

## Information documents

SG-AS (2017) 01

16 January 2017

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### **Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1275<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (18 January 2017)**

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<sup>1</sup> This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 24 November 2016 (Nicosia) and the future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 23 January 2017 (Strasbourg).

## **I. Decisions taken by the Bureau (24 November and 16 December 2016)**

### **A. First part-session of 2017 (23-27 January 2017)**

On 16 December 2016, the Bureau drew up the draft agenda (Appendix 1). It took note of a request tabled by the Monitoring Committee (and subsequently by the Committee of political affairs and democracy) for the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *The functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey* and took note of the intention of the UK delegation to table a request for a current affairs debate on *The situation in Syria and its effects upon surrounding countries*. This request was tabled immediately after the meeting.

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

### **B. Observation of elections**

#### **➤ Morocco: parliamentary elections (7 October 2016)**

On 24 November, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee.

#### **➤ Georgia: parliamentary elections (8 and 30 October 2016)**

On 24 November, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee.

#### **➤ Montenegro: parliamentary elections (16 October 2016)**

On 24 November, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee.

#### **➤ Republic of Moldova: presidential election (30 October and 13 November 2016)**

On 24 November, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee.

#### **➤ Bulgaria: presidential election (6 and 13 November 2016)**

On 24 November, the Bureau took note of the statement of the observation mission.

#### **➤ “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”: early parliamentary elections (11 December 2016)**

On 16 December, the Bureau took note of the statement of the observation mission.

#### **➤ Schedule of elections for 2017: on 16 December, the Bureau took note of the elections calendar for 2017.**

### **C. Other decisions taken by the Bureau at its meetings on 24 November and 16 December 2016**

➤ **Expenditure of the Parliamentary Assembly for the 2017 financial year:** on 16 December, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly.

➤ **Parliamentary co-operation activities:** on 16 December, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly.

➤ **Cooperation with the European Parliament and other European Union institutions (June to December 2016):** on 16 December, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly.

➤ **Apportionment of the allocation to political groups for 2017:** on 16 December, the Bureau approved the proposal for the apportionment of the allocation.

## II. Prizes

### ➤ Council of Europe Museum Prize

At its meeting on 9 December 2016, in Paris, the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media unanimously decided to award the 2017 Museum Prize to the Mémorial ACTe, Caribbean Centre of Expressions and Memory of the Slave Trade and Slavery (Guadeloupe, France). The award ceremony will take place on 25 April 2017 in *Palais des Rohan*, Strasbourg.

### ➤ Václav Havel Human Rights Prize

On 16 January 2017, the Assembly launched a call for candidatures for the 2017 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize (Appendix 3).

This Prize is awarded annually by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, in partnership with the Václav Havel Library, the Charta 77 Foundation, based in Prague, and the Government of the Czech Republic. It is awarded in memory of Václav Havel, playwright, opponent of totalitarianism, architect of the velvet revolution of 1989, President of Czechoslovakia and the Czech Republic and an enduring symbol of opposition to despotism.

The deadline for presenting nominations is 30 April 2017. Website: [Vaclav Havel Human Rights Prize](#)

## III. Activities of Committees and Networks

### ➤ On **30 November 2016**, in Florence (Italy), the **Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development**:

- held an exchange of views with:
  - Ms Abir Abi-Khalil, Child Protection Specialist: on drivers of violence affecting children;
  - Ms Jasmina Byrne, Child Protection Specialist, and Mr Daniel Kardefelt Winther, Child Protection Consultant, on children's use of the internet – risks and opportunities;
  - Mr Dominic Richardson, Senior Education Specialist on the Innocenti Report Card on child wellbeing in EU / OECD countries; and
- held an exchange of views on ***“The ‘Turin process’: reinforcing social rights in Europe”*** with the participation of Mr Michele Nicoletti, Chairperson of the Italian delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly and General Rapporteur of the High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter (Turin, 17-18 October 2014).

### ➤ On **1 December 2016**, in Florence (Italy), the **Network of Contact Parliamentarians to stop sexual violence against children** held its 27<sup>th</sup> and final meeting on the theme of Sexual violence against children in the digital environment and other challenges;

- held an exchange of views with Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, on the recent activities of the Council of Europe to stop sexual violence against children;
- heard a thematic introduction by:
  - Ms Jasmina Byrne, Child Protection Specialist, UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti;
  - Ms Sevinj Fataliyeva, General Rapporteur on Children of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe;
  - Mr Johan van den Hout, Spokesperson on Children of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- held exchanges of views on ***Identification of current trends in child sexual exploitation and abuse linked to the use of information and communication technologies*** with the participation of:

- Mr Claude Janizzi, Chairperson of the Committee of the Parties to the Convention on the Protection of children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse (Lanzarote Committee);
- Ms Cécile Diot, Criminal Intelligence Officer, INTERPOL;
- Ms Jasmina Byrne, Child Protection Specialist, and Mr Daniel Kardefelt Winther, Child Protection Consultant, UNICEF Office of Research Innocenti;

and on ***Equipping and empowering children to prevent, stop and survive on-line sexual violence*** with the participation of:

- Dr Elena Martellozzo, Criminologist; specialist in sex offenders' use of the internet and online child safety, Middlesex University of London, United Kingdom;
- Ms Elena Pompò, Senior Official of the Post and Communications Police of the Tuscany region, and Mr Gianluca Masettini, Engineer, Technical Director, State Police, Italy;
- Ms Mechtild Maurer, General Director of ECPAT Germany.

➤ On **2 December 2016** in Paris, the **Committee on Rules of Procedures, Immunities and Institutional Affairs** held an roundtable on ***Defending the acquis of the Council of Europe: preserving 65 years of successful intergovernmental co-operation*** with the participation of:

- Professor Katja Ziegler, Professor of international law, Director of the Centre of European Law and Internationalisation (CELI), University of Leicester;
- Mr Rolf Alter, Director of Public Governance and Territorial Development, OECD;
- Mr Jörg Polakiewicz, Director of Legal Advice and Public International Law, Legal counsellor of the Council of Europe;
- Mr Mark Entin, Head of Department of European law, Vice-president of Russian Association of European studies and International law, MGIMO University, Moscow.

➤ On **5 December 2016** in Paris, the **No Hate Parliamentary Alliance** held a hearing on ***Violence and discrimination on grounds of ethnic origin***.

➤ On **7 December 2016** in Paris, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons:**

- held an exchange of views on ***“Integration of refugees in times of critical pressure: learning from recent experience and examples of best practice”*** (rapporteur: Ms Susanna Huovinen, Finland, SOC) with the participation of Mr Jean-Christophe Dumont, Head of the International Migration Division, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
- held a hearing on ***the follow-up to Resolution 2109 (2016) on “the situation of refugees and migrants under the EU-Turkey Agreement of 18 March 2016” and to Resolution 2118 (2016) on “Refugees in Greece: challenges and risks – A European responsibility”*** with the participation of Mr Gerald Knaus, Chairman, European Stability Initiative, Berlin and Mr Loïc Jaeger, Head of Mission, *Médecins sans Frontières*, Greece.

➤ On **7-9 December 2016**, in New York (U.S.A.), the **Sub-Committee on External Relations of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy** held separate exchanges of views with Mr Jan Eliasson, Deputy Secretary-General of the United Nations; Ms Helen Clark, Under-Secretary General, Administrator of the United Nations Development programme (UNDP); Mr Miguel de Serpa Soares, Under-Secretary-General for Legal Affairs and United Nations Legal Counsel; Mr Stephen O'Brien, Under-Secretary-General for Humanitarian Affairs and Emergency Relief Coordinator; Mr Oscar Fernandez-Taranco, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacebuilding Support; Mr Andrew Gilmour, Assistant Secretary-General, Head of the New York Office of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR); Mr Jean-Paul Laborde, Assistant Secretary-General, Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Executive Directorate (CTED); Mr El Ghassim Wane, Assistant Secretary-General for Peacekeeping Operations; Mr Tayé-Brook Zerihoun, Assistant Secretary-General for Political Affairs; also held separate exchanges of views with Ambassador Nicholas Emiliou, Permanent Representative of the Republic of Cyprus to the United Nations; Ambassador Román Oyarzun Marchesi, Permanent Representative of Spain to the United Nations,

President of the UN Security Council in December 2016; and Ambassador Vitaly Churkin, Permanent Representative of the Russian Federation to the United Nations.

- On **8-9 December 2016** in Paris, the **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media**:
  - held an exchange of views on ***European Museum of Media***, with Ms Christine Kelly, President of the future European Museum of Media, Paris;
  - held a joint exchange of views on ***The status of journalists in Europe and The protection of editorial integrity***, with Ms Dominique Pradalié, Secretary General, National Union of Journalists, Paris; Mr William Horsley, Media Freedom Representative, Association of European Journalists, London; Ms Pauline Adès-Mével, Head of EU and Balkans Desk and Mr Johann Bihl, Head of Eastern Europe and Central Asia Desk, both from Reporters without Borders;
  - held an exchange of views on ***The protection and promotion of Regional or Minority Languages in Europe***, with the participation of Mr Stefan Oeter, Vice-Chair of the Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML);
  - held an exchange of views on ***Technological convergence, artificial intelligence and human rights*** with the participation of Mr Rinie van Est, Research coordinator, Rathenau Instituut, Netherlands and with Ms Dafna Feinholz, Chief of Section, Bioethics and Ethics of Science and Mr Tee Wee Ang, Programme Specialist, Responsible for the Global Ethics Observatory (GEObs), both from UNESCO.
- On **12-13 December 2016** in Budva (Montenegro), the **Parliamentary Network Women Free from Violence** jointly held a Conference with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) on ***Advancing the gender equality agenda in the Western Balkans and Turkey***.
- On **14 December 2016** in Paris, the **Committee on the Honouring of obligations and commitments by member states of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)**:
  - concerning ***the Post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey*** (co-rapporteurs: Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen, Norway, EC and Ms Marianne Mikko, Estonia, SOC): held an exchange of views on recent developments in Turkey on the basis of an up-dated information document prepared by the co-rapporteurs and agreed to declassify it; took note of the opinion by the Venice Commission on the Emergency Decrees of Turkey; decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the draft law on the amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey and to request a debate under urgent procedure on the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey during the January 2017 part-session.
- On **16 December 2016**, in Paris, the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**:
  - considered and decided to declassify a report on the fact-finding visit to Ankara (21-23 November 2016) of its ***ad hoc Sub-Committee on recent developments in Turkey***, on the basis of a memorandum prepared by Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), Chairperson of the *ad hoc* Sub-Committee; decided to ask for an urgent debate to be held at the January 2017 part-session on the functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey;
  - held an exchange of views, organised by its ***Sub-Committee on External Relations***, with Mr Maulen Ashimbaev (Kazakhstan), Chairperson of the Permanent Commission on Political Issues and International Cooperation of the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS), Mr Rubik Akopyan (Armenia) and Mr Konstantin Kosachev (Russian Federation), members of the Commission.

#### **IV. Seminars and Conferences**

On **24-25 November 2016**, in Lisbon, **Mr Luís Leite Ramos** (Portugal, EPP/CD), representative of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media* to the European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity (North-South Centre), attended the 2016 Lisbon Forum.

On **28-29 November 2016**, in Budapest, **Mr Mogens Jensen** (Denmark, SOC), rapporteur of *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media* on “The legitimacy crisis in international sports governance”, attended the 14<sup>th</sup> Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Sport.

On **15 December 2016**, in Sarajevo, the national seminar on “Combating intolerance and discrimination by countering hate speech: the role of parliamentarians”, was held in the framework of the activities of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance. The seminar was organised by the Parliamentary Project Support Division within the Council of Europe Action Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015-2017.

On **15 December 2016** in Berlin, the **Sub-Committee on Integration** of the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons** held a conference on ***Germany’s experience of the integration of refugees and migrants*** with the participation of inter alia, of:

- Ms Petra Pau, Vice-President of the Bundestag
- Mr Frank Schwabe (Germany, SOC), Vice-Chairperson of the German delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly
- Mr Norbert Trosien, UNHCR
- Professor Wolfgang Kaschuba, Institute for Integration and Migration Research, Berlin Humboldt University
- Mr Michael Maier-Borst, Office of the Federal Commissioner for Migration, Refugees and Integration
- Mr Andreas Germershausen, Berlin Senate Chancellery
- Mr Michael van der Cammen, Federal Employment Agency
- Ms Sabine Hepperle, Federal Ministry for Economic Affairs and Energy
- Mr Oliver Klawitter, Kiron Open Higher Education
- Ms Laura Block, Association of bi-national families and partnerships
- Ms Claudia Dantschke, Hayat-Deutschland

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

### ➤ ***The political transition in Egypt***

**Mr Jordi Xuclà** (Spain, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Cairo from **7 to 9 December 2016**.

### ➤ ***Protecting refugee women from gender-based violence***

**Ms Gisela Wurm** (Austria, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Stockholm from **8 to 9 December 2016**.

### ➤ ***Integration of refugees in times of critical pressure: learning from recent experience and examples of best practice***

**Ms Susanna Huovinen** (Finland, SOC) rapporteur of the *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Berlin on **14 December 2016**.

### ➤ ***Migration as an opportunity for European development***

**Mr Andrea Rigoni** (Italy, ALDE) rapporteur of the *Committee on migration, refugees and displaced persons*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Luxembourg from **20 to 21 December 2016** and carried out a fact-finding visit to the United Kingdom from **11 to 12 January 2017**.

### ➤ ***The post-monitoring dialogue with Turkey***

**Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen** (Norway, EC) and **Ms Marianne Mikko** (Estonia, SOC), Co-rapporteurs of the *Monitoring Committee*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Turkey from **9 to 13 January 2017**.

- **Defending the *acquis* of the Council of Europe: preserving 65 years of successful intergovernmental co-operation**

**Mr Tiny Kox** (Netherlands, UEL), rapporteur of the *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Kyiv, from **10 to 12 January 2017**, and held a roundtable with the participation of representatives from the Ministries of Youth and Sport, Culture, Justice and Foreign Affairs of Ukraine, as well as from the Ombudsman Office.

- **Women's empowerment in the economy**

**Ms Elena Centemero** (Italy, EPP/CD), rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Paris on **11 January 2017**.

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

**Mr Stephan Schennach** (Austria, SOC) and **Mr Cezar Florin Preda** (Romania, EPP/CD), Co-rapporteurs of the *Monitoring Committee*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Azerbaijan from **12 to 14 January 2017**.

## **VI. Relations with the Venice Commission**

- On **2 December 2016** in Paris, the **Committee on Rules of Procedures, Immunities and Institutional Affairs**, further to Resolution 2127 (2016) "*Parliamentary immunity: challenges to the scope of the privileges and immunities enjoyed by members of the Parliamentary Assembly*", took note of the opinion adopted by the Venice Commission at its 108<sup>th</sup> Plenary Session (Venice, 14-15 October 2016) on "*Turkey – the suspension of the second paragraph of article 83 of the constitution (parliamentary inviolability)*", following a presentation by Mr Schnutz Rudolf Dürr, Head of the Constitutional Justice Division, secretariat of the Venice Commission.

- On **8 December 2016**, in Venice (Italy) Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE) attended the **57<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission**.

- On **9-10 December 2016**, in Venice (Italy), Mr Philippe Mahoux (Belgium, SOC) attended the **109th Plenary session of the Venice Commission**.

- On **14 December 2016** in Paris, the **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)** decided to ask the Venice Commission for an opinion on the draft law on the amendments to the Constitution of the Republic of Turkey.

- On **15 December 2016** in Paris, the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy** agreed to the request by Ms Elena Centemero (Italy, EPP/CD), rapporteur on *Setting minimal standards for electoral systems in order to offer the basis for free and fair elections*, to ask an opinion of the Venice Commission on the matter.

## **VII. Co-operation with the European Parliament and other EU institutions**

On **5 December 2016**, in Paris, **Ms Cécile Kyenge**, MEP, participated in the hearing on Violence and discrimination on grounds of ethnic origin during the meeting of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance.

## **VIII. List of meetings of the committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee**

- . **24-25 November 2016, Lisbon:** *Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **30 November 2016, Florence (Italy):** *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*
- . **2 December 2016, Paris:** *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*
- . **7 December 2016, Paris:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*

- . **7-9 December 2016, New York (U.S.A.):** *Sub-Committee on External Relations of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **8 December 2016, Paris:** *Sub-Committee on Media and Information Society of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **8-9 December 2016, Paris:** *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **13 December 2016, Paris:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **14 December 2016, Paris:** *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*
- . **15 December 2016, Paris:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **15 December 2016, Berlin:** *Sub-Committee on Integration of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **15 December 2016, Paris:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **16 December 2016, Paris:** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **16 December 2016, Paris:** *Meeting of the Secretaries of National Delegations*
- . **12 January 2017, Paris:** *Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights*
- . **22 January 2017, Strasbourg:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **22 January 2017, Strasbourg:** *Seminar for new members of the Assembly*



## APPENDIX 1



Doc. 14220 prov 1  
16 December 2016

### **First part of the 2017 Ordinary Session (23-27 January 2017)**

Draft agenda<sup>1</sup>

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1. Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 16 December 2016.

## Abbreviations

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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

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

SOC: Socialist Group

EC: European Conservatives 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

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

## Meetings outside the Chamber

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### 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

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## Monday 23 January 2017

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### Sitting No. 1 (11:30-13:00)

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

- 1.1. Examination of the credentials
- 1.2. Election of the President of the Assembly
- 1.3. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly
- 1.4. Appointment of members of committees
- 1.5. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure
  - 1.5.1. Urgent procedure debate: "The functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey"
  - 1.5.2. Current affairs debate: "The situation in Syria and its effects upon surrounding countries"
- 1.6. Adoption of the agenda
- 1.7. Approval of the minutes of proceedings of the Standing Committee (Nicosia, 25 November 2016)

#### 2. Debate

- 2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
    - Presentation by:
      - Mr Michele NICOLETTI (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )
  - 2.2. Observation of the presidential election in Bulgaria (6 and 13 November 2016)
    - Presentation by:
      - Mr Joseph O'REILLY (Ireland, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )
  - 2.3. Observation of the early parliamentary elections in "the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia" (11 December 2016)
    - Presentation by:
      - Mr Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )
- 📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 23 January, 10:00)

### Sitting No. 2 (15:00-17:00)

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

- 3.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers
  - Presentation by:
    - Mr Ioannis KASOULIDES, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers

📅 Questions

#### 4. Debate

- 4.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee (continued)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 23 January, 10:00)

🗳 [possibly] Vote

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## Tuesday 24 January 2017

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### Sitting No. 3 (10:00-13:00)

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#### 5. [Possibly] Elections (10:00-13:00)

##### 5.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

- List of candidates in respect of:
  - Hungary and the Netherlands (Doc. 14222, Doc. 14215)

#### 6. Address (10:00-11:00)

##### 6.1. Mr Johannes HAHN, European Commissioner for European Neighbourhood Policy and Enlargement Negotiations

*Speech (10:00-10:20)*

*Questions and replies (10:20-11:00)*

📖 Questions

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

##### 7.1. Mr Nicos ANASTASIADIS, President of Cyprus

*Speech (11:00-11:20)*

*Questions and replies (11:20-12:00)*

📖 Questions

#### 8. Debate

##### 8.1. Free debate

📖 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 23 January, 16:30)

### Sitting No. 4 (15:30-20:30)

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#### 9. [Possibly] Elections (continued) (15:30-17:00)

##### 9.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

#### 10. Address (15:30-16:30)

##### 10.1. Communication from the Secretary General of the Council of Europe

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND

📖 Questions

#### 11. Debate

##### 11.1. Attacks against journalists and media freedom in Europe

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Volodymyr ARIEV (Ukraine, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 14229)

📖 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 24 January, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 23 January, 16:00)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14229)

## 12. Debate

### 12.1. The humanitarian crisis in Gaza

- Presentation by:
  - Ms Eva-Lena JANSSON (Sweden, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 14224)
  - Lord Donald ANDERSON (United Kingdom, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Pol (Doc. )
- 📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 24 January, 12:00)
- ⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 23 January, 16:00)
- 🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14224)

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## Wednesday 25 January 2017

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### Sitting No. 5 (10:00-13:00)

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#### 13. [Possibly 2nd round] Elections (10:00-13:00)

##### 13.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

#### 14. Joint debate

##### 14.1. Online media and journalism: challenges and accountability

- Presentation by:
  - Ms Adele GAMBARO (Italy, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 14228)
  - Mr Boriss CILEVIČS (Latvia, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. )

##### 14.2. Ending cyberdiscrimination and online hate

- Presentation by:
  - Ms Marit MAIJ (Netherlands, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 14217)
  - Mr Volodymyr ARIEV (Ukraine, EPP/CD), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Cult (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 24 January, 19:30)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 24 January, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14228)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14217)

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

##### 15.1. Mr Klaus IOHANNIS, President of Romania

*Speech (12:00-12:20)*

*Questions and replies (12:20-13:00)*

🗳️ Questions

### Sitting No. 6 (15:30-20:00)

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#### 16. [Possibly 2nd round] Elections (continued) (15:30-17:00)

##### 16.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

#### 17. Debate

##### 17.1. The functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Jordi XUCLÀ (Spain, ALDE), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 14227)
  - Mr Axel E. FISCHER (Germany, EPP/CD), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 14227)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 25 January, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 24 January, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14227)

#### 18. Debate

##### 18.1. Reinforcing social dialogue as an instrument for stability and decreasing social and economic inequalities

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Ögmundur JÓNASSON (Iceland, UEL), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 14216)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 25 January, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 24 January, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14216)

**Sitting No. 7 (10:00-13:00)**

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

**Sitting No. 8 (15:30-20:00)**

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**20. Debate**

20.1. The progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure (September 2015-December 2016) and the periodic review of the honouring of obligations by Austria, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France and Germany

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Cezar Florin PREDA (Romania, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 14213 Part 1, Doc. 14213 Part 2, Doc. 14213 Part 3, Doc. 14213 Part 4, Doc. 14213 Part 5, Doc. 14213 Part 6, Doc. 14213 Part 7)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 26 January, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 25 January, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14213 Part 1)

**21. Debate**

21.1. The situation in Lebanon and challenges for regional stability and European security

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Tobias ZECH (Germany, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 14226)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 26 January, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 25 January, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14226)

**Sitting No. 9 (10:00-13:00)**

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**22. Joint debate**

**22.1. Human rights compatibility of investor–State arbitration in international investment protection agreements**

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Pieter OMTZIGT (Netherlands, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 14225)
  - Mr Geraint DAVIES (United Kingdom, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Soc (Doc. )

**22.2. “New generation” trade agreements and their implications for social rights, public health and sustainable development**

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Geraint DAVIES (United Kingdom, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 14219)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 26 January, 19:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 26 January, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14225)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14219)

**23. Debate**

**23.1. Promoting the inclusion of Roma and Travellers**

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Tobias ZECH (Germany, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 14149)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 26 January, 19:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 26 January, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14149)

**24. Progress report**

**24.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee (continued)**

**25. Constitution of the Standing Committee**

**26. Closure of the part-session**



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

Monday 23 January 2017	
<p><b>2–3 pm</b> <b>Room 3, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Equality and Non Discrimination</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on “Breaking the glass ceiling: the role of gender equality and family policies”</b></p> <p>with the participation of Ms Paola Profeta, Associate Professor of Public Finance, Department of Policy Analysis and Public Management, Bocconi University, Milan (Italy) and Ms Lella Golfo, President of the Marisa Bellisario Foundation, Rome (Italy).</p>
<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 9, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on “The political transition in Egypt”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE) with the participation of a delegation from the Egyptian House of Representatives.</p>
<p><b>2 – 3 pm</b> <b>Room 11, Palais</b></p> <p><i>(in camera)</i></p> <p>Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views with Mr Nils Muižnieks, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, on the situation in Turkey</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by the Co-rapporteurs Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen, Norway, EC and Ms Marianne Mikko, Estonia, SOC, following their fact-finding mission (9-13 February 2017)</p>
Tuesday 24 January 2017	
<p><b>8.30–10 am</b> <b>Room 9, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on the “Situation in Belarus”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE), with the participation of two members of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus and a representative of civil society.</p>
<p><b>8.30–10 am</b> <b>Room 9, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on the “The political transition in Tunisia”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr George Loucaides (Cyprus, UEL), with the participation of a delegation from the Tunisian Assembly of People's Representatives (<i>tbc</i>).</p>
<p><b>9 –10 am</b> <b>Room 10, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on “Human Rights in the North Caucasus: what follow-up to Resolution 1738 (2010)?”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Michael McNamara, Ireland, SOC, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Mr Bjørn Engesland, Norwegian Helsinki Committee/Natalia Estemirova Documentation Center, Oslo, Norway</li> <li>· Ms Tanya Lokshina, Russia Program Director, Human Rights Watch, Moscow, Russian Federation</li> <li>· Mr Kirill Koroteev, Senior Lawyer, Memorial Human Rights Centre, Moscow, Russian Federation</li> </ul>

**Tuesday 24 January 2017**

<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Room 6, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► <b>Exchanges of views on “Reshaping the role of education for "digital citizens"”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Constantinos Efstathiou, Cyprus, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Mr Konstantin Scheller, Policy Officer, DG EAC.B3, European Commission</li> <li>· Mr Hans Martens, Digital Citizenship Programme Manager, European Schoolnet/Transforming education in Europe</li> </ul>
<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Room 8, Palais</b></p> <p><b>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</b></p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on “Detention of migrants: current intergovernmental work and follow-up to Recommendation 1900 52010) on Detention of Asylum seekers and irregular migrants in Europe”</b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <b>Mr Hindpal Singh Bhui, Inspection Team Leader, HM Inspectorate of Prisons, London</b></li> <li>· <b>Mr Jean-Sébastien Blanc, Detention Advisor, Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)</b></li> <li>· <b>Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director, Directorate of Human Rights (DGI), Council of Europe</b></li> </ul>
<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Room 7, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on “The use of new genetic technologies in human beings”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Petra De Sutter, Belgium, SOC, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Dr Mair Crouch, Geneticist and Academic Lawyer, University of Glasgow, United Kingdom</li> <li>· a representative from the Patients Network for Medical Research and Health (EGAN), Belgium (<i>to be confirmed</i>)</li> <li>· a representative from the Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO) (<i>to be confirmed</i>).</li> </ul> <p>► <b>Exchange of views on “The ‘Turin process’: reinforcing social rights in Europe”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Silvía Eloïsa Bonet, Andorra, SOC, with the participation of Mr Allan Larsson, Special Adviser for the European Social Pillar of the European Commission (<i>to be confirmed</i>).</p>

**Wednesday 25 January 2017**

<p><b>2.00– 3.30 pm</b></p> <p><b>Room 3 Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on “Yazidi women and rehabilitation of victims of violence”</b></p> <p>with the participation of Ms Farida Abbas, Yazidi woman survivor of ISIS violence, author of “The girl who beat ISIS”, and Dr Michael Blume, Head of the Special Quota Project, Land of Baden-Württemberg, Germany.</p>
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**Wednesday 25 January 2017**

<p><b>2 – 3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 7, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on “The need for a citizenship income”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Nunzia Catalfo, Italy, NR, with the participation of Mr Daniel Percheron, Senator, France</p>
<p><b>2.00– 3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 8, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on “Migration as an opportunity for European Development”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Experts (tbc)</li></ul> <p>► <b>Exchanges of views on “The situation of migrants and refugees in Calais and Grande-Synthe, France”</b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Ambassador Tomáš Boček, Special Representative of the Secretary General on migration and refugees (tbc)</li></ul>

**Thursday 26 January 2017**

<p><b>8.30 – 10.00 am</b> <b>Room 6, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing/ Exchange of views on “The legitimacy crisis in international sports governance”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Mr Andreas Selliaas, Freelance researcher, Norway</li></ul>
<p><b>8.30 – 9.30 am</b> <b>Room 8, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on “A comprehensive humanitarian and political response to the migration and refugee crisis in Europe”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Duarte Marques (Portugal, EPP/CD), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Experts (tbc)</li></ul>
<p><b>8.30 – 9.30 am</b> <b>Room 8, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on “Recent developments on the Spanish-Moroccan border at Ceuta”</b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Parliamentarians of the Moroccan Delegation enjoying the status of Partner for democracy with the Assembly and Spanish parliamentarians (tbc)</li></ul>

**Thursday 26 January 2017**

<p><b>8.30 – 10.00 am</b> <b>Room 9, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► <b>Exchanges of views on “Setting minimal standards for electoral systems in order to offer the basis for free and fair elections</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Elena Centemero (Italy, EPP/CD)</p>
<p><b>8.30 – 9.45 am</b> <b>Room 10, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on the Venice Commission’s “Rule of Law Checklist”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Mr Philippe Mahoux (Belgium, SOC) with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Mr Kaarlo Tuori, First Vice-President of the Venice Commission</li><li>· A member of the Venice Commission</li></ul>
<p><b>9.45 – 10.15 am</b> <b>Room 10, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on the “White paper on prison overcrowding”</b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>· Mr Mauro Palma, Commissioner for rights of detainees, Italy, Former President of the CPT</li></ul>

## APPENDIX 3



### Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2017: call for nominations

Strasbourg, 16.01.2017 – The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), in partnership with the [Vaclav Havel Library](#) and the [Charta 77 Foundation](#), has today issued a call for nominations for the 2017 [Václav Havel Human Rights Prize](#).

The Prize, created in 2013, aims to reward outstanding civil society action in defending human rights in Europe and beyond. Candidates should have made a real difference to the human rights situation of a given group, been instrumental in uncovering large scale systemic violations, or have successfully mobilised public opinion or the international community for a cause.

“The protection of human rights is an eternal combat, in which human rights defenders will always strive to advance despite hardship and obstacles in their path. Their daily efforts and commitment to the common good deserve respect and recognition,” said PACE President Agramunt.

The Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, which will be awarded on 9 October 2017 in Strasbourg, consists of a sum of €60,000, a trophy and a diploma.

It was awarded successively to Ales Bialiatski (Belarus), Anar Mammadli (Azerbaijan), Ludmilla Alexeeva. (Russian Federation), and last year to human rights activist Nadia Murad (Iraq), who has brought the plight of the Yazidi community, in particular the forced sexual enslavement and human trafficking of women and children captured by ISIS, to the forefront of international attention.

The deadline for submitting nominations is 30 April 2017. Nominations should be sent to the Parliamentary Assembly by e-mail to the following address: [hrprize.pace@coe.int](mailto:hrprize.pace@coe.int), using the form available on the Prize website. They should be signed by at least five sponsors and submitted in either English or French.

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[Václav Havel Human Rights Prize website](#)  
[Video](#)

For further information, please contact:

- PACE: Angela Garabagiu, tel. +33 3 90 21 45 20, [angela.garabagiu@coe.int](mailto:angela.garabagiu@coe.int)
- Václav Havel Library: Radka Prošková, tel. +420 222 220 112, [radka.proskova@vaclavhavel-library.org](mailto:radka.proskova@vaclavhavel-library.org)
- Charta 77 Foundation: Julie Ruzickova, tel. +420 702 001 962, [Julie.Ruzickova@bariery.cz](mailto:Julie.Ruzickova@bariery.cz)

T +33388413193 F +33390214134 <http://assembly.coe.int> [pace.com@coe.int](mailto:pace.com@coe.int)



The Assembly brings together 324 members from the national parliaments of the 47 member states.  
President: Pedro Agramunt (EPP/CD) - Secretary General of the Assembly: Wojciech Sawicki.  
Political groups: EPP/CD (Group of the European People's Party); SOC (Socialist Group);  
EC (European Conservatives Group); ALDE (Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe);  
UEL (Group of the Unified European Left).