



SECRETARIAT

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29 April 2022

**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 in a hybrid manner on 26, 27 and 28 April 2022**

**The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)**, meeting in Strasbourg in a hybrid manner on 26, 27 and 28 April 2022 in camera, with Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC) and Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan, EC/DA) in the Chair:

- **on Tuesday, 26 April 2022 at 8.30 am.**, as regards:
  - **Meeting of the Monitoring Committee in Ankara (24-25 May 2022)**: Following the conviction of Mr Osman Kavala to an aggravated life sentence, decided to postpone its meeting in Ankara scheduled on 24-25 May 2022, and replace it by a meeting in Paris on 24 May 2022, authorised the co-rapporteurs, Mr John Howell (United Kingdom, EC/DA) and Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC), to carry out a visit to Turkey and to report back to the committee at its next meeting on the developments in this case;
  - **State of the Parliamentary monitoring procedure for the Russian Federation on 16 March 2022** (former co-rapporteurs: Mr Axel Schäfer, Germany, SOC and Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten, Netherlands, EPP/CD): considered an information note and agreed to declassify it;
  - **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by France** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Yelysaveta Yasko, Ukraine, EPP/CD and Ms Fiona O'Loughlin, Ireland, ALDE): heard a statement by Ms Claire Hédon, Ombudsperson, and held an exchange of views;
- **on Wednesday, 27 April 2022 at 2.00 pm.**, as regards:
  - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Titus Corlăţean, Romania, SOC and Mr Claude Kern, France, ALDE): took position on 10 amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
  - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC and...): took note of the resignation of Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC/DA) as rapporteur on The honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia and held an exchange of views on recent developments following the presidential and early parliamentary elections (3 April 2022) with Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/DC), Chairperson of the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau for the observation of the presidential and early parliamentary elections in Serbia;
- **on Thursday, 28 April 2022 at 9.00 am.**, as regards:
  - **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by the Netherlands** (co-rapporteurs: Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones, Spain, SOC and Mr Iulian Bulai, Romania, ALDE): heard a statement by the rapporteur on the state of play of the preparation of the report; held an exchange of views and agreed to hold a hearing during the next meeting;

– **Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Member States of the Council of Europe:** heard an oral report by Mr Claude Kern (France, ALDE), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee, on the Sub-Committee meetings of 30 March and 28 April 2022;

With Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan, EC/DA) in the Chair, as regards:

– **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Bosnia and Herzegovina** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Zsolt Németh, Hungary, EC/DA and Ms Ekaterina Zaharieva, Bulgaria, EPP/CD*): appointed Ms Ekaterina Zaharieva (Bulgaria, EPP/CD) as rapporteur to replace Mr Tiny Kox (Netherlands, UEL) and heard from her a declaration of non-conflict of interests;

– **Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Thórhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, Iceland, SOC and Ms María Valentina Martínez Ferro, Spain, EPP/CD*): appointed Ms María Valentina Martínez Ferro (Spain, EPP/CD) as rapporteur to replace Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/CD), subject to receiving her written declaration of non-conflict of interests;

– **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Romania** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC and Ms Krista Baumane, Latvia, ALDE*): appointed Ms Krista Baumane (Latvia, ALDE) as rapporteur to replace Mr Petri Honkonen (Finland, ALDE) and heard from her a declaration of non-conflict of interests;

– **Call for candidates:** made a call for candidates for the following reports:

- Post-monitoring dialogue with North Macedonia (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Sibel Arslan, Switzerland, SOC and....*), to replace Mr Zsolt Csenger-Zálan (Hungary, EPP/CD);
- The honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC and....*) to replace Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC/DA);
- The honouring of obligations and commitments by Azerbaijan (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC and....*) to replace Mr Richard Bacon (United Kingdom, EC/DA);

– **Authorisation of fact-finding visits:** authorised the co-rapporteurs for Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, France, Georgia, Netherlands, Romania and San Marino to conduct a fact-finding visit to the countries under their respective responsibilities, subject to the availability of financial resources;

– **Next meetings:**

24 May 2022, Paris

Strasbourg, 20-24 June 2022 [during the Assembly part-session]

15 September 2022, Paris

10-14 October 2022 [during the Assembly part-session]

16 November 2022, Paris

14 December 2022, Paris

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**The Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States**, meeting in Strasbourg in a hybrid manner on 28 April 2022 in camera, with Mr Claude Kern (France, ALDE) in the Chair, as regards:

– **Workplan of the Sub-Committee in the current geopolitical context:** held an exchange of views on a proposal for changes to the name and terms of reference of the Sub-Committee to be submitted to the members of the Committee at its next plenary meeting and adopted the draft workplan;

– **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, Matthieu Monin

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