



AS/Pol (2020) CB 03
24 June 2020

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis of the meeting held by videoconference on 23 June 2020

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting by videoconference on 23 June 2020, with Dame Cheryl Gillan (United Kingdom, EC/DA) in the Chair:

- **Democracies facing the COVID-19 pandemic** (*Rapporteur: Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger, United Kingdom, EC/DA*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, held an exchange of views with the participation of Dr Charles Clift, Senior Consulting Fellow, Global Health Programme, Chatham House; held an exchange of views on the basis of a preliminary draft report and took note that the Rapporteur would update it further to discussions and present it to the Committee for adoption at its meeting in Chania, Crete (Greece), on 17 and 18 September 2020;
- **Fighting fiscal injustice and the work of the OECD on taxation of digital economy** (*Rapporteur: Mr Georgios Katrougkalos, Greece, UEL*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur; considered an introductory memorandum and took note that the report would be put to the Committee for adoption at its meeting in Chania, Crete (Greece), on 17 and 18 September 2020;
- **Need for democratic governance of artificial intelligence** (*Rapporteur: Ms Deborah Bergamini, Italy, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, held an exchange of views on the basis of an introductory memorandum and took note that the report would be put to the Committee for adoption at its meeting in Chania, Crete (Greece), on 17 and 18 September 2020;
- **Appointment of Rapporteurs**: appointed, by acclamation:
 - . Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir (Iceland, UEL) Rapporteur on *Strengthening the role of the Council of Europe as a cornerstone of the European political architecture*;
 - . Mr George Papandreou (Greece, SOC) Rapporteur on *More participatory democracy to tackle climate change*;and heard from them their declarations of absence of conflict of interests;
- **Other business**:
 - heard a statement by Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on the Middle East and Arab World, on the meeting of the Sub-Committee which took place via videoconference on 12 June 2020, followed by an exchange of views;
 - decided to declassify the Summary of replies to the letter by the Chairperson to the members of the Committee (8 April 2020) on “Democracies facing the COVID-19 pandemic: the role of national parliaments”, and the ECPRD questionnaire on “The legislative and oversight role of parliaments in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic” (AS/Pol/Inf (2020) 06);

– **Next meetings:** took note of the next meetings as follows:

- . Chania, Greece, 17-18 September 2020
- . Strasbourg, during the Assembly's October part-session, 12-16 October 2020
- . 9 December 2020, place to be confirmed

D. Chatzivassiliou, 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
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