Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Work Programme

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General terms of reference applicable to all Assembly committees and Specific terms of reference of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy (Extracts of Resolution 1842 (2011))

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## A. List of forthcoming meetings 2019

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<td>14</td>
<td>Berlin, Germany</td>
<td>Committee</td>
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<th>DECEMBER</th>
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<td>Paris (OECD Headquarters)</td>
<td>Committee</td>
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<td>Rovaniemi, Finland</td>
<td>Sub-Committee on External Relations (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly)</td>
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B. Main activities and reports

➊ Partnership for democracy status: evaluations

THE EVALUATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR DEMOCRACY IN RESPECT OF THE PARLIAMENT OF THE KYRGYZ REPUBLIC

.Rapporteur: Mr Corneliu M. Cozmanciuc, Romania, EPP/CD (appointed on 25.01.2018)
.Former Rapporteur: Mr Alain Destexhe, Belgium, ALDE (appointed on 01.09.2015) and Ms Tinatin Khidasheli, Georgia, ALDE (appointed on 24.06.2014)
.Committees seized for opinion:
- Committee on Legal Affairs and Human rights: Mr Antonio Gutiérrez, Spain, SOC
- Committee on Equality and Non-discrimination: Ms Sahiba Gafarova, Azerbaijan, EC/DA
.Origin: Terms of reference of the Committee (para. 2.4.), Bureau decision, Ref. 4045 of 11.04.2014
.Texts adopted by the Assembly on the basis of reports prepared by the Committee: Res 1984 (2014)

.Statement of work:
- June 2014 part-session – The Committee held an exchange of views with Mr Asilbek Jeenbekov, Speaker of the Kyrgyz Parliament.
- 4-5 September 2014 – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur followed by an exchange of views.
- 11-12 November 2014 – The Rapporteur carried out a fact-finding visit to the Kyrgyz Republic.
- 8 December 2014 – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur on her fact-finding visit; heard a declaration by Ms Asiya Sasykaeva, Deputy Speaker of the Kyrgyz Republic Parliament, and held an exchange of views.
- 7-9 September 2016 – The Rapporteur carried out a fact-finding visit to the Kyrgyz Republic.
- 26 September 2016 – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visit, followed by an exchange of views.
- October 2016 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by Mr Saidulla Nyshonov, member of the Partner for Democracy Delegation of Kyrgyzstan.
- 6 March 2017 – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, followed by an exchange of views with Mr Sergei Kouznetsov, Head of Division, Neighbourhood Co-operation, Venice Commission, and considered an introductory memorandum.
- April 2017 part-session – The Committee decided to declassify the introductory memorandum presented by the Rapporteur on 6 March 2017.
- January 2018 part-session – Further to the resignation of Mr Alain Destexhe, the Committee appointed Mr Corneliu Cozmanciuc as Rapporteur, subject to hearing from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest.
- 11 December 2018 – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, including a declaration of absence of any conflict of interest and a proposal to invite the Kyrgyz delegation for an exchange of views during the January 2019 part-session.
- January 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, followed by an exchange of views with Mr Nyshonov, member of the Kyrgyz partner for democracy delegation, and agreed to request to the Bureau of the Assembly an authorisation for the Rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Kyrgyzstan in 2019, in the framework of his report (subject to the availability of funds).
- 23 May 2019 – The Bureau of the Assembly authorised the request for a fact-finding visit.

THE EVALUATION OF THE PARTNERSHIP FOR DEMOCRACY IN RESPECT OF THE PARLIAMENT OF JORDAN

.Rapporteur: to be appointed
.Former Rapporteur: Mr Mogens Jensen, Denmark, SOC (appointed on 25.01.2018)
.Origin: Doc 14975
.Expiry date for adoption:
.Texts adopted by the Assembly on the basis of reports prepared by the Committee: Res 2183 (2017), Res 2086 (2016)
.State of work:
- April 2018 part-session – The Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views.
- 27-28 November 2018 – The Rapporteur carried out a fact-finding visit to Amman.
- January 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, including a declaration of absence of conflict of interest, followed by an exchange of views with the Jordanian partner for democracy delegation.
TERRANEAN: COMMON operation in the Arctic region and the 14 November 2019 – The Committee will appoint a Rapporteur.

EXTERNAL RELATIONS

SUB-COMMITTEE ON EXTERNAL RELATIONS
- 5-6 December 2018 – The Sub-Committee had meetings with UN high officials at the UN Headquarters in New York.
- October 2019 part-session – The Committee took note that Mr Kimmo Kiljunen, Chairperson of the Finnish delegation, intended to invite the Sub-Committee on External Relations to hold a meeting in Rovaniemi (Finland) with a view to considering the challenges for international co-operation in the Arctic region and the model of the Arctic Council, including its parliamentary dimension.
- 16 December 2019 – Further to the official invitation by the First Deputy Speaker of the Finnish Parliament Tuula Haatainen, the Sub-Committee will meet in Rovaniemi with a view to discussing Developments in the Arctic region and opportunities for international co-operation (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly).
SUB-COMMITTEE ON THE MIDDLE EAST AND THE ARAB WORLD

- 28-30 November 2014 – The Sub-Committee met in the Palestinian Territories and in Israel.
- April 2016 part-session – The Sub-Committee held an exchange of views on the situation in the Middle East with the observer delegation of the Knesset and the partner for democracy delegation of the Palestinian National Council. It also considered a possible meeting in Tunis (Tunisia).
- June 2016 part-session – The Sub-Committee held an exchange of views with Mr Mohamed Abbasy, Mr Belal El Nahal and Mr Tarek Radwan, members of the Egyptian House of Representatives and heard statements by Mr Bernard Sabella (PNC) and Ms Aliza Lavie (Knesset) on the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.
- 25 January 2017 – The Sub-Committee was informed by the Chairperson of the unsuccessful efforts to hold a meeting in Tunis in 2016. It also held an exchange of views with delegations from the Knesset and the Palestinian National Council.
- 6 September 2017 – The Sub-Committee took note of the appointment, by the Committee, of Mr Titus Corlățean (Romania, SOC) as Rapporteur on A two-State solution in Israel and Palestine, and held an exchange of views with the delegations from the Knesset and the Palestinian National Council. It also discussed the possibility of holding a meeting in Israel and Palestine in 2018.
- January 2018 part-session – The Sub-Committee asked its Chairperson and the Secretariat to start preparing a meeting of the Sub-Committee in Israel and Palestine in 2018.
- April 2018 part-session – The Sub-Committee met on 24 April 2018 and tasked its Chairperson to write to the delegations of Israel, Palestine and Jordan in respect of a possible meeting in the region. This was subsequently done on 25 April 2018.
- June 2018 part-session – The Sub-Committee was informed of contacts by the Chairperson and the Secretariat with the Israeli, Jordanian and Palestinian delegations with a view to organising a meeting in the region in 2018 and decided to keep all options open. The Sub-Committee also took note of an exchange of letters between Ms Aliza Lavie, Chairperson of the Israeli observer delegation, and the President of the Parliamentary Assembly; welcomed the signature by the Palestinian authority of the Protocol on the abolition of the death penalty; and was informed of the extension of the administrative detention of Ms Khalida Jarrar, member of the Palestinian partner for democracy delegation.
- 11 September 2018 – The Committee was informed by Mr Kais Zayadin (Jordan) of the negative consequences for the United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestinian refugees in the near east (UNRWA) after the United States announced that it would provide no additional funding. It was also informed by Mr Bernard Sabella (Palestine) on the decision of the USA administration to close the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO) representation in Washington and on the imminent dismantling of the Bedouin community Khan Al-Ahmar.
- April 2019 part-session – The Sub-Committee held an exchange of views on the situation in the Middle East.

STRENGTHENING PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE WITH ALGERIA

.Rapporteur: Mr Jacques Maire, France, ALDE (appointed on 27.06.2018)
.Origin: Doc 14476, Ref. 4363 of 15.03.2018
.Expiry for adoption: 15.03.2020
.State of work:
- 6 November 2018 – M. Morad Helis, Vice-President of the Algerian National People’s Assembly, and M. Mohamed Saadani, Vice-President of the Algerian Council of the Nation, participated in the Parliamentary Conference on Building democratic security in the Mediterranean: common challenges, shared responsibility, held in Dubrovnik, Croatia, 6 November 2018.
- 5 March 2019 – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, agreed to organise an exchange of views with representatives of the Algerian Parliament during the April part-session and approved the request of the Rapporteur to carry out a fact-finding visit to Algeria in 2019 (subject to the authorisation of the Bureau of the Assembly and the availability of funds).
- April 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur and held an exchange of views with a delegation from the Algerian Council of the Nation. The Bureau of the Assembly authorised the Rapporteur’s fact-finding visit during its meeting on 8 April 2019.
- 20 May 2019 – The Committee held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Sophie Bessis, Research Associate, Institute of International and Strategic Relations (IRIS), Paris, and with Mr Nacer-Eddine Ghozali, former professor of law, University of Paris XIII.
- June 2019 part-session – The Committee held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Rachid Achour, Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, of International Co-operation and the Algerian community abroad, head of the delegation; Mr Fouad Seboua and Mr Rabah Benyoub, members of the Algerian Council of the Nation; and Mr Rahim Hichem and Mr Chebill Lazhar, members of the National People’s Assembly; and considered an introductory memorandum and an outline for report.
- October 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the rapporteur.
 Relations with the OECD and the EBRD

THE ACTIVITIES OF THE ORGANISATION FOR ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION AND DEVELOPMENT (OECD)

.Rapporteur: to be appointed
Former Rapporteur: Mr Ervin Bushati, Albania, SOC (appointed on 25.01.2018)
.Origin: Doc 14976
.Expiry date for adoption:
 .State of work:
 - June 2018 part-session – The Committee took note of an outline for report proposed by the OECD.
 - 11 September 2018 – The Committee was informed by the Chairperson that, in light of this year’s exceptional circumstances, it had been agreed with the OECD to forego, in 2018, the report and enlarged debate on the activities of the OECD it being understood that the OECD and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe would pursue their co-operation in order to schedule in due time activities for 2019.
 - January 2019 part-session – The Committee took note of a memorandum (AS/Pol (2019) 04) on the relations between the Assembly and the OECD prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of an exchange of letters between Mr Wojciech Sawicki, Secretary General of the Assembly, and Mr Angel Gurría, Secretary General of the OECD; agreed to the proposed procedures regarding reports on the activities of the OECD and decided to inform the Bureau of the Assembly accordingly.
 - October 2019 part-session – The Committee took note of the programme of the OECD Global Parliamentary Network (Paris, 10-11 October 2019); proposed members to the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly; and in view of the expiry of the current reference on 20 January 2020 and the resignation of the Rapporteur, Mr Ervin Bushati (Albania, SOC), considered and adopted a motion for a resolution (see Doc 14976).
 - 10-11 October 2019 – Members of the Committee took part in the meeting of the OECD Global Parliamentary Network. In particular, Ms Oomen-Ruijten, Chairperson of the Committee and Ms Deborah Bergamini, Rapporteur on the Need for democratic governance of artificial intelligence intervened as discussants in the sessions on Inclusive Growth and sustainable development: Making progress towards achieving the SDGs and How are countries approaching their AI strategies and policies? respectively.

Current challenges with respect to the state of democracy in Europe and its neighbourhood

THE SITUATION IN KOSOVO

.Rapporteur: to be appointed
Former Rapporteur: Mr Jordi Roca, Spain, EPP/CD (appointed on 12.10.2017)
.Origin: Doc. 14921, Ref 4462 of 30.09.2019
.Expiry date for adoption: 30.03.2021
 .State of work:
 - January 2018 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur on recent developments and future plans, followed by an exchange of views with the participation of the delegations of Serbia and of the Assembly of Kosovo.
 - April 2018 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the Chairperson on recent developments, followed by an exchange of views with the participation of the delegations of Serbia and of the Assembly of Kosovo.
 - April 2019 part-session – The Committee 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.
 - 20 May 2019 – The Committee heard a statement by the Chairperson, took note of the resignation of the Rapporteur, Mr Roca, and that the reference 4297 of 30 May 2017 would expire on 30 May 2019; agreed that a new motion on the situation in Kosovo should be considered by the Committee during the June part-session.

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.
- **June 2019 part-session** – The Committee considered and adopted a motion for a resolution which was subsequently tabled.
- **October 2019 part-session** – The Committee called for candidates.
- **14 November 2019** – The Committee will appoint a Rapporteur.

**SETTING MINIMUM STANDARDS FOR ELECTORAL SYSTEMS IN ORDER TO OFFER THE BASIS FOR FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS**

*Rapporteur: Mr Hendrik Daems, Belgium, ALDE (appointed on 11.09.2018)*

*Former Rapporteur: Ms Elena Centemero, Italy, EPP/CD (appointed on 13.10.2016)*

**Committees seized for opinion:**
- Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Mr Pierre-Alain Frizde, Switzerland, SOC
- Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs: Mr Edward Leigh, United Kingdom, EC/DA

**Origin:** Doc 14072, Ref. 4222 of 24.06.2016

**Expiry date for adoption:** 24.06.2018, extended until 24.12.2018 then until 31.12.2019

**State of work:**
- **January 2017 part-session** – The Committee held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Gianni Buquicchio, President of the Venice Commission.
- **6 March 2017** – The Committee took note of the outline for report and postponed the discussion of this item.
- **April 2017 part-session** – The Committee held a joint hearing with the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, with the participation of Mr Florian Grotz, Chair of Comparative Politics, Institute of Political Science, Helmut Schmidt University of Hamburg; Ms Marilisa D'Amico, Professor of constitutional law, University of Milan; and Ms Ana Rusu, Senior Election Adviser, OCSE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), followed by an exchange of views.
- **June 2018 part-session** – The Committee took note of Ms Centemero's departure and held an exchange of views based on an introductory memorandum prepared by the Chairperson.
- **11 September 2018** – The Committee appointed Mr Hendrik Daems (Belgium, ALDE) as Rapporteur.
- **11 December 2018** – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, including a declaration of absence of any conflict of interest, and, upon his proposal, agreed to request to the Bureau of the Assembly an extension of reference until 31 December 2019. This was approved by the Bureau on 14 December 2018.
- **April 2019 part-session** – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, agreed to his proposal to organise a hearing on the issue and authorised the Rapporteur to attend a meeting of the Venice Commission in the framework of the preparation of his report (subject to the availability of funds).
- **14 November 2019** – The Committee will hear a statement by the Rapporteur.

**DEMOCRACY HACKED? HOW TO RESPOND?**

*Rapporteur: Mr Frithjof Schmidt, Germany, SOC (appointed on 12.03.2018)*

**Committee seized for opinion:**
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Mr Emanuelli Zingeris, Lithuania, EPP/CD

**Origin:** Bureau decision, Ref 4353 of 22.01.2018

**Expiry date for adoption:** 22.01.2020

**State of work:**
- **April 2018 part-session** – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur, followed by an exchange of views.
- **June 2018 part-session** – The Committee held exchanges of views with the participation of Ms Simona Granata-Menghini, Deputy Secretary, Council of Europe Venice Commission, on the issue of security in elections; and with the participation of Mr Patrick Penninckx, Head of the Information Society Department of the Council of Europe Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, on the issue of information disorder.
- **11 September 2018** – The Committee held an exchange of views with the participation of Ms Divina Frau-Meigs, Professor, sociologist and media researcher, University Sorbonne Nouvelle, Paris, and Mr Ben Scott, member of the management board of the think tank Stiftung Neue Verantwortung, Director of Policy & Advocacy at the Omidyar Network, and former co-ordinator of technology and innovation policy advisers for the Hillary Clinton campaign in 2016 (via videoconference), and considered an outline for report.
- **January 2019 part-session** – The Committee authorised the Rapporteur to pay a fact-finding visit to Stockholm in 2019 (subject to the availability of funds).
- **20 May 2019** – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his fact-finding visit, followed by an exchange of views.
- **14 November 2019** – The Committee will hear a statement by the Rapporteur on the basis of his preliminary draft report as well as a statement by the Rapporteur for opinion followed by a hearing with the participation of Dr Astrid Schumacher, Head of Branch "IT Security Consulting and Security of Classified Material", German Federal Office for Information Security, Bonn; Mr Johan Farkas, Malmö University, Chairperson of YECREA (Young Scholars Network); Dr Ulrike Klinger, Assistant Professor, Institute for Media
and Communication Studies, Freie Universität, Berlin; and a representative of the German Central Election Commission.

RESHAPING THE FOUNDATIONS OF MULTILATERALISM
.Rapporteur: to be appointed
.Committee seized for opinion:
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: to be appointed
.Origin: Doc 14588, Ref. 4397 of 08.10.2018
.Expiry date for adoption: 08.10.2020
.State of work:
- 11 December 2018 – The Committee decided to keep the reference on its work programme and to examine it at a later date, in light of the report on Strengthening co-operation with the United Nations in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

FIGHTING CORRUPTION – GENERAL PRINCIPLES OF POLITICAL RESPONSIBILITY
Rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Mr Sergiy Vlasenko (Ukraine, EPP/CD)
.Committee seized for opinion:
Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: Ms Marietta Karamanli, France, SOC (appointed on 05.03.2019)
.Origin: Doc 14639, Ref. 4412 of 23.11.2018
.Expiry date for adoption: 23.11.2020
.State of work:
- 5 March 2019 – The Committee appointed Ms Marietta Karamanli (France, SOC) as Rapporteur for opinion and took note that she had no conflict of interest.

NEED FOR DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE
.Rapporteur: Ms Deborah Bergamini, Italy, EPP/CD (appointed on 25.06.2019)
.Expiry date for adoption: 12.04.2021
.Previous work:
- 5 March 2019 – The Committee held an exchange of views with Mr Jan Kleijssen, Director, Information Society – Action against Crime, Council of Europe Internet Governance Co-ordinator on Artificial intelligence and challenges to democracy and agreed to consider a motion for a resolution on this subject at its next meeting with a view to tabling it on behalf of the Committee.
.State of work:
- April 2019 part-session – The Committee adopted a motion for a resolution.
- 20 May 2019 – The Committee called for candidates.
- June 2019 part-session – The Committee appointed Ms Deborah Bergamini (Italy, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur, subject to hearing from her a declaration of non-conflict of interest.
- October 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur including a declaration of absence of conflict of interests and held a hearing with the participation of Ms Birgit Schippers, Senior lecturer in Politics at St Mary's University College, Belfast; Mr Paul Nemitz, Principal Advisor, “Strategies for cross-cutting justice policies or legal actions”, Directorate-General for Justice and Consumers, European Commission; and Mr Yannick Meneceur, Information Society and Action against crime Directorate, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, French magistrate on secondment to the Council of Europe.
- 11 October 2019 – The Rapporteur took part in the meeting of the Global Parliamentary Network at the OECD in Paris and intervened as a discussant in the session on How are countries approaching their AI strategies and policies?

COUNTERING ILL DEMOCRACIES IN EUROPE
.Rapporteur: Ms Marie-Christine Dalloz, France, EPP/CD (appointed on 25.06.2019)
.Committee seized for opinion:
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Mr Vladimir Vardanyan (Armenia, EPP/CD)
.Expiry date for adoption: 12.04.2021
.State of work:
- 20 May 2019 – The Committee called for candidates.
- June 2019 part-session – The Committee appointed Ms Marie-Christine Dalloz (France, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur, subject to hearing from her a declaration of non-conflict of interest.
TRANSPARENCY AND REGULATION OF DONATIONS TO POLITICAL PARTIES AND ELECTORAL CAMPAIGNS FROM FOREIGN DONORS

.Rapporteur: Mr Konstantin Kuhle, Germany, ALDE (appointed on 27.06.2019)
.Expiry date for adoption: 12.04.2021

State of work:
- 20 May 2019 – The Committee called for candidates.
- June 2019 part-session – The Committee appointed Mr Konstantin Kuhle (Germany, ALDE) as Rapporteur, subject to hearing from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest.
- 14 November 2019 – The Committee will hear a statement by the Rapporteur.

TEN YEARS AFTER THE LISBON TREATY: STRENGTHENING COUNCIL OF EUROPE AND EUROPEAN UNION CO-OPERATION

.Rapporteur: Mr Titus Corlățean, Romania, SOC (appointed on 25.06.2019)
.Expiration for adoption: 12.04.2021

State of work:
- 20 May 2019 – The Committee called for candidates.
- June 2019 part-session – The Committee appointed Mr Titus Corlățean (Romania, SOC) as Rapporteur, subject to hearing from him a declaration of non-conflict of interest.
- October 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the Rapporteur including a declaration of absence of conflict of interests; held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General of the Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law of the Council of Europe; Mr Zoltan Taubner, Director of the Directorate of External Relations of the Council of Europe, Head of Brussels office; and Mr Christian Leffler, Deputy Secretary-General of the European External Action Service.

Fight against terrorism

RECENT TEXTS ON TERRORISM PRESENTED BY THE COMMITTEE

- Resolution 2113 (2016) After the Brussels attacks, urgent need to address security failures and step up counter-terrorism co-operation (Rapporteur: Mr Emanuolis Zingeris, Lithuania, EPP/CD)
- Recommendation 2084 (2016) and Resolution 2091 (2016) Foreign fighters in Syria and Iraq (Rapporteur: Mr Dirk Van der Maelen, Belgium, SOC)
- Resolution 2090 (2016) Combating international terrorism while protecting Council of Europe standards and values (Rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL)
- Res 2221 (2018) and Rec 2131 (2018) Counter-narratives to terrorism (Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Jordi Xuclà, Spain, ALDE)
- Resolution 2303 (2019) Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism (Rapporteur: Ms Marietta Karamanli, France, SOC)

COUNTERING INTERNATIONAL TERRORISM

- January 2019 part-session – The Committee took note of the invitation and programme regarding the Conference on Countering International Terrorism, in Saint Petersburg on 18 April 2019, agreed to set-up an ad hoc Sub-Committee to participate (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly and to the availability of funds), and invited members interested in attending to inform the Secretariat.
- 5 March 2019 – The Committee appointed members to the ad hoc Sub-Committee and prepared the meeting.
- 18 April 2019 – The ad hoc Sub-Committee participated in the Conference.
- 20 May 2019 – The Committee heard a statement by the Chairperson followed by an exchange of views.
C. Follow-up of adopted texts

October 2019 part-session

Resolution 2303 (2019) and Recommendation 2164 (2019) Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism
Rapporteur: Ms Marietta Karamanli, France, SOC
Transmission of the adopted text: Letter sent to Mr Levent Altan, Executive Director, Victims Support Europe, Brussels, on 10 October 2019

June 2019 part-session

Resolution 2298 (2019) Situation in Syria: prospects for a political solution?
Rapporteur: Ms Theodora Bakoyannis, Greece, EPP/CD
Transmission of the adopted text: Letter sent to Mr Geir O. Pederson, United Nations Special Envoy for Syria, Geneva, Switzerland, on 4 July 2019

October 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the former Rapporteur followed by an exchange of views and took note that she would keep the Committee updated on the matter when appropriate.

14 November 2019 – The Committee will hear a statement by the former Rapporteur followed by an exchange of views with Mr Erwin van Veen, Senior Research Fellow, Conflict Research Unit, Clingendael Institute (Netherlands Institute of international relations)

May 2019 Standing Committee

Resolution 2282 (2019) The evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Morocco
Rapporteur: Mr Bogdan Klich, Poland, EPP/CD

April 2019 part-session

Resolution 2277 and Recommendation 2153 (2019) Role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly: main challenges for the future
Rapporteur: Mr Tiny Kox, Netherlands, UEL
20 May 2019 – The Committee heard a statement by the former Rapporteur and held an exchange of views on the follow-up to be given.

October 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the former Rapporteur, as well as by Mr Wojciech Sawicki, Secretary General of the Assembly, followed by an exchange of views.

14 November 2019 – The Committee will hear a statement by the former Rapporteur and will consider a draft motion for resolution and recommendation on the New complementary procedure between the Committee of Ministers and the Parliamentary Assembly in response to the lack of compliance by a member State with its statutory obligations.

Resolution 2271 and Recommendation 2150 (2019) Strengthening co-operation with the United Nations in implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development
Rapporteur: Mr Adão Silva, Portugal, EPP/CD
Transmission of the adopted text: Letter sent to Mr Antonio Guterres, Secretary General, United Nations, New York (letter from the President of the Assembly, on 26 April 2019)

March 2019 Standing Committee

Resolution 2265 (2019) Promoting democracy by developing market economy: does the EBRD model work?
Rapporteur: Mr Hendik Daems, Belgium, ALDE
Transmission of adopted text: Letter sent to Sir Suma Chakrabarti, President of the EBRD, on 7 March 2019

January 2019 part-session

Resolution 2251 (2019) Updating guidelines to ensure fair referendums in Council of Europe member States
Rapporteur: Dame Cheryl Gillan, United Kingdom, EC/DA
Resolution 2259 (2019) The escalation of tensions around the Sea of Azov and the Kerch Strait and threats to European security
Rapporteur: Mr Andreas Nick, Germany, EPP/CD
October 2019 part-session – The Committee heard a statement by the former Rapporteur further to recent developments and prospects of the Minsk process, followed by an exchange of views.

October 2018 Part-session

Resolution 2237 (2018) Regulating foreign funding of Islam in Europe to prevent radicalisation and islamophobia
Rapporteur: Ms Doris Fiala, Switzerland, ALDE

June 2017 Part-session

Resolution 2172 (2017) and Recommendation 2107 (2017) The situation in Belarus
Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE
Paragraph 7.3. of Resolution 2172 of 27 June 2017 states [The Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy is invited] “to consider stepping up dialogue with the Parliament and independent civil society of Belarus by inviting members of parliament from the majority and the opposition, as well as representatives of independent civil society and of opposition political forces not represented in parliament, to attend its meetings during the Assembly part-sessions over the next two years.”

October 2017 part-session - The Committee held an exchange of views with Mr Andrei Naumovich, Head of the working group on the death penalty issue, National Assembly of Belarus (majority); Ms Elena Anissim, member of the Standing Committee on education, culture and science, National Assembly of Belarus (opposition); Mr Ales Bialiatski, Viasna Human Rights Centre; and Mr Vital Rymasheuski, Belarusian Christian Democracy Party; in conformity with paragraph 7.3 of the Resolution.

13 October 2017 - The Bureau of the Assembly authorised Mr Rigoni to participate in the meetings of the Working Group on the death penalty issue, in Minsk, Republic of Belarus, in November 2017.

14 December 2017 - The Committee considered the reply by the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 2107 and heard a statement by M. Rigoni on his participation in the meetings of the Working Group on the death penalty issue, Minsk, 23–25 November 2017.

25 January 2018 - The Committee held an exchange of views with members of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus: Mr Andrei Naumovich, Head of the Working group on the death penalty issues, Chair of the Standing Committee on Human rights, national relations and media, and Ms Anna Kanopatskaya, member of the Working group on death penalty issues and of the Standing Committee on economic issues, respectively from the majority and from the opposition; and was informed that neither a representative of independent civil society nor of opposition political forces not represented in parliament were able to attend this part-session.

25 April 2018 - The Committee held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Andrei Naumovich, Head of Working Group on the Death penalty issues, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Human rights, national relations and media, House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus; Ms Alena Anisim, member of the Committee on Education, Culture and Science, House of Representatives of the National Assembly of Belarus; and Ms Tatsiana Karatkevich, Chairperson of the Civic Campaign Tell the Truth.

October 2019 part-session – The Committee held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Maksim Misko, Deputy Chairperson of the Standing Commission on Law, House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus; Ms Anna Kanopatskaya, Member of the Standing Commission on Economic Policy, House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus; Mr Ales Bialiatski, Chairperson, Viasna Human Rights Centre, Minsk; and Mr Vital Rymasheuski, Co-Chairman of the Belarusian Christian Democracy party.
D. Institutional representation of the Committee in 2019

Council for democratic elections of the Venice Commission:
- Member: Mr Corneliu M. Cozmanciuc (Romania, EPP/CD)
- Substitute: Lord George Foulkes (United Kingdom, SOC)

European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI):
- Member: Mr Titus Corlățean (Romania, SOC)
- Substitute: Mr Attila Korodi (Romania, EPP/CD)

E. Bureaux of the Committee and of its Sub-Committees in 2019

Plenary committee

Chairperson: Ms Ria Oomen-Ruijten (Netherlands, EPP/CD)
1st Vice-Chairperson: Mr Titus Corlățean (Romania, SOC)
2nd Vice-Chairperson: Lord David Blencathra (United Kingdom, EC/DA)
3rd Vice-Chairperson: Mr Alfred Heer (Switzerland, ALDE)

Permanent Sub-Committees

Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World
Chairperson: Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL)
Vice-Chairperson: Mr Phil Wilson (United Kingdom, SOC)

Sub-Committee on External Relations
Chairperson: ...
Vice-Chairperson: Mr Adão Silva (Portugal, EPP/CD)

F. Secretariat of the Committee

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