;

• on **Thursday 25 January 2018 at 2 pm.**, as regards:

– **Georgia** (*Co-rapporteurs: Ms Kerstin Lundgren, Sweden, ALDE and Mr Titus Corlăţean, Romania, SOC*): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Tbilisi (20-22 November 2017), held an exchange of views, and agreed to declassify the information note; decided to request an opinion of the Venice Commission on the Constitutional amendments adopted on 15 December 2017 in Georgia;

– **Council for Democratic Elections (of the Venice Commission)**: agreed to postpone the appointment of representatives to the meeting on 13 March 2018 in Paris;

– **Authorisation of fact-finding visits**: authorised visits to Azerbaijan and Georgia (*subject to availability of funds*);

– **Other business:**

• **The functioning of democratic institutions in Poland** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Yves Cruchten, Luxembourg, SOC, and Ms Elisabeth Schneider-Schneiter, Switzerland, EPP/CD*): following a proposal by the co-rapporteurs, agreed to hold an hearing on the judicial reforms in Poland at one of its next meetings;

• **Ukraine** (*Co-rapporteurs: Mr Eerik-Niils Kross, Estonia, ALDE and ...*): decided to appoint a new co-rapporteur to replace Mr Axel Fischer (Germany, EPP/CD), who has left the Assembly, at its next meeting and authorised in the meantime the co-rapporteur to make a fact-finding visit to Ukraine (*subject to availability of funds*);

• **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**: took note of the details concerning submission of candidates for the 2018 Prize;

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

Paris, 13 March 2018 (Council of Europe Office)

Strasbourg, 23-27 April 2018 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, ... May 2018 (Council of Europe Office, *date to be confirmed*)

Strasbourg, 25-29 June 2018 (during the Assembly part-session)

Georgia, ... September 2018 (subject to approval by the Bureau and the availability of funds)

Strasbourg, 8-12 October 2018 (during the Assembly part-session)

Paris, 14 November 2018 (Council of Europe Office)

Paris, 12 December 2018 (Council of Europe Office).

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**The Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States**, meeting in Strasbourg on 25 January 2018, with Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) oldest member present, and then Mr Cezar Florin Preda (EPP/CD) in the Chair as regards:

– **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee**: elected by acclamation Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD) Chairperson and Ms Tamar Chugoshvili (Georgia, SOC) Vice-Chairperson;

– **Preparation of the next meetings**: took note of the ongoing activities and proposals for its future work;

– **Date and place of the next meeting:** left it to its Chairperson to propose the date and place of the next meeting.

Caroline Ravaud, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder

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Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly  
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

## **APPENDIX 1 / ANNEXE 1**

### **Composition of the Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States *Composition de la Sous-commission sur les conflits entre les États membres du Conseil de l'Europe***

#### **List of members / *Liste des membres***

**- Co-rapporteurs on Armenia / *Corapporteurs sur l'Arménie:***

GALATI Giuseppe (EPP/CD, Italy / *Italie*)  
LIOVOCHKINA Yuliya (SOC, Ukraine)

**- Co-rapporteurs on Azerbaijan / *Corapporteurs sur l'Azerbaïdjan:***

SCHENNACH Stefan (SOC, Austria / *Autriche*)  
PREDA Cezar Florian (EPP/CD, Romania / *Roumanie*), ***Chair of the Sub-Committee / Président de la sous-commission***

**- Co-rapporteurs on Georgia / *Corapporteurs sur la Géorgie:***

LUNDGREN Kerstin (ALDE, Sweden / *Suède*)  
CORLĂȚEAN Titus (SOC, Romania / *Roumanie*)

**- Co-rapporteurs on the Republic of Moldova / *Corapporteurs sur la République de Moldova:***

VAREIKIS Egidijus (EPP/CD, Lithuania / *Lituanie*)  
BLONDIN Maryvonne (SOC, France)

**- Co-rapporteurs on the Russian Federation / *Corapporteuses sur la Fédération de Russie:***

BAKOYANNIS Theodora (EPP/CD, Greece / *Grèce*)  
MAURY PASQUIER Liliane (SOC, Switzerland / *Suisse*)

**- Co-rapporteurs on Turkey / *Corapporteurs sur la Turquie***

MIKKO Marianne (SOC, Estonia / *Estonie*)  
EVANS Nigel (EC, United Kingdom / *Royaume-Uni*)

**- Co-rapporteurs on Ukraine / *Corapporteurs sur l'Ukraine***

KROSS Eerik-Niiles (ALDE, Estonia / *Estonie*)  
.....

**A member of the Monitoring Committee of each of the member States that are party to the conflicts under the terms of reference of the sub-committee: / *un membre de la commission de suivi au titre de chacun des États membres qui sont parties aux conflits en vertu du mandat de la sous-commission:***

***Armenia / Arménie:***

HOVHANNISYAN Arpine, EPP/CD

***Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan:***

SEYIDOV Samad, EC

***Cyprus / Chypre:***

LOUCAIDES George, UEL

***Georgia / Géorgie:***

CHUGOSHVILI Tamar, SOC, ***Vice-Chair of the Sub-Committee / Vice-présidente de la sous-commission***

**Republic of Moldova / République de Moldova:**

GHILETCHI Valeriu, EPP/CD

**Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie:**

.....

**Turkey / Turquie:**

KILIÇ Akif Çağatay, EC

**Ukraine:**

SOBOLEV Serhiy, EPP/CD

**Ex officio:**

**Chairs of political groups (not included above) / Président(e)s des groupes politiques (qui ne figurent pas déjà ci-dessus):**

*Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe*

DAEMS Hendrik (Belgium / Belgique)

*European Conservatives Group / Groupe des conservateurs européens*

LIDDELL-GRAINGER Ian (United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni)

*Group of the Unified European Left / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne*

KOX Tiny (Netherlands / Pays-Bas)

*Free Democrats Group / Groupe des démocrates libres*

GAMBARO Adele (Italy / Italie)

**Chairs of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Président(e)s de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie et de la Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme:**

OOMEN-RUIJTEN Ria (EPP/CD, Netherlands / Pays-Bas), Chair of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Présidente de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

SCHWABE Frank (SOC, Germany / Allemagne), Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Président de la Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme