

Information documents

SG-AS (2015) 03

14 April 2015

Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1225th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies¹ (15 April 2015)

¹ This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 30 January 2015 (Strasbourg) and the future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 20 April 2015 (Strasbourg).

I. Decisions taken by the Bureau

A. Second part-session of 2015 (20-24 April 2015)

On 5 March 2015, the Bureau drew up the draft agenda (Appendix 1) and decided to invite Ms Helena Dalli, Minister for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Civil Liberties of Malta, to address the Assembly in the context of the debate on *Discrimination against transgender persons in Europe* (Rapporteur of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination: Ms Deborah Schembri, Malta, SOC). Furthermore, the Bureau decided to include a debate on an Assembly's Opinion on the *draft Additional Protocol to the Council of Europe Convention on the Prevention of Terrorism* in the draft agenda, subject to receiving a request for a debate under urgent procedure from the Committee of Ministers.

At its meeting on 17 March 2015, the Monitoring Committee proposed that a current affairs debate be held on "*The political and security situation in Ukraine and its implications*".

A meeting of the Joint Committee will be held on Wednesday 22 April 2015 from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm (room 5).

The Assembly will also elect judges to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Andorra, Austria, Finland, Ireland and Liechtenstein.

A list of events to be held during this part-session is appended to this communication (Appendix 2).

B. Observation of elections

➤ Meeting of the Chairpersons of ad hoc committees for the observation of elections (27 January 2015)

On 5 March 2015, the Bureau took note of the conclusions of the meeting.

➤ Guidelines for the observation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly

On 5 March 2015, the Bureau considered and approved the amendments to the Guidelines proposed at the meeting of the Chairpersons of ad hoc Committees for the observation of elections (27 January 2015), subject to ratification by the Assembly. The amendments define that the rapporteurs for the evaluation of the partnership for democracy of a given parliament should be encouraged to join the relevant ad hoc committee to observe the elections in the countries concerned; however, they should not be appointed chairpersons thereof.

➤ Kazakhstan: early presidential election (26 April 2015)

On 5 March 2015, the Bureau decided not to observe this election.

➤ Turkey: parliamentary elections (7 June 2015)

On 5 March 2015, the Bureau decided to observe these elections, constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (SOC: 11; EPP/CD: 10; ALDE: 4 EC: 3; UEL: 2) and the rapporteur of the post-monitoring dialogue on Turkey of the Monitoring Committee; and authorised a pre-electoral mission.

C. Other decisions taken by the Bureau at its meeting on 5 March 2015

➤ The adoption of declarations

The Bureau considered, revised and approved the Guidelines on the adoption of declarations contained in the opinion of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, to be ratified by the Assembly.

These Guidelines establish the following rules for the examination and approval of a declaration:

- it must be included on the agenda for examination and approval at the latest when the committee, Bureau or Standing Committee adopt the agenda at the beginning of the meeting;
- the draft must be distributed in the same conditions in terms of form and deadline, as any other document (Rule 47.5 for a committee, Rule 17.6 for the Standing Committee), except in urgent situations at the request of the President of the Assembly (for the Standing Committee and Bureau) or the chairperson of the committee concerned; and
- its approval must be by the majority of votes cast, subject to the requisite quorum (by analogy with the procedure laid down for the adoption of motions for texts by committees – Rule 25.2).

➤ **Participation of members in Parliamentary Assembly plenary sessions and committee meetings**

The Bureau approved the proposals by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs indicating the measures to be taken in respect of delegations with low participation rates under Rule 44.10 of the Rules of Procedure and paragraph 7.2 of Resolution 1583 (2007).

The approved text invites the President 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. This concerns 17 delegations whose overall participation remained below 50%² and 8 delegations whose participation in committee meetings was below 33%³ in 2014. It also invites the Bureau to consider the possibility to publish the statistics related to the participation of national delegations and to make them publicly available on the Assembly's website, as has been done since 2012.

➤ **General Rapporteurs**

The Bureau approved the terms of reference of a General Rapporteur on “Ending Immigration Detention of Children”, which were subsequently ratified by the Standing Committee. This General Rapporteur will be mandated to intervene in matters relating to the Global End Immigration Detention of Children Campaign. S/he will contribute to raising awareness in Council of Europe member states on the need to end immigration detention of children and to adopt alternatives to detention that fulfil the best interests of the child and allow children to remain with their family members and/or guardians in non-custodial, community-based contexts while their immigration status is being resolved. S/he shall report periodically to the Committee on the information collected and the action taken.

➤ **Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2016 – 2019)**

The Bureau decided to modify the dates for the fourth part-session of 2016 to 10-14 October and approved the following dates for the part-sessions for the years 2017-2019:

- . 2017: 23-27 January, 24-28 April, 26-30 June, 9-13 October;
- . 2018: 22-26 January, 23-27 April, 25-29 June, 8-12 October;
- . 2019: 21-25 January, 8-12 April, 24-28 June, 30 September- 4 October.

II. Standing Committee – 6 March 2015

The Standing Committee held an exchange of views with Mr Michael Georg Link, Director of the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR).

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

- Resolution 2040 (2015) on Threats to the rule of law in Council of Europe member States: asserting the Parliamentary Assembly's authority;
- Resolution 2041(2015) and Recommendation 2065 (2015) on European institutions and human rights in Europe;
- Resolution 2042 (2015) on Ensuring comprehensive treatment for children with attention problems;

² Albania, Belgium, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Bulgaria, Denmark, Germany, Hungary, Italy, Malta, Monaco, Portugal, Romania, the Russian Federation, the Slovak Republic, Slovenia, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and Ukraine

³ Albania, Bulgaria, Liechtenstein, Portugal, the Russian Federation, the Slovak Republic, “the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia” and Ukraine

- Resolution 2043 (2015) on Democratic participation for migrant diaspora;
- Resolution 2044 (2015) and Recommendation 2066 (2015) on Student mobility

III. Activities of Committees and Networks

- On 25 and 26 February 2015 in Paris, the **Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD** of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy held a meeting at the OECD headquarters, in the framework of the 3rd OECD Parliamentary Days.
- On 11-13 March in The Hague, the **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media** held hearings and exchanges of views on:

. **Freedom of religion and living together in a democratic society**, within the framework of preparing a report on “*Freedom of religion and religious practices*” (*Rapporteur: Mr Rafael Huseynov, Azerbaijan, ALDE*), with the participation of the Grand Rabbi Albert Guigui, Grand Rabbi of Brussels, permanent representative of the Conference of European Rabbis to the European institutions in Brussels; Mr Anouar Kbibeche, President of the Gathering of French Muslims (Rassemblement des Musulmans de France – RMF), Vice-president of the French Council of the Muslim Faith (Conseil Français du Culte Musulman – CFCM); Ms Marguerite A. Peeters, Consultor to the Pontifical Council for Culture, Director of the Institute for Intercultural Dialogue Dynamics, Brussels; Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

. **Access to school and education for all children** (*Rapporteur: Mr Gvozden Srećko Flego, Croatia, SOC*) with the participation of Ms Margarete Sachs-Israel, Programme Specialist, Education for All Global Partnerships Team, UNESCO, and Dr Gabriela Noveanu, Senior Research Analyst, International Association for the Evaluation of Educational Achievement (IEA);

. **Increasing co-operation against cyberterrorism and other large-scale attacks on the Internet** (*Rapporteur: Mr Hans Franken, Netherlands, EPP/CD*) with the participation of Mr Jacob Kohnstamm, Chairperson, Dutch Data Protection Authority, The Hague; Mr Olivier Burgersdijk, Head of Strategy, European Cybercrime Centre (EC3), Europol, The Hague; Mr Menno van der Marel, CEO, Fox- IT, Delft; Mr Bart Jacobs, Professor of Software Security and Correctness, University of Nijmegen; Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

. **Rethinking the anti-doping strategy** (*Rapporteur: Mr André Schneider, France, EPP/CD*) with the participation of Professor Michel Rieu, former scientific counsellor to the French Anti-doping Agency (AFLD); Mr Herman Ram, Director of the Dutch Anti-doping Authority; Mr Chris Vansteenkiste, Senior Specialist of the Operations Department, Europol; Mr Anders Solheim, Chairperson of the Monitoring Group of the Anti-Doping Convention (T-DO), Council of Europe; Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;

. **Towards a European framework of competences for democratic citizenship, human rights and intercultural dialogue** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jacques Legendre, France, EPP/CD*) with the participation of Mr David Kerr, Citizenship Foundation, United Kingdom, and Mr Márcio Barcelos, Representative of the European Youth Forum;

. **Educational and cultural networks of communities living abroad** (*Rapporteur: Mr Pierre-Yves Le Borgn', France, SOC*) with the participation of Mr Niels Jørgen Thøgersen, President of Europeans Throughout the World, Brussels, Belgium.

- On 16 March 2015 in Paris (Sénat), the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy** held hearings and exchanges on:

. **Foreign fighters in Syria** (*Rapporteur: Mr Dirk Van der Maelen, Belgium, SOC*) with the participation of Mr Rik Coolsaet PhD, Professor of International Relations, Ghent University, Belgium and member of the European Network of Experts on Radicalisation (ENER); Ms Sandra Krähenmann, Research Fellow, Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights, Switzerland; Mr Mats Benestad, Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Norway, Co-ordinator of the CODEXTER Sub-Group on radicalisation and the receiving of training for terrorism, including via the Internet; and Dr Christophe Paulussen, Senior Researcher, Asser Institute and Research Fellow, International Centre for Counter-Terrorism, The Hague, Netherlands;

- . ***The political consequences of the crisis in Ukraine*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Kristýna Zeličková, Czech Republic, ALDE*), with the participation of Mr Gianni Buquicchio, President of the Venice Commission and decided to declassify the information note ([AS/Pol \(2015\) 02rev](#)) by the Rapporteur on her fact-finding visit to Ukraine from 15 to 18 February 2015.
- On 17 March in Paris, the **Monitoring Committee** held an exchange of views on the ***Follow-up to Resolution 2034 (2015): Reconsideration of sanctions in respect of the delegation of the Russian Federation to the Parliamentary Assembly*** and, in the light of the manifest lack of progress on the demands of the Assembly formulated in Resolution 2034 (2015), instructed the Chair to write to the President of the Assembly requesting that the debate on this subject be withdrawn from the agenda of the April 2015 part-session and that a current affairs debate be held on “the political and security situation in Ukraine and its implications”.
- On 18 March in Paris, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** held:
- . an exchange of views with the President of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Mr Latif Hüseyinov, outgoing President of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture, Azerbaijan
- . and an exchange of views on “**Respect for human rights and the threat of terrorism**” with the participation of Mr Ivan Koedjikov, Head of Department and Counter-terrorism Co-Ordinator, Directorate General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe, and Mr Dick Marty, former Swiss Senator, former Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly.
- On 23 March 2015 in Paris, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons** held hearings and exchanges of views with Ms Anne Brasseur, President of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- . ***Missing persons during the conflict in Ukraine*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jim Sheridan, United Kingdom, SOC*) with the participation of Mr Vasyl Vovk, Chief of the main Investigative Division of the Security Service of Ukraine, Ms Hanna Mokrousova, representative of “Vostok-SOS”, Ukraine, Ms Olga Alekseeva, Executive Director of the Saint Petersburg Regional Human Rights Organisation “Soldiers’ Mothers of St. Petersburg”, Russian Federation and Mr Eskender Bariiev, Coordinator of the Committee for the Defence of Human Rights of the Crimean Tatars, Ukraine;
- . ***Humanitarian consequences of the actions of the terrorist group known as “Islamic State”*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Jean-Marie Bockel, France, EPP/CD*) with the participation of Mr Gert Westerveen, UNHCR Representative to the European Institutions in Strasbourg
- . ***Brain drain as a consequence of migration*** with the participation of Mr El Mokhtar Ghambou, member of the Moroccan Partner for Democracy Delegation to the PACE.
- On 24 March in Paris, the **Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development** held hearings and exchanges on:
- . ***Towards a new European Social Model*** (*Rapporteur: Ms Maria de Belém Roseira, Portugal, SOC*) with the participation of Professor Pasquale Tridico, Professor of Labour Economics, University Roma Tre, Italy;
- . ***Follow-up to the Resolution 2031 (2015) on “Terrorist attacks in Paris: together for a democratic response***, with the participation of Mr Bernard De Vos, Ombudsman for Children's Rights of the Federation Wallonia-Brussels on “Reacting constructively to the radicalisation of children”;
- . ***The exploration and exploitation of non-conventional hydrocarbons in Europe*** (*Rapporteur: Mr Salvador Sedó, Spain, EPP/CD*) with the participation of Mr Gregor Erbach, Policy Analyst, European Parliamentary Research Services, European Parliament, Brussels, Mr Christian Besson, Advisor, Directorate of Global Energy Economics, International Energy Agency (IEA), Paris; and Mr Antoine Simon, Economic Justice Programme, Extractive Industries Campaigner, Friends of the Earth Europe, Brussels.

- On 26-27 March 2015 in Istanbul (Turkey), the **Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs** held a seminar on “*Elected bodies: transparency of functioning and accountability*”.
- On 30 and 31 March 2015 in Lagos (Portugal), the **Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit** of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons held a conference on “North-South migration dialogue” with the participation of parliamentarians and experts.

IV. Seminars and conferences

On 19-20 March 2015 in Strasbourg, a capacity-building seminar on the European Convention on Human Rights for the staff on national parliaments from Armenia, Azerbaijan, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine was organised by the Secretariat in the Framework of the Eastern Partnership parliamentary dimension programme.

V. Fact-finding visits in the framework of the preparation of reports

- ***The political consequences of the crisis in Ukraine***

Ms Kristýna Zeličková (Czech Republic, ALDE), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Ukraine from **15 to 18 February 2015**.

- ***Abuse of pre-trial detention in States Parties to the European Convention on Human Rights***

Mr Pedro Agramunt, (Spain, EPP/CD), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Tbilisi, Georgia from **16 to 18 February 2015**.

- ***Post-monitoring dialogue with Monaco***

Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE), Rapporteur of the *Monitoring Committee*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Monaco on **20 February 2015**.

- ***Foreign fighters in Syria***

Mr Dirk Van der Maelen (Belgium, SOC), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, attended the first meeting of the Council of Europe Committee on Foreign terrorist Fighters and Related Issues (COD-CTE) on **23-24 February 2015** in Strasbourg.

- ***The Situation in Belarus***

Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Belarus on **25-26 February 2015**.

- ***The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)***

Mr Tuur Elzinga (Netherlands, UEL), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, took part in the 3rd OECD Parliamentary Days in Paris and held bilateral meetings with OECD experts on **25-27 February 2015**.

- ***Protecting patients and public health against undue influence of the pharmaceutical industry***

Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*, carried out a fact-finding visit to London on **26-27 February 2015**.

- ***Recognising and preventing neo-racism***

Rapporteur: **Ms Milena Santerini** (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Germany on **2 – 3 March 2015**.

➤ ***The honouring of obligations and commitments by Azerbaijan***

Mr Pedro Agramunt (Spain, EPP/CD) and **Mr Tadeusz Iwiński** (Poland, SOC), Co-rapporteurs of the *Monitoring Committee*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Azerbaijan from **1 to 4 March 2015**.

➤ ***Escalation of violence in Nagorno-Karabakh and the other occupied territories of Azerbaijan***

Mr Robert Walter (United Kingdom, EC), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Baku on **12-13 March 2015**.

➤ ***Countries of transit: meeting new migration and asylum challenges***

Ms Tineke Strik (Netherlands, SOC), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Turkey on **25 and 26 March 2015**.

➤ ***The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine***

Ms Mailis Reps (Estonia, ALDE) and **Mr Jean-Claude Mignon** (France, EPP/CD), Co-rapporteurs of the *Monitoring Committee*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Ukraine from **25 to 27 March 2015**.

➤ ***Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Morocco***

Mr Bogdan Klich (Poland, EPP/CD), Rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Morocco, from **7 to 11 April 2015**.

VI. Relations with the Committee of Ministers

On 19 March 2015 in Strasbourg, Mr Dirk Van der Maelen (Belgium, SOC), Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on *Foreign fighters in Syria*, participated, as guest speaker, in the thematic debate organised by the Ministers' Deputies on *Council of Europe action against extremism and radicalisation leading to terrorism*.

VII. Relations with the Venice Commission

➤ ***Meeting of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy (16 March 2015)***: the committee held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Gianni Buquicchio, President of the Venice Commission on *The political consequences of the crisis in Ukraine* (Rapporteur: Ms Kristýna Zelenková, Czech Republic, ALDE).

➤ ***Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission (19 March 2015)***: Ms Tinatin Khidasheli (Georgia, ALDE), representative of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Mr José María Beneyto (Spain, EPP/CD), representative of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, and Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE), representative of the Monitoring Committee, attended the session.

➤ ***102nd Plenary session of the Venice Commission (20-21 March 2015)***: Mr Arcadio Díaz Tejera (Spain, SOC), representative of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, attended the session. On 21 March, the Presidential Committee held a joint meeting with the Bureau of the Venice Commission.

VIII. List of meetings of the Committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee

- . **25-26 February, Paris (OECD):** *Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **5 March, Paris:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **5 March, Paris:** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **6 March, Paris:** *Standing Committee*
- . **11-12 March, The Hague (Netherlands):** *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **16 March, Paris:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **17 March, Paris:** *Monitoring Committee*
- . **18 March, Paris:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **19 March, Paris:** *No Hate Alliance of Parliamentarians*
- . **20 March, Paris:** *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*
- . **21 March, Venice (Italy):** *Joint meeting of the Presidential Committee and the Bureau of the Venice Commission*
- . **23 March, Paris:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **24 March, Paris:** *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*
- . **26-27 March, Istanbul (Turkey):** *Committee on Rules and Regulations, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*
- . **30-31 March, Lagos (Portugal):** *Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **30-31 March, Paris:** *Committee on the Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights*
- . **19 April, Strasbourg:** *Presidential Committee and meeting with the President and the Committees Chairpersons*
- . **20 April, Strasbourg:** *Bureau of the Assembly*

APPENDIX 1



Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire

<http://assembly.coe.int>

COUNCIL OF EUROPE



CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

Doc. 13724 prov 1
09 April 2015

2nd part of the 2015 Ordinary Session (20-24 April 2015)

Draft agenda¹

1. Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 5 March 2015.
Updated, under the authority of the Secretary General of the Assembly, to reflect modifications to be proposed to the Bureau of the Assembly (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

Cdh: Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

List of political groups

SOC: Socialist Group

EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party

ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

EC: European Conservatives Group

UEL: Group of the Unified European Left

NR: Representatives not belonging to a political group

Symbols

🗉 Presentation, statement

🕒 Deadline for tabling documents

📄 Lists (speakers, questions)

🗳️ Votes

Meetings outside the Chamber

Joint Committee

Wednesday: 15:30-16:30

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: 09:30-11:30

Monday: 17:00-19:00

Wednesday: 08:30-10:00

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

1. Opening of the part-session

1.1. Statement by the President

1.2. Examination of credentials

- ☐ List of delegations:
 - o (Doc.)

1.3. Election of a Vice-President of the Assembly with respect to Bosnia and Herzegovina

1.4. Changes in the membership of committees

1.5. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure

- 1.5.1. Current affairs debate: "The political and security situation in Ukraine and its implications"**

1.6. Adoption of the agenda

1.7. Approval of the minutes of proceedings of the Standing Committee (Paris, 6 March 2015)

2. Debate

2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Pedro AGRAMUNT (Spain, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc.) (Doc.) (Doc.) (Doc. 13750 Addendum II)

☞ List of speakers

⚠ [possibly] Vote

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

3. Address (15:00-16:00)

3.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Didier REYNDEERS, Minister for Foreign Affairs and European Affairs of Belgium, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers

☞ Questions

⊕ Written questions (deadline for tabling: Monday 13 April, 11:30)

4. Debate

4.1. Free debate

☞ List of speakers

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

5. Election (10:00-13:00)

5.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

- ☐ List of candidates in respect of:
 - o Andorra, Austria, Finland, Ireland and Liechtenstein (Doc. 13721, Doc. 13726, Doc. 13729, Doc. 13725, Doc. 13718)

6. Debate

6.1. Mass surveillance

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Pieter OMTZIGT (Netherlands, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 13734)
 - o Sir Roger GALE (United Kingdom, EC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Cult (Doc. 13748)
- ☐ List of speakers
- ⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 20 April, 16:00)
- ⚠ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13734)

7. Address (12:30-13:00)

7.1. His Majesty the King of the Belgians

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

8. Elections (continued) (15:30-17:00)

8.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

9. Question time (15:30-16:00)

9.1. Questions to Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

- ☐ Questions

10. Joint debate

10.1. Budget and priorities of the Council of Europe for the biennium 2016-2017

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Rudy SALLES (France, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pro (Doc. 13743)

10.2. Expenditure of the Parliamentary Assembly for the biennium 2016-2017

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Rudy SALLES (France, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pro (Doc. 13744)

- ☐ List of speakers
- ⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 20 April, 16:00)
- ⚠ Vote on a draft opinion (Doc. 13743)
- ⚠ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13744)

11. Debate

11.1. Humanitarian consequences of the actions of the terrorist group known as “Islamic State”

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Jean-Marie BOCKEL (France, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 13741)

- ☐ List of speakers
- ⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 20 April, 16:00)
- ⚠ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13741)

Wednesday 22 April 2015

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

12. [Possibly 2nd round] Election (10:00-13:00)

12.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

13. Debate

13.1. Reconsideration of sanctions in respect of the delegation of the Russian Federation (follow-up to paragraph 15 of Resolution 2034 (2015))

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc.)

📖 List of speakers

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 21 April, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

Sitting No. 15 (16:30-20:00)

14. [Possibly 2nd round] Election (continued) (16:30-18:00)

14.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

15. Debate

15.1. Discrimination against transgender people in Europe

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - Ms Deborah SCHEMBRI (Malta, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 13742)
- ☐ Statement by:
 - Ms Helena DALLI, Minister for Social Dialogue, Consumer Affairs and Liberties of Malta

📖 List of speakers

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 21 April, 17:00)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13742)

16. Debate

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

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - Ms Olga BORZOVA (Russian Federation, NR), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 13730)
 - Ms Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine, NR), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc.)

📖 List of speakers

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 21 April, 17:00)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13730)


Thursday 23 April 2015

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

17. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure or current affairs debate²

18. Address (12:00-13:00)


18.1. Address by an invited personality [tbc]

 Questions


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

19. Address (15:30-16:30)

19.1. Annual activity report 2014 by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (CommDH(2015)4)


 Presentation by:

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


 Questions


20. Debate


20.1. Drones and targeted killings: the need to uphold human rights and international law

 Presentation by:

- o Mr Arcadio DÍAZ TEJERA (Spain, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 13731)


 List of speakers

 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 22 April, 16:00)


 Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13731)


21. Debate


21.1. Post-monitoring dialogue with Monaco

 Presentation by:

- o Mr Jordi XUCLÀ (Spain, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 13739)

 List of speakers

 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 22 April, 16:00)

 Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13739)

2. Subject to a decision by the Assembly.

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

22. Debate

22.1. Equality and non-discrimination in the access to justice

☐ Presentation by:

○ Mr Viorel Riceard BADEA (Romania, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 13740)

📄 List of speakers

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 23 April, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 13740)

23. Debate

23.1. The effectiveness of the European Convention on Human Rights: the Brighton Declaration and beyond

☐ Presentation by:

○ Mr Yves POZZO DI BORGO (France, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 13719)

📄 List of speakers

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 23 April, 10:30)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 13719)

24. Progress report (continued)

25. Closure of the part-session

APPENDIX 2 – List of events linked to the part-session

Monday 20 April 2015	
<p>1 –5.30 pm Lobby of the Chamber, Palais</p> <p>(continues on Tuesday 21 April from 10 am to 5.30 pm)</p>	<p>Living Library - “Ending Immigration Detention of Children” Launching of the Parliamentary Campaign to end immigration detention of children</p> <p>with the participation of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Didier Reynders, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Belgium, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers • Anne Brasseur, President of the Assembly • Doris Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE), General Rapporteur <p>The Living Library aims to raise awareness of the issue and urges States which have not done it so far to adopt alternatives to detention that fulfill the best interests of the child and allow children to remain with their family member and/or guardians in non-custodial, community-based contexts at the time when their immigration status has not yet been resolved.</p> <p>Organised by the PACE Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons, in co-operation with the Council of Europe Youth Department, this will function like a traditional library, that is to say “readers” (PACE members, CoE staff members, all people with access to the Palais) can borrow “books” for a specified period. The only difference with a Living Library is that the “books” are human beings who can share their experiences about the subject with “readers”.</p>
<p>1–2pm Room 8 Palais</p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p>	<p>► Side-event on “Secret Drone Wars: Why Europe should care”</p>
<p>2–3 pm Room 1, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p> <p>Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs</p>	<p>► Joint Hearing “Corrupt elites as a threat to democracy”</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Introductory statement by Mr Michele Nicoletti (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on <i>Corruption as governance regime: a barrier to institutional efficiency and progress</i>, and member of the Parliamentary Assembly’s Anti-corruption Platform; • Statements by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> . Mr Raffaele Cantone, President of the Italian Anti-Corruption Authority, Rome . Mr Sergei Guriev, Professor of economics at the Paris Institute for Political Studies
Tuesday 21 April 2015	
<p>8.30 –10 am Room 8, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on “Assessing the need for a comprehensive review of the Dublin regulation and its implementation”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Michele Nicoletti (Italy, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Edouard Schmidt, Directorate-General Migration and Home Affairs (HOME), European Commission • Mr Kris Pollet, Senior Legal and Policy Officer, European Council for Refugees and Exiles (ECRE) <p>► Exchanges of views on the “Global campaign to end immigration detention of children”</p> <p>in the context of the follow-up to the report on “The alternatives to immigration detention of children” by Ms Tinatin Bokuchava (Georgia, EPP/CD), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Leeane Torpey, Coordinator of the Global Campaign to End Child Detention

Tuesday 21 April 2015

<p>8.30 –10 am Room 9, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► Hearing on “The Situation in Belarus”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE), with the participation of parliamentarians and representatives of the opposition and of civil society.</p>
<p>8.30 –10 am Room 11, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination</p>	<p>► Hearing on “Recognising and preventing neo-racism”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Milena Santerini (Italy, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Jean-Paul Lehnens, member of the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)
<p>10 am – 5.30 pm Lobby of the Chamber, Palais</p>	<p>Living Library “Ending Immigration Detention of Children”– continues</p> <p>(see description above)</p>
<p>2.00 – 3.30 pm Room 6, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on “Towards a European framework of competences for democratic citizenship, human rights and intercultural dialogue”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Jacques Legendre, France (EPP/CD) with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Snežana Samardžić-Marković, Director General of Democracy of the Council of Europe • Mr Joseph Sheils, former Head of the Department of Language Education and Policy of the Council of Europe
<p>2.00 – 3.30 pm Room 8, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on “Countries of transit: meeting new migration and asylum challenges”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Tineke Strik (Netherlands SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Franck Düvell, Senior Researcher & Associate Professor, Centre on Migration, Policy and Society, University of Oxford
<p>2.00 – 3.30 pm Room 6, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on “The libraries and museums of Europe in times of change”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared Lady Diana Eccles, United Kingdom (EC) with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Goranka Horjan, Chairperson of the European Museum Forum (EMF) • Mr Peter Keller, International Council of Museums (ICOM) • Mr Zeev Gourarier, Scientific Director of the Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations (MuCEM) of Marseille, winner of the Council of Europe Museum Prize 2015

Tuesday 21 April 2015	
<p>2.00 – 3.30 pm Room 7, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p>	<p>► Announcement of Winners of the 2015 Europe Prize, Plaques of Honour, Flags of Honour and European Diplomas</p>
<p>8.30 pm</p> <p>Palais Rohan, 2 Place du Château, Strasbourg</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► Presentation ceremony of the 2015 Council of Europe Museum Prize</p> <p>to the Museum of European and Mediterranean Civilisations (MuCEM), Marseille, France, represented by Mr Zeev Gourarier, Scientific director, with speeches by:</p> <p>Ms Anne Brasseur, PACE President Mr Roland Ries, Mayor of the City of Strasbourg Ms Goranka Horjan, Chairperson of the European Museum Forum (EMF)</p>
Wednesday 22 April 2015	
<p>2.00– 3.30 pm Room 8, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination/ Sub-committee on disability and inclusion</p>	<p>► Hearing on “the political participation of people with disabilities”</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A representative of the Disability Unit of the EU Fundamental Rights Agency.
<p>2.00– 3.30 pm Room 9, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons and the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► Joint hearing on “Ukraine: prospects for peace and humanitarian challenges”</p> <p>in the context of the reports prepared by Mr Jim Sheridan (United Kingdom, SOC) on “The humanitarian situation of Ukrainian refugees and displaced persons” and by Ms Kristýna Zelenková (Czech Republic, ALDE), on the “Political consequences of the crisis in Ukraine”, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Armen Harutyunyan, Head of UN Human Rights Monitoring Mission in Ukraine • Mr Vanno Noupech, UNHCR Regional Representative for the Republic of Belarus, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine (tbc) • Ms Kateryna Kichyk, Executive Secretary of the Coalition of Patriotic Forces of Donbas • Ms Oleksandra Matvichuk, Head of the Board of Center for Civil Liberties of Ukraine
<p>2.00 – 3.30 pm Room 6, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on “Freedom of religion and living together in a democratic society”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Rafael Huseynov, Azerbaijan (ALDE), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professor Jean-Paul Willaime, Director of Studies at the Ecole pratiques des hautes études (EPHE) of Paris

<p>8.30 – 10.00 am Room 6, Palais</p> <p>Joint meeting of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media and of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development with the Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children</p>	<p>► 22nd meeting of the PACE Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children <u>and joint meeting</u> with the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p> <p>. Update on the Council of Europe ONE in FIVE Campaign by Ms Gabriella Battaini-Draroni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe</p> <p>. Exchange of views on the theme “Sex and relationship education as a means of preventing sexual violence against children” with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Attila Andics, teacher trainer, psychologist, brain researcher, Hungarian Academy of Sciences - Eötvös University Budapest • Ms Sanderijn van der Doef, Technical Advisor on the Sexual Health of Young people and Children, RutgersWPF NGO (Netherlands)
<p>2.30 – 3.30 pm Room 7, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence</p>	<p>► Hearing on “Forced marriages”</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Lucy Monaghan, Head of the Forced marriage Unit, Ministry of the Interior, United Kingdom; • Ms Ellen Høvik, Campaign manager, Plan Norway.
<p>2 – 3.30 pm Room 9, Palais</p> <p>Sub-Committees on External Relations and on the Middle East and the Arab World of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p> <p>Sub-Committees on Education, Youth and Sport and on Culture, Diversity and Heritage of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► Joint meeting on the occasion of the 25th Anniversary of the North South Centre of the Council of Europe (to be confirmed)</p> <p>Exchange of views on “The present and prospective role of the North-South Centre of the Council of Europe” and on “Enhancing co-operation between the North-South Centre and the Parliamentary Assembly, namely in the framework of the Council of Europe Neighbourhood Policy”</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Anne Brasseur, PACE President • Ms Souhayr Belhassen, Honorary President of the International Federation for Human Rights (Tunisia) and 2011 North-South Prize Winner • Ms Gabriella Battaini-Draroni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe (tbc) • Mr Jose Frederico Ludovice, Executive Director of the North-South Centre • Mr Jean-Marie Bockel (France, EPP/CD), Rapporteur on “Political transition in Tunisia” (tbc) • Mr Luis Javier Gil Catalina, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, Permanent Representative of Spain

NB. This list includes non-plenary events organised or held under the auspices of Assembly committees, national delegations, or involving the Assembly’s President, rapporteurs or other members. It is not necessarily exhaustive, and may be subject to last-minute changes.