



SECRETARIAT

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12 April 2019

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis of the meetings held in Strasbourg from 8 to 11 April 2019

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting in Strasbourg from 8 to 11 April 2019, with Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten (Netherlands, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

Monday 8 April 2019, 14:00 – 15:00, as regards:

- **Debate under urgent procedure: Role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly: main challenges for the future** (*Rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL*): started the consideration of a draft report;

Tuesday 9 April 2019, 08:30 – 10:00, as regards:

- **Strengthening co-operation with the United Nations in implementing the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development** (*Rapporteur: Mr Adão Silva, Portugal, EPP/CD*): took position on 7 amendments to the draft resolution and to the draft recommendation;
- **Debate under urgent procedure: Role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly: main challenges for the future** (*Rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL*): considered the draft report, adopted a draft resolution and, unanimously, a draft recommendation, as amended;
- **Artificial intelligence and challenges to democracy**: considered and adopted a motion for a resolution;

Tuesday 9 April 2019, 14:00 – 14:45, as regards:

- **The evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Morocco** (*Rapporteur: Mr Bogdan Klich, Poland, EPP/CD*): considered, *in camera*, a letter from Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, and a letter from Mr Bogdan Klich, Rapporteur, held an exchange of views, decided no further action was required and took note that the Chairperson would inform the President of the Assembly accordingly; approved an addendum to the report, as amended;

Wednesday 10 April 2019, 14:00 – 15:30, as regards:

- **Debate under urgent procedure: Role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly: main challenges for the future** (*Rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL*): took position on 30 amendments to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation;
- **Strengthening parliamentary dialogue with Algeria** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jacques Maire, France, NR*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views with a delegation from the Algerian Council of the Nation;
- **Partner for democracy status 2009-2019: stock-taking and the way forward**: due to a lack of time, decided to postpone this exchange of views to one of the next meetings of the Committee;

Thursday 11 April 2019, 8:30 – 09:15, as regards: (open to the public)

- **The situation in Kosovo¹** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jordi Roca, Spain, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Chairperson and held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Hilmi Jashari, Kosovo Ombudsperson, and Mr Slaviša Mladenović, Kosovo Language Commissioner;
- **Conference on Countering International Terrorism (St Petersburg, 18 April 2019)**: prepared the Conference;
- **Setting minimum standards for electoral systems in order to offer the basis for free and fair elections** (*Rapporteur: Mr Hendrik Daems, Belgium, ALDE*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, agreed to his proposal to organise a hearing on the issue;
- **Authorisations by the Committee**: authorised Mr Daems (Belgium, ALDE) to attend a meeting of the Venice Commission in the framework of the preparation of his report (subject to the availability of funds);
- **Other business**:
 - called for nominations for the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2019,
 - agreed to request to the Bureau of the Assembly an extension of reference for the report on *Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism* (Ms Marietta Karamanli, France, SOC) until 30 June 2019 and decided to declassify the preliminary draft report considered at its meeting of 11 December 2018;
- **Next meetings**: decided on the forthcoming meetings as follows:
 - Saint Petersburg, *ad hoc* Sub-Committee, 18 April 2019
 - Paris, 20 May 2019
 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 3rd part-session, 24-28 June 2019
 - Paris, 11 September 2019 (*tbc*)
 - Strasbourg, during the Assembly's 4th part-session, 30 September-4 October 2019
 - Berlin, 14 November 2019
 - Paris, 9 December 2019

D. Chatzivassiliou, J. Ary, P. Chevtchenko, S. Arzilli

cc. 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

¹ Throughout this text, all reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.