Report of the independent investigation body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly

Findings on the behaviour of individual PACE members and former members

Decisions of the committee

Further to the decisions made by the Committee on Rules of Procedure on 24 April 2018 on the follow-up to the recommendations and conclusions of the Independent Investigation Body on the allegations of corruption within the Parliamentary Assembly (IBAC) relating to the behaviour of Assembly members and former members mentioned in its report, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs convened its fourth meeting on 4 September 2018 devoted to the consideration of the two following cases of former PACE members mentioned in the IBAC report:

– Case of Ms Gultakin Hajibayli

At its meeting on 27 June 2018, the committee had taken note of the IBAC's conclusions according to which Ms Hajibayli had declined to co-operate by not responding to the summons to the request for the submission of a written statement. The decision on the case of Ms Hajibayli was suspended, following a challenge by Ms Hajibayli, considered serious and founded. The committee therefore reconsidered her case.

The committee considered the comments provided by Ms Hajibayli on 2 and 9 July 2018. It found that Ms Hajibayli has not failed to comply with the ethical rules of the Parliamentary Assembly.

– Case of Mr Michael Hancock

The committee took note of the IBAC's conclusions which found that Mr Hancock had declined to co-operate by not responding to the IBAC’s summons to give oral evidence before it, and of other information mentioned in the report.

The committee decided, in the case of Mr Hancock, that he shall be deprived of the right to access the Council of Europe and the Parliamentary Assembly premises for life.

This decision is effective from the date of approval by the committee.