



## Information documents

SG-AS (2018) 05

18 June 2018

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### **Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1320th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (20 June 2018)**

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<sup>1</sup> This document covers past activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 27 April 2018 (Strasbourg) and the future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 25 June 2018 (Strasbourg).

## **I. Decisions taken by the Bureau on 31 May 2018**

### **A. Third part-session of 2018 (25-29 June 2018)**

On 31 May 2018, the Bureau drew up the draft agenda and took note of the personalities to be invited to the Assembly's third part-session of 2018 (Appendix 1).

On 7 June 2018, Mr Emanuelis Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD), and 24 members of the Assembly, requested that the Assembly hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Threats to the health and life of Ukrainian prisoners in the Russian Federation and occupied Crimea*.

A meeting of the Joint Committee will be held on Thursday 28 June 2018 from 3.30 pm to 4.30 pm (room 5).

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

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

➤ **Guidelines for the observation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly and Code of conduct for International Election Observation Missions (IEOM):** the Bureau amended and unanimously adopted the Guidelines for the observation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly together with the Code of conduct for International Election Observation Missions (IEOM) (as appended to the Guidelines) (Appendix 3), subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report.

➤ **Montenegro: presidential election (15 April 2018):** on 31 May 2018, the Bureau approved the report of the ad hoc committee.

➤ **Turkey: early presidential and parliamentary elections (24 June 2018):** the Bureau took note of the invitation to observe these elections and of the statement of the pre-electoral mission, and approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe them. The delegation will observe these elections from 22 to 25 June 2018. As a result of a written consultation, on 8 June 2018, the Bureau decided – as requested by the EPP/CD Group - to add Ms Jennifer De Temmerman (France, NR) and Mr Bertrand Sorre (France, NR), to the list of members of the Ad hoc committee for the observation of the early presidential and parliamentary elections in Turkey. Their names will appear on this list, under the EPP/CD Group with mention in brackets NR (non-registered). (Appendix 4).

➤ **Bosnia and Herzegovina: general election (7 October 2018):** subject to receiving an invitation, the Bureau decided to observe this election and constituted an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 31 members (EPP/CD-10; SOC-10; EC-5; ALDE-3; UEL-2; FDG-1) as well as the two co-Rapporteurs of the monitoring committee and agreed to organise a pre-electoral mission.

➤ **Georgia: presidential election (October 2018 – date to be confirmed):** the Bureau took note of the invitation to observe this election, decided to observe it and to constitute an ad hoc committee for this purpose composed of 31 members (EPP/CD-10; SOC-10; EC-5; ALDE-3; UEL-2; FDG-1) as well as the two co-Rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee and agreed to organise a pre-electoral mission.

### **C. Other decisions taken by the Bureau at its meeting on 31 May 2018**

➤ **Rules on access to and movement within the Council of Europe premises during Assembly sessions and meetings:** the Bureau:

- amended and unanimously adopted the Rules on access to and movement within the Council of Europe premises during Assembly sessions and meetings (Appendix 5), subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- decided that they shall supersede the previous rules and decisions, namely:

- the general regulations on security and rules on access to and movement and security within Council of Europe premises during Assembly sessions, adopted by the Bureau of the Assembly on 8 November 1995;
- the ruling on access of members of the public to the Palais of the Council of Europe during Parliamentary Assembly sessions (adopted by the Standing Committee on 28 June 1984 and amended by the Bureau on 8 November 1995 and 6 September 2006);

- the Standing Committee decision on access for government representatives to Assembly committees, adopted on 25 November 1987;
  - while the Rules and criteria on the use of the Chamber and meeting rooms, approved by the Bureau of the Assembly on 13 December 1968, shall remain in force.
- decided to invite the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs to give further consideration to the question of the possible creation of a transparency register of interest representatives.

➤ **Honorary President:** the Bureau decided to grant the title of Honorary President to Ms Anne Brasseur, President of the Assembly 2014-2016.

➤ **2018 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 19-21 November):** the Bureau took note of the concept paper and decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Forum, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report.

## **II. Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau on the role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly – Zagreb, 1 June 2018**

On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018, in Zagreb, **the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau:**

- held an exchange of views on the basis of a revised memorandum prepared by the Chairperson and decided to declassify it, and
- instructed its Chairperson to prepare a draft report for its next meeting to be held on Tuesday 26 June 2018 from 6.30 to 8.30 pm.

## **III. Standing Committee – Zagreb, 1 June 2018**

On 1<sup>st</sup> June 2018, in Zagreb, **the Standing Committee:**

- heard a welcome address by Mr Gordan Jandroković, Speaker of the Croatian Parliament;
- held an exchange of views with Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe;
- took note of the report of the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau on the “observation of the presidential election in Montenegro (15 April 2018)”;
- adopted the following texts on behalf of the Assembly:

Resolution 2221 (2018)	Counter-narratives to terrorism
Resolution 2222 (2018)	Promoting diversity and equality in politics
Resolution 2223 (2018)	Detainees with disabilities in Europe
Recommendation 2131 (2018)	Counter-narratives to terrorism
Recommendation 2132 (2018)	Detainees with disabilities in Europe

## **IV. Activities of Committees and Networks**

➤ On 15 May 2018 in Paris, the **Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs** continued its hearings of Assembly members mentioned in the report of the Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly, in the framework of the follow-up to the conclusions relating to the individual behaviour of Assembly’s members. It took decisions, in accordance with the Code of conduct of members of the Parliamentary Assembly, with regard to four members (Mr Pedro Agramunt (Spain, NR), Mr Cezar Preda (Romania, EPP/CD), Mr Samad Seyidov (Azerbaijan, EC) and Mr Jordi Xuclà (Spain, ALDE)).

- On 22 May 2018 in Athens, the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**:
  - heard a welcome address by Mr Nikolaos Voutsis, President of the Hellenic Parliament, and held exchanges of views with Mr Dimitrios Vitsas, Greek Migration Policy Minister, as well as with Mr Giorgos Katrougalos, Greek Alternate Minister of Foreign Affairs.

and held an exchanges of views:

  - with Ms Maria Gavouneli, Head of the delegation of Greece to the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) and Associate Professor of International Law at the National & Kapodistrian University of Athens and adopted a statement on *the establishment of an academic network on Council of Europe conventions against corruption*, with the participation of Mr Michele Nicoletti, President of the Assembly;
  - on *Protecting and supporting the victims of terrorism* in the framework of the report prepared by Ms Marietta Karamanli (France, SOC), with the participation of Mr Travis Frain, Westminster attack survivor and member of the UK network Survivors against Terror, Ms Susanne Gentz, Diplomatic Adviser, Europe and Central Asia, Policy and Humanitarian Diplomacy Division, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), and Ms Mary Bossis, Associate Professor at the Department of International Relations at the University of Piraeus, Greece;
  - on *The situation in Syria and its effects upon surrounding countries* in the framework of the report prepared by Ms Theodora Bakoyannis, (Greece, EPP/CD), with the participation of Mr Sotirios Roussos, Associate Professor at the University of Peloponnisos, Greece, and considered an introductory memorandum;
  - on *Compatibility of Sharia Law with the European Convention on Human Rights: can States Parties to the Convention be signatories of the "Cairo Declaration"?* in the framework of the report for opinion by Ms Anne Brasseur, (Luxembourg, ALDE), with the participation of Ms Maria Giannakaki, Secretary General for Human Rights and Transparency at the Greek Ministry of Justice, and with Mr Yannis Ktistakis, Assistant Professor at the Faculty of Law of Democritus University of Thrace, Greece.
- On 23 May 2018 in Reykjavik, the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights** held hearings on:
  - *Sergei Magnitsky and beyond – fighting impunity by targeted sanctions* in the framework of a report by Lord Donald Anderson (United Kingdom, SOC), with the participation of Senator Raynell Andreychuk, Senate of Canada;
  - *Fighting corruption – Iceland's experience of preventing corruption in respect of members of parliament* with the participation of Ms Sigríður Á Andersen, Minister of Justice, Iceland, Ms Þórhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir, member of the Icelandic delegation to PACE, and Mr Jón Ólafsson, Chairperson of Gagnsæi: association against corruption and Chairperson of a governmental working group on trust in politics and public administration;
  - *Ombudsman Institutions in Europe – the need for a set of common standards* in the framework of a report by Lord Richard Balfe, (United Kingdom, EC) with the participation of Mr Tryggvi Gunnarsson, the Althing Ombudsman (Iceland) and Ms Catherine De Bruecker, Federal Ombudsman of Belgium.
- On 25 May 2018 in Paris, the **Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media** held exchange of views:
  - on *Safeguarding and enhancing Europe's intangible cultural heritage* in the framework of the report by Mr Andries Gryffroy, (Belgium, NR) with the participation of Ms Jorijn Neyrinck, Independent expert on intangible cultural heritage, and Mr Marc Jacobs, Director of the Flemish Interface Centre for Cultural Heritage (FARO), both from Belgium;
  - on *The value of cultural heritage in a democratic society* in the framework of the report by Alexander [the Earl of] Dundee, (United Kingdom, EC) with the participation of Mr Andy Pratt, Professor of Cultural Economy at the Centre for Culture and the Creative Industries, City University, London;

- *on Public service media in the context of fake news and propaganda* in the framework of the report by Mr Petri Honkonen, (Finland, ALDE) with the participation of Ms Minna Aslama Horowitz, Assistant Professor in International Communication, Finland; Ms Helen Boaden, Member of the Advisory Board, Shorenstein Center on Media, Politics and Public Policy, Harvard University, USA, former Director, BBC Radio, BBC News, London; and Mr Giacomo Mazzone, Head of institutional and members relations, European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Switzerland.
- On 29 May 2018 in Paris, the **Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)** held an exchange of views on the judicial reforms in Poland in the framework of the report on *The functioning of democratic institutions in Poland* report by the two Co-rapporteurs: Mr Yves Cruchten, (Luxembourg, SOC) and Ms Theodora Bakoyannis, (Greece, EPP/CD) with the participation of Mr Łukasz Piebiak, Undersecretary of State, Ministry of Justice, accompanied by Mr Tomasz Darkowski, Director of the Legislative Department; Mr Dariusz Drajewicz, Vice-President of the National Council of the Judiciary of Poland; Ms Zuzanna Rudzińska-Bluszcz, Office of the Polish Commissioner for Human Rights (Ombudsperson); Mr Gianni Buquicchio, President of the Venice Commission; Mr Tymoteusz Zych, Institute for Legal Culture Ordo Iuris; Ms Małgorzata Szuleka, Polish Helsinki Foundation for Human Rights and Ms Barbora Cernusakova, Amnesty International.
- On 4 June 2018 in Paris, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons** held an exchange of views on *Development co-operation: a tool for preventing migration crises* in the framework of the report by Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, (Switzerland, SOC) with the participation of Ms Rachel Scott, Head of Crises and Fragility, Development Co-operation Directorate of the OECD.
- On 5 June 2018 in Paris, the **Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination** held exchange of views on:
  - *Private and family life: achieving equality regardless of sexual orientation* in the framework of the report by Mr Jonas Gunnarsson, (Sweden, SOC) with the participation of Ms Kia Aarnio, researcher, University of Helsinki;
  - *Stop hate speech and acts of hatred in sport* in the framework of the report by Mr Goran Beus Richembergh, (Croatia, ALDE) with the participation of Ms Aleksandra Knežević, independent expert for international cooperation and youth policy, Belgrade.

## **V. Seminars and conferences organised by the Assembly**

On 18 May 2018 in Geneva, the PACE *Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies* and the Parliamentary Project Support Division organised in co-operation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) an Annual Diaspora Forum on “*Diasporas as partners for development in a globalized world*” with the participation of parliamentarians, representatives of diasporas, Mr William Lacy Swing, Director General of the IOM and Mr Tomáš Boček, Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe on Migration and Refugees.

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

### ➤ ***Sergei Magnitsky and beyond – fighting impunity by targeted sanctions***

**Lord Donald Anderson** (United Kingdom, SOC) rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, carried out a fact-finding visit in London on **14 May 2018**.

### ➤ ***New challenges in the fight against organised crime and money laundering – the need to improve international co-operation***

**Mr Mart Van de Ven** (Netherlands, SOC) rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, carried out a fact-finding visit to London on **14 May 2018**.

➤ **Assessing political consequences of foreign funding of Islam in Europe**

**Ms Doris Fiala** (Switzerland, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to London, on **15 May 2018**.

➤ **Honouring of obligations and commitments by Armenia**

**Mr Giuseppe Galati** (Italy, EPP/CD) and **Ms Yuliya Lovockhina** (Ukraine, SOC), co-rapporteurs of the *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Yerevan from **23 to 25 May 2018**.

➤ **Human rights impact of the “external dimension” of European Union asylum and migration policy: out of sight, out of rights?**

**Ms Tineke Strik** (Netherlands, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Turkey from **31 May to 1 June 2018**.

➤ **Co-operation with United Nations human rights mechanisms – a challenge for the Council of Europe and its member States**

**Mr Frank Schwabe**, (Germany, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Geneva, Switzerland, on **18 June 2018**.

➤ **Post-monitoring dialogue with “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”**

**Ms Lise Christoffersen** (Norway, SOC) and **Mr Valeriu Ghilechi** (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD) co-rapporteurs of the *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Skopje from **18 to 20 June 2018**.

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

➤ **62<sup>nd</sup> Meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission (21 June 2018)**: Lord Richard Balfe (United Kingdom, EC), Mr Corneliu M. Cozmanniciu (Romania, EPP/CD), and Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/CD) will attend this meeting.

➤ **115th Plenary session of the Venice Commission (22-23 June 2018)**: Mr Sergiy Vlasenko (Ukraine, EPP/CD) will attend the session.

## **VIII. Co-operation with the European Parliament and other European Union institutions**

On **17-18 May 2018** in Paris, Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL) participated in the ILO Conference on *Industrial relations in Europe: Fostering equality at work and cross-country convergence?*, organised in cooperation with the European Commission.

On **18 May 2018** in Geneva (Switzerland), the *PACE Parliamentary Network on Diaspora Policies* organised in co-operation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) an Annual Diaspora Forum on *Diasporas as partners for development in a globalized world* with the participation, inter alia, of Ms Cécile Kyenge and Ms Maria Grapini, Members of the European Parliament.

On **23 May 2018**, during their fact-finding visit to Yerevan, Mr Giuseppe Galati (Italy, EPP/CD) and Ms Yuliya Lovockhina (Ukraine, SOC), co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee for the *Honouring of obligations and commitments by Armenia*, met with Ambassador Piotr Świtalski, Head of the European Union Delegation in Armenia.

On **18 June 2018**, during their fact-finding visit to Skopje, Ms Lise Christoffersen (Norway, SOC) and Mr Valeriu Ghilechi (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD), co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee for the *Post-monitoring dialogue with “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”* met with Ambassador Samuel Žbogar, Head of the European Union Delegation in “The former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia”.

**IX. List of meetings of the Committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee**

- . **15 May 2018, Paris:** *Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs*
- . **22 May 2018, Athens:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **22-23 May 2018, Reykjavik:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **25 May 2018, Paris:** *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*
- . **29 May 2018, Paris:** *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*
- . **31 May 2018, Zagreb:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **31 May 2018, Zagreb:** *Bureau of the Assembly*
- . **1 June 2018, Zagreb:** *Standing Committee*
- . **1 June 2018, Zagreb:** *Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau on the role and mission of the Parliamentary Assembly*
- . **4 June 2018, Paris:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **5 June 2018, Paris:** *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*
- . **15 June 2018, Paris:** *Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights*
- . **24 June 2018, Strasbourg:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **25 June 2018, Strasbourg:** *Bureau of the Assembly*

Doc. 14565 prov 1  
11 June 2018

**Third part of the 2018 Ordinary Session  
(25-29 June 2018)**

Draft agenda<sup>1</sup>

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1. Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 31 May 2018.



## 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: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group

EC: European Conservatives Group

ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

UEL: Group of the Unified European Left

FDG: Free Democrats Group

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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### Joint Committee

Thursday: 15:30-16:30

### Bureau of the Assembly

Monday: 08:00-09:30

Friday: 08:30-10:00

### Committees

Monday: 14:00-15:00

Tuesday: 08:30-10:00

Tuesday: 14:00-15:30

Wednesday: 14:00-15:30

Thursday: 08:30-10:00

Thursday: 14:00-15:30

### Political groups

Monday: 09:30-11:30

Monday: 17:00-19:00

Wednesday: 08:30-10:00

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## Monday 25 June 2018

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### Sitting No. 19 (11:30-13:00)

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

- 1.1. Opening by the most senior Vice-President
- 1.2. Examination of credentials
- 1.3. Election of the President of the Assembly
- 1.4. Changes in the membership of committees
- 1.5. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure
  - 1.5.1. Urgent procedure debate: "Threats to the health and life of Ukrainian prisoners in the Russian Federation and occupied Crimea"
- 1.6. Adoption of the agenda
- 1.7. Approval of the minutes of proceedings of the Standing Committee (Zagreb, 1 June 2018)

#### 2. Debate

- 2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Alfred HEER (Switzerland, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )
- 2.2. Observation of the early presidential election in Azerbaijan (11 April 2018)
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Viorel Riceard BADEA (Romania, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. )
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 25 June, 10:00)

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

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

- 3.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers
  - Presentation by:
    - o Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Minister of Foreign and European Affairs of Croatia, Chairperson of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe
  - Parliamentary questions:
    - o (Doc. )
- Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 25 June, 12:00)

#### 4. Debate (continued)

- 4.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
- 4.2. Observation of the early presidential election in Azerbaijan (11 April 2018)
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 25 June, 10:00)
  - [possibly] Vote

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## Tuesday 26 June 2018

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### Sitting No. 21 (10:00-13:00)

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

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

- ☐ List of candidates in respect of:
  - San Marino (Doc. 14582)

#### 6. Debate

##### 6.1. The humanitarian situation of refugees in the countries neighbouring Syria

- ☐ Presentation by:
  - Mr Manlio DI STEFANO (Italy, NR), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 14589)
- 📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 25 June, 18:00)
- 🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 25 June, 18:00)
- 🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14589)

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

##### 7.1. Mr Andrej PLENKOVIĆ, Prime Minister of Croatia

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

- 📄 Questions

### Sitting No. 22 (15:30-20:00)

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#### 8. Election (continued) (15:30-17:00)

##### 8.1. Judge 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. Protecting human rights defenders in Council of Europe member States

- ☐ Presentation by:
  - Mr Egidijus VAREIKIS (Lithuania, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 14587)
- 📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 26 June, 12:00)
- 🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 25 June, 18:00)
- 🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14587)

#### 11. Debate

##### 11.1. Free debate

- 📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 26 June, 12:00)

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## Wednesday 27 June 2018

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### Sitting No. 23 (10:00-13:00)

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

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

#### 13. Debate

##### 13.1. New restrictions on NGO activities in Council of Europe member States

- ☐ Presentation by:
  - Mr Yves CRUCHTEN (Luxembourg, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 14570)

📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 26 June, 19:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 26 June, 10:30)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14570)

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

##### 14.1. Mr Peter PELLEGRINI, Prime Minister of the Slovak Republic

Speech (12:00-12:20)

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

📄 Questions

### Sitting No. 24 (15:30-20:00)

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

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

#### 16. Joint debate

##### 16.1. Extra-territorial processing of asylum claims and the creation of safe refugee shelters abroad

- ☐ Presentation by:
  - Mr Domagoj HAJDUKOVIĆ (Croatia, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 14571)
  - Mr Egidijus VAREIKIS (Lithuania, EPP/CD), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. )

##### 16.2. Human rights impact of the “external dimension” of European Union asylum and migration policy: out of sight, out of rights?

- ☐ Presentation by:
  - Ms Tineke STRIK (Netherlands, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Mig

☐ Statement by:

- Mr Dimitrios VITSAS, Minister of Immigration Policy of Greece

📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 27 June, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 26 June, 16:00)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14571)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14575)

#### 17. Debate

##### 17.1. Persecution of LGBTI people in the Chechen Republic (Russian Federation)

- ☐ Presentation by:
  - Mr Piet De BRUYN (Belgium, NR), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 14572)

📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 27 June, 12:00)

🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 26 June, 16:00)

🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14572)

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## Thursday 28 June 2018

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### Sitting No. 25 (10:00-13:00)

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

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

##### 19.1. Mr Jean ASSELBORN, Minister for Foreign and European Affairs of Luxembourg

Speech (12:00-12:20)

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

 Questions

### Sitting No. 26 (16:30-20:00)

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#### 20. Debate

##### 20.1. Striking a balance between the best interest of the child and the need to keep families together

 Presentation by:

o Mr Valeriu GHILETCHI (Republic of Moldova, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 14568)

 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 28 June, 12:00)

 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 27 June, 17:00)

 Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14568)

#### 21. Debate

##### 21.1. Forced marriage in Europe

 Presentation by:

o Ms Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO (Monaco, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 14574)

o Ms Azadeh ROJHAN GUSTAFSSON (Sweden, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. )

o Ms Carina OHLSSON (Sweden, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Soc (Doc. )

 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 28 June, 12:00)

 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 27 June, 17:00)

 Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14574)

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2. Subject to a decision by the Assembly.

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**Friday 29 June 2018**

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**Sitting No. 27** (10:00-13:00)

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## **22. Debate**

### **22.1. Deliberate destruction and illegal trafficking of cultural heritage**

- Presentation by:
  - Mr Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 14566)
- 📖 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 28 June, 19:00)
- 🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 28 June, 10:30)
- 🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 14566)

## **23. Debate**

### **23.1. Empowering women in the economy**

- Presentation by:
  - Ms Elena CENTEMERO (Italy, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 14573)
- 📖 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 28 June, 19:00)
- 🕒 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 28 June, 10:30)
- 🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 14573)

## **24. Progress report**

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

## **25. Closure of the part-session**

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

Monday 25 June 2018	
<p><b>2–3 pm</b> <b>Room 5, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on <i>Democracy hacked? How to respond?</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of the report prepared Mr Frithjof Schmidt, (Germany, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Ms Simona Granata-Menghini, Deputy Secretary, Council of Europe Venice Commission, on the issue of <b><i>security in elections</i></b></li> <li>. Ms Divina Frau-Meigs, Professor, sociologist and media researcher, University Sorbonne nouvelle, Paris, on the issue of <b><i>information disorder</i></b></li> </ul>
<p><b>2–3 pm</b> <b>Room 6, Palais</b></p> <p>Sub-Committee on Culture, Diversity and Heritage (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media)</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on <i>Cultural Routes programme of the Council of Europe</i></b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Mr Stefano Dominioni, Executive Secretary of the Enlarged Partial Agreement on Cultural Routes, DGII - Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation, Council of Europe</li> </ul> <p>► <b>Exchange of views on <i>European Heritage Strategy for the 21st century</i></b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Ms Ana Schoebel, Programme Manager Strategy 21, Culture and Cultural Heritage Division, DGII - Directorate of Democratic Citizenship and Participation, Council of Europe</li> </ul>
Tuesday 26 June 2018	
<p><b>8.30 –10 am</b> <b>Room 10, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on <i>New challenges in the fight against organised crime and money laundering – the need to improve international co-operation</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Mart van de Ven (Netherlands, ALDE), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Mr Paul Radu, Executive Director of the Organized Crime and Corruption Reporting Project, Bucharest</li> <li>. Ms Maira Martini, Knowledge and Policy Coordinator, Transparency International</li> </ul>
<p><b>9.00 –10 am</b> <b>Room 5, Palais</b></p> <p>Joint meeting of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance and the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► <b>Joint hearing on <i>Migrant invasion: breaking the myth</i></b></p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Mr Yannis Kotsifos, member of the European Federation of Journalists Steering Committee on “Media Against Hate”, Brussels (<i>via video conference</i>);</li> <li>. Ms Karolin Schwarz, fact-checker, founder of Hoaxmap.org, Berlin;</li> <li>. Conclusions by Ms Gabriela Heinrich (Germany, SOC), Coordinator of the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance</li> </ul>

**Tuesday 26 June 2018**

<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 3, Palais</b></p> <p>Sub-committee on Disability, Multiple and Intersectional Discrimination</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on <i>Combating discrimination in access to employment</i></b></p> <p>in the context of a report on <i>For a disability-inclusive workforce</i>, prepared by Mr Adão Silva (Portugal, EPP/CD), and of a report on <i>Discrimination in access to employment</i>, prepared by Mr Damien Thiéry (Belgium, ALDE),</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ms Aletta Gräfin von Hardenberg, Director of the German Diversity Charter Initiative [to be confirmed];</li> <li>· Mr James Crowe, President of the Executive Committee of the European Association of Service Providers for persons with disabilities (EASPD).</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>Hearing on <i>Information society, democracy and human rights</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of the reports:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· <i>Internet governance and human rights</i> prepared by Mr Andres Herkel, (Estonia, EPP/CD)</li> <li>· <i>Social media: social threads or threats to fundamental freedoms?</i> prepared by Mr José Cepeda, (Spain, SOC)</li> <li>· <i>Towards an Internet Ombudsman institution</i>, prepared by Mr Frédéric Reiss, (France, EPP/CD)</li> <li>· <i>Media education in the new media environment</i> prepared by Ms Nino Gogvadze, (Georgia, EC)</li> </ul> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Professor Jean-Gabriel Ganascia, President of the CNRS Ethics Committee (COMETS), <i>Université Pierre et Marie Curie</i> (UPMC), Paris</li> <li>· Professor Francisco Segado Boj, Director of the Research Group “Communication and Digital Society”, <i>Universidad Internacional de la Rioja</i> (UNIR), Spain</li> <li>· Mr Dan Shefet, Lawyer at the Court of Appeal 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>Exchange of views on <i>The role of national parliaments in successful decentralisation processes</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Mr Luís Leite Ramos (Portugal, EPP/CD), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Ms Alba Dakoli Wilson, Director of Foundation for Local Autonomy and Governance (FLAG), Albania;</li> <li>· Mr Tomás Font i Llovet, Emeritus Professor in Administrative Law, University of Barcelona, Spain;</li> <li>· Mr Andreas Kiefer, Secretary General of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe</li> </ul>
<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 10</b></p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on <i>Deal-making in criminal proceedings: the need for minimum standards for trial waiver systems</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Boriss Cilevičs (Latvia, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>· Mr Werner Beulke, Professor emeritus (University of Passau, Germany), practicing defence lawyer;</li> <li>· Mr Ralph Bunche, Regional Director of the Brussels Office, Fair Trials Europe</li> </ul>

**Wednesday 27 June 2018**

<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 6, Palais</b></p> <p>Sub-Committee on Education, Youth and Sport (of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media)</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on <i>Time to act: Europe's political response to fighting the manipulation of sports competitions</i></b></p> <p>with the participation of :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Ms Gabriella Battaini-Dragoni, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe</li> <li>. Mr Harri Syväsalmi, Secretary General, Finnish Centre for Integrity in Sports, Finland</li> <li>. Mr Friedrich Martens, Head of the Olympic Movement Unit on the Prevention of the Manipulation of Competitions, Lausanne, Switzerland (by video link)</li> <li>. Mr Joao Paulo Almeida, Director General, Olympic Committee of Portugal</li> </ul>
<p><b>2–3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 8, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p>	<p>► <b>Statement by Ms Michaëlle Jean, Secretary General of La Francophonie</b></p> <p>► <b>Exchange of views on <i>Family reunification in the Council of Europe member States</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of the report prepared by Ms Ulla Sandbæk (Denmark, UEL), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Ms Sophie Magennis, Head of the Political and Legal Unit of the UNHCR Bureau for 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 <i>The situation in Syria and its effects upon surrounding countries</i></b></p> <p>in the context of the report prepared by Ms Theodora Bakoyannis, (Greece, EPP/CD), with the participation of Ms Mouna Ghanem, member of the Syrian Women Advisory Board to the UN Special Envoy for Syria and President of Syrian Women for Peace</p>

**Thursday 28 June 2018**

<p><b>8.30 –10 am</b> <b>Room 10, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p>	<p>► <b>Hearing on <i>Protecting human rights during transfers of prisoners</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Emanuel Mallia (Malta, SOC),</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Mr James McManus, expert of the European Committee for the Prevention of Torture, former Professor of Criminal Justice, Glasgow Caledonian University, United Kingdom</li> <li>. Ms Heather McGill, Researcher, Eastern Europe and Central Asia Programme, Amnesty International, London</li> </ul> <p>► <b>Exchange of views on <i>Co-operation with United Nations human rights mechanisms – a challenge for the Council of Europe and its member States</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Frank Schwabe (Germany, SOC),</p> <p>with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General of Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe</li> </ul>
<p><b>2.30 - 3.30 pm</b> <b>Room 6, Palais</b></p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► <b>Exchange of views on <i>Jewish cultural heritage preservation</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of the report prepared by Mr Raphaël Comte (Switzerland, ALDE) with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>. Mr Yoav Rossano, Head of Heritage, Israelite consistory of Bas-Rhin, France</li> </ul>

**Thursday 28 June 2018**

<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>Exchange of views on <i>Missing refugee and migrant children in Europe</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of the report prepared by Ms Serap Yaşar (Turkey, EC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. Ms Maud de Boer-Buquicchio, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the sale and sexual exploitation of children, President of Missing Children Europe</li></ul> <p>▶ <b>Exchange of views on <i>Rights and obligations of NGO assisting refugees and migrants in Europe</i></b></p> <p>in the framework of the report prepared by Ms Daphné Dumery (Belgium, NR) with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>. Ms Anna Rurka, President of the Conference of INGOs of the Council of Europe</li></ul>
<p><b>3.30 – 5 pm</b> <b>Room 1, Palais</b></p> <p>Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize</p>	<p>▶ Ceremony with the mayors of the cities which received awards this year</p>

## Guidelines for the observation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly<sup>2</sup>

### A. Elections to be observed

1. For the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (hereafter, the Assembly), the observation of elections plays an important role in the assessment of the democratic governance and the overall political situation of the country in question. In practical terms this entails the observation of elections or referenda in any state where any of the following circumstances apply: it has applied for membership of the Council of Europe; its parliament has requested or enjoys special guest status or partner for democracy status with the Assembly; it is subject to the monitoring procedure or to the post-monitoring dialogue. If the Assembly receives an invitation, the Bureau may also decide to observe elections/referenda in other states when exceptional circumstances have been brought to its attention.

2. Observation of parliamentary and presidential elections as well as of referenda in an applicant state or a state under the monitoring procedure, or post-monitoring dialogue, and parliamentary elections in states where the parliament enjoys special guest status or partner for democracy status, is an inalienable right of the Assembly<sup>3</sup>. A state's lack of cooperation with the Assembly, or its refusal to accept an election observation mission from the Assembly may give rise to a debate at the part-session or Standing Committee meeting following the elections in question. It may result in the freezing of the application procedure, the withdrawal of special guest status or partner for democracy status or the challenging of the credentials of the national delegation concerned.

3. The observation of regional and local elections is the responsibility of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe (the Congress). If the Assembly receives an invitation to observe such elections and the Bureau decides to observe them, the Assembly ad hoc committee shall be part of any election observation mission the Congress may deploy. A report on these elections by the Congress, sent to the President, should be referred, via the Bureau, to the Monitoring Committee.

### B. Ad hoc committees

4. Once the Bureau has decided to observe an election, it sets up an ad hoc committee consisting in general of up to 40 members following proposals by the political groups, on the basis of the D'Hondt system, on the understanding, however, that each political group shall be represented.

5. The ad hoc committees include *ex-officio* any country-specific rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee or of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy already appointed. Rapporteurs are not included in the quotas allocated to the political groups and shall not be appointed chairpersons of the ad hoc committees. The rapporteurs have a special responsibility to participate during the whole mission due to their specific competence that is of utmost importance for the mission as a whole.

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<sup>2</sup> The following Guidelines were adopted by the Bureau of the Assembly on 31 May 2018.

<sup>3</sup> However, this should not be seen as an obligation for the Assembly.

6. The Bureau may also decide to send a pre-electoral mission around one month before the observation mission. The pre-electoral delegation consists of one representative per political group, and the country-specific rapporteurs mentioned in paragraph 5.

7. The Bureau may also decide to conduct a post-electoral mission if the post-electoral context so requires (e.g.: results disputed, elections marred by irregularities, post-electoral political and/or institutional crisis). The membership of the post-electoral delegation is generally identical to that of the pre-electoral delegation.

8. The Bureau may also decide to establish an ad hoc Committee, in the form of an Election Assessment Mission, normally composed of one member from each political group, but never less than three members, in order to guarantee a minimum political and geographical balance. The Election Assessment Mission will report its findings in the form of a memorandum by its Chairperson to the Bureau. No pre-electoral mission will be conducted. In the event that three members cannot be identified for an assessment mission, the mission shall be cancelled.

9. When there is an election with two rounds, the composition of the delegation for the observation of the second round should, in general, be identical to that of the pre-electoral delegation.

10. In accordance with article 15 of the co-operation agreement signed on 4 October 2004 between the Assembly and the Venice Commission, one or more representatives of the Venice Commission may be invited to join the Assembly's election observation mission as legal adviser(s).

11. The election observation delegation is composed of the members of the ad hoc committee, representative(s) of the Venice Commission and the members of the Assembly and Venice Commission secretariats. The chairperson of the ad hoc committee is the "Head of Delegation".

12. Once the Bureau has decided to set up an ad hoc committee, the Assembly's secretariat contacts the secretariats of the political groups and asks each group to appoint the members and substitutes of the observation mission. Each political group sends its list of members and substitutes to the secretariat of the Assembly no later than 2 working days prior to the meeting of the Bureau where the list of the ad hoc committee will be approved.

13. Political groups should bear in mind that appointments to an ad hoc committee should respect: the principle of gender balance having regard to gender membership of their respective groups; fair geographical representation and be based on the candidate's linguistic capability to participate meaningfully in the work of the mission, given that on the spot, and as far as possible, the Council of Europe provides interpretation to and from English or French only<sup>4</sup>. Members of ad hoc committees may not observe elections in their own country. Political groups should not appoint members who took part in non-official missions conducted for the purpose of observing elections or in connection with elections in the country concerned and which were sponsored by or undertaken at the invitation of a State, a parliamentary, governmental or non-governmental organisation, association, foundation or any other natural or legal person.

14. While every effort should be made to ensure the political balance of ad hoc committees observing elections, in the event that certain political groups fail to come up with sufficient candidates while other groups have waiting lists, the principle of a political equilibrium may be foregone in the interests of having a strong presence of the Assembly during the election observation. In such circumstances, a notification by the Secretary General of the Assembly will suffice.<sup>5</sup>

15. The Bureau approves the composition of the ad hoc committee and appoints its chairperson from among the members (with the exception of the *ex-officio* rapporteurs - see *paragraph 5 above*). The Chairperson shall be neither a national of a neighbouring country nor a member of a friendship group in his/her national parliament of the country where elections are being observed. The Chairperson should have participated in at least two election observation missions of the Assembly.

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<sup>4</sup> Furthermore it should be noted that English is the de facto working language of international election observation missions.

<sup>5</sup> Political groups should appoint members who can definitely participate in the election observation mission; last-minute cancellations should remain exceptional because replacements are often impossible to find.

16. If a pre-electoral mission is decided, the nominated chairperson is considered as the representative of his/her political group in the pre-electoral mission. The secretariats of the other political groups shall communicate the names of their representatives for the pre-electoral mission.

17. The chairmanship of ad hoc committees shall rotate between political groups to ensure an overall political balance over a calendar year. The same political group shall not chair two consecutive election observation missions in a given country.

18. At internal meetings of the ad hoc committees, in addition to the members, the only persons authorised to participate are the members of the Council of Europe secretariat. In exceptional cases, ad hoc committee members may be accompanied at internal meetings of ad hoc committees by interpreters, subject to prior approval by the Head of Delegation.

### **C. Conflict of interest and code of conduct of members**

19. Members of ad hoc committees for the observation of elections shall abide by the provisions of the Code of Conduct for members of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe as well as the Code of Conduct for International Election Observation Missions (IEOM). Additionally, the provisions of the Code of Conduct for rapporteurs of the Parliamentary Assembly shall apply *mutatis mutandis* to chairpersons of ad hoc committees. Any alleged violation of the above-mentioned provisions will be dealt with in accordance with the procedure set out in paragraphs 18 to 27 of the Code of Conduct for Members of the Parliamentary Assembly.

20. All candidates for membership of an ad hoc committee, at the time of putting forward their candidacy, shall make a written declaration of any actual or potential conflict of interest concerning them or members of their families, whether related directly or indirectly and/or with whom they are in regular contact, in connection with the country concerned by an election observation (see appendix 2).

21. All members of an ad hoc committee shall sign a written declaration confirming their knowledge and obligation to respect the Code of conduct for International Election Observation Missions. The aforementioned declarations shall be made available to the Bureau when it approves the composition of an ad hoc committee. Failure to sign such declarations shall disqualify the member concerned from being appointed to an ad hoc committee.

### **D. Elections as a process**

22. An election and its observation do not concern the polling day only, but a process involving several stages, all of which need to be analysed and evaluated in order to assess the entire electoral process<sup>6</sup>.

23. The process starts with the assessment of the electoral legislation. The quality and predictability of the electoral legislation is a major criterion to assess an election. This assessment relies in particular on legal opinions that the Venice Commission has adopted on the legislation in question. The application of electoral legislation in good faith is also a criterion for evaluating an election.

24. The second stage starts with the date when an election is called. In normal circumstances, involving regular elections, that date should be reasonably distant from the polling day in order to allow all political stakeholders to prepare for an electoral contest. The third stage starts with the opening of the electoral campaign. The fourth stage is the polling day, which includes the opening of the polling stations, the voting itself, the closing of the polling stations, the vote counting and the tabulation. The final stage is the declaration of results of the election, followed by a period where complaints may be lodged.

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<sup>6</sup> As described in various Assembly and Venice Commission documents, see *inter alia*: the code of Good Practice in electoral matters (CDL-AD(2002)23rev), the report on the timeline and inventory of political criteria for assessing an election (CDL-AD(2010)037).

## **E. Co-operation in the field with the Assembly's partner organisations**

25. Usually, the Assembly observes elections as part of an International Election Observation Mission (IEOM), which may include the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly, the European Parliament and the NATO Parliamentary Assembly. The modalities of cooperation within the IEOM shall be established by an Agreement between the organisations concerned. The Head of Delegation of the Assembly represents it at meetings of Heads of delegation within the framework of the IEOM.

26. Co-operation with other international organisations within the framework of the IEOM should be continuous during the observation process, including for the organisation of the programme of the mission, in order to ensure, in so far as possible, that assessments of the elections do not differ. To ensure good and smooth co-operation, Heads of delegations should cooperate as early and regularly as possible in the course of the observation missions. In the case of a pre-electoral mission, the Assembly delegation shall meet with the OSCE/ODIHR mission in the country (if already deployed).

27. In case the OSCE/ODIHR long term observation mission is prevented from being deployed, the Assembly should abstain from sending its own mission.

## **F. Conduct and practical organisation of the observation**

### **General aspects:**

28. The practical organisation of observation missions is ensured by the Assembly secretariat in consultation with the Head of Delegation. Members of the Assembly and the Venice Commission secretariats advise the Head of Delegation and other members of the ad hoc committee in fulfilment of their responsibilities.

29. The national parliament of the country observed shall be invited to provide assistance with regard to the organisation of the programme of the pre-electoral and post-electoral missions, as well as the accreditations and visas for all members of the delegation, in due time, including for the observation of out-of-country voting and early voting if necessary. The relevant authorities shall ensure the freedom of movement and security of all members of the delegation throughout the territory.

30. The financing of the participation of members of ad hoc committees in the work of these committees shall be borne by the respective national parliaments of the members.

### **Pre-electoral missions:**

31. The pre-electoral mission, if so decided by the Bureau, consists of two to three days of on-site meetings, usually in the capital city. Depending on the circumstances, meetings and visits elsewhere may be organised.

32. The main aims of a pre-electoral mission are to assess: the election legislation and its application, including the availability of appeals; the political situation; the arrangements for the election campaign; and coverage of the election campaign by the media, the administration of the election and the work of the election authorities. For this purpose the delegation shall meet with the OSCE/ODIHR mission - if one is present - and representatives of the international community; representatives of media and NGOs; the leaders of the main political parties and/or the presidential candidates; and, with representatives of the national authorities involved in the electoral process.

### **Election Observation missions:**

33. In general, a mission lasts four to five days including: internal briefings of the delegation and joint briefings with any partner organisations; observation of the opening of polling stations, voting, vote counting and reporting of results; debriefing of the delegation following polling day and the press conference.

34. Members of the delegation shall refrain from engaging in public statements, interviews, press conferences or communications via social networks which could contradict the final assessment made by the ad hoc committee. They shall also refrain from engaging in public activities which could appear to interfere in the electoral process or could be considered as partisan, including meetings with national authorities and/or political actors outside the official programme of the election observation mission. The above provisions apply at all stages of the process from the moment of appointment to the ad hoc

committee until the statement of the election observation mission is published. The same applies to post-electoral missions.

35. Members of the delegation may ask questions of election officials, political party representatives and other observers inside polling stations and may answer questions about their own activities, as long as they do not obstruct the election process. In answering questions they should not seek to influence the election process. They may ask and answer questions of voters but shall not ask them how they voted. They may bring irregularities, fraud or significant problems to the attention of relevant election management bodies, unless this is prohibited by law, and shall do so in a non-obstructive manner.

36. The Head of Delegation shall ensure that the delegation will cover as wide as possible a geographical area of the country when observing the elections. Members of the delegation shall be ready to accept deployment outside of the capital city of the country where the elections are being observed. When applicable, and so decided by the Head of delegation, members of the delegation could also be requested, in their countries of residence, to observe out-of-country voting.

37. Members are entirely free to carry out their observation as they see fit on polling day within their area of deployment: they should not disclose their itinerary nor the polling stations they intend to visit. However, for security reasons, some areas or regions may be restricted. Members should follow security measures and recommendations put in place by OSCE/ODIHR security officers and/or the Council of Europe Security department. Members must not incur unnecessary or unjustified risks for themselves or for others

38. Members of the delegation shall plan their travel arrangements in a way that will allow them to participate in the briefings in their entirety, to observe on polling day (opening, voting, vote count and tabulation of results) and to participate in the delegation debriefing on the morning following the elections. It is understood that those members who are unable to attend the debriefing in the capital because they were deployed outside it, may report their conclusions by phone or by e-mail. Heads of delegation shall make their travel arrangements taking into account the press conference which usually takes place in the afternoon of the day following polling day.

#### **Post-electoral missions:**

39. The organisation of post-electoral missions, if so decided by the Bureau, is similar to that of pre-electoral missions, due account being taken of the post-electoral context and developments.

### **G. Election observation reports and statements**

#### **Pre-electoral missions:**

40. Following a pre-electoral mission and before leaving the country, the members of the pre-electoral mission shall publish a statement based on the reports and relevant documents of the Council of Europe and information received from different interlocutors. The statement should cover, amongst others, the following aspects: legal framework; political context; election administration; voters, party and candidates registration; election campaign, campaign financing and media, gender equality and non-discrimination. No press conference shall be organised following such a mission.

#### **Election observation missions:**

41. In the framework of an International Election Observation Mission, a joint preliminary statement is issued and presented during a joint press conference which takes place on the day following polling day. This statement is discussed and prepared jointly by all Heads of delegations in the field. When preparing the Assembly's contribution to the joint statement, the Head of delegation shall take into account key aspects raised by members of the delegation, including during the debriefing following polling day.

42. If the Assembly's usual partner organisations in IEOMs do not deploy an observation mission, the ad hoc committee shall issue a statement covering the pre-electoral period and the polling day. It shall be based on the findings and statement of the pre-electoral mission (if applicable), on the information received during the meetings held during the mission, as well as on relevant documents of the Council of Europe and other reliable sources. Such a statement whose draft is prepared under the authority of the Head of delegation, shall be discussed and approved at the debriefing of the delegation immediately following the polling day.

43. Following the election observation mission, the Head of delegation shall draft a report which is submitted to the Bureau for adoption and subsequently to the Assembly or to the Standing Committee as part of the progress report of the Bureau.

44. This report shall be based on the information received during the meetings held during the IEOM with various interlocutors, in line with the press release and preliminary findings and conclusions of the IEOM. It should take into account the comments and assessments of members of the delegation regarding polling day made during the delegation's debriefing following polling day, as well as relevant Council of Europe documents and other reliable sources (e.g. OSCE/ODIHR). All members of the ad hoc committee shall be consulted on the draft before it is issued within a deadline fixed by the Head of delegation.

45. The final report should also cover the following aspects: polling day and results; complaints and appeals.

**Post-electoral missions:**

46. Following a post-electoral mission, and before leaving the country, the members of the post-electoral mission may publish a statement on their findings focusing on the post-electoral issues and based on reports and relevant documents of the Council of Europe and information received from different interlocutors and other reliable sources. No press conference shall be organised following the mission.

## (Appendix 1 to the Guidelines)

### Code of conduct for International Election Observation Missions (IEOM)

1. The International Election Observation Mission is composed of delegations coming from the following organisations: OSCE/ ODIHR, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, the Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE, the NATO Parliamentary Assembly and the European Parliament. The rules of conduct and behaviour defined within the present code shall be respected by members of the IEOM. The work of each IEOM starts at the opening of the first joint meeting and ends at the closure of the post-electoral press conference.

2. Members of IEOM shall follow the Code of Conduct for International Election Observers, being a part of the “Declaration of principles for international election observation”<sup>7</sup>. It includes the following general rules of conduct:

- Respect the sovereignty of the host country and international human rights instruments
- Respect the laws of the country and the authority of electoral bodies
- Maintain strict political impartiality at all times
- Respect the integrity of the IEOM
- Do not interfere in election processes
- Maintain accuracy of observations and professionalism in drawing conclusions
- Refrain from making comments to the public or the media before the IEOM speaks collectively
- Cooperate with other election observers
- Maintain proper personal behaviour.

3. Members of the IEOM shall respect the sovereignty, the laws and regulations of the host country, including showing sensitivity for the host-country’s culture and customs, and maintain a respectful attitude toward election management bodies charged with administering the electoral process and other relevant national authorities.

4. Members of the IEOM shall respect and protect the integrity of the international election observation mission. Members of the IEOM must maintain strict political impartiality at all times in the host country. They must not express or exhibit any bias or preference in relation to national authorities, political parties or candidates or in relation to any contentious issues in the election process. They must not wear or display any partisan symbols, colours, banners or accept anything of value from political competitors.

5. Members of the IEOM shall refrain from engaging in public activities which could appear to interfere in the electoral process or could be considered as partisan, including meetings with national authorities and/or political actors outside the official programme of the IEOM.

6. Members of the IEOM shall declare any actual or potential conflicts concerning any economic, commercial or financial interests on a professional, personal or family level in the country concerned. They shall also declare their membership of friendship groups within their national parliaments with the country concerned.

7. Members of the IEOM shall respect in the conduct of their duties within the IEOM the *modus operandi* for election observation endorsed by their respective organisations.

8. Members of the IEOM shall participate fully in the work of the IEOM: they shall arrive in the country where elections are taking place sufficiently in advance in order to follow the entire programme and attend all required meetings, briefings and debriefings.

9. Members of the IEOM shall respect the deployment plan and all other arrangements and instructions provided. On election day, they shall attend polling stations, observe the opening, voting, closing and counting of ballots, and inform their respective delegations of their conclusions based on their personal observations or clear facts and evidence.

10. Members of the IEOM may ask questions of election officials, political party representatives and other observers inside polling stations and may answer questions about their own activities, as long as they do not obstruct the election process. In answering questions they should not seek to influence the election

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<sup>7</sup> Commemorated on 27 October 2005, at the United Nations, New York

process. They may ask and answer questions of voters but shall not ask them how they voted. They may bring irregularities, fraud or significant problems to the attention of relevant election management bodies, unless this is prohibited by law, and shall do so in a non-obstructive manner.

11. The IEOM members' judgments must be based on the highest standards for accuracy of information and impartiality of analysis, distinguishing subjective factors from objective evidence, significant from insignificant factors and identifying patterns that could have an impact on the integrity of the election process.

12. Members of the IEOM must refrain, until after the press conference, from engaging in public statements or comments to the media, interviews, press conferences or communications via social networks, other than general remarks regarding the nature, role and activities of the observation mission.

13. Members of the IEOM shall maintain proper personal behaviour, exercise sound judgment in personal interactions and observe the highest level of professional conduct at all times. They should not take unnecessary or undue risks for themselves and/or others and should follow safety and security recommendations.

14. In the event of a breach of the present code of conduct, the member concerned shall be subject to the rules and procedures of the organisation in whose delegation he/she is participating in the International Election Observation Mission.

**(Appendix 2 to the Guidelines)**

**DECLARATION OF INTERESTS OF CANDIDATES FOR ELECTION OBSERVATION MISSIONS OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY**

**Ad hoc committee to observe the parliamentary / presidential elections in ..... on.....**

I. I hereby declare the following interests in connection with the country concerned by this election observation, or which might influence the performance of my duties in the Parliamentary Assembly as member of this election observation mission.

1. I declare that I have an actual or potential conflict of interest in connection with the country concerned by this election observation or which might influence the performance of my duties as member of this election observation mission. This declaration concerns me directly, as well as the members of my family, directly or indirectly related, and/or with whom I am in regular contact:

**Please strike out this section if not applicable.**

*Otherwise, please specify the nature of the actual or potential conflict of interest:*

.....  
.....

2. I declare that I have accepted, in the last twenty four months, the following gifts or other benefits and hospitality<sup>8</sup>, of a value in excess of 200 €, from the authorities of the country concerned, or from a legal or natural person with links to the country concerned by this election observation:

**Please strike out this section if not applicable.**

*Otherwise, please describe the gift and indicate the donor's identity (name, function, address/country):*

.....  
.....

3. I declare that I have performed, in the last twenty four months, the following occasional activities, mandates or missions, as consultant, advisor, expert, lobbyist, lecturer, etc. in connection with the country concerned by this election observation, or which might influence the performance of my duties as member of this election observation mission:

**Please strike out this section if not applicable.**

*Otherwise, please indicate the activities concerned:*

.....  
.....

4. I declare that I am a member of the following friendship groups or interparliamentary relations groups in connection with the country concerned by this election observation:

**Please strike out this section if not applicable.**

*Otherwise, please indicate the name of the group(s):*

.....  
.....

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<sup>8</sup> Benefits (such as travel, transportation, accommodation, meals, social, sporting or cultural events, etc.) the costs of which are borne by the authorities are excluded from the declaration requirement on condition that these benefits are expressly mentioned in the official programme of the meeting (e.g. Standing Committee, committee or sub-committee or ad hoc committee or sub-committee), visit or mission (for example by the President of the Assembly, a rapporteur or Assembly representative)

5. I declare that in the last ten years I took part in the following non-official missions conducted for the purpose of observing elections or in connection with elections in the country concerned by this election observation:

**Please strike out this section if not applicable.**

*Otherwise, please indicate the name of the State, the parliamentary, governmental or non-governmental organisation, association, foundation or other natural or legal person which invited or sponsored you:*

.....  
.....

II. I hereby declare that I have no actual or potential economic, commercial, financial or other interests on a professional, personal or family level in connection with the country concerned by this election observation, or which might influence the performance of my duties in the Parliamentary Assembly as member of this election observation mission. This declaration concerns me directly, as well as the members of my family, directly or indirectly related, and/or with whom I am in regular contact.

**Please strike out this section if not applicable.**

III. I confirm that I have taken notice of and undertake to respect the Code of conduct for International Election Observation Missions.

I note that this declaration will be made available to the Bureau of the Assembly when it approves the composition of the ad hoc committee.

Name .....

Date .....

Signature:

## APPENDIX 4

### AD HOC COMMITTEE FOR THE OBSERVATION OF THE EARLY PRESIDENTIAL AND PARLIAMENTARY ELECTIONS IN TURKEY

24 June / juin 2018

### COMMISSION AD HOC POUR L'OBSERVATION DES ELECTIONS LEGISLATIVES ET PRESIDENTIELLE ANTICIPEES EN TURQUIE

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#### List of members / Liste des membres

**Chairperson / Présidente:** Ms / Mme Olena SOTNYK (Ukraine, ALDE / ADLE)

#### **Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)**

Ms / Mme Jennifer DE TEMMERMAN, France (Non-registered/Non-inscrit)<sup>9</sup>  
Ms / Mme Nicole DURANTON, France \*  
Mr / M. Giuseppe GALATI, Italy / Italie  
Ms / Mme Iryna GERASHCHENKO, Ukraine  
Mr / M. Matern von MARSCHALL, Germany / Allemagne  
Ms / Mme María Concepción de SANTA ANA, Spain / Espagne  
Mr / M. Bertrand SORRE, France (Non-registered/Non-inscrit)  
Mr / M. Attila TILKI, Hungary / Hongrie

#### **Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)**

Ms / Mme Maryvonne BLONDIN, France \*  
Mrs / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal  
Mr / M. Sabir HAJIYEV, Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan  
Mr / M. Florian KRONBICHLER, Italy / Italie  
Ms / Mme Tabea RÖSSNER, Germany / Allemagne  
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche  
Mr / M. André VALLINI, France

#### **European Conservatives Group (EC) / Groupe des conservateurs européens (CE)**

Lord David BLENCATHRA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni \*  
Sir Christopher CHOPE, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni  
Rt. Hon. Dame Cheryl GILLAN, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni  
Mr / M. Jaak MADISON, Estonia / Estonie

#### **Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)**

Mr / M. Andrea RIGONI, Italy / Italie  
Ms / Mme Olena SOTNYK, Ukraine\*  
Ms / Mme Petra STIENEN, Netherlands / Pays-Bas

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<sup>9</sup> Members not belonging to a Political Group (NR) / Membres n'appartenant à aucun groupe politique (NI)

**Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)**

Ms / Mme Rósa Björk BRYNJÓLFSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande  
Mr / M. Nikolaj VILLUMSEN, Denmark / Danemark \*

**Free Democrats Group (FDG) / Groupe des démocrates libres (GDL)**

Ms / Mme Adele GAMBARO, Italy / Italie\*

**Rapporteur of Monitoring Committee / rapporteur de la commission de suivi**

Mr / M. Nigel EVANS, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni  
Ms / Mme Marianne MIKKO, Estonia / Estonie\*

**Venice Commission / Commission de Venise**

Mme / Ms Mirjana LAZAROVA TRAJKOVSKA, former member of the Venice Commission / ancienne membre de la Commission de Venise

\* Member of the pre-electoral mission / membre de la mission pré-électorale

## APPENDIX 5

### **Rules on access to and movement and security within the Council of Europe during sessions of the Parliamentary Assembly and meetings of Assembly committees and sub-committees**

**Adopted by the Bureau on 31 May 2018, subject to ratification by the Assembly on 25 June 2018**

The following rules shall apply to all premises where Assembly sessions and Assembly committee meetings are held, in particular in the Palais de l'Europe and the Council of Europe Office in Paris, unless otherwise specified.

#### **I. Access to the Council of Europe and movement within Council of Europe premises**

1. Access to Council of Europe premises and in particular to the Palais de l'Europe is governed by general rules issued by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Director General of Administration. During Parliamentary Assembly sessions, however, the specific rules below apply. The same rules apply to other Council of Europe premises, in the case of meetings of committees and sub-committees.
2. The general rules on security as well as subsidiary rules issued by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Director General of Administration apply to the control of access to Council of Europe premises and to movement within those premises, and govern matters relating to the issuance and wearing of access badges, security checks, restrictions on movement, the carrying of weapons and the protection of personalities on official visits.
3. Responsibility for enforcing safety and security measures lies with the staff mandated to this effect by the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in accordance with Rule No. 1388 of 21 February 2017 on the framework of accountability in matters of security. During Assembly sessions, this duty will be performed in close co-operation with the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly.
4. Access badges are issued to members of the Assembly, members of observer, partner for democracy and special guest delegations, secretaries of national delegations and third parties in accordance with the rules laid down by the Director General of Administration, in agreement with the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly. The wearing of badges is compulsory.
5. Any request by a parliamentarian to be accompanied by a bodyguard will be submitted to the President of the Assembly. Such bodyguard will not, however, be allowed access to the Chamber or the meeting rooms.
6. The carrying of weapons and the presence of armed bodyguards within Council of Europe premises is prohibited. Any request for an exemption, in exceptional circumstances, must be submitted in writing to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, who decides in agreement with the President of the Parliamentary Assembly.

#### *Palais de l'Europe*

7. Areas of movement and right of access to different places of work (Chamber, meeting rooms, offices of national delegations, offices of Permanent Representations, etc.) and other areas (cafeteria, restaurants, etc.) will be determined by the issuing of distinctive badges for each category of people. The badge must be used exclusively by the person to whom it has been allocated, in strict respect of the areas to which it gives access. The person concerned is solely responsible for the use of the badge attributed to him/her.
8. All badge requests emanating from a parliamentarian, a delegation, a political group or a committee should be referred exclusively to the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly. The Council of Europe's Protocol will not proceed with any request for the issuance of a badge for Assembly members, their families or their relatives.
9. No parliamentarian may invite more than four family members or two other people per day, irrespective of their capacity (friend or relative, voter from the parliamentarian's constituency, representative of an interest group). When it comes to organising events/side events, only individual

members of the Assembly, national delegations, political groups or committees may make badge requests. No more than 30 persons can be invited to a side event.

10. The maximum period for which badges may be issued is one day, except in the case of parliamentary assistants and national parliamentary officials drafted in as reinforcements for parliamentary delegations and political groups, as well as the official guests of the political groups.
11. Requests should be submitted by the Wednesday before the part-session, and in any case not later than 72 hours before the desired date, by means of a form indicating in particular the identity of the requestor, the identity of the guest and his/her relationship with the requestor, and the precise time at which access is to begin and end.
12. Any requests for groups of visitors will be submitted to the Council of Europe Visitors' Service.

*Office of the Council of Europe in Paris*

13. At the time of committee and sub-committee meetings, access is granted to:
  - committee members and their substitutes;
  - other members of the Assembly, observers, partners for democracy, special guests and delegations / representations of parliaments of non-member states members of the Council of Europe with the agreement of the Bureau, in those committees where they are allowed;
  - secretaries of national delegations, subject to a maximum of two secretaries per national delegation, i.e. one maximum official for each constituent assembly of the national parliament (for countries with bicameral parliaments), or one secretary per observer, partner for democracy or special guest delegation (whose name must appear in the Assembly list), carers accompanying parliamentarians with reduced mobility, secretaries of political groups, in those committees where they are allowed;
  - members of the Committee of Ministers or any other minister of the government of a member State, Permanent Representatives/Ministers' Deputies (including chargés d'affaires duly notified to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe) or their first deputies, it being understood that only Permanent Representations of member States of the Council of Europe may be represented (no access neither for other representatives of diplomatic missions of member or non-member states nor for representatives of international organisations, unless specifically authorised by the committee concerned);
  - the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Deputy Secretary General;
  - the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;
  - members of the staff of the secretariat of the Assembly.
14. An access badge will be issued to experts and persons invited by the chairperson of the committee / sub-committee (see below chapter IV) whose name will have been communicated to the secretariat of the Paris Office 24 hours at least before the meeting. For a meeting open to the public, in part or in full, the list of participants should be communicated at least 72 hours before the meeting. Anyone whose name has not been communicated in the forms and deadlines provided will be denied access to the premises.

## **II. Access to the Chamber**

15. Article 23.1 of the Assembly Rules of Procedure shall be applied in such a way as to permit access to the Chamber by the following categories of individuals:
  - i. Members of national delegations*
    - representatives and substitutes from national delegations, members of observer, partner for democracy and special guest delegations;
    - members of delegations of parliaments of Council of Europe non-member States covered by an agreement of the Bureau;
    - members of delegations of parliaments which participate in the annual debates on OECD activities.
  - ii. Government representatives and representatives of the Committee of Ministers (Rule 57 of the Rules of Procedure)*
    - representative to the Committee of Ministers and minister of the government of a member State;
    - Permanent Representatives and their deputies;

- representatives of non-member States who enjoy observer status with the Council of Europe or whose parliaments enjoy observer, partner for democracy or special guest status with the Parliamentary Assembly;
- representatives of non-member States whose parliaments participate in the annual debates on OECD activities.

*iii. Secretariat*

- Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly and staff of the secretariat of the Assembly;
- Secretary General of the Council of Europe and Deputy Secretary General; members of the Private Office of the Secretary General;
- secretaries of national delegations and of observer, partner for democracy and special guest delegations;
- secretaries of political groups;
- directors general and directors of the Council of Europe;
- the Head of the Protocol Department and his/her deputy;
- any other staff whose duties require their presence there.

*iv. Other persons*

- personalities invited by the President or by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;
- the Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe, the President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, the President of the European Court of Human Rights.

16. Requests for access should be submitted to the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly. He/she may grant other Council of Europe staff members access to the Chamber upon request (Protocol staff, press officers from the Directorate of Communication) or upon request for a specific debate (members of the secretariat of the Committee of Ministers when the communication from the Committee of Ministers is being delivered, or members of the secretariat of the Commissioner for Human Rights when the Commissioner is presenting the annual activity report). The Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly may also grant access to the Chamber to persons accompanying a personality invited by the President of the Assembly or by himself/herself.

**III. Access to the Chamber gallery**

17. Only persons wearing a badge that has been duly issued for this purpose by the Safety and Security Service of the Council of Europe will be admitted to the galleries. Priority shall be given to access requests signed by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly.
18. Members of the public who are admitted to the galleries must be appropriately dressed, remain seated and keep silent. Anyone expressing approval or disapproval will be removed immediately by the security agents.

**IV. Access to the meeting rooms of committees**

19. Rule 48 of the Assembly Rules of Procedure shall be applied as follows:
- Committee meetings shall be held in private.
  - A committee may decide, at the latest at the time of adopting the meeting agenda, that part of the meeting or a specific item will be open to the public, and to divide the agenda into items that are open to the public and others that are not; only items concerning a hearing or an exchange of views with experts, ministers or members of a national parliament or government, representatives of an international organisation or representatives of civil society may be open to the public.
  - A committee may decide to hold all or part of a meeting in camera, i.e. with only members of the committee or its secretariat being present. The decision shall be taken by the Chair of the committee and shall appear in the draft agenda sent to members, or by the committee itself, at the latest at the time of adopting the agenda for the meeting in question. Where appropriate, checks may be carried out to ensure that only authorised persons are admitted to the meeting room.
  - The Monitoring Committee and the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights shall meet in camera, except in the case of joint meetings with other committees or hearings or exchanges of views if the committee so decides. Only their respective members shall take part.

20. The following persons have access to committee meetings (unless the Rules of Procedure stipulate otherwise<sup>10</sup>):

- committee members and their substitutes;
- other members of the Assembly, observers, partners for democracy, special guests and delegations / representations of parliaments of non-member states of the Council of Europe with the agreement of the Bureau, in those committees where they are allowed;
- secretaries of national delegations, subject to a maximum of two secretaries per national delegation, i.e. one maximum official for each constituent assembly of the national parliament (for countries with bicameral parliaments), or one secretary per observer, partner for democracy or special guest delegation (whose name must appear in the Assembly list), carers accompanying parliamentarians with reduced mobility, in those committees where they are allowed;
- secretaries of political groups, in those committees where they are allowed;
- members of the Committee of Ministers or any other minister of the government of a member State;
- Permanent Representatives/Ministers' Deputies (including chargés d'affaires duly notified to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe) or their first deputies, it being understood that only Permanent Representations of member States of the Council of Europe may be represented (no access either for other representatives of diplomatic missions of member or non-member states or for representatives of international organisations, unless specifically authorised by the committee concerned);
- the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and the Deputy Secretary General;
- the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly and the staff of the secretariat of the committee concerned;
- other members of the staff of the secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly (except in the case of the Monitoring Committee, the Committee on Rules, Immunities and Institutional Affairs and the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights);
- at the invitation of the Chair of the committee, for a specific agenda item, where appropriate: directors general and directors of the Council of Europe; secretaries of Council of Europe bodies (Committee of Ministers, Commissioner for Human Rights, Congress of Local and Regional Authorities, European Court of Human Rights) and steering committees and expert committees of the Council of Europe; the Private Office of the Secretary General; permanent representatives or ambassadors of States which have observer, partner for democracy or special guest delegations to the Assembly; representatives of other international organisations with which the Parliamentary Assembly has a co-operation agreement; subject to a maximum of one person per committee or body; guests and experts for a hearing.

21. Committee documents shall be distributed to parliamentarians having access to the committee concerned.

22. The above rules shall also apply to Assembly committee meetings which are held at venues other than the Council of Europe.

#### **V. Parliamentarians' Bar**

23. During Assembly part-sessions, the Parliamentarians' Bar shall be reserved, as a matter of priority, for parliamentarians, their guests and persons who have access to the Chamber.

#### **VI. Use of electronic means of communication during sittings and meetings**

24. Assembly members and individuals attending or participating in sittings or meetings shall exercise discretion when using mobile telephones and other electronic means of communication and shall refrain from any behaviour that might interfere with the smooth conduct of business. Anyone who fails to comply with these instructions will be asked to leave the Chamber or meeting room.

25. Committee meetings must not be filmed or recorded, even partially, by those attending or participating in the meetings.

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<sup>10</sup> Rules 48.3, 48.4, 48.5, 48.6, 48.8

## VII. Press and media

26. During Assembly sessions, requests for press and media accreditation shall be handled by the Directorate of Communication of the Council of Europe. Journalists and representatives of the press and media are required to comply strictly with the instructions issued by the Directorate of Communication of the Council of Europe and the Assembly's Communication Division. The wearing of badges is compulsory.
27. Media activities must not:
  - compromise security
  - interfere with the maintenance of order, the proper conduct of activities or the free movement of individuals
  - compromise people's dignity and interfere with their privacy
  - cause damage to physical property and equipment
  - hinder television recording by the Assembly.
28. Journalists and representatives of the press and media will not be allowed into the Assembly Chamber, except for photographers accredited by the Directorate of Communication of the Council of Europe.
29. All plenary debates and speeches are recorded and broadcast by the Council of Europe's audiovisual department. There shall be no filming in the Assembly Chamber. Filming is permitted only from the galleries.
30. Photographs may be taken and video or audio recordings made in a committee room only if the meeting is open to the press. In the case of meetings which are not open to the press, the committee chair may give permission for such activities before the meeting starts or at the end of the meeting.
31. Interviews must be conducted in the lobby areas to the side of the Assembly Chamber, in front of the committee meeting rooms, in the main hall of the Palais de l'Europe, in the press working room or in the offices of national delegations.
32. Press briefings will be held in the designated locations, as indicated by the Assembly's Communication Division. Only duly accredited journalists may attend.
33. Press conferences should preferably be held at times other than during plenary sittings and committee meetings. They should focus on subjects which fall within the Assembly's mandate or otherwise fall within the scope of Council of Europe action. Authorisations are not given for press conferences where the subject for discussion could impair the good name or prejudice the impartiality of the Council of Europe, or otherwise run counter to its fundamental objectives. Press conferences will take place in the prescribed place, as indicated by the Assembly's Communication Division (usually Room 1 in the Palais de l' Europe when the Assembly is in session). Only duly accredited journalists may ask questions.
34. Filming is permitted in the context of the parliamentary business and activities of the Assembly, only in the aforementioned locations. Filming in the offices of a national delegation is subject to prior approval by the chairperson of the delegation concerned. Filming in any other location requires the prior approval of the Secretary General of the Assembly, issued via the Assembly's Communication Division.
35. The Directorate of Communication may refuse or cancel the accreditation of journalists affiliated to press organisations whose activities conflict with the principles of the Council of Europe, or which use their accreditation for reprehensible purposes or act in a way which contravenes the ethical principles or standards of journalism or the above-mentioned rules.
36. During periods when the Assembly is not in session, especially in the case of meetings of the Standing Committee and other Assembly committees which are held in venues other than the Palais de l'Europe, the Assembly's Communication Division will determine the specific rules governing access and activities of journalists and representatives of the press and the media.

### **VIII. Enforcement measures**

37. Any persons who are found or are observed to be without good reason in an area which they were not authorised to enter, or whose behaviour compromises the smooth conduct of Assembly business, may, at the request of the President of the Parliamentary Assembly or the Secretary General of the Assembly, be removed and permanently prohibited from entering the Council of Europe, including the Palais de l'Europe.
38. The President of the Parliamentary Assembly or the Secretary General of the Assembly may ask the Directorate General of Administration/Directorate of General Services to deny access to the Palais de l'Europe or any other Council of Europe building, in particular the Council of Europe Office in Paris, to any individuals in respect of whom he/she has been informed or has good reason to believe that their behaviour is liable to disrupt the activities of the Assembly or its committees.
39. Guidance on all matters covered by these rules and situations which may arise from their application may be sought from the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly.