



Political Affairs Committee

**FOR THE ATTENTION OF THE MEMBERS OF THE
POLITICAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE**
Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly

AS/PoI/CB (2009) 01

30 January 2009

The Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg from 26 to 29 January 2009, first with Lord Tomlinson (United Kingdom, SOC), the most senior member present, and then Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

reelected by acclamation:

- .Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD) Chair
- .Mr Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG), 1st Vice-Chair
- .Mr von Sydow (Sweden, SOC), 2nd Vice-Chair
- .Mrs Ojuland (Estonia, ALDE) 3rd Vice-Chair

as regards:

- **Private military and security firms and the erosion of the state monopoly on the use of force**
Rapporteur: Mr Wodarg, Germany, SOC: took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft recommendation;
- **Attitude to memorials exposed to different historical interpretations in Council of Europe member states**
Rapporteur: Mr Eörsi, Hungary, ALDE: took note that no amendments had been tabled to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation;
- **E-Democracy**
Rapporteur: Mr Szabó, Hungary, SOC: took position on the amendments which had been tabled to the draft resolution;
- **The implementation of Resolution 1633 (2008) on the consequences of the war between Georgia and Russia**
Rapporteur for opinion: Mr Gross, Switzerland, SOC: approved a draft opinion presented by the Rapporteur and adopted amendments to the draft resolution prepared by the Monitoring Committee;
- **Situation in the Middle East:** held an exchange of views on the situation in the region with the participation of Mr Ran Cohen, member of the Knesset, Mr Abdullah Abdullah, Chairman of the Political Committee of the Palestinian Legislative Council and Mr Qais Khader, member of the Palestinian Legislative Council; took note that Mr Margelov, former Rapporteur, was no longer a member of the Assembly, appointed Mr Fassino (Italy, SOC) as new Rapporteur on the Middle East and heard from him a declaration on the absence of conflicts of interest;

- **Situation in Kosovo¹** (*Rapporteur: Mr von Sydow, Sweden, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur on his forthcoming fact-finding visit (2-6 February 2009) and held an exchange of views on the basis of an outline for a report;
- **The need for international condemnation of Holodomor in Ukraine in 1932-1933 - 75th Anniversary of mass famine in the territory of the former USSR**; took note that Mr Biberaj, former Rapporteur, was no longer a member of the Assembly, held an exchange of views, appointed Mr Çavușoğlu (Turkey, EDG) as new Rapporteur on this merged report and heard from him a declaration on the absence of conflicts of interest;
- **Fight against extremism: achievements, deficiencies and failures** *Rapporteur: Mr Agramunt, Spain, EPP/CD*: heard a statement by the Rapporteur on the basis of an outline for a report;
- **Situation in Belarus** *Rapporteur: Mr Rigoni, Italy, ALDE*: heard a statement by the Chair on the forthcoming visit to Minsk of Mrs Hurskainen, Chair of the Sub-Committee on Belarus, Mr Rigoni, Rapporteur and himself (16-19 February 2009) and decided to establish an ad hoc sub-committee to take part in this visit, composed of these three members;
- **Conference on early warning systems and conflict prevention**: heard a statement by the Chair of the Ad hoc sub-committee on early warning systems and conflict prevention in Europe on the conclusions of the meeting held on 28 January 2009, approved the conference proposals submitted by the ad-hoc sub-committee and asked the Chair to bring them to the attention of the Bureau;
- **Reconstitution of the Sub-Committees**
 - reconstituted its Sub-Committees on the Middle East, on External Relations, and on Belarus as presented in the Appendix;
 - renewed the Ad hoc sub-committee on early warning systems and conflict prevention in Europe, the Ad hoc sub-committee for the organisation of a Round Table on the political situation in the Chechen Republic and the Ad hoc sub-committee on the Forum for the future of democracy with their previous composition;
- **Exchange of views on Iran**: held an exchange of views with the participation of:
 - . Dr Arman Nouri, Pars Organisation
 - . Mr Aziz Baledi, Constitutionalist Movement of Iran
 - . Mr Navid Shomali, Tudeh Party of Iran
 - . Mr Khosrow Abdollahi, Democratic Party of Iranian Kurdistan
- **Sub-Committee on External Relations**: heard a statement by Mr Iwiński, Chair of the Sub-Committee, on the meeting held during the past-session, and took note that parliamentarians from Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia would be invited to attend the next meeting of the Sub-Committee (Paris, 16 March 2009) for an extensive exchange of views;
- **Future work**
 - a) Appointment of Rapporteur for report: appointed Mr Hörster (Germany, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur on

¹ All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population, in this text shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

“*Situation in Cyprus*” and heard from him a declaration on the absence of conflicts of interest;

b) Appointment of representatives of the Committee: appointed

. *Council for democratic elections, Venice Commission*

- . Ms Durrieu (France, SOC) as representative
- . Mr Hancock (United Kingdom, ALDE) as alternate representative

. *ECRI (European Commission against Racism and Intolerance)*

- . Mr Vitali (Italy, NR) as representative
- . Mr Szabó (Hungary, SOC) as alternate representative

c) Meeting to be held in Kazakhstan (subject to authorisation by the Bureau): held an exchange of views with the representatives of the Parliament of Kazakhstan: Mr Vladimir Bobrov, Chair of the Committee on economic reforms and regional development (Mazhilis), Mrs Nurlygaim Joldasbayeva, Chairperson of the Committee on Economic and Regional Policy (Senate), and Mr Ramazan Sarpekov, member of the Committee on legislation and judicial and legal reform (Mazhilis).

d) Authorisations by the Committee

. agreed on the request by Mr Fassino, Rapporteur on “*the Situation in the Middle East*”, to ask the Bureau for authorisation to conduct a fact-finding visit to Israel, the Palestinian Territories and Egypt (to hold an exchange of views with the League of Arab States);

. authorised Mr Gross, Rapporteur on “*The United Nations – reform and the Council of Europe member states*”, to conduct a fact-finding visit to Rome (6 February 2009), in the framework of the preparation of his report and at no cost to the Assembly;

. authorised its Chairman in his capacity as former Rapporteur on “*Need for international condemnation of crimes of totalitarian communist regimes*”, to attend, with no costs to the Assembly:

- . the inaugural event of the Foundation for the Investigation of Communist Crimes (Budapest, Hungary, 6-8 March 2009), and
- . the conference “Twenty Years After: Dealing with the Heritage of Communism” organised by the University of Toronto (Canada, 19-20 March 2009), subject to the authorisation of the Bureau.

e) References for information: took note of the reference on *End of the travel ban for Chernobyl children*, Reference 3508, 26.01.09

- **Follow-up by the Committee of Ministers to Assembly texts presented by the Political Affairs Committee:** took note of the replies adopted by the Committee of Ministers on:

- . Recommendation 1821 (2007) *Code of Good Practice on Referendums*
- . Recommendation 1831 (2008) *European Muslim communities confronted with extremism*
- . Recommendation 1827 (2008) *The Council of Europe and its observer states – the current situation and the way forward*
- . Recommendation 1825 (2008) *Strengthening co-operation with the Maghreb countries*

- **Next meetings**

- . 17 March 2009, Paris
- . Second part-session (27-30 April 2009), Strasbourg
- . 25-26 May 2009, Kazakhstan – dates to be confirmed, subject to the authorisation of the Bureau

- . Third part-session (22-26 June 2009), Strasbourg
- . 10 September 2009, Paris
- . Fourth part-session (28 September - 2 October 2009), Strasbourg
- . 17 November 2009, Paris
- . 15 December 2009, Paris

The Sub-Committee on the Middle East of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 28 January 2009, first with Lord Tomlinson (United Kingdom, SOC), the most senior member present, and then Mr Pavlidis (Greece, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- *re-elected* Mr Pavlidis (Greece, EPP/CD) as Chair;
- *re-elected* Mrs Durrieu (France, SOC) as Vice-Chair;
- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** Paris, 16 March 2009 (4 to 6 pm)

The Sub-Committee on External Relations of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 29 January 2009, first with Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD), Chair of the Plenary Committee, and then Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) in the Chair:

- *re-elected* by acclamation Mr Iwiński (Poland, SOC) as Chair;
- agreed to postpone the election of its Vice-Chair until its next meeting;
- held an exchange of views with parliamentarians from Algeria and Tunisia

Algeria

Mr Tahar Khaoua, Deputy of the « Parti du Front de libération nationale (FLN) » ;
Mr Omar Boualga, Deputy of the « Parti du Front de la libération nationale (FLN) » ;
Mr Bouzid Berkani, Deputy of the « Rassemblement national démocratique (RND) » ;
Mr Belkacem Meziane, Independent Deputy

Tunisia

Mrs Aziza Hatira, Member of the « Chambre des Députés ».
M. Chekib Dhaouadi, Member of the « Chambre des Conseillers », Rapporteur of the Political Affairs and External Relations Committee
M. Khaled Ben Tahar, Member of the « Chambre des Députés », Member of the Social Affairs and Public Health Committee

agreed to invite representatives of Algeria, Morocco and Tunisia for an extensive exchange of views at the next meeting of the Sub-Committee;

- heard a statement by its Chair on the activities of the Sub-Committee for 2009;
- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** Paris, 16 March 2009 (morning)

The Sub-Committee on Belarus of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 29 January 2009, with Mr Lindblad (Sweden, EPP/CD), Chairman of the Political Affairs Committee in the Chair:

- *elected* by acclamation Mrs Hurskainen (Finland, SOC) as Chair;
- agreed to postpone the election of its Vice-Chair until its next meeting,
- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** left it to the Chair to convene its next meeting

The Ad Hoc sub-committee on early warning systems and the prevention of conflicts in Europe of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 28 January 2009, with Mr Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG) in the Chair,

as regards:

- **Conference on early warning systems:** held an exchange of views on the basis of proposals prepared by its Chair and decided to present them to the Political Affairs Committee for endorsement, with a view to submitting them to the Bureau of the Assembly.
- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** Paris, 16 March 2009 (2 to 4 pm)

Barış Perin, Agnieszka Nachilo, Pavel Chevtchenko, Sonia Sirtori-Milner, Alexandra Alléon

28.01.2009

Sub-Committee on the Middle East / *Sous-commission sur le Proche-Orient*
28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mr PAVLIDIS Aristotelis Greece / Grèce Mr PANGALOS Theodoros

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

1. Mrs DURRIEU Josette France Mr ROCHEBLOINE François

Members / Membres

Alternates / Remplaçants

2. Mr AGIUS Francis	Malta / Malte	Mr DEBONO Grech Joseph
3. Mr AGRAMUNT Pedro	Spain / Espagne	Mrs ABURTO Maria
4. Mr ALIGRUDIC Milos	Serbia / Serbie	
5. Mr BERCEANU Radu Mircea	Romania / Roumanie	
6. Mr DAEMS Hendrik	Belgium / Belgique	Mr van den BRANDE Luc
7. Mr ELZINGA Tuur	Netherlands / Pays-Bas	Mr TEN BROEKE Hans
8. Mme FIALA Doris	Switzerland / Suisse	
9. Mr GARDETTO Jean-Charles	Monaco	Mr STEINER Christophe
10. Mr GRZYB Andrzej	Poland / Pologne	Mr IWINSKI Tadeusz
11. Mr HARUTYUNYAN Davit	Armenia/Arménie	
12. Mr HÖRSTER Joachim	Germany / Allemagne	Mr SCHMITT Ingo
13. Mr JENSEN Mogens	Denmark / Danemark	
14. Mr KAIKKONEN Antti	Finland / Finlande	
15. Mrs LUNDGREN Kerstin	Sweden / Suède	
16. Mrs MIKHAILOVA Nadezhda	Bulgaria/Bulgarie	
17. Mr MOTA AMARAL João Bosco	Portugal	Mr VERA JARDIM José
18. Mrs NĚMCOVÁ Miroslava	Czech Republic / République tchèque	Mr BARTOŠ Walter
19. Mrs NIRENSTEIN Fiamma	Italy / Italie	Mr FASSINO Piero
20. Mrs OJULAND Kristiina	Estonia / Estonie	
21. Mr POURGOURIDES Christos	Cyprus/Chypre	Mr KYPRIANOU Andros
22. Mr SLUTSKY Leonid	Russia / Russie	
23. Mr SZABO Zoltan	Hungary / Hongrie	
24. Mr TEKELIOĞLU Mehmet	Turkey/Turquie	
25. Lord TOMLINSON	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr AUSTIN John
26. Mrs WURM Gisela	Austria / Autriche	
27. Mr ZINGERIS	Lithuania / Lituanie	

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

Waiting list:

Mr FARRE SANTURE Joan Andorra / Andorre

29.01.2009

Sub-Committee on External Relations / *Sous-commission des relations extérieures*
28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mr IWIŃSKI Tadeusz Poland / Pologne Mr LIPINSKI Dariusz

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

Members / Membres

Alternates / Remplaçants

1.	Mr ADONTS Avet	Armenia	
2.	Mr AGIUS Francis	Malta / Malte	Mr DEBONO Grech Joseph
3.	Mr ALIGRUDIĆ Miloš	Serbia / Serbie	Mr IVANJI Željko
4.	Mr BLOM Luuk	Netherlands / Pays-Bas	Mr WAALKENS Harm Evert
5.	Mr van den BRANDE Luc	Belgium / Belgique	Mr DAEMS Hendrik
6.	Ms ČURDOVÁ Anna	Czech Republic / République tchèque	Mrs KONECNA Katerina
7.	Mr GARDETTO J-Charles	Monaco	Mr STEINER Christophe
8.	Mr GOERENS Charles	Luxembourg	
9.	Mr GROSS Andreas	Switzerland / Suisse	Mrs MAURY PASQUIER Liliane
10.	Mrs HURSKAINEN Sinikka	Finland / Finlande	
11.	Mr JENSEN Michael Aastrup	Denmark / Danemark	
12.	Mrs KELES Birgen	Turkey / Turquie	
13.	Mr KOSACHEV Konstantin	Russian / Federation	Mr SLUTSKY Leonid
14.	Mr LÓPEZ AGUILAR J.Fernando	Spain / Espagne	Mr PUCHE Gabino
15.	Mr LOUTFI Younal	Bulgaria / Bulgarie	
16.	M. MIGNON Jean-Claude	France	M. BADRE Denis
17.	Mr OMELCHENKO Hryhoriy	Ukraine	Mrs HERASYM'YUK Olha
18.	Mr POURGOURIDES Christos	Cyprus / Chypre	Mr KYPRIANOU Andros
19.	Mr SEYIDOV Samad	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	
20.	Mr SZABO Zoltan	Hungary / Hongrie	
21.	Mr VERA JARDIM José	Portugal	Mr MOTA AMARAL João Bosco
22.	Mr VITALI Luigi	Italy / Italie	Mr RIGONI Andrea
23.	Mr VRETTOS Konstantinos	Greece / Grèce	Mr VOULGARAKIS Georgios
24.	Mr WILSHIRE David	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr MACSHANE Denis
25.	Mr WODARG Wolfgang	Germany / Allemagne	Mr STEENBLOCK Rainer
26.	Mrs WURM Gisela	Austria / Autriche	Mr KUEHNEL Franz Eduard
27.	ZZ.....		

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

29.01.2009

Sub-Committee on Belarus
Sous-commission sur le Bélarus
28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairman / Président

Mrs HURSKAINEN Sinikka Finland

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président/e

Members / Membres

1. Mr ARIAS Miguel
2. M. BETEILLE Laurent
3. Mr ÇAVUŞOĞLU Mevlüt
4. Mr EVANS Nigel
5. Mr FLAHAUT André
6. Mr GROSS Andreas
7. Mr HARUTYUNYAN Davit
8. Mr HERKEL Andres
9. Mr IVANJI Željko
10. Mr IVANOV Ivan
11. Mr JENSEN Michael Aastrup
12. Mr KOSACHEV Konstantin
13. Mr LIPINSKI Dariusz
14. Mrs NEMCOVA Miroslava
15. Mr NEUGEBAUER Fritz
16. Mr PFLUG Johannes
17. Mr RIGONI Andrea
18. Mr TEN BROEKE Han
19. Mr ZINGUERIS
20. ZZ.....
21. ZZ.....
22. ZZ.....
23. ZZ.....
24. ZZ.....
25. ZZ.....
26. ZZ.....
27. ZZ.....

Alternates / Remplaçants

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Spain / Espagne | Mrs BATET Meritxell |
| France | |
| Turkey/ Turquie | |
| United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni | Mr WILSHIRE David |
| Belgium / Belgique | Mr VAN OVERMEIRE Karim |
| Switzerland / Suisse | Mme FIALA Doris |
| Armenia / Arménie | |
| Estonia | |
| Serbia / Serbie | |
| Bulgaria / Bulgarie | |
| Denmark / Danemark | |
| Russian Federation | Mr UMAKHANOV Ilyas |
| Poland / Pologne | Mr BENDER Ryszard |
| Czech Republic / République tchèque | Mrs KONEČNÁ Kateřina |
| Austria / Autriche | |
| Germany / Allemagne | Mr LINTNER Eduard |
| Italy / Italie | Mr BRICOLO Federico |
| Netherlands | Mr WAALKENS Harm Evert |
| Lithuania / Lituanie | |

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

27.01.2009

Ad hoc Sub-Committee on early warning systems and conflict prevention in Europe
Sous-commission ad hoc sur les systèmes d'alerte précoce et la prévention des conflits en Europe

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mr WILSHIRE David United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

Mr GROSS Andreas Switzerland / Suisse

Members / Membres

Mrs	ABURTO	Spain / Espagne
Mr	AGRAMUNT	Spain / Espagne
Mr	ÇAVUŞOĞLU	Turkey / Turquie
Mr	GABASHVILI	Georgia / Géorgie
Mr	HANCOCK	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mrs	HERASYM'YUK	Ukraine
Mrs	HURSKAINEN	Finland / Finlande
Mr	JENSEN Mogens	Denmark / Danemark
Mr	KOX	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Mr	MARKOV	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie
Mr	MIGNON	France
Mrs	OJULAND	Estonia / Estonie
Mr	RIGONI	Italy / Italie
Mrs	TÜRKÖNE	Turkey / Turquie

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

27.01.2009

**AD HOC SUB-COMMITTEE FOR THE ORGANISATION OF THE
ROUND TABLE ON THE POLITICAL SITUATION
IN THE CHECHEN REPUBLIC**

**SOUS-COMMISSION AD HOC POUR L'ORGANISATION
D'UNE TABLE RONDE SUR LA SITUATION POLITIQUE EN
REPUBLIQUE TCHETCHENE**

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Président

Mr GROSS Switzerland / Suisse

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président

Mr KOSACHEV Russian Federation / Fédération Russie

Members / Membres

Mr van den BRANDE	Belgium / Belgique
Mr DZHABRAILOV	Russian Federation / Fédération Russie
Mr EVANS	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr FASSINO	Italy / Italie
Mr GOERENS	Luxembourg
Mr IWIŃSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr KOLESNIKOV	Russian Federation / Fédération Russie
Mr SLUTSKY	Russian Federation / Fédération Russie
Mr WILSHIRE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

27.01.2009

Ad Hoc Sub-Committee on the Forum for the future of Democracy
Sous-Commission ad hoc sur le Forum pour l'avenir de la démocratie
28 seats / 28 sièges

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

Mr SEYIDOV Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan

Members / Membres

Mrs BECK	Germany / Allemagne
Mr DAEMS	Belgium / Belgique
Mrs DURRIEU	France / France
Mr EVANS	United Kingdom / Royaume Uni
Mr GROSS	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr IWINSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr MALGIERI	Italy / Italie
Mr MARCENARO	Italy / Italie
Mr MARTY	Switzerland / Suisse
Mrs OHLSSON	Sweden / Suède
Mr RIGONI	Italy / Italie
Mr TEKELIOGLU	Turkey / Turquie
Mr VAN DEN BRANDE	Belgium / Belgique
Mr VERA JARDIM	Portugal
Mr WILSHIRE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Ex-officio : Mr Lindblad – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee