

Parliamentary Assembly Assemblée parlementaire

Political Affairs Committee
Commission des questions politiques



FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

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16 December 2005

The Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Paris on 14 December 2005 with Mr Ates (Turkey, SOC) in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Need for international condemnation of the crimes of communism** (*Rapporteur: Mr Lindblad, Sweden, EPP/CD*): decided to change the title of the report to 'Need for international condemnation of the crimes of totalitarian communist regimes'; amended and adopted a draft Resolution and a draft Recommendation and approved a draft report;
- **Condemnation of the admiration and justification of Nazism** (*Rapporteur: Mr Margelov, Russian Federation, EDG*): decided to change the title of the report to 'Combating the resurrection of Nazi ideology'; amended and adopted a draft Resolution and approved a draft report;
- **Parliamentary dimension of the United Nations** (*Rapporteur: Mrs de Zulueta, Italy, SOC*): amended and adopted a draft Resolution and approved a draft report;
- **Situation in Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mollazade, Azerbaijan, ALDE*): held an exchange of views on the basis of a statement by Mr Herkel, Chairman of the Sub-Committee on Belarus, on his participation in the meeting of the Bureau of the Delegation for Relations with Belarus of the European Parliament (15 November 2005) and considered a preliminary draft report; decided to invite Mr Milinkevich, the single opposition candidate in the forthcoming presidential elections, to address the Committee during the January part-session 2006;
- **Enhancing the visibility of the Council of Europe** (*Rapporteur: Mr Mota Amaral, Portugal, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his information visit to Strasbourg (16-17 November 2005) and held an exchange of views on the basis of a memorandum;
- **Situation in Cyprus** (*Rapporteur: Mr Eörsi, Hungary, ALDE*): heard a statement and took note of a memorandum prepared by the Rapporteur. Decided to postpone the discussion until the next meeting due to the absence of representatives of the Cypriot delegation;

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cc Secretary General and secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations to the Assembly
Secretaries of Political Groups of the Assembly
Special Guests and Observers to the Assembly
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Secretary of the Committee of Ministers
Director of Communication and Research
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

- **Political situation in the Chechen Republic:** held an exchange of views on the basis of a statement by Mr Kosachev, Vice-Chairman of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee for the organisation of the Round Table on the political situation in the Chechen Republic under Resolution 1402 (2004), on the meeting of the Ad Hoc Sub-Committee of the previous day;

- **Forum on the future of democracy:** heard a statement by Mr Wielowieyski (Poland, EPP/CD) on the launching meeting (Warsaw, 3-4 November 2005);

- **Private character of Committee meetings** gave mandate to its Chairman, to decide on its behalf in exceptional cases when lacking the time for a Committee consultation, whether media representatives or other persons can be present during the discussions on a given item;

- **Future work:**

. **Priorities of the Committee for 2006:** held an exchange of views on the basis of a document prepared by its Chairman, and asked him to communicate the outcome to the Bureau, as requested by the President of the Assembly;

. **Appointment of Rapporteurs for report appointed:**

. Lord Russell-Johnston (United Kingdom, ALDE) for Current situation in Kosovo;

. Mr Goulet (France, ALDE) for European Muslim communities confronted with extremism;

. **Appointment of a Rapporteur for opinion:** appointed:

. Mr Schieder (Austria, SOC) for Alleged secret detention centres in Council of Europe member states;

. **"Provisional name of the Republic of Macedonia in the Council of Europe"** (motion for a recommendation tabled by Mrs Petrova-Mitevaska and others): following an exchange of views, decided to advise to the Bureau to refer the motion to it for report;

. **Invitation to hold a meeting in Turkey in 2006:** took note of its Chairman's proposal to invite the Committee to hold a meeting in Turkey in 2006;

- **Date and place of the next meeting:**

1st Part-session 2006 - Strasbourg (23-27 January 2006)

The Ad Hoc Sub-Committee for the organisation of the Round Table on the political situation in the Chechen Republic (of the Political Affairs Committee), meeting in Paris on 13 December 2005 with Mr Gross (Switzerland, SOC) in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Parliamentary elections in Chechnya (27 November 2005):** held an exchange of views on the basis of oral statements of members who had participated in the fact-finding visit to Chechnya on 26-28 November 2005;

- **Organisation of the second Round Table on the political situation in the Chechen Republic:** held an exchange of views and concluded that:

. the second Round Table should be held in Grozny, under conditions which would provide security and allow broad participation and free exchange of views;

. such conditions were not met for the moment;

. in the framework of the preparation for the Round Table, contacts should be established with the Russian State Duma Commission on problems of Northern Caucasus, as well as with members of the newly elected Parliament of Chechnya;

. members of the ad hoc Sub-Committee could continue, in their private capacity, contacts aimed at broadening the representativity of the Round Table, however, their proposals will be subject to acceptance by the ad hoc Sub-Committee;

- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** left it to the Chair to convene its next meeting.

Baris Perin, Agnieszka Nachilo, Pavel Chevtchenko, Sonia Sirtori-Milner