



Information documents

SG-AS (2017) 06

5 July 2017

Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to the 1291st meeting of the Ministers' Deputies¹ (5 July 2017)

¹ This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 26 June 2017 (Strasbourg) and future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 9 October 2017 in Strasbourg.

I. Third part-session of 2017 (26-30 June 2017)

A. Personalities

1. The following personalities addressed the Assembly (in chronological order):
 - Mr Pavel FILIP, Prime Minister of the Republic of Moldova
 - Mr Thorbjørn JAGLAND, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
 - Mr Duško MARKOVIĆ, Prime Minister of Montenegro
 - Mr Lubomir ZAORÁLEK, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers
 - Mr Giorgos KAMINIS, Mayor of Athens
 - Mr Nils MUIŽNIEKS, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights
 - Mr Morgan JOHANSSON, Minister for Justice and Migration of Sweden
2. Their speeches can be found on the web site of the Assembly: <http://assembly.coe.int>.

B. Current affairs debate

3. The Assembly held a current affairs debate on “Europe’s common fight against terrorism: successes and failures”, introduced by Mr Talip Küçücan (Turkey, EC), as first speaker.

C. Independent external investigation body to look into allegations of corruption within the Assembly

4. On 26 June 2017, the Assembly ratified the composition of the independent external investigation body to look into allegations of corruption within the Assembly.
5. The investigation body – composed by Sir Nicolas Bratza, Mr Jean-Louis Bruguière and Ms Elisabet Fura – will decide on its mode of operation, its working methods and the procedures required to enable it to fulfil its mission. The investigation body shall sit in Strasbourg, at the seat of the Council of Europe, and may travel to any member state in the exercise of its mission.
6. The duties of the investigation body shall terminate on the submission of its final report, or at the latest on 31 December 2017. The Bureau of the Assembly may extend the investigation body’s terms of reference, if need be.

D. Media coverage

70 journalists were accredited in Strasbourg to cover the Assembly’s 2017 third part-session. This generated a very good coverage with some 265 articles; one third more than in June 2016. Their geographic distribution reflected the PACE agenda, with strong coverage in Russia, Ukraine, Spain, the Republic of Moldova, Germany, Armenia and Belarus.

Media coverage focused on the Assembly’s decision to introduce a procedure allowing for the dismissal of its President and other members holding high elective office. The ratification of the decision adopted by the Bureau on 29 May 2017 to appoint Sir Nicolas Bratza, Jean-Louis Bruguière and Elisabet Fura as members of the independent external investigation body to look into allegations of corruption within the Assembly also triggered once again a series of articles in major media outlets.

The addresses by the Prime Ministers of the Republic of Moldova and Montenegro, Pavel Filip and Duško Marković as well as the speech by the Czech Foreign Minister and Committee of Ministers Chair Lubomír Zaorálek generated news coverage in the respective national media.

The debates on migration and refugees in Europe as well as the debate on the situation in Belarus also contributed to increasing the Assembly’s visibility.

163,390 impressions were recorded across the week on PACE's Twitter account, while the Facebook page received some 51,523 engagements. The interest on social media, although a little lower than during other recent part-sessions, reflected the general media coverage with the most interest on the situation of the President, the Assembly's new dismissal procedure and the migration debates. Eurovision broadcast of Prime Minister Pavel Filip's speech and two live transmissions on Europe and migration were screened on Facebook live.

The Mediabox, a web-TV studio available to those making news at the Assembly, registered some 50 interviews and statements which were largely distributed on social media during the part-session week.

E. Adopted texts

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

No.	Title
Resolution 2169 (2017)	Recognition and implementation of the principle of accountability in the Parliamentary Assembly
Resolution 2170 (2017)	Promoting integrity in governance to tackle political corruption
Recommendation 2105 (2017)	Promoting integrity in governance to tackle political corruption
Resolution 2171 (2017)	Parliamentary scrutiny over corruption: parliamentary cooperation with the investigative media
Recommendation 2106 (2017)	Parliamentary scrutiny over corruption: parliamentary cooperation with the investigative media
Resolution 2172 (2017)	The situation in Belarus
Recommendation 2107 (2017)	The situation in Belarus
Resolution 2173 (2017)	A comprehensive humanitarian and political response to the migration and refugee crisis and the continuing flows into Europe
Recommendation 2108 (2017)	A comprehensive humanitarian and political response to the migration and refugee crisis and the continuing flows into Europe
Resolution 2174 (2017)	Human rights implications of the European response to transit migration across the Mediterranean
Resolution 2175 (2017)	Migration as an opportunity for European development
Recommendation 2109 (2017)	Migration as an opportunity for European development
Resolution 2176 (2017)	Integration of refugees in times of critical pressure: learning from recent experience and examples of best practice
Resolution 2177 (2017)	Putting an end to sexual violence and harassment of women in public space
Resolution 2178 (2017)	The implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights
Recommendation 2110 (2017)	The implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights
Resolution 2179 (2017)	Political influence over independent media and journalists
Recommendation 2111 (2017)	Political influence over independent media and journalists
Resolution 2180 (2017)	The "Turin process": reinforcing social rights in Europe
Recommendation 2112 (2017)	The "Turin process": reinforcing social rights in Europe

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

F. Hearings and events organised by committees during the part-session

Monday 26 June 2017	
<p>2–3 pm Room 3, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination</p>	<p>► Hearing on “Migration from a gender perspective: empowering women as key actors for integration”</p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Gabriela Heinrich (Germany, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ms Sybille Fezer, Executive Director for Programmes & Strategic Development, Medica Mondiale, Germany · Ms Fatuma Musa Afrah, Human rights activist, consultant on the integration of newcomers, Germany
<p>2–3 pm Room 7, Palais</p> <p>Sub-committee on Children of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p>	<p>► Exchange of views with Ms Ina Verzivolli, Chairperson of the Ad hoc Committee for the Rights of the Child (CAHENF)</p>
<p>2–3 pm Room 8, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► Round table on “European alternative solutions to immigration detention of children”</p> <p>in the context of the Parliamentary Campaign to End Immigration Detention of Children, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ms Pinar Aksu, formerly detained migrant child, United Kingdom · Ms Margaret Tuite, Coordinator for the rights of the child, European Commission (via Skype) · Ms Lilja Gretarsdottir, Deputy Head of Division, Co-operation with International Institutions and Civil Society, Council of Europe · Ms Leeanne Torpey, Campaign Coordinator, International Detention Coalition
Tuesday 27 June 2017	
<p>9–10 am Room 9, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► “Populism – how strong are Europe’s checks and balances?”</p> <p>Exchange of views with Mr Thorbjørn Jagland, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, on his 2017 report on the state of democracy, human rights and the rule of law.</p>
<p>2–3.30 pm Room 3, Palais</p> <p>Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination</p>	<p>► Hearing on “Diversity and minorities in intercultural cities”</p> <p>Exchange of views with Ms Irena Guidikova, Head of Division, Intercultural Cities, Directorate General of Democracy, Council of Europe</p>
<p>2–3.30 pm Room 8, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► Exchanges of views on the “Living Library”</p> <p>in the context of the Migration Day on 28 June, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · Ms Antje Rothmund, Head of the Youth Department, Council of Europe

Tuesday 27 June 2017**2–3.30 pm**
Room 10, PalaisCommittee on Legal Affairs
and Human Rights**► Parliamentary Seminar on the “European Court of Human Rights: the way forward, achievements and challenges”**

with the participation of:

- Professor Marc Bossuyt, Emeritus Professor, University of Antwerp, Emeritus President on the Constitutional Court of Belgium
- Professor Krzysztof Drzewicki, Chair of International Public Law, University of Gdansk and former Agent of the Government of Poland before the European Court of Human Rights
- Dr. Peter Schneiderhan, Senior Prosecutor, member of the bureau of the German Association of Judges (Deutscher Richterbund) and of the European Association of Judges (Stuttgart, Germany)

Wednesday 28 June 2017**2–3.30 pm**
Room 1, PalaisCommittee on Political Affairs
and Democracy**► Exchange of views on “Preventing extremism and terrorism and protecting victims”**

with the participation of:

- Mr Brendan Cox, Founder of the Jo Cox Foundation, United Kingdom (video conference)
- Ms Sajda Mughal, Executive Director, JAN Trust Organisation, and survivor of the 7/7 bombing in London, United Kingdom (video link)
- Imam Imran Muhammad, Trainer on the *Me and You Education project*, Manchester, United Kingdom
- Ms Gabriella Battaini Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe

2.00– 3.30 pm
Room 7, PalaisSub-committee on Public
Health and Sustainable
Development of the
Committee on Social Affairs,
Health and Sustainable
Development**► Exchange of views with the representatives of the Muğla District Environmental Platform (Turkey) and of the European Cities Against Drugs (ECAD) with the participation of:**

- Ms Zeynep Gündüzyeli, The Environmental Platform of Muğla District
- Mr Alp Serdar Denктаş, The Environmental Platform of Muğla District
- Mr Erik Leijonmarck, Secretary General of the European Cities Against Drugs
- Mr Jon Sigufsson, Director of Youth in Europe, Icelandic Centre for Social Research and Analysis

2.00– 3.30 pm
Room 8, PalaisCommittee on Migration,
Refugees and Displaced
Persons**► Hearing on “European rules on the administrative detention of migrants”**

in the context of the preparation of a codifying instrument of European rules on the administrative detention of migrants prepared by the Council of Europe, with the participation of:

- Mr Massimo Frigo, Legal Adviser, International Commission of Jurists, Geneva, Switzerland
- Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director, Directorate of Human Rights, Council of Europe

Wednesday 28 June 2017

2.00– 3.30 pm
Room 11, Palais

Committee on Rules of
Procedure, Immunities and
Institutional Affairs

► **Exchange of views on “The need to enable the Committee of Ministers to give answers to the Assembly even in the absence of a consensus”**

in the context of the report prepared by Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), with the participation of:

- . Mr Emil Ruffer, Chairman of the Ministers' Deputies of the Council of Europe

Thursday 29 June 2017

8.30 –10 am
Room 3, Palais

Committee on Equality and
Non-Discrimination

► **Hearing on “Promoting the human rights of and eliminating discrimination against intersex people”**

in the context of the report prepared by Mr Piet De Bruyn (Belgium, NR), with the participation of

- . Ms María Amor Estébanez, Senior Policy Manager, Equality and Citizens' Rights Department, European Union Agency for Fundamental Rights;
- . Dr Benjamin Moron-Puech, Associate researcher at the Laboratory of Legal Sociology of the University Paris II Panthéon-Assas, Paris and at the Institute of Mediterranean, European and Comparative Ethnology (Aix-Marseille University, CNRS).

8.30 – 10.00 am
Room 6, Palais

Committee on Culture,
Science, Education and Media

► **Exchanges of views on “The protection and promotion of regional or minority languages in Europe”**

in the context of the report prepared by Ms Rózsa Hoffmann (Hungary, EPP/CD), with the participation of:

- . Ms Vesna Crnić-Grotić, Chair of the Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages (ECRML)

2.30 - 3.30 pm
Room 1, Palais
Sub-committee on the Europe
Prize of the
Committee on Social Affairs,
Health and Sustainable
Development

► **Ceremony of the presentation of European Diplomas**

II. Elections

- **Albania: parliamentary elections (25 June 2017)** on 30 June 2017, the Bureau took note of the statement of the electoral mission;
- **Kyrgyzstan: presidential election (15 October 2017)**: on 30 June 2017, subject to receiving an invitation, the Bureau decided to observe these elections and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 20 members (EPP/CD: 7; SOC: 6, ALDE: 3, EC: 3, UEL: 1) and the rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic, Mr Alain Destexhe (Belgium, ALDE) and appointed Ms Doris Fiala (Switzerland, ALDE) as its Chairperson (Appendix 1).

III. Statement to the Bureau

- On its meeting on 30 June 2017, the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly made a statement which is appended to this document (Appendix 2).

IV. Motion of dismissal of the President, Mr Pedro Agramunt

- A motion on “Dismissal of Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Parliamentary Assembly”, submitted by 158 members of the Assembly belonging to 5 political groups and 36 national delegations, was tabled on 30 June and published on the same day at 1.30 pm (Doc. 14383).
- It will be put to a vote of the Assembly at the opening of its October 2017 part-session. A voluntary resignation by Mr Agramunt from the post of the President of the Assembly would terminate the procedure.
- In line with Rule 54.4 of the Assembly, until the final decision on the motion is taken, President Agramunt is not allowed to chair the meetings of the Assembly.

V. Other decisions taken by the Bureau (Strasbourg, 26 and 30 June 2017)

- **Third part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 26 - 30 June 2017)**: on 30 June 2017, the Bureau approved the proposals made by the Secretary General of the Assembly for the follow-up to adopted texts.
- **Fourth part-session of 2017 (Strasbourg, 9 - 13 October 2017)**: on 30 June 2017, the Bureau drew up the preliminary draft agenda (Appendix 3).
- **World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 8-10 November 2017)**: on 30 June 2017, the Bureau approved the composition of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Forum. (Appendix 4).
- **Relations with the European Parliament and other EU institutions**: on 30 June 2017, the Bureau took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly.
- **Participation of members in Parliamentary Assembly plenary sessions and committee meetings in 2016**: on 26 June 2017, the Bureau took note of the information memorandum prepared by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, and decided:
 - to invite the President of the Assembly to notify in writing the chairpersons of the delegations and the speakers of the parliaments concerned by low participation rates (Rule 44.10 of the Rules of Procedure and paragraph 7.2 of Resolution 1583 (2007)) or to arrange a meeting with the chairpersons of the relevant delegations;
 - to make publicly available the statistics related to the participation of national delegations on the Assembly’s website.
- **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)**: on 30 June 2017, the Bureau approved the lists of candidates in respect of Croatia, Georgia, Netherlands, Slovenia and Sweden, which has been subsequently forwarded to the Committee of Ministers.

VI. Parliamentary Assembly Prizes

On 29 June 2017, the Assembly held the ceremony of presentation of **European Diplomas** (Europe Prize), awarded to 7 municipalities from 5 countries (Appendix 5).

The Europe Prize 2017, the highest distinction, goes to the city of **Lublin** in Poland. The award ceremony will take place in Lublin on 20-21 October 2017 (date to be confirmed).

The submission of nominations for the 2017 edition of the **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize** closed on 30 June 2017. On 28-29 August, the Selection Panel will meet in Prague to proceed with the shortlisting of three candidates. On 8 October, the Selection Panel will meet in Strasbourg to select the Prizewinner from the shortlist. The Prize Award Ceremony will take place on 9 October in Strasbourg in the Chamber of the Parliamentary Assembly during its 4th part-session.

VII. Activities of Committees and Networks

- On 5 September 2017, in Paris, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** will hold a hearing on ***Compatibility of Sharia law with the European Convention on Human Rights: can States Parties to the Convention be signatories of the “Cairo Declaration”?*** (Rapporteur: Mr Antonio Gutiérrez, Spain, SOC) with the participation of Mr Konstantinos Tsitselikis, Associate Professor in human rights at the Department of Balkan, Slavic and Oriental Studies of the University of Macedonia (Thessaloniki, Greece), and Ms Machteld Zee, political scientist and legal scholar, author of the book “Choosing Sharia?: Multiculturalism, Islamic Fundamentalism and Sharia Councils”

- On 20 September 2017 in Paris, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons:**
 - will hold a hearing on **“The situation of human rights of migrants and refugees and the ongoing crisis of Europe’s migration”** with the participation of representatives of the European Council on Refugees and Exiles (ECRE), Human Right Watch (HRW) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) (tbc);

 - will hold an exchange of views on **“Addressing the humanitarian needs of internally displaced persons: recent lessons and future challenges in Europe”** (rapporteur: Mr Killion Munyama, Poland, EPP/CD) with the participation of representatives of the Internal Displacement Monitoring Centre (IDMC) in Geneva, the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) (tbc);

 - will hold an exchange of views on **“Family reunification in the Council of Europe member States”** (rapporteur: Ms Ulla Sandbæk, Denmark, UEL) with the participation of representatives of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) (tbc);

- On 22 September 2017 in Paris, the **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media:**
 - will hold an exchange of views on **“Good football governance”** with Mr Luis Miguel Maduro, former Chairperson of the FIFA Governance Committee and Review Committee;

 - will hold an exchange of views on **“Need for better international sports governance”** with representatives of sport sponsoring organisations;

 - will hold an exchange of views on **“The protection of editorial integrity”** with Mr William Horsley, independent journalist and former BBC correspondent, Media Freedom Representative of the Association of European Journalists, United Kingdom.

VIII. Seminars and conferences organised by the Assembly

6-7 July, Strasbourg: The *Parliamentary Project Support Division (PPSD)* will organise a seminar for the staff of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine on Council of Europe standards and policies in the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2015-2017.

7-8 September, Lisbon: The PPSD will organise the Launching Conference of the Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies, in cooperation with the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons. The conference will be financed partly by the South Programme II (the Council of Europe-European Union joint programme to foster democracy in Europe's southern neighbourhood) and partly by the Partnership for Good Governance (PGG).

21 September 2017, Paris: the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media and the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, in cooperation with the Parliamentary Project Support Division (PPSD), will organise a seminar on "*Building a culture of transparency: the role of national parliaments*". The seminar is organised in the context of the framework agreement between the Council of Europe and the European Union (the EU-Council of Europe Partnership for Good Governance (PGG)).

25-26 September, Strasbourg: The PPSD will organise an information seminar for a delegation of Serbian parliamentarians on the Council of Europe Human Rights and Gender Equality standards and the execution of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights.

28 September, Sarajevo: The PPSD will organise a national parliamentary seminar on the fight against corruption, economic crime and organised crime, in the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Bosnia and Herzegovina 2015-2017.

28-29 September, Budapest: The PPSD will organise a national seminar on the Istanbul Convention for parliamentarians of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine. This will be followed by a consultative meeting between parliamentarians and civil society on practical issues regarding the existing legislative framework. These activities are organised in the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine 2015-2017.

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

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

Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan, EC) and **Ms Maria Guzenina** (Finland, SOC), Co-rapporteurs of the *Monitoring Committee*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Serbia from **17 to 21 July 2017**.

➤ ***Good football Governance***

Ms Anne Brasseur (Luxembourg, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, will meet with high representatives of UEFA and the persons in charge of the development of Women's football, in Enschede, Netherlands, **on 6 August 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 London on **22 August 2017**.

➤ ***Empowering women in the economy***

Ms Elena Centemero (Italy, EPP/CD), rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Iceland from **28 to 29 August 2017**, and another one to Greece from **11 to 12 September 2017**.

➤ ***State of emergency: proportionality issues concerning derogations under Article 15 of the European Convention on Human Rights***

Mr Raphaël Comte (Switzerland, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Paris on **4 and 6 September 2017**.

➤ ***The evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Jordan***

Ms Josette Durrieu (France, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Jordan from **9 to 12 September 2017**.

➤ ***Deliberate destruction and illegal trafficking of cultural heritage***

Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to the United Kingdom **from 12 to 13 September 2017**, and another one to Greece **from 28 to 29 September 2017**.

➤ ***The role of national authorities in successful decentralisation processes***

Mr Luís Leite Ramos (Portugal, PPE/DC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) (Paris) on **18 September 2017** (to be confirmed).

➤ ***Climate change and implementation of the Paris Agreement***

Mr John Prescott (United Kingdom, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to the European Environment Agency (Copenhagen) on **20 September 2017** (to be confirmed).

➤ ***Family reunification in the Council of Europe member States***

Ms Ulla Sandbæk (Denmark, UEL), rapporteur of the *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to the European Commission and the European Parliament in Brussels in **September or October 2017**.

X. Relations with the Committee of Ministers

On Wednesday 28 June 2017, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, held an exchange of views with **Mr Emil Ruffer**, Ambassador of the Czech Republic, Chairman of the Ministers' Deputies of the Council of Europe, in the framework of the preparation of the report on *The need to enable the Committee of Ministers to give answers to the Assembly even in the absence of a consensus* (Rapporteur: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC).

XI. Co-operation with the European Parliament and other EU institutions

On 5 July 2017, in Strasbourg, Mr Michele Nicoletti (Italy, SOC) will meet with Ms Federica Mogherini, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy/Vice-President of the European Commission, in the context of the preparation of his report on the *Call for a Council of Europe Summit to defend and promote democratic security in Europe*.

On 7-8 September 2017 in Lisbon, Mr Antonio Tajani, President of the European Parliament, will participate in the Launching Conference of the Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies hosted by the Portuguese Parliament.

In September or October 2017, Ms Ulla Sandbæk (Denmark, UEL) will carry out a fact-finding visit to the European Commission and the European Parliament in Brussels in the framework of the preparation of her report on "Family reunification in the Council of Europe member States".

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

- . **28-29 August 2017, Prague:** *Václav Havel Human Rights Prize Selection Panel*
- . **3 September 2017, Paris:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **4 September 2017, Paris:** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **5 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **6 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **7 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on the Honouring of obligations and commitments by member states of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*
- . **7-8 September 2017, Lisbon:** *Joint meeting of the Sub-Committee on Co-operation with non-European countries of origin and transit and the Sub-Committee on Integration of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **18 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*
- . **19 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development and Sub-Committee on Children*
- . **20 September 2017, Paris (Senate):** *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*
- . **20 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **21 September 2017, Paris:** *Joint meeting of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media and the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*
- . **22 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **25 September 2017, Athens:** *Sub-Committee on Conflicts between Council of Europe Member States of the Committee on the Honouring of obligations and commitments by member states of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*
- . **28-29 September 2017, Paris:** *Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights (tbc)*
- . **8 October 2017, Strasbourg:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **8 Octobre 2017, Strasbourg:** *Meeting of the Selection Panel of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize*
- . **9 October 2017, Strasbourg:** *Bureau of the Assembly*

Appendix 1

List of members of the ad hoc committee to observe the presidential election in Kyrgyzstan (15 October 2017)

Chairperson: Ms Doris FIALA (Switzerland, ALDE)

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

Boriana ÅBERG, Sweden
Elena CENTEMERO, Italy
Corneliu Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania
Zsolt CSENGER-ZALAN, Hungary
Nicole DURANTON, France
Giuseppe GALATI, Italy
Alina Ștefania GORGHIU, Romania
Sylvie GOY-CHAVENT, France
Aleksander POĆIEJ, Poland
Ion POPA, Romania
Cezar Florin PREDA, Romania
María Concepción de SANTA ANA, Spain
Adão SILVA, Portugal
Miltiadis VARVITSIOTIS, Greece
Stefaan VERCAMER, Belgium

Socialist Group

Marie-Françoise PEROL-DUMONT, France
Attila MESTERHAZY, Hungary
Antonio GUTTIÉREZ, Spain
George FOULKES, United Kingdom
Paolo CORSINI, Italy
Idalia SERRAO, Portugal

Substitutes

José CEPEDA, Spain
Gordon MARAS, Croatia
Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland
Maryvonne BLONDIN, France
Luis Alberto ORELLANA, Italy
Pedrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro
Florian KRONBICHLER, Italy

European Conservatives Group (EC)

Talip KÜÇÜKCAN, Turkey
Hermine NAGHDALYAN, Armenia
Tom PACKALÉN, Finland

Substitutes

Suat ÖNAL, Turkey
Arkadiusz MULARCZYK, Poland
Lord Richard BALFE, United Kingdom
Mark PRITCHARD, United Kingdom
Ingebjorg GODSKESEN, Norway

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE)

Doris FIALA, Switzerland
Carles JORDANA, Andorra
Simonas GENTVILAS, Lithuania

Substitute

Fernando MAURA, Spain

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL)

Henk OVERBEEK, Netherlands

Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on the *Evaluation of the Partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic*

Alain DESTEXHE, Belgium

* The order of members and substitutes of the EPP/CD group will be specified later

Appendix 2

Statement by Mr Wojciech Sawicki, Secretary General of the Assembly at the meeting of the Bureau on 30 June 2017

Mr President,

I feel obliged to make a statement to the Bureau in view of yesterday's message delivered by Mr Agramunt. As you know he attended the meeting of the Presidential Committee yesterday, and at the end asked those who were still present in the room to have a family photo taken.

This photograph has been put by him on his Twitter account together with an unacceptable - in my view - political comment.

I strongly protest – also on behalf of my two colleagues from the Secretariat who were present– against using our image to support a political message. I find this unacceptable. Once I found this twitter message I reacted immediately to Mr Agramunt – however without any response from him.

I would also like to inform you that the Secretariat of the Assembly is following the situation of Mr Agramunt with anxiety and unease. We are worried about the future of this Assembly and its role within the Council of Europe. At all cost we would like to avoid a possible divide between parliamentarians and staff, and I very much regret that, unfortunately, in his recent statements Mr Agramunt has been trying to introduce this divide.

The success of this Assembly also depends on the common harmonious work and good cooperation of members and staff. We, the staff, really care about this.

In this difficult time for the Assembly, my role – as the Secretary General of the Assembly - is to provide you with the best possible assistance and to help you to proceed in line with the Statute of the Council of Europe and the Rules of the Assembly, while avoiding at the same time any partisan approach. This is also the duty of all my colleagues and I am very grateful to them for their work and for all that they are doing for the Assembly.



03 July 2017

Fourth part of the 2017 Ordinary Session (9-13 October 2017)

Preliminary draft agenda¹

1. Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 30 June 2017.

Abbreviations

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

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

Meetings outside the Chamber

Bureau of the Assembly

Monday: 08:00-09:30

Friday: 08:30-10:00

Committees

Monday: 14:00-15:00

Tuesday: 08:30-10:00

Tuesday: 14:00-15:30

Wednesday: 14:00-15:30

Thursday: 08:30-10:00

Thursday: 14:00-15:30

Political groups

Monday: 09:30-11:30

Monday: 17:00-19:00

Wednesday: 08:30-10:00

Sitting No. 28 (11:30-13:00)

1. Opening of the part-session

- 1.1. Opening by the most senior Vice-President
- 1.2. Examination of credentials
- 1.3. Changes in the membership of committees
- 1.4. Motion for the dismissal of Mr Pedro Agramunt, President of the Parliamentary Assembly
 - List of speakers
 - Vote
 - (Doc. 14383)
- 1.5. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure
- 1.6. Adoption of the agenda

2. Debate

- 2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
 - Presentation by:
 - Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER (United Kingdom, EC), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc.)
 - 2.2. Observation of the parliamentary elections in Albania (25 June 2017)
 - Presentation by:
 - Mr Paolo CORSINI (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc.)
- 📖 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 9 October, 10:00)
⚠ [possibly] Vote

3. Prize Award Ceremony (12:30-13:00)

- 3.1. Václav Havel Human Rights Prize²

Sitting No. 29 (15:00-17:00)

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

- 4.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers
 - Presentation by:
 - Mr Lubomír ZAORÁLEK, Minister for Foreign Affairs of the Czech Republic, Chairman of the Committee of Ministers [tbc]
- 📖 Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 9 October, 12:00)
⊕ Written questions (deadline for tabling: Monday 2 October, 11:30)

5. Debate (continued)

- 5.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
- 5.2. Observation of the parliamentary elections in Albania (25 June 2017)
 - 📖 List of speakers
 - ⚠ [possibly] Vote

2. See programme published separately (AS/Inf (2017) ...).

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

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

6.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

7. Debate

7.1. The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2016-2017

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Alfred HEER (Switzerland, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc.)
- Mr Geraint DAVIES (United Kingdom, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Soc (Doc.)

□ Statement by:

- Mr Angel GURRÍA, Secretary-General of the OECD

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 9 October, 16:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 9 October, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

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

8.1. Mr Miloš ZEMAN, President of the Czech Republic [tbc]

Speech (12:00-12:20)

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

📅 Questions

Sitting No. 31 (15:30-20:00)

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

9.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

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

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

📅 Questions

11. Debate

11.1. Follow-up to Resolution 1903 (2012): promoting and strengthening transparency, accountability and integrity of Parliamentary Assembly members

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER (United Kingdom, EC), Rapporteur AS/Pro (Doc.)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 10 October, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 9 October, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

12. Debate

12.1. Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of Jordan

- Presentation by:
 - Ms Josette DURRIEU (France, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc.)
 - Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc.)
- 📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 10 October, 12:00)
- ⊖ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 9 October, 16:00)
- 🗳️ Vote on ... ()

Sitting No. 32 (10:00-13:00)

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

13.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

14. Joint debate

14.1. The functioning of democratic institutions in Azerbaijan

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc.)
 - Mr Cezar Florin PREDA (Romania, EPP/CD), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc.)

14.2. Azerbaijan's Chairmanship of the Council of Europe: What follow-up on respect for human rights?

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Alain DESTEXHE (Belgium, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc.)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 10 October, 19:00)

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

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

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

15.1. Address by an invited personality [tbc]

Sitting No. 33 (15:30-20:00)

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

16.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

17. Joint debate

17.1. Call for a Council of Europe Summit to defend and promote democratic security in Europe

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Michele NICOLETTI (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc.)

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

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Tiny KOX (Netherlands, UEL), Rapporteur AS/Pro (Doc.)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 11 October, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 10 October, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

18. Debate

18.1. The honouring of obligations and commitments by Bosnia and Herzegovina

- Presentation by:
 - Sir Roger GALE (United Kingdom, EC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc.)
 - Mr Tiny KOX (Netherlands, UEL), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc.)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 11 October, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 10 October, 16:00)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

Thursday 12 October 2017

Sitting No. 34 (10:00-13:00)

19. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure or current affairs debate³

20. Free debate OR Invited personality (12:00-13:00)

Sitting No. 35 (15:30-20:00)

21. Debate

21.1. The use of new genetic technologies in human beings

□ Presentation by:

- Ms Petra De SUTTER (Belgium, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 14328)

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

⊖ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 11 October, 16:00)

Ⓐ Vote on a draft recommendation (Doc. 14328)

22. Joint debate

22.1. Venice Commission's "Rule of Law Checklist"

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Philippe MAHOUX (Belgium, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc.)

22.2. New threats to the rule of law in Council of Europe member States: selected examples

□ Presentation by:

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

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

⊖ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 11 October, 16:00)

Ⓐ Vote on ... ()

Ⓐ Vote on ... ()

Sitting No. 36 (10:00-13:00)

23. Debate

23.1. Prosecuting and punishing the crimes against humanity or even possible genocide committed by Daesh

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Pieter OMTZIGT (Netherlands, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc.)
- Ms Thorhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR (Iceland, NR), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Pol (Doc.)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 12 October, 19:00)

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 12 October, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

24. Debate

24.1. Promoting the human rights of and eliminating discrimination against intersex people

□ Presentation by:

- Mr Piet De BRUYN (Belgium, NR), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc.)

📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 12 October, 19:00)

⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 12 October, 10:30)

🗳️ Vote on ... ()

25. Progress report (continued)

26. Closure of the part-session



PRESS RELEASE

Communication Division

PACE 082 (2017)

European Diplomas awarded to seven municipalities in 2017

Strasbourg, 29.06.2017 - The mayors of seven municipalities were today presented with the 2017 European Diploma, honouring their work to promote the European ideal, at a ceremony at the Council of Europe headquarters in Strasbourg.

The European Diploma, awarded by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), is the first step towards the prestigious Europe Prize.

The winning towns are:

Germany	Bergkamen (North Rhine-Westphalia) Denzlingen (Baden-Württemberg)
Greece	Samos (Samos municipality)
Italy	Ponte San Nicolò (Province of Padua)
Poland	Ostrów Wielkopolski (Voivodship of Wielkopolskie) Morawica (Voivodship of Świętokrzyskie)
Serbia	Kikinda (Vojvodina)

The European Diploma not only acknowledges the work done at European level by the prize-winning municipalities, but also serves as an incentive to develop this work further through contacts with twin towns and other municipal partners.

The European Diploma was first presented by the Parliamentary Assembly in 1988. The winning municipalities may then also apply for the Flag of Honour, the Plaque of Honour and, finally, [the Europe Prize](#), the highest honour (awarded in 2017 to Lublin in Poland).

assembly.coe.int | pace.com@coe.int | Twitter | YouTube | Facebook | Flickr

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).

Appendix 5

List of members of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the 2017 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 8-10 November)

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, NR)
Mr Deniz Baykal (Turkey, SOC)
Mr Bogdan Klich (Poland, EPP/CD)
Mr Michele Nicoletti (Italy, SOC)
Mr Andrea Rigoni (Italy, ALDE)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Ms Eka Beselia (Georgia, SOC)
Ms Anne Brasseur (Luxembourg, ALDE)
Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC)
Mr Raphaël Comte (Switzerland, ALDE)
Mr Sergio Divina (Italy, NR)
Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC)
Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/CD)

Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Mr Cezar Florin Preda (Romania, EPP/CD)
Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC)

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Mr Ertuğrul Kürkçü (Turkey, UEL)

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Mr Volodymyr Arieu (Ukraine, EPP/CD)
Mr Roland Rino Büchel (Switzerland, ALDE)
Mr José Cepeda (Spain, SOC)
Mr Paolo Corsini (Italy, SOC)
Ms Adele Gambaro (Italy, NR)
Mr Francesco Giro (Italy, EPP/CD)
Mr Rafael Huseynov (Azerbaijan, ALDE)
Ms Judith Pallarés (Andorra, ALDE)

Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Mr Goran Beus Richembergh (Croatia, ADLE)
Ms Elena Centemero (Italy, EPP/CD)
Mr Jean-Pierre Grin (Switzerland, ADLE)
Ms Alice-Mary Higgins (Ireland, SOC)
Ms Elvira Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD)
Mr Florian Kronbichler (Italy, SOC)
Ms Cristina-Mădălina Prună (Romania, NR)
Mr Sasa Magazinovic (Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC)
Ms Dovilė Šakalienė (Lithuania, ALDE)
Ms Milena Santerini (Italy, SOC)
Ms Maria Edera Spadoni (Italy, NR)
Mr Damien Thiéry (Belgium, ALDE)
Ms Gisela Wurm (Austria, SOC)