



SECRETARIAT

AS/Mon (2018) CB 03

14 March 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 Paris on 13 March 2018

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Paris, on 13 March 2018, with Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC) and Ms Marianne Mikko (Estonia, SOC) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Preliminary draft periodic review reports on countries not under the monitoring procedure *strico sensu* or engaged in a post-monitoring dialogue** (*Rapporteur ex-officio*: Sir Roger Gale, United Kingdom, EC): held an exchange of views, considered a preliminary draft periodic review report on Iceland and agreed to send it to the Icelandic authorities for their comments within three months;
- **Turkey** (*Co-rapporteurs*: Ms Marianne Mikko, Estonia, SOC and Mr Nigel Evans, United Kingdom, EC): held a Roundtable on the implementation of Assembly Resolution 2156 (2017) on the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey, with the participation of Mr Hacı Ali Açıkgül, Director of the Department of Human Rights at the Ministry of Justice, Dr Mücahit Aydın, Rapporteur of the Constitutional Court, Mr Christos Giakomopoulos, Director General of Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe, Mr Öztürk Türkdoğan, President of the Association for Human Rights (IHD) of Turkey and Ms Berceste Elif Duranay, Head of the External Relations Unit of the Association of Law and Change; asked the co-rapporteurs to follow-up on the issues discussed during their fact-finding visit to Turkey (28-30 March 2018);
- **Ukraine** (*Co-rapporteurs*: Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross, Estonia, ALDE and ...):
  - agreed to postpone the appointment of a co-rapporteur to replace Mr Axel Fischer (Germany, EPP/CD) to its next meeting;
  - held a Roundtable on the Human Rights situation of Crimean Tatars in Crimea with the participation of Mr Akhtem Chyigioz, Deputy Chairman of the Crimean Tatar Mejlis and Ms Alexandra Romansova, Centre for Civil Liberties;
  - further to the referral by the Bureau on 27 April 2017 of the motion for a resolution on “The Russian racial discrimination of Crimean Tatars in Crimea” (Doc. 14262) to the Monitoring Committee for consultation on possible follow-up, and in the light of the results of the Roundtable as well as of the discussions during the meeting of the Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States on 27 September 2017 in Athens, agreed unanimously to ask the Bureau to be seized for report on this subject;
- **Armenia** (*Co-rapporteurs*: Mr Giuseppe Galati, Italy, EPP/CD and Ms Yuliya Lovochkina, Ukraine, SOC): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on the fact-finding visit of Mr Galati and Mr Meale to Yerevan on 6 and 7 November 2017, held an exchange of views and agreed to declassify the amended information note;

– **Council for Democratic Elections (Venice Commission):** appointed Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) as the Committee's representative for the year 2018 and agreed to postpone the appointment of a substitute to its next meeting;

– **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 letter sent by co-rapporteurs, agreed to request the Bureau for an extension of the reference for the report on The functioning of democratic institutions in Poland until 25 January 2019;
- Heard a statement from the President and decided to hold a hearing on the recent developments in Romania concerning the fight against corruption at its next meeting, leaving it to the Head of the Romanian delegation, the Chair of the Committee and the Secretariat to define the practical modalities;
- **Russian Federation** (Co-rapporteurs: Ms Dora Bakoyannis, Greece, EPP/CD and Ms Liliane Maury-Pasquier, Switzerland, SOC) agreed to appoint a new co-rapporteur to replace Ms Bakoyannis, whose five-year mandate expires on 20 March 2018, at its next meeting;

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

Strasbourg, 23-27 April 2018 (during the Assembly part-session)  
Paris, 30 May 2018 (Council of Europe Office)  
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) (TBC)  
Paris, 12 December 2018 (Council of Europe Office) (TBC).

\* \* \*

Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder

---

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