



SECRETARIAT

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29 June 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 26, 27 and 28 June 2018

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg, on 26, 27 and 28 June 2018, with Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC) in the Chair:

• on Tuesday 26 June 2018 at 8.30 am., as regards:

– **Turkey** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Marianne Mikko, Estonia, SOC and Mr Nigel Evans, United Kingdom, EC): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Ankara and Istanbul (28-30 March 2018) and agreed to declassify it; held an exchange of views on the observation of the early presidential and parliamentary elections in Turkey (24 June 2018) and invited the co-rapporteurs to make a statement on the political developments in the country;

– **Serbia** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Maria Guzenina, Finland, SOC and Mr Robert Goodwill, United Kingdom, EC): appointed Mr Robert Goodwill (United Kingdom, EC) co-rapporteur to replace Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan, EC) and heard a declaration of non-conflict of interest from him; considered the comments received from the Serbian delegation to the preliminary draft report on the honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia;

• on Wednesday 27 June 2018 at 2pm, as regards:

– **Armenia** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Giuseppe Galati, Italy, EPP/CD and Ms Yuliya Lovochkina, Ukraine, SOC): considered an information note from the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Yerevan (23-25 May 2018) and agreed to declassify it;

– **Republic of Moldova** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Egidijus Vareikis, Lithuania, EPP/CD, and Ms Maryvonne Blondin, France, SOC): considered an information note by the co-rapporteurs on their fact finding visit to Chisinau and Comrat (3-5 April 2018) and agreed to declassify it, as amended;

– **Monitoring procedure: strengthening its efficiency and efficacy**: considered an explanatory note by the Chair, agreed with the proposed procedure to follow and invited the Committee members to send their written comments and suggestions for possible improvements to the monitoring procedure and the working methods of the committee to the Secretariat by 10 September 2018;

• on Thursday 28 June 2018 at 2pm, as regards:

– **Azerbaijan** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC and Sir Roger Gale, United Kingdom, EC): took note of Sir Roger Gale's (United Kingdom, EC) resignation from his co-rapporteurship on Bosnia and Herzegovina, appointed him co-rapporteur to replace Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD); heard a declaration of non-conflict of interest from him and agreed to put the appointment of a new

rapporteur for Bosnia and Herzegovina to replace Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC) on the agenda of its next meeting;

– **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 (18-20 June 2018); agreed to organise an exchange of views on the June 2018 agreement on the name issue at its next meeting, with the participation of representatives of the main ruling and opposition parties of “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and Greece; invited the Chair to propose to the Bureau to observe the referendum to be held in “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” in autumn, subject to receiving the invitation from the authorities;

– **Authorisation of fact-finding visits:** authorised fact-finding visits to Bulgaria and to Serbia;

– **Other business:**

- **Romania:** considered a letter from several members of the Romanian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly and decided to request an opinion of the Venice Commission to the recent amendments to the Criminal Code and Criminal Procedure Code of Romania;
- **Russian Federation** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Telmo Correia, Portugal, EPP/CD ...): agreed to put the appointment of a new rapporteur to replace Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC), following her election as President of the Assembly, on the agenda of its next meeting;
- **Sub-committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States:** agreed to hold the next meeting of the Sub-committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States in October 2018 in the framework of the Assembly part-session;
- **World Forum for Democracy:** took note of the programme of the next Forum for Democracy which will be held on in Strasbourg on 19-21 November 2018 and invited interested members to register;
- **Meeting of the Monitoring Committee in Tbilisi, 16-18 September 2018:** took note of the draft programme and practical information note regarding the next meeting of the Committee;

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

Tbilisi, Georgia, 17-18 September 2018

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

Paris, 14 November 2018 (Council of Europe Office) *(to be confirmed)*

Paris, 12 December 2018 (Council of Europe Office) *(to be confirmed)*.

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Agnieszka Nachilo, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Assembly
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