



## Information documents

SG-AS (2017) 02

1 February 2017

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### **Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1276<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (1 February 2017)**

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<sup>1</sup> This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 23 January 2017 (Strasbourg) and future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 9 March 2017 (Madrid).

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

### **A. Election of the President of the Assembly**

1. At the opening of the part-session, the Assembly re-elected Mr Pedro Agramunt (Spain, EPP/CD) as its President.

### **B. Election of the Vice-Presidents of the Assembly**

2. At the opening of the part-session, the Assembly elected its Vice-Presidents (Appendix 1).

### **C. Election of the bureaux of the Committees of the Assembly**

3. The Assembly Committees elected their Chairpersons and Vice-Chairpersons (Appendix 2).

### **D. Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights**

On 24 January 2017, the Assembly elected Mr Péter Paczolay and Ms Jolien Schukking as judges to the European Court of Human Rights respectively in respect of Hungary and the Netherlands.

On 27 January 2017, the Bureau took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights, including its recommendation to reject the list of candidates to the Court in respect of Georgia. This recommendation was subsequently ratified by the Assembly through the addendum to the Progress report.

### **E. Personalities**

5. The following personalities addressed the Assembly (in chronological order):

Mr Ioannis KASOULIDES, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Cyprus, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers

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

Mr Nicos ANASTASIADES, President of Cyprus

Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

Mr Klaus Werner IOHANNIS, President of Romania

6. Their speeches can be found on the web site of the Assembly: <http://assembly.coe.int>.

### **F. Debates under urgent procedure**

7. The Assembly held a debate under urgent procedure on *The need to reform European migration policies*.

### **G. Current affairs debate**

8. The Assembly held a current affairs debate on *The situation in Syria and its effects upon surrounding countries*, with Sir Roger Gale (United Kingdom, EC) as the first speaker.

## **H. Challenge on procedural grounds of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Slovak Republic**

9. On 26 January, the Assembly adopted Resolution 2148 (2017). Its paragraph 4 reads as follows:

*'The Assembly decides to ratify the credentials of the Slovak parliamentary delegation, but to suspend the voting rights of its members in the Assembly and its bodies in accordance with Rule 10.1.c of the Rules of Procedure, with effect from the beginning of the Assembly's April 2017 part-session, if the composition of the delegation has not been brought into conformity with Rule 6.2.a of the Rules of Procedure insofar as it relates to the appointment in the delegation of, at a very minimum, one member of the underrepresented sex as a representative'.*

## **I. Media coverage**

The 2017 January part-session received good media coverage from the 82 or so journalists who turned up in Strasbourg to report on the event, i.e. 30% more than for the 2016 January part-session.

The Assembly resolutions on the functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine (Ukrinform, Kyiv Post, Interfax-Ukraine, Golos Ukrainii, Unian, Radio Svoboda, ICTV, BBC Ukrainian Service, RIA Novosti, Itar TASS, DW Russia, etc.) and on the humanitarian crisis in Gaza (The Times of Israel, The Jewish Press, Press TV, RT, i24 news, Ynetnews, EFE, etc.) were among the subjects which received extensive coverage. Considerable media attention was also given to the debates on the need to reform European migration policies and on the challenges and accountability of online media and journalism in Europe. Another highlight which, although not on the plenary session agenda, attracted a great deal of media attention were the allegations that some members or former members of the Assembly had been engaging in corruption and lobbying and the Assembly's reaction.

The speeches by the Presidents of Cyprus and Romania were extensively covered in their respective countries (Cyprus Mail, Cyprus News Agency, Sigma Live, Agerpres, ACTmedia, Antena 3, Radio Romania, Adevărul, etc.)

Activity on social media was on a par with other recent part-sessions. 167,000 hits were recorded on the PACE's Twitter account, while the Facebook page received some 35,000 visits. The most viewed event on Facebook was the speech by President Iohannis of Romania, with 3,500 hits.

The MediaBox, a web-TV studio available to all those making news at the Assembly, once again proved its usefulness for Assembly members, as a way of raising the institution's profile, and also for journalists: 55 interviews with parliamentarians (up 30% on the 2016 winter session) and participants in side-events were recorded.

## J. Adopted texts

10. Further to debates, the Assembly adopted the following texts:

Resolution 2141 (2017) and Recommendation 2097 (2017)	Attacks against journalists and media freedom in Europe (Doc 14229)
Resolution 2142 (2017)	The humanitarian crisis in Gaza (Doc 14224)
Resolution 2143 (2017)	Online media and journalism: challenges and accountability (Doc 14228)
Resolution 2144 (2017) and Recommendation 2098 (2017)	Ending cyberdiscrimination and online hate (Doc 14217)
Resolution 2145 (2017)	The functioning of democratic institutions in Ukraine (Doc 14227)
Resolution 2146 (2017)	Reinforcing social dialogue as an instrument for stability and decreasing social and economic inequalities (Doc 14216)
Resolution 2147 (2017)	The need to reform European migration policies (Doc 14248 )
Resolution 2148 (2017)	Challenge on procedural grounds of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of the Slovak Republic (Doc 14252)
Resolution 2149 (2017)	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 (Doc 14213 parts 1 to 7)
Resolution 2150 (2017)	The situation in Lebanon and challenges for regional stability and European security (Doc 14226)
Resolution 2151 (2017)	Human rights compatibility of investor-State arbitration in international investment protection agreements (Doc 14225)
Resolution 2152 (2017)	"New generation" trade agreements and their implications for social rights, public health and sustainable development (Doc 14219)
Resolution 2153 (2017)	Promoting the inclusion of Roma and Travellers (Doc 14149)

11. All these texts can be found on the web site of the Assembly: <http://assembly.coe.int>.

## K. Hearings and events organised during 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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ms Paola Profeta, Associate Professor of Public Finance, Department of Policy Analysis and Public Management, Bocconi University, Milan (Italy)</li> <li>· Ms Lella Golfo, President of the Marisa Bellisario Foundation, Rome <i>(by video conference)</i></li> </ul>
<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 Mr Anwar El Sadat, member of the Egyptian House of Representatives</p>
<p><b>2 – 3 pm</b> <b>Room 11, Palais</b> <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>Exchange of views on “Fight against terrorism: follow-up to texts adopted in 2016</b> with Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe</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 Mr Valiantsin Stefanovic, Deputy Chairperson of the Human Rights Center Viasna; and two members of the House of Representatives: Mr Andrei Naumovich, Head of the Standing Committee on Human rights, National Relations and Media; and Ms Anna Kanopatskaya, Member of the Standing Committee on Economic policy</p>
<p><b>8.30–10.00 am</b> <b>Room 8, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on “Detention of migrants: current intergovernmental work and follow-up to Recommendation 1900 (2010) 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>· Mr Hindpal Singh Bhui, Inspection Team Leader, HM Inspectorate of Prisons, London</li> <li>· Mr Jean-Sébastien Blanc, Detention Advisor, Association for the Prevention of Torture (APT)</li> <li>· Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director, Directorate of Human Rights (DGI), Council of Europe</li> </ul>

<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>
<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b> <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, Directorate General for Education and Culture/Youth, Volunteer Solidarity and Traineeships Office, 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> <b>Room 9, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on “The situation in Syria: follow-up to Resolutions 1878 (2012) and 2138 (2016)”</b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Mr Salam Kawakibi, Deputy Director, Arab Reform Initiative</li> <li>· Mr Ziad Majed, Professor of Middle Eastern Studies, American University of Paris</li> </ul>
<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>Hearing on “The use of new genetic technologies in human beings”</b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Petra De Sutter (Belgium, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ms Mair Crouch, Geneticist and Academic Lawyer, University of Glasgow (United Kingdom)</li> <li>· Ms Anne Forus, representative of the Council of Europe Committee on Bioethics (DH-BIO)</li> <li>· Mr Cor Oosterwijk, Secretary General of the Patients Network for Medical Research and Health (EGAN), Belgium</li> </ul>

**Wednesday 25 January 2017****2.00– 3.30 pm****Room 3 Palais**Committee on Equality and  
Non-Discrimination**► Hearing on “Yazidi women and rehabilitation of victims of violence”**

with the participation of:

- Ms Farida Abbas, Yazidi woman survivor of ISIS violence, author of “The girl who beat ISIS”
- Dr Michael Blume, Head of the Special Quota Project, Land of Baden-Württemberg, Germany

**2.15 – 3.30 pm****Room 7, Palais**Committee on Social  
Affairs, Health and  
Sustainable Development**► Exchange of views on “The need for a citizenship income”**

in the context of the report prepared by Ms Nunzia Catalfo (Italy, NR), with the participation of Daniel Percheron, Senator (France)

**2.00– 3.30 pm****Room 8, Palais**Committee on Migration,  
Refugees and Displaced  
Persons**► Hearing on “ending immigration detention of children”**

in the context of the Parliamentary Campaign, with the participation of Ms Regina Jensdottir, Head of the Children’s Rights Division, Council of Europe Children’s Rights Coordinator

**► Hearing on “Migration as an opportunity for European Development”**

in the context of the report prepared by Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE), with the participation of:

- Ms Lorraine Cook, Policy Manager, Migration, Population and Diversity Team, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities (COSLA), Edinburgh (United Kingdom)
- Ms Nawel Rafik-Elmrini, Deputy-Mayor of Strasbourg in charge of European and International relations and Human Rights
- Mr Farès Nahlawi, Syrian refugee
- Ms Rima Zerez, Syrian refugee

**► Exchange of views with the Delegation of Jordan enjoying the status of Partner for democracy with the Assembly**

with the participation of:

- Mr Kais Zayadin
- Mr Khaled Albakkar

**Thursday 26 January 2017****8.30 – 10.00 am****Room 6, Palais**Committee on Culture,  
Science, Education and  
Media**► Exchange of views on “The legitimacy crisis in international sports governance”**

in the context of the report prepared by Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), with the participation of Mr Andreas Selliaas, Freelance researcher, Norway

<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 Ms Lisa Matos, Researcher, William James Centre for Research-ISPA (Portugal)</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>· Mr José Ramón Garcíá Hernandez (Spain, EPP/CD)</li> <li>· Mr Abdessalam Lebbar, Member of the Moroccan Delegation with the status of Partner for Democracy with the Assembly</li> </ul>
<p><b>8.30 – 10.00 am</b> <b>Room 9, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange 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), with the participation of Mr Gianni Buquicchio, President of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission)</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>· Ms Sarah Cleveland, member of the Venice Commission for the United States</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 Mr Mauro Palma, Commissioner for rights of detainees, Italy, former President of the CPT</p>

## II. Observation of elections

### A. Bulgaria: presidential election (6 and 13 November 2016)

On 23 January, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee, which was subsequently approved by the Assembly.

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

On 23 January, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee, which was subsequently approved by the Assembly.



### **C. Bulgaria: early parliamentary elections (26 March 2017)**

On 27 January, the Bureau took note of the invitation to observe these elections; decided to observe them and set up an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 7; SOC: 6, EC: 3, ALDE: 3, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) as well as the co-rapporteurs on post-monitoring dialogue. It also approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee (subject to receiving their declarations on conflict of interest) and appointed Ms Marie-Christine Dalloz (France, EPP/CD) as its Chairperson.

### **D. Armenia: parliamentary elections (2 April 2017)**

On 23 January, the Bureau took note of the invitation letter to observe these elections; decided to observe them and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (EPP/CD: 11; SOC: 10, EC: 4; ALDE: 4, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) as well as of the corapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee. It also authorised a pre-electoral mission. On 27 January, the Bureau approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee (subject to receiving their declarations on conflict of interest) and appointed Ms Liliane Maury Pasquier (Switzerland, SOC) as its Chairperson.

### **E. Serbia: presidential election (April 2017, date to be confirmed)**

On 23 January, subject to receiving an invitation, the Bureau decided to observe this election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 7; SOC: 6, EC: 3; ALDE: 3, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) as well as of the corapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee. It also authorised a pre-electoral mission. On 27 January, the Bureau approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee (subject to receiving their declarations on conflict of interest) and appointed Ms Ingebjørg Godskesen (Norway, EC) as its Chairperson.

### **F. Referendum on constitutional amendments in Turkey (April 2017, date to be confirmed)**

On 27 January, subject to receiving an invitation, the Bureau decided to observe this referendum and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 30 members (EPP/CD: 11; SOC: 10, EC: 4, ALDE: 4, UEL: 1 - in accordance with the D'Hondt system) as well as of the corapporteurs on post-monitoring dialogue. It also authorised the President of the Assembly to approve the list of members of the ad hoc committee and appoint its Chairperson.

## **III. Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**

- On 27 January, the Bureau appointed Ms Nuala Mole and Mr Christos Pourgourides as members of the Selection Panel, for a third and last term of two years starting from 1 June 2017. The Bureau also invited its members to propose candidatures for the vacant seat in the Selection Panel and to submit them to the Secretary General of the Assembly by 15 April 2017, in view of taking a decision on the appointment at its meeting in Prague on 29 May 2017.

## **IV. Other decisions taken by the Bureau (23 January and 27 January 2017)**

- **Allegations of corruption in the Assembly:** on 23 January, the Bureau took note of the letter from the Chair of the Swiss Delegation concerning the allegation of corruption in the Assembly, and decided to submit it to the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs to be taken into account in the preparation of the report by Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger (United Kingdom, EC) on *Follow-up to Resolution 1903 (2012): promoting and strengthening transparency, accountability and integrity of Parliamentary Assembly members*. Subsequently, on 27 January, the Bureau took note of a declaration adopted by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs; of letters from several national delegations as well as from the EPP/CD and the SOC groups; and, following an exchange of views, decided to ask the Secretary General of the Assembly to prepare a memorandum on the draft terms of reference (legal basis, composition, duration, tasks, competences) of an independent external investigation body as proposed by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, to be submitted to the Bureau at its meeting in Madrid on 9 March 2017.

- **First part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 23-27 January):** on 27 January, the Bureau approved the proposals made by the Secretary General of the Assembly for the follow-up of adopted texts.
- **Standing Committee meeting (Madrid, 10 March):** on 27 January, the Bureau took note of the draft agenda.
- **Second part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 24-28 April):** on 27 January, the Bureau drew up the preliminary draft agenda (Appendix 3).
- **Third part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 26-30 June):** on 27 January, the Bureau took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons and decided to hold a major debate devoted to the migration issue and the management of the current refugee crisis during the 3<sup>rd</sup> part-session and to ask the committees concerned to make contributions.
- **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT):** on 27 January, the Bureau drew up the lists of candidates for the CPT in respect of Austria, Bulgaria, Estonia, Germany, Hungary, Liechtenstein, Sweden, Switzerland and Ukraine, which were subsequently transmitted to the Committee of Ministers.
- **Resolution 1376 (2004) relating to Cyprus:** on 23 January, the Bureau took note of the letters from the two Turkish Cypriot political parties informing the President of the Assembly of the names of the "elected representatives of the Turkish Cypriot community" entitled to sit in the Assembly in 2017, namely Mr Erdal Özçenk and Mr Mehmet Çaglar. These names were subsequently ratified by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report.
- **Resolution 2094 (2016) on the situation in Kosovo<sup>2</sup> and the role of the Council of Europe:** on 23 January, the Bureau took note of the letter by the President of the Assembly of Kosovo informing the President of the Assembly of the names of the members of the delegation of the Assembly of Kosovo for the ordinary session of 2017. The names of the members of the delegation were subsequently ratified by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report, as follows:  
  
Members:
  - Mr Xhavit Haliti, Democratic Parti of Kosovo (PDK), Head of delegation (majority)
  - Ms Aida Dërguti, Movement for Self-Determination (opposition)
  - Mr Slobodan Petrović, Independent Liberal Party (Serb list) (minority community)Substitutes:
  - Mr Ismet Beqiri, Democratic League of Kosovo (LDK), substitute for Mr Haliti (majority)
  - Mr Pal Leskaj, Alliance for the Future of Kosovo (AAK), substitute for Ms Dërguti (opposition)
  - Ms Mufera Sinik, Kosovo Turkish Democratic Party (KDTP), substitute for Mr Petrović (minority community)
- **Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2017:** on 27 January, the Bureau approved the proposals for the institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2017 as set out in Appendix 4.
- **Assembly part-sessions at the European Parliament (April 2018-January 2019):** on 27 January, the Bureau approved the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and approved the modalities of the organisation of the Assembly's part-sessions at the European Parliament.
- **Dates of Assembly part-sessions (2020-2022):** on 27 January, the Bureau considered the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and approved the following dates for the part-sessions for the years 2020-2022, which were subsequently ratified by the Assembly in the addendum to the Progress report.

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<sup>2</sup> Throughout this text, all reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

## **V. Forthcoming activities of Committees, Networks and parliamentary support**

**24 February 2017, Tirana:** The *Parliamentary Project Support Division* will organise a national seminar on freedom of expression and the media in the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Albania.

**2-3 March 2017, Rome:** The *Parliamentary Project Support Division* will organise a seminar on public policies for the staff of the Moroccan Parliament in the framework of the South Programme II, the Council of Europe-European Union joint programme to foster democracy in Europe's southern neighbourhood.

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

### ➤ ***Youth against corruption***

**Ms Eleonora Cimbro** (Italy, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Rome from **1 to 2 February 2017**.

### ➤ ***The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2016-2017***

**Mr Alfred Heer** (Switzerland, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, will attend the 5<sup>th</sup> OECD Parliamentary Days, in Paris, from **8 to 10 February 2017**.

### ➤ ***Putting an end to sexual violence and harassment of women in public space***

**Ms Françoise Hetto-Gaasch** (Luxembourg, EPP/CD), rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Cologne (Germany) on **14 February 2017**.

### ➤ ***Reshaping the role of education for "digital citizens"***

**Mr Constantinos Efstathiou** (Cyprus, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Tallinn from **20 to 21 February 2017**.

### ➤ ***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*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Lisbon from **21 to 22 February 2017**.

### ➤ ***Promoting the human rights of and eliminating discrimination against intersex people***

**Mr Piet De Bruyn** (Belgium, NR), rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to La Valletta on **23-24 February 2017**.

### ➤ ***The honouring of obligations and commitments by Albania***

**Mr Andrej Hunko** (Germany, UEL) and **Mr Joseph O'Reilly** (Ireland, EPP/CD), Co-rapporteurs of the *Monitoring Committee*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Albania from **27 February to 1 March 2017**.

### ➤ ***Setting minimal standards for electoral systems in order to offer the basis for free and fair elections***

**Ms Elena Centemero** (Italy, EPP/CD), rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, will attend the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission, in Venice, **9 March 2017**.

## **VII. Co-operation with the Venice Commission**

On 26 January 2017, the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media decided to ask the Venice Commission for opinions on:

- . the Polish legislation concerning the National Media Council and the public service broadcaster;
- . the Greek legislation concerning the allocation of licenses for television and radio as well as on the public service broadcaster,
- . the application of Russia law by the occupation authorities in the Autonomous Republic of Crimea and the City of Sevastopol of Ukraine concerning the allocation of broadcasting licenses, the closure of media and the criminal prosecution of journalists for “separatism”
- . an analysis of the implementation of its Opinions No. 692/2012 concerning Azerbaijan, No. 798/2015 concerning Hungary, as well as No. 831/2015 and No. 805/2015 concerning Turkey.

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

- . **6 March 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **7 March 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **8 March 2017, Paris:** *Committee on the Honouring of obligations and commitments by member states of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*

## APPENDIX 1

AS/Inf (2017) 02

23 January / janvier 2017

# Vice-Presidents of the Parliamentary Assembly Vice-Présidents de l'Assemblée parlementaire

In order of precedence / par ordre de préséance

Mr Roger GALE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
M. René ROUQUET	France
Ms Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Ms Ingjerd SCHOU	Norway / Norvège
Ms Hermine NAGHDALYAN	Armenia / Arménie
Ms Marianne MIKKO	Estonia / Estonie
Mr Antonio GUTIÉRREZ	Spain / Espagne
Mr Talip KÜÇÜKCAN	Turkey / Turquie
Mr Zsolt NÉMETH	Hungary / Hongrie
Ms Adele GAMBARO	Italy / Italie
Mr Axel E. FISCHER	Germany / Allemagne
Mr George LOUCAIDES	Cyprus / Chypre
Mme Ana Catarina MENDES	Portugal
Ms Aleksandra DJUROVIĆ	Serbia / Serbie
M. Carles JORDANA	Andorra / Andorre
Mr Georgii LOGVYNSKYI	Ukraine
Mr Robert MADEJ	Slovak Republic / République slovaque
Vacant seat	Republic of Moldova / République de Moldova
Vacant seat	Romania / Roumanie

## APPENDIX 2 - Chairmanships and Vice-Chairmanships of committees // Présidences et Vice-présidences de commissions

<b>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy /</b> <i>Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie</i> 87 seats / sièges	Mogens JENSEN, Denmark, SOC	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Attila KORODI, Romania, EPP/CD Hendriik DAEMS, Belgium, ALDE Maria GUZENINA, Finland, SOC
<b>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights /</b> <i>Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme</i> 86 seats / sièges	Alain DESTEXHE, Belgium, ALDE	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Bernd FABRITIUS, Germany, EPP/CD Frank SCHWABE, Germany, SOC Morten WOLD, Norway, EC
<b>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development /</b> <i>Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable</i> 81 seats / sièges	Stella KYRIAKIDES, Cyprus, EPP/CD	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Silvia BONET, Andorra, SOC Ertuğrul KÜRÇÜ, Turkey, UEL Ionuț-Marian STROE, Romania, EPP/CD
<b>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons /</b> <i>Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées</i> 81 seats / sièges	Sahiba GAFAROVA, Azerbaijan, EC	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Zsolt CSENGER-ZALÁN, Hungary, EPP/CD Doris FIALA, Switzerland, ALDE Petra De SUTTER, Belgium, SOC
<b>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media /</b> <i>Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias</i> 81 seats / sièges	Volodymyr ARIEV, Ukraine, EPP/CD	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Raphaël COMTE, Suisse, ALDE Alexander [The Earl of] DUNDEE, United Kingdom, EC Manuel TORNARE, Suisse, SOC
<b>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination /</b> <i>Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination</i> 81 seats / sièges	Elena CENTEMERO, Italy, EPP/CD	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Marit MAIJ, Netherlands, SOC Rózsa HOFFMANN, Hungary, EPP/CD Maryvonne BLONDIN, France, SOC
<b>Monitoring Committee /</b> <i>Commission de suivi</i> 93 seats / sièges	Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania, EPP/CD	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Philippe MAHOUX, Belgique, SOC Hermine NAGHDALYAN, Armenia, EC Jean-Charles ALLAVENA, Monaco, EPP/CD
<b>Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs /</b> <i>Commission du Règlement, des immunités et des affaires institutionnelles</i> 38 seats / sièges	Liliane MAURY PASQUIER, Suisse, SOC	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Liliana PALIHOVICI, Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD Şaban DIŞLI, Turkey, EPP/CD Tiny KOX, Netherlands, UEL
<b>Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights /</b> <i>Commission sur l'élection des juges à la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme</i> 22 seats / sièges	Boriss CILEVIČS, Latvia, SOC	1 <sup>st</sup> /1 <sup>er</sup> 2 <sup>nd</sup> /2 <sup>e</sup> 3 <sup>rd</sup> /3 <sup>e</sup>	Sergiy VLASENKO, Ukraine, EPP/CD Donald ANDERSON, United Kingdom, SOC Volker ULLRICH, Germany, EPP/CD

APPENDIX 3 -



30 January 2017

**Second part of the 2017 Ordinary Session  
(24-28 April 2017)**

Preliminary draft agenda<sup>1</sup>

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1. Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 27 January 2017.

## 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



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

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

- 1.1. Statement by the President
- 1.2. Examination of credentials
- 1.3. Changes in the membership of committees
- 1.4. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure
- 1.5. Adoption of the agenda
- 1.6. Approval of the minutes of proceedings of the Standing Committee (Madrid, 10 March 2017)

**2. Debate**

- 2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
  - Presentation by:
    - Mr Jordi XUCLÀ (Spain, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )
- 2.2. Observation of the early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (26 March 2017)
  - Presentation by:
    - Ms Marie-Christine DALLOZ (France, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 10:00)

🗳️ [possibly] Vote

**Sitting No. 11 (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 [tbc]

📅 Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 12:00)

🕒 Written questions (deadline for tabling: Monday 17 April, 11:30)

**4. Debate**

- 4.1. Free debate

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 12:00)

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

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**5. [Possibly] Election (10:00-13:00)**

5.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

**6. Debate**

6.1. The functioning of democratic institutions in Turkey

□ Presentation by:

- Ms Ingebjørg GODSKESEN (Norway, EC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. )
- Ms Marianne MIKKO (Estonia, SOC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 16:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 April, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

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

7.1. Address by an invited personality [tbc]

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

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**8. [Possibly] Election (continued) (15:30-17:00)**

8.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

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

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

📅 Questions

**10. Debate**

10.1. Human rights in the North Caucasus: what follow-up to Resolution 1738 (2010)?

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Michael McNAMARA (Ireland, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur

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

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 April, 16:00)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14083)

**11. Joint debate**

11.1. Increased income inequalities are a threat to social cohesion

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Andrej HUNKO (Germany, UEL), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. )

11.2. The need for a citizenship income

□ Presentation by:

- Ms Nunzia CATALFO (Italy, NR), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 April, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 April, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

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## Wednesday 26 April 2017

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

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

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

#### 13. Debate

##### 13.1. Protecting refugee women from gender-based violence

###### □ Presentation by:

- Ms Gisela WURM (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. )
- Ms Petra De SUTTER (Belgium, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Mig (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 April, 19:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 25 April, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

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

##### 14.1. Mr Prokopis PAVLOPOULOS, President of Greece

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

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

📅 Questions

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

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

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

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

##### 16.1. Annual activity report 2016 by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

###### □ Presentation by:

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

📅 Questions

#### 17. Debate

##### 17.1. 25 years of the CPT, achievements and improvements needed

###### □ Presentation by:

- Mr Jordi XUCLÀ (Spain, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 April, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 25 April, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

#### 18. Debate

##### 18.1. Abusive use of the Interpol system: the need for more stringent legal safeguards

###### □ Presentation by:

- Mr Bernd FABRITIUS (Germany, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 April, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 25 April, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

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

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

**20. Address (12:00-13:00)**

20.1. Address by an invited personality [tbc]

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

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**21. Debate**

21.1. The protection of the rights of parents and children belonging to religious minorities

□ Presentation by:

○ Mr Valeriu GHILETCHI (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. )

▣ List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 April, 12:00)

⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 April, 16:00)

⚖ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation ()

**22. Debate**

22.1. Possible ways to improve the emergency refugee situations funding

□ Presentation by:

○ Mr Cezar Florin PREDA (Romania, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. )

▣ List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 April, 12:00)

⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 April, 16:00)

⚖ Vote on ... ()

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2. Subject to a decision by the Assembly.

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

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**23. Debate**

**23.1. Technological convergence, artificial intelligence and human rights**

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Jean-Yves LE DÉAUT (France, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. )
- Mr Boriss CILEVIČS (Latvia, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. )

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 April, 19:00)

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 27 April, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

**24. Debate**

24.1. ...

**25. Progress report (continued)**

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

## Appendix 4 – Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2017

Body	Who represents the Assembly	Reference	2017 nominations
<b>I. Council of Europe bodies</b>			
European Commission for Democracy through Law Venice Commission	Representatives of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau to attend the sessions of the Commission	Article 2.4 of the Venice Commission Statute (Res CM (2002) 3)	Members: Ms Brasseur, ALDE appointment by the President  Mr Mahoux - SOC (AS/Jur)  Substitute: Mr Fabritius - EPP/CD (AS/Jur)
Council on Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission	Representatives of AS/Pol, AS/Jur and AS/Mon approved by the Bureau of the Assembly	Bureau decision of 10 March 2003	Members: Ms Durrieu - SOC (AS/Pol) Lord Balfe - EC (AS/Jur) Mr Xuclà - ALDE (AS/Mon)  Substitutes: Mr Cozmanziuc - EPP/CD (AS/Pol) Ms Beselia - SOC (AS/Jur) Mr Kox - UEL (AS/Mon)
European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity North-South Centre	Two members of the Executive Council - appointed by the Bureau of the Assembly	Article 4.2 (b) of the North-South Centre revised Statute (Res CM (2011) 6)	Members: Ms Günay - EC (AS/Soc) Mr Leite Ramos - EPP/CD (AS/Cult)  Substitutes: Mr Schennach - SOC (AS/Soc) Mr Corsini - SOC (AS/Cult)
European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance ECRI	Representatives of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau (representatives of the following three committees: AS/Pol, AS/Ega and AS/Cult)	Article 5 of the ECRI Statute (Res CM (2002) 8)	Members: Mr Corlăţean - SOC (AS/Pol) Mr Thiéry - ALDE (AS/Ega) Mr Önal - EC (AS/Cult)  Substitutes: Mr Korodi – EPP/CD (AS/Pol) Mr Čilevičs - SOC (AS/Ega) ... (AS/Cult)
Group of States against Corruption GRECO	A representative of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau	CM decision of 717th meeting in 2000 in accordance with Article 7.2 of the Statute of the GRECO	Member: Mr Vlasenko - EPP/CD (AS/Jur)  Substitute: Mr Sharma - SOC (AS/Jur)
CE Committee for Works of Art	Two members appointed by the Bureau of the Assembly (at present AS/Cult Committee member and Museum Prize rapporteur)	CM decision of 482nd meeting in 1992	Members: Lady Eccles - EC (AS/Cult) ... (AS/Cult)
MONEYVAL	A representative of the Assembly appointed by the Bureau	Article 4.1 of Resolution CM/Res (2010) 12	Member: Mr Omtzigt - EPP/CD (AS/Jur)  Substitute: Mr van de Ven - ALDE (AS/Jur)
<b>II. Other</b>			
EUROPA NOSTRA Pan-European Federation for Heritage	One member (and substitute) to be nominated by the Assembly - to attend the Federation Council meetings as observer	Article 21.4 of the Statute of Europa Nostra	Lady Eccles - EC (AS/Cult) Vice-Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage