



SECRETARIAT

AS/Mon (2020) CB 02 REV

4 February 2020

To the members of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Revised synopsis of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 27, 28, 29 and 30 January 2020

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg on 27, 28, 29 and 30 January 2020 in camera, with Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC/DA) and Mr Michael Aastrup Jensen (Denmark, ALDE), in the Chair:

- **on Monday, 27 January 2020 at 2.00 pm.**, as regards:
 - **Composition of the Committee's Bureau** (with Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC/DA) as oldest member present in the Chair): elected Mr Michael Aastrup Jensen (Denmark, ALDE), Chairperson by acclamation;
 - **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);
 - **Poland** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Azadeh Rojhan Gustafsson, Sweden, SOC and Mr Pieter Omtzigt, Netherlands, EPP/CD): considered an addendum to the report on “the functioning of democratic institutions in Poland” and adopted one amendment;
 - **Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Russian Federation**: following a vote, appointed Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) as rapporteur and heard from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest;
 - **Turkey** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Thomas Hammarberg, Sweden, SOC and Mr John Howell, United Kingdom, EC/DA): following the resignation of Mr Nigel Evans (United Kingdom, EC/DA) as co-rapporteur, appointed Mr John Howell (United Kingdom, EC/DA) as new co-rapporteur and heard from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest;
- **on Tuesday, 28 January 2020 at 8.30 am.**, as regards:
 - **Composition of the Committee's Bureau**: elected the following Vice-Chairpersons by acclamation:
 - Mr Zsolt Németh (Hungary, EPP/CD), First Vice-Chairperson,
 - Ms Azadeh Rojhan Gustafsson (Sweden, SOC), Second Vice-Chairperson,
 - Ms Inese Lībiņa-Egnere (Latvia, EPP/CD), Third Vice-Chairperson;
 - **Poland** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Azadeh Rojhan Gustafsson, Sweden, SOC and Mr Pieter Omtzigt, Netherlands, EPP/CD): took position on 46 amendments tabled to the draft resolution on “The functioning of democratic institutions in Poland”;

- **on Tuesday, 28 January 2020 at 2.00 pm.**, as regards:
 - **Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Russian Federation** (*rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL*): considered a draft report and adopted a draft resolution;
- **on Wednesday, 29 January 2020 at 2.00 pm.**, as regards:
 - **Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Russian Federation** (*rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox; Netherlands, UEL*): took position on 21 amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
 - **Romania**: held an exchange of views on electoral reforms in Romania and agreed, following a vote, to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the Romanian draft law regarding the modification and completion of law no. 115/2015 for the election of the authorities of the local public administration and draft laws amending the law of local public administration no. 215/2001 and law no. 393/2004 regarding the status of local elections;
 - **Council for Democratic Elections (Venice Commission)**: appointed Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) as the Committee's representative and Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/DC) as his substitute for the year 2020;
- **on Thursday, 30 January 2020 at 8.30 am.**, as regards:
 - **Russian Federation** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Axel Schäfer, Germany, SOC and Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): following her resignation as co-rapporteur for North Macedonia, appointed Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten (Netherlands, EPP/CD) as new co-rapporteur to replace Mr Telmo Correia (Portugal, EPP/CD), and heard from her a declaration of non-conflict of interest;
 - **The progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure (January-December 2019)** (*rapporteur: Sir Roger Gale, United Kingdom, EC/DA*): took position on 29 amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
 - **Spain**: postponed the exchange of views with Mr Roger Torrent i Ramió, Speaker of the Parliament of Catalonia, and Mr Antonio Gutiérrez (Spain, SOC), Chairperson of the Spanish Delegation to PACE until an upcoming meeting;
 - **Ukraine** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Dzhema Grozdanova, Bulgaria, EPP/CD and Mr Alfred Heer, Switzerland, ALDE*): held an exchange of views with Ms Yelyzaveta Yasko (Ukraine, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the PACE delegation of Ukraine;
 - **Albania** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Joseph O'Reilly, Ireland, EPP/CD and Mr Petter Eide, Norway, UEL*): appointed Mr Petter Eide (Norway, UEL) as new co-rapporteur to replace Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL), and heard from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest;
 - **Bosnia and Herzegovina** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL and Mr Zsolt Németh, Hungary, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteurs and held an exchange of views with Ms Alma Čolo (Bosnia and Herzegovina, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the PACE delegation of Bosnia and Herzegovina on recent developments in the country;
 - **Call for candidates**: called for candidates for the following reports:
 - Periodic review report on the honouring of membership obligations by Hungary;
 - Periodic review report on the honouring of membership obligations by Malta;
 - Periodic review report on the honouring of membership obligations by Romania;
 - The honouring of obligations and commitments by Poland;
 - Post-monitoring dialogue with North Macedonia: to appoint a co-rapporteur to replace Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten (Netherlands, EPP/CD);
 - **Bulgaria** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Frank Schwabe, Germany, SOC and Mr Aleksander Pocij, Poland, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteur on recent developments in the country;
 - **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**: took note of the details concerning submission of candidates for the 2020 Prize;

- **Reply by the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 2151 (2019)** (*rapporteur for opinion: Mr Andrej Šircelj, Slovenia, EPP/CD*): considered the reply to the recommendation on “the Establishment of a European Union mechanism on democracy, the rule of law and fundamental rights”;
- **Meeting of the Monitoring Committee in Ankara (30-31 March 2020)**, following the invitation extended by the Turkish Grand National Assembly, took note of the change of date of the meeting and was informed about the intention to organise a joint seminar on “How to combat international terrorism in line with Council of Europe standards”, which is to be held in the framework of the committee meeting on 30 March 2020;
- **Next meetings**: agreed on the dates of the next meetings of the committee:
 - Ankara, 30-31 March 2020
 - Strasbourg, 20-24 April 2020 (during the Assembly part-session)
 - Paris, 27 May 2020 (Council of Europe Office)
 - Strasbourg, 22-26 June 2020 (during the Assembly part-session)
 - Paris, 8 September 2020 (Council of Europe Office) (tbc)
 - Strasbourg, 12-16 October 2020 (during the Assembly part-session)
 - Paris, 13 November 2020 (Council of Europe Office)
 - Paris, 10 December 2020 (Council of Europe Office)

* * *

The Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States, meeting in Strasbourg on 30 January 2020, with Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC/DA) oldest member present, and then Mr Egidijus Vareikis (Lithuania, EPP/CD) in the Chair as regards:

- **Election of the Bureau of the Sub-Committee**: elected by acclamation Mr Egidijus Vareikis (Lithuania, EPP/CD) Chairperson and postponed the election of the Vice-Chairperson until the next meeting;
- **Preparation of the next meeting**: took note of the ongoing activities and proposals for its future work and agreed to organise a seminar on the “Human rights aspects in the Transnistrian settlement process and the role of the Council of Europe” in Paris or Strasbourg early April 2020;
- **Date and place of the next meeting**: left it to its Chairperson to propose the date and place of the next meeting.

Agnieszka Nachilo, Bas Klein, Sylvie Affholder, Alexis Salanson

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

APPENDIX / ANNEXE

**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

ŠIRCELJ Andrej (EPP/CD, Slovenia / Slovénie)
KILJUNEN Kimmo (SOC, Finland / Finlande)

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

SCHENNACH Stefan (SOC, Austria / Autriche)
GALE Roger (EC/DA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni)

- Co-rapporteurs on Georgia / Corapporteurs sur la Géorgie

CORLĂȚEAN Titus (SOC, Romania / Roumanie)
KERN Claude (ALDE / France)

- 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 / Corapporteurs sur la Fédération de Russie

SCHÄFER Axel (SOC, Germany / Allemagne)
OOMEN-RUIJTEN Ria (EPP/CD, Netherlands, Pays-Bas)

- Co-rapporteurs on Turkey / Corapporteurs sur la Turquie

HAMMARBERG Thomas (SOC, Sweden / Suède)
HOWELL John (EC/DA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni)

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

GROZDANOVA Dzhema (EPP/CD, Bulgaria / Bulgarie)
HEER Alfred (ALDE, Switzerland / Suisse)

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 Etats membres qui sont parties aux conflits en vertu du mandat de la sous-commission

Armenia / Arménie

RUBINYAN Ruben, EPP/CD

Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan

...

Cyprus / Chypre

LOUCAIDES George, UEL

Georgia / Géorgie

KOBAKHIDZE Irakli, SOC

Republic of Moldova / République de Moldova

POPSOI Mihail, EPP/CD

Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie

KALASHNIKOV Leonid, UEL

Turkey / Turquie

KOC Haluk, SOC

Ukraine

...

Ex officio:

Chair of the Monitoring Committee / Président de la commission de suivi

JENSEN Michael Astrup (Denmark / Danemark)

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

Group of the European People's Party / Groupe du Parti populaire européen

POCIEJ Aleksander (Poland / Pologne)

Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts

SCHWABE Frank (Germany / Allemagne)

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

MAIRE Jacques (France)

European Conservatives Group & Democratic Alliance / Groupe des Conservateurs européens & Alliance démocratique – CE/AD

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

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

KOX Tiny (Netherlands / Pays-Bas)

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 :

Dame Cheryl GILLAN, Chair of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Présidente de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

Boriss CILEVIČS, Chair of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Président de la commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme