



# Information documents

SG-AS (2014) 03

31 March 2014

# Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1196<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (2 April 2014)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 31 January 2014 (Strasbourg) and the future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 7 April 2014 (Strasbourg).

# I. <u>Decisions taken by the Bureau</u>

# A. Second part-session of 2014 (7-11 April 2014)

On 6 March 2014, the Bureau decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on "Recent developments in Ukraine: threats to the functioning of democratic institutions" and referred the matter to the Monitoring Committee for report. It drew up the draft agenda (Appendix 1).

Since the Bureau meeting of 6 March 2014, two motions on reconsideration on substantive grounds of the previously ratified credentials of the Russian delegation have been tabled. The Bureau, at its meeting on 7 April, will decide which of the Assembly's committees will be responsible for the preparation of the report and where to place this item on the Assembly agenda.

A list of side-events to be held during this part-session will be presented in the addendum to this communication.

# B. Observation of elections

# > Guidelines for the observation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly

On 6 March 2014, the Bureau approved the amendments to the Guidelines proposed at the meeting of the Chairpersons of ad hoc Committees for the observation of elections (29 January 2014), subject to ratification by the Assembly.

# > Early parliamentary elections in Serbia (16 March 2014)

On 6 March 2014, the Bureau took note of the press release of the pre-electoral mission and approved the final composition of the ad hoc committee (Appendix 2).

# > Presidential and early parliamentary elections in "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (13 and 27 April 2014)

On 6 March 2014, the Bureau approved the composition of the ad hoc committee (see Appendix 3) and decided that the same ad hoc committee to observe the presidential election would also observe the early parliamentary elections, whereupon it invited political groups to propose more substitutes to be included in the ad hoc Committee.

## > Early presidential election in Ukraine (25 May 2014)

On 6 March 2014, the Bureau decided to observe the early presidential election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 42 members: SOC: 13; EPP/CD: 13, ALDE: 6, EDG: 6, UEL: 2 (in accordance with the D'Hondt system) and the two Co-Rapporteurs of the Monitoring committee. It authorised a pre-electoral mission to take place one month ahead of the election.

# C. Other decisions taken by the Bureau at its meeting on 6 March 2014

**Election of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe - procedure**: the Bureau took note of the Resolution CM/Res(2014)1 transmitted by the Committee of Ministers and decided to invite the candidates to interviews at the Bureau meeting on 22 May 2014 in Baku.

## Mandates of General Rapporteurs

The Bureau approved the terms of reference of a General Rapporteur on combating racism and intolerance, upon the request of Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, which was subsequently ratified by the Standing Committee on 7 March 2014. It also agreed that in the future General Rapporteurs can keep their function after the expiry of their mandate until a new general rapporteur is appointed by the committee concerned.

The Bureau also took note of the designation of Ms Marietta Karamanli (France, SOC) as General Rapporteur on the Death Penalty.

**Use in French of the feminine equivalent of the term "rapporteur"**: the Bureau took note of the opinion of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs and confirmed the current practice to use the term "rapporteure".

**Participation of PACE members in plenary sessions and committee meetings**: the Bureau took note of an information memorandum prepared by the Committee on the Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs on the participation of members in Parliamentary Assembly plenary sessions and committee meetings in 2013, in accordance with Resolution 1583 (2007). It invited the President of the Assembly to notify in writing the chairpersons of the delegations and the speakers of the parliaments concerned by low participation rates or to arrange a meeting with the chairpersons of the relevant delegations and decided to make publicly available on the Assembly's website the statistics related to the participation of national delegations.

**Honorary Presidency:** the Bureau granted the title of Honorary President of the Parliamentary Assembly to Mr Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, former President of the Assembly. The ceremony will take place on Monday 7 April 2014.

**Composition of the Monitoring Committee:** the Bureau appointed Ms Valentina Leskaj (Albania, SOC) on the basis of a proposal submitted by the Socialist Group, which was subsequently ratified by the Standing Committee on 7 March 2014.

# II. <u>Standing Committee – 7 March 2014</u>

The Standing Committee held a current affairs debate on "The political crisis in Ukraine" and adopted a statement on the same subject (Appendix 4).

It held an exchange of views with Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe and with Mr Ranko Krivokapić, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE.

Following debates, the Standing Committee adopted the following texts on behalf of the Assembly, which are available on the Assembly website:

Resolution 1980 (2014) on Increasing the reporting of suspected sexual abuse of children Resolution 1981 (2014) and Recommendation 2038 (2014) on Europe's endangered heritage Resolution 1982 (2014) and Recommendation 2039 (2014) on The European Convention on Human Rights: the need to reinforce the training of legal professionals.

# III. Presidential Committee – Fact-finding visit in Ukraine / 22-24 March 2014

The Presidential Committee composed by the President of the Assembly, the heads of its five political groups and its Secretary General, accompanied by the two-co-rapporteurs for the monitoring of Ukraine – carried out a fact-finding visit in Ukraine to assess the situation in Ukraine ahead of an urgent debate likely to take place at PACE's spring plenary session (7-11 April 2014) and to offer the Council of Europe's help in assisting Ukraine to overcome the great challenges it faces (see press releases in Appendix 5).

# IV. Activities of Committees

- 19 February 2014 in Nicosia, the Steering Group of the Network meeting of contact parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development held a meeting with the participation of the General Rapporteur on Children, Ms Stella Kyriakides, as preparation for the Network meeting of contact parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children, to be held in Cyprus on 13 May 2014.
- 27-28 February 2014 in St Julians, Malta, the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee):

- held a hearing on "Current issues and on the Secretary General's report on Democracy, Human Rights and Rule of Law in Europe", with the participation of Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- held an exchange of views on recent developments in Turkey and decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the Law on the High Council of Judges and Prosecutors, should the Constitutional Court of Turkey not be seized;
- adopted a declaration on the situation in Ukraine.
- > On 3 March 2014 in Paris, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights**:
  - held a hearing on "*European institutions and human rights in Europe*" with the participation of Mr Jean-Claude Trichet, Honorary Governor of the Bank of France, Paris, former President of the European Central Bank and Mr Morten Kjaerum, Director, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA), Vienna;
  - issued a statement condemning the violation of the territorial integrity and sovereignty of Ukraine by armed forces of the Russian Federation over the weekend of 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2014, indicating that it believed there had been a serious violation of the basic principles of the Council of Europe, as stipulated in Article 3 of, and the preamble to, the Statute, and called on the Assembly to send a fact-finding mission to Crimea as soon as possible.
- > On 4-5 March 2014 in Vienna, the **Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination** 
  - conducted a study visit to the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA) and held an exchange of views with Mr Morten Kjaerum, Director, Mr Ioannis Dimitrakopoulos, Head of Department Equality and Citizens' Rights, and Mr Mario Oetheimer, Freedoms and Justice Department;
  - held a joint meeting with the Parliamentary Network "Women Free from Violence", had an exchange of views with Ms Gabriele Heinisch-Hosek, Federal Minister for Education and Women, Austria. It also held a hearing on Focusing the victims' needs, with the participation of Ms Luisella Pavan-Woolfe, Ambassador, Head of the Delegation of the European Union to the Council of Europe and Ms Ursula Till-Tentschert, Programme Manager at the European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights (FRA);
  - held exchanges of views with Ms Ingrid Nikolay-Leitner, Ombudsperson for Equal Treatment, Austria and with Ms Helene Jarmer, member of the Austrian National Council;
  - held a hearing on 5 March, with the participation of Ms Gudrun Kugler, Observatory on Intolerance and Discrimination against Christians and Professor Stefan Hammer, Department of Legal Philosophy, Law of Religion and Culture, Law Faculty, University of Vienna.
- On 11 March 2014 in Paris, the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media held an exchange of views with Mr Duncan Campbell, journalist from Brighton (United Kingdom), on state interference in privacy on the Internet.
- > On 11-12 March 2014 in Stockholm, the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**:
  - heard a welcome address by Mr Per Westerberg, Speaker of the Swedish Riksdag;
  - held a hearing on Counteraction to manifestations of neo-Nazism and xenophobia (Rapporteur: Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin, Sweden, EPP/CD) with the participation of Ms Birgitta Ohlsson, Minister for European Affairs and Democracy of Sweden, Mr Hans J. Røsjorde, State Secretary, Ministry of Justice and Public Security, Norway, Mr Thomas Hammarberg, Human Rights Advisor and former Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, and Mr Christer Mattsson, Head of Department, Municipality of Kungälv, Sweden;

- held an exchange of views with Ms Elisabet Fura, Chief Parliamentary Ombudsman of Sweden and former Judge at the European Court of Human Rights, on the role of the Ombudsman in Sweden.
- On 13 March 2014 in Paris, the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons and UNHCR jointly organised a hearing on "Unaccompanied and separated asylum-seeking and refugee children turning eighteen: what to celebrate" with the participation of Mr Gert Westerveen, UNHCR representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg, Ms Tina Mulcahy, Acting Head of the CoE Youth Department, Ms Milen Eyob Fessehaye, Young Eritrean refugee in Sweden, Ms Lilja Gretarsdottir, Senior Adviser on Migration, CoE Directorate General of Human Rights and the Rule of Law, Ms Nathalie Lequeux, Coordinator of the Department for the Protection of Children's Right at the Office of the French Ombudsman, Mr Sergio Belfor, Vice-Chair of the CoE Advisory Council on Youth, Ms Nadine Lyamouri-Bajja, Consultant on the field research and Ms Emilie Wiinblad, UNHCR Senior Policy Officer.
- On 14 March 2014 in Paris, the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development held exchanges of views with:
  - Mr Luis Jimena Quesada, President of the European Committee of Social Rights in the framework of the promotion of social rights by the Assembly;
  - Dr Chiara Servili, Department of Mental Health, World Health Organization (WHO) in the framework of the report on "Ensuring children with attention problems are properly cared for" (Rapporteur: Ms Sílvia Eloïsa Bonet Perot, Andorra, SOC)
  - Mr Rolf Wenzel, Governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank, in the framework of the report on "Challenges for the Council of Europe Development Bank" (Rapporteur: Mr Tuur Elzinga, Netherlands, UEL).

# V. <u>Fact-finding visits in the framework of preparation of reports</u>

Social services in Europe: legislation and practice of the removal of children from their families in Council of Europe member States

**Ms Olga Borzova** (Russian Federation, EDG), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development* carried out a fact-finding visit to London (United Kingdom), **on 10 and 11 February 2014**.

> The arrival of large numbers of irregular migrants to Italian coastal areas as a result of tensions in the Southern Mediterranean countries

**Mr Christopher Chope** (United Kingdom, EDG), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons* carried out a fact-finding visit to Italy on **10-13 February 2014**.

## > Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria

Mr Frano Matušić (Croatia, EPP/CD), Rapporteur of the *Monitoring Committee*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Bulgaria from 12 to 13 February 2014.

## > The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine

Ms Mailis Reps (Estonia, ALDE) and Ms Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin (Sweden, EPP/CD), co-rapporteurs of the *Monitoring Committee*, carried out two fact-finding visits to Ukraine: the first from 17 to 21 February 2014 and then, together with the Presidential Committee, from 22 to 24 March 2014.

# Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic

Mr Andreas Gross (Switzerland, SOC), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried-out a fact-finding visit to Kyrgyzstan on 24-25 February 2014.

# > The rights of lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people (LGBTs)

**Mr Robert Biedroń** (Poland, SOC), General Rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination* carried out a fact-finding visit to Lithuania on **27-28 February 2014**.

# > Equality and the crisis

**Mr Nikolaj Villumsen** (Denmark, UEL) Rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination* carried out a fact-finding visit to Portugal on **17-18 March 2014**.

# Request for partner for democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of the Jordan

**Ms Josette Durrieu** (France, SOC), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried-out a fact-finding visit to Jordan on **25-27 March 2014**.

# VI. <u>Relations with the Committee of Ministers</u>

On 13-14 March 2014 in Graz (Austria), Mr Robert Shlegel (Russian Federation, EDG) participated in, and spoke at, the conference "Shaping the digital environment – Ensuring our rights on the Internet" organised by the Austrian Presidency of the Committee of Ministers.

On 19 March 2014 in Strasbourg, Mr José Mendes Bota (Portugal, EPP/CD), General Rapporteur on violence against women, participated in the thematic debate on *"Violence against women"* (co-operation, in particular, within the framework of the Istanbul Convention on preventing and fighting against violence towards women and domestic violence) held during the 1195<sup>th</sup> CM meeting.

# VII. <u>Relations with the Venice Commission</u>

On 21-22 March 2014 in Venice (Italy), Mr Arcadio Díaz Tejera (Spain, SOC) attended the **98<sup>th</sup> plenary session of the Venice Commission** on behalf of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights.

# VIII. <u>Co-operation with the European Parliament</u>

On 20-21 March 2014, Ms Kerstin Lundgren (Sweden, ALDE) carried-out a fact-finding visit to Brussels in the framework of the preparation of her report on *The implementation of the Memorandum of Understanding between the Council of Europe and the European Union*.

# IX. <u>List of meetings of the committees, the Bureau and the Presidential</u> <u>Committee</u>

- . **4 February 2014, London**: *Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD* of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy
- . **27-28 February 2014, St Julians, Malta**: Committee on the Honouring of obligations and commitments by member states of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee).
- . **3 March 2014, Paris**: Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
- . **4 March 2014, Vienna**: Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and Parliamentary Network women free from Violence
- . 6 March 2014, Paris: Presidential Committee
- . 6 March 2014, Paris: Bureau of the Assembly
- . **7 March 2014, Paris**: Standing Committee
- . 11 March 2014, Paris: Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

- 11-12 March 2014, Stockholm: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy
- . 13 March 2014, Paris: Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons
  - 14 March 2014, Paris: Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development
    - **22 to 24 March 2014, Ukraine**: Presidential Committee accompanied by the two Co-Rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee
    - 6 April 2014, Strasbourg: Presidential Committee

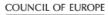
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7 April 2014, Strasbourg: Bureau of the Assembly







Doc. 13439 28 March 2014

# 2nd part of the 2014 Ordinary Session (7-11 April 2014)

Draft agenda<sup>1</sup>

1. Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 6 March 2014.

Updated, under the authority of the Secretary General of the Assembly, to reflect modifications to be proposed to the Bureau of the Assembly before the opening of the part-session (modifications are indicated in grey).

# Legends and abbreviations

List of committees Bur: Bureau of the Assembly Per: Standing Committee Pol: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy Jur: Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights Soc: Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development Mig: Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons Cult: Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media Ega: Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination Mon: Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) Pro: Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

List of political groups SOC: Socialist Group EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party EDG: European Democrat Group ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe UEL: Group of the Unified European Left NR: Representatives not belonging to a political group

#### Symbols

- Presentation, statement
- O Deadline for tabling documents
- Lists (speakers, questions)
- A Votes

# Meetings outside the Chamber

Bureau of the Assembly Monday: 08:00-09:30 Friday: 08:30-10:00

#### Committees

Monday: 14:00-15:00 Tuesday: 08:30-10:00 Tuesday: 14:00-15:30 Wednesday: 14:00-15:30 Thursday: 08:30-10:00 Thursday: 14:00-15:30

Political groups Monday: 09:30-11:00 Monday: 17:00-19:00 Wednesday: 08:30-10:00

# Monday 7 April 2014

### Sitting No. 10 (11:30-13:00)

#### 1. Opening of the part-session

- 1.1. Statement by the President
- 1.2. Examination of credentials

1.2.1. Reconsideration on substantive grounds of the previously ratified credentials of the Russian delegation (Doc. 13457, Doc. 13459 corr.)

- 1.2.2. Consideration of new credentials
- List of new members:
  - o (Doc.)

#### 1.3. Election of Vice-Presidents of the Assembly

- 1.4. Changes in the membership of committees
- 1.5. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure

1.5.1. Urgent procedure debate: "Recent developments in Ukraine: threats to the functioning of democratic institutions"

- 1.6. Adoption of the agenda
- 1.7. Approval of the minutes of proceedings of the Standing Committee (Paris, 7 March 2014)

#### 2. Debate

- 2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
  - Presentation by:
    - o Ms Nataša VUČKOVIĆ (Serbia, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )
- List of speakers
- A [possibly] Vote

# Sitting No. 11 (15:00-17:00)

#### Address (15:00-16:00)

- 3.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers to the Parliamentary Assembly
  - Presentation by:
    - Mr Sebastian KURZ, Minister for Europe, Integration and Foreign Affairs of Austria, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers
- Questions
- ③ Written questions (deadline for tabling: Monday 31 March, 11:30)

#### Debate

- 4.1. Free debate
- List of speakers

# Tuesday 8 April 2014

# Sitting No. 12 (10:00-13:00)

#### Election

- Judges to the European Court of Human Rights
- List of candidates in respect of:
  - e Serbia, Slovak Republic

#### Debate

- 5.1. Prostitution, trafficking and modern slavery in Europe
  - Presentation by: o Mr José MENDES BOTA (Portugal, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 13446)
- List of speakers
- ③ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 7 April, 16:00)
- A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13446)

#### 6. Address (12:00-13:00)

#### 6.1. Mr Arsenii YATSENIUK, Prime Minister of Ukraine [tbc]

Questions

#### Sitting No. 13 (15:30-20:00)

#### 7. Address (15:00-16:30)

- 7.1. Annual activity report 2013 by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (CommDH(2014)5)
  - Statement by:

o Mr Nils MUIŽNIEKS, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

Questions

#### Debate

- 8.1. Request for Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly submitted by the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Andreas GROSS (Switzerland, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 13461)
    - o Mr Pedro AGRAMUNT (Spain, EPP/CD), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. )
    - o Ms Bernadette BOURZAI (France, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Ega (Doc. )
  - Statement by:
    - o Mr Asylbek JEENBEKOV, Speaker of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic
- List of speakers
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 7 April, 16:00)
- A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13461)

### 9. Debate

- 9.1. The situation and rights of traditional national minorities in Europe
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Ferenc KALMÁR (Hungary, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 13445)
- List of speakers
- ③ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 7 April, 16:00)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13445)

# Sitting No. 14 (10:00-13:00)

#### 10. Joint debate

- 10.1. Improving user protection and security in cyberspace
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Axel E. FISCHER (Germany, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 13451)
    - Mr Arcadio DÍAZ TEJERA (Spain, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc.)

#### 10.2. The right to Internet access

- Presentation by:
  - o Ms Jaana PELKONEN (Finland, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 13434)
  - Mr Jordi XUCLÀ (Spain, ALDE), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. 13465)
- List of speakers
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 8 April, 10:30)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13451)
- A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13434)

#### 11. Address (12:00-13:00)

11.1. Mr Heinz FISCHER, President of Austria

Questions

#### Sitting No. 15 (15:30-20:00)

#### 12. Debate

- 12.1. Access to nationality and the effective implementation of the European Convention on Nationality
  - D Presentation by:
    - o Mr Boriss CILEVIČS (Latvia, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 13392)
    - o Mr Rafael HUSEYNOV (Azerbaijan, ALDE), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Mig (Doc. 13438)
- List of speakers
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 8 April, 16:00)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13392)

#### 13. Debate

- 13.1. Urgent need to deal with new failures to co-operate with the European Court of Human Rights
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Kimmo SASI (Finland, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 13435)
- List of speakers
- G Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 8 April, 16:00)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13435)

# Thursday 10 April 2014

# Sitting No. 16 (10:00-13:00)

14. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure or current affairs debate<sup>2</sup>

#### 15. Address (12:00-13:00)

15.1. Address by an invited personality [tbc]

Questions

#### Sitting No. 17 (15:30-20:00)

#### 16. Debate

- 16.1. The protection of minors against excesses of sects
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Rudy SALLES (France, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 13441)
    - o Mr André BUGNON (Switzerland, ALDE), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Soc (Doc. )
- List of speakers
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 9 April, 16:00)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13441)

#### 17. Debate

- 17.1. Decent work for all
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Roel DESEYN (Belgium, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 13456)
    - o Mr Christopher CHOPE (United Kingdom, EDG), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. )
- List of speakers
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 9 April, 16:00)
- A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13456)

# Sitting No. 18 (10:00-13:00)

#### 18. Joint debate

# 18.1. Refugees and the right to work

- Presentation by:
  - o Mr Christopher CHOPE (United Kingdom, EDG), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 13462)

#### 18.2. Resettlement of refugees: promoting greater solidarity

- D Presentation by:
  - o Mr Eric VORUZ (Switzerland, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 13460)
- List of speakers
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 10 April, 10:30)
- A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13462)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13460)

#### 19. Debate

- 19.1. Ending child poverty in Europe
  - D Presentation by:
    - o Ms Sevinj FATALIYEVA (Azerbaijan, EDG), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 13458)
- List of speakers
- ③ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 10 April, 10:30)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13458)

#### 20. Closure of the part-session

### **APPENDIX 2**

Ad Hoc Committee for the observation of the early parliamentary elections in the Republic of Serbia (16 March 2014) - list of members

### Pedro AGRAMUNT (Spain, EPP/CD), Head of the delegation

Socialist Group (SOC) Ferdinando AIELLO Philippe BLANCHART Maria GIANNAKAKI Igor IVANOVSKI \*\* Luc RECORDON Kostas TRIANTAFYLLOS

Italy Belgium Greece "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" Switzerland Greece

#### Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD)

Pedro AGRAMUNT \*\* Viorel BADEA Giuseppe GALATI Foteini PIPILI Kimmo SASI Spain Romania Italy Greece Finland

#### Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Andrea RIGONI	Italy
Hirakli CHIKOVANI	Georgia
Ionuţ-Marian STROE	Romania

# European Democratic Group (EDG)

Reha DENEMEÇ Ingebjørg GODSKESEN \*\* Igor MOROZOV Turkey Norway Russian Federation

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) Grigore PETRENCO \*\* Republic of Moldova

Venice Commission Owen MASTERS

Expert

## Secretariat

Chemavon CHAHBAZIAN, Deputy to the Head of Secretariat of the Interparliamentary cooperation and election observation Unit Franck DAESCHLER, Principal Administrative Assistant Daniele GASTL, Assistant

\*\* members of the pre-election delegation (19-20 February 2014)

#### **APPENDIX 3**

Ad Hoc Committee for the observation of the presidential and early parliamentary elections in "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (13-27 April 2014) - List of members

Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC), Head of the delegation

## Socialist Group (SOC)

Joe BENTON, United Kingdom Andreas GROSS, Switzerland Stefan SCHENNACH \*\*, Austria Josette DURRIEU, France Luc RECORDON, Switzerland Deniza KARADJOVA, Bulgaria

#### Group of the European People's Party EPP/CD)

Werner AMON, Austria Şaban DİŞLİ\*\*, Turkey Bernd FABRITIUS, Germany Yves POZZO di BORGO, France

#### Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

André BUGNON, Switzerland Margus HANSON\*\*, Estonia Chiora TAKTAKISHVILI, Georgia

#### **European Democrat Group (EDG)**

Brian BINLEY, United Kingdom Sir Roger GALE, United Kingdom Reha DENEMEÇ, Turkey

#### Substitutes

Tülin ERKAL KARA, Turkey Morten WOLD, Norway Ganira PASHAYEVA, Azerbaijan

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) Vassiliy LIKHACHEV \*\*, Russian Federation

Rapporteur AS/MON (*ex-officio*) Robert WALTER\*\*, United Kingdom

#### Venice Commission Owen MASTERS, Expert

#### Secretariat

Vladimir DRONOV, Head of Secretariat, Interparliamentary cooperation and election observation Unit Bogdan TORCĂTORIU, Administrative Officer, Interparliamentary cooperation and election observation Unit Franck DAESCHLER, Principal Administrative Assistant Anne GODFREY, Assistant

\*\* members of the pre-election delegation

### STATEMENT ON THE POLITICAL CRISIS IN UKRAINE

#### The Parliamentary Assembly strongly supports Ukraine's territorial integrity and national sovereignty

Paris, 7 March 2014. The Standing Committee of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, meeting today in Paris, expressed its full support for the territorial integrity and national unity of Ukraine. It therefore strongly condemned the violation by the Russian Federation of the country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. The actions of Russian military forces in the Crimean peninsula, as well as explicit threats of military actions in the rest of Ukraine's territory, are in direct violation of international law, including the UN Charter, the OSCE Helsinki Final Act, the Statute of the Council of Europe, as well as Russia's accession commitments.

The Standing Committee is especially concerned that the Council of Federation authorised the Russian President to use military force in the Crimea and it regrets the statements by both houses of the Russian parliament that supported calls for separatism and secessionism in an already tense region.

The Assembly expresses its full support for the legitimate new authorities in Kyiv and commends them for their restraint. It urges the authorities to refrain from any actions and rhetoric that could divide the Ukrainian society and undermine national unity. In order to strengthen national unity and the democratic development of the country, it is now important that as soon as possible a new constitution is adopted that is fully in line with Council of Europe standards and an early presidential election is held, followed by early parliamentary elections when the situation allows.

The Assembly stands ready to assist the Ukrainian authorities, and especially the Verkhovna Rada, in these processes.



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PACE 053 (2014)

# PACE President and leaders visit Ukraine

Strasbourg, 21.03.2014 – A delegation of the leading members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), headed by its President Anne Brasseur, is to visit Kyiv, Donetsk and Lviv during a three-day visit to Ukraine from 22-24 March 2014.

The nine-member delegation(\*) – made up of the President of the Assembly, the heads of its five political groups and its Secretary General, as well as the two-co-rapporteurs for the monitoring of Ukraine – will assess the situation in Ukraine ahead of an <u>urgent debate</u> likely to take place at PACE's spring plenary session (7-11 April 2014).

In Kyiv on Saturday 22 March, the delegation is due to meet the Speaker of the *Verkhovna Rada* and acting President, the Prime Minister, the Internal Affairs Minister and Foreign Minister, as well as the leaders of Ukraine's main political parties and the chairman of the Meilis of the Crimean Tatar People.

In Donetsk on Sunday 23 and in Lviv on Monday 24, the delegation is due to meet the Governors of each oblast, the mayors of each city, and members of the regional councils, as well as representatives of Russian and Ukrainian cultural organisations (to be confirmed).

<u>Statement on Crimea by PACE President Anne Brasseur</u> <u>Statement on the situation in Ukraine by PACE Standing Committee</u>

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<sup>(\*)</sup> Anne Brasseur (President of the Parliamentary Assembly), Andreas Gross (Chairperson of the Socialist Group), Pedro Agramunt (Chairperson of the Group of the European People's Party), Jordi Xucla (Chairperson of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe), Alexey Pushkov (Chairperson of the European Democrat Group), Tiny Kox (Chairperson of the Group of the United European Left), Wojciech Sawicki (Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly), Mailis Reps (Co-rapporteur of the Monitoring Committee for Ukraine), Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin (Co-rapporteur of the Monitoring Committee for Ukraine).



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PACE 056 (2014)

# PACE President, ending visit, offers Council of Europe help with laying foundations for democratic reforms in Ukraine

Strasbourg, 25.03.2014 - Anne Brasseur, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), speaking at the end of a three-day visit to Kyiv, Donetsk and Lviv by a delegation (\*) of leading members from the Assembly, has offered the Council of Europe's help in assisting Ukraine to overcome the great challenges it faces.

"Our delegation explored the consequences of Russia's annexation of Crimea, which I have strongly condemned. We also looked at the situation following events on Maidan," said the President.

"The first priority is security and a calming of current tensions. The build-up of Russian military forces at the borders of Ukraine is of great concern.

"We visited Donetsk in the east, where we witnessed the tensions surrounding the Russianspeaking community. These need to be addressed but should under no circumstances be used as an excuse for further Russian violations of Ukraine's territorial integrity. I call on all involved to step back from any provocation or rhetoric which could heighten tensions further."

The President pointed out that Ukraine is only a month away from the dramatic events in the Maidan. "The Maidan was a call for a more modern and democratic system of government for Ukraine, but the country's new democratic process cannot be created overnight. However it is important to lay the foundations quickly, so that the people of Ukraine are able to have trust and confidence in their institutions."

"The number one priority here has to be the adoption of a new Constitution, followed by the adoption of a unified electoral law that can enable the forthcoming elections to proceed smoothly. The Council of Europe can provide immediate, expert help with both of these."

"Other priorities will need to include decentralisation of government and guarantees that the rights of all national and linguistic minorities will be fully protected. Furthermore there must be no impunity for the human rights abuses that occurred during the Maidan protests, and the independence of the judiciary must be guaranteed. Endemic corruption must also be tackled for the reforms to succeed."

"The Parliamentary Assembly and the Council of Europe remain ready to help Ukraine and its people in taking forward these urgent priorities."

The PACE delegation met the acting President of Ukraine, representatives of the main parties and blocs in the Verkhovna Rada, and the governors of the Donetsk and Lviv regions, among others.

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<sup>(\*)</sup> Anne Brasseur (President of the Parliamentary Assembly), Andreas Gross (Chairperson of the Socialist Group), Pedro Agramunt (Chairperson of the Group of the European People's Party), Jordi Xucla (Chairperson of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe), Tiny Kox (Chairperson of the Group of the United European Left), Wojciech Sawicki (Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly), Mailis Reps (Co-rapporteur of the Monitoring Committee for Ukraine), Marietta de Pourbaix-Lundin (Co-rapporteur of the Monitoring Committee for Ukraine).