

# Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire



## FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

### *Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly*

### **Synopsis N° 2003 / 061**

5 May 2003

**The Political Affairs Committee**, meeting at the Bundestag in Berlin on 29 April 2003 with Mr Roman Jakič (Slovenia, LDR) in the Chair,

- held an exchange of views with Mr Joachim Hörster, representing the Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the German Parliament, Mr Klaus Scharioth, Secretary of State for Foreign Affairs of Germany, and Mr Matthias Wissmann, Chairman of the Committee on European Union Affairs of the German Parliament;

- heard a statement by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, Mr Walter Schwimmer, on his recent activities;

- heard a statement by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly, Mr Bruno Haller, on decisions taken by the Bureau relevant to the activities of the Committee;

*as regards:*

- *Preferential treatment of national minorities by their kin-state: the case of the Hungarian Law of 19 June 2001 on ethnic Hungarians ("Magyars") living in neighbouring countries (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Toshev, Bulgaria, EPP):* adopted the draft opinion, prepared by the Rapporteur, and the amendments to the report of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights;

- *Positive experiences concerning autonomous regions in Europe (Rapporteur: Mr Gross, Switzerland, SOC):* examined the preliminary draft report prepared by the Rapporteur and decided to adopt this text at its next meeting;

- *Conflict in the Chechen Republic:* was informed by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly about the decision of the Bureau that a new reference was necessary, if the Committee wished to prepare a report on this issue; took note of the intention of the Chairman to table a motion for a resolution;

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cc Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Director General and staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly  
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Special Guests and Observers to the Assembly  
Directors General  
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General  
Director of Communication and Research  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- *Colloquy on "Bosnia and Herzegovina on the road to European integration" (Sarajevo, 19 - 20 May 2003):* took note of the draft programme of the colloquy, which will be co-organised by the Committee with the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina;
- *4<sup>th</sup> Stability Pact Parliamentarian Conference on "A new European Union Policy for South Eastern Europe, a Renewed Stabilisation and Association Process and the Perspective for Accession" organised by the European Parliament (Brussels, 21 - 22 May 2003):* took note of the draft programme of the conference and appointed Mr Davis (United Kingdom, SOC) and Mr Severin (Romania, SOC) as members of the *Ad Hoc* Committee of the Bureau for the participation in this conference;
- decided to postpone the other items on the agenda until the next meeting;
- *Dates and places of next meetings:*
  - Sarajevo (Bosnia and Herzegovina), 20 May 2003, on the occasion of a colloquy co-organised with the Parliament of Bosnia and Herzegovina on 19 May;
  - Athens (Greece), 9 - 10 June 2003;
  - Strasbourg, 23 - 27 June 2003 (3rd part-session 2003).

Bariş Perin, Rüdiger Dossow, Catherine Entzminger