



Political Affairs Committee

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

AS/Po/CB (2010) 01

29 January 2010

The Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg from 25 to 28 January 2010, first with Mrs Durrieu (France, SOC), oldest member present, and then Mr von Sydow (Sweden, SOC) and Mr Lipiński (Poland, EPP/CD) in the Chair:

elected by acclamation:

- Mr von Sydow (Sweden, SOC), Chair
- Mr Lipiński (Poland, EPP/CD), 1st Vice-Chair
- Mr Kosachev (Russian Federation, EDG), 2nd Vice-Chair
- Mr M.A. Jensen (Denmark, ALDE), 3rd Vice-Chair

as regards:

- **Situation in the Middle East** (*Rapporteur: Mr Fassino, Italy, SOC*): held an exchange of views with Mr Plesner, member of the Knesset, and Mr Abdullah and Mr Sabella, members of the Palestinian Legislative Council; heard a statement by Mr Shtayyeh, Minister of Public Works and Housing from the Territories under Palestinian Authority; considered and approved a draft addendum to the report following the Rapporteur's visit to the region (17-20 January 2010), including proposals for amendments to be tabled on behalf of the Committee; took position on the amendments tabled to the draft resolution and approved oral sub-amendments suggested by the Rapporteur to be tabled on behalf of the Committee; agreed to return to the matter after the next meeting of the Sub-Committee on the Middle East to be held in Izmir, from 4 to 6 March 2010, subject to the authorisation by the Assembly's Bureau;
- **Euro-Mediterranean: call for a Council of Europe strategy** (*Rapporteur: Mr Badré, France, ALDE*): took position on the amendments tabled to the draft resolution and the draft recommendation, and approved oral sub-amendments suggested by the Rapporteur to be tabled on behalf of the Committee;
- **Thresholds and other features of electoral systems which have an impact on representativity of national parliaments in Council of Europe member states** (*Rapporteur: Mr Daems, Belgium, ALDE*): took note that no amendments were tabled;
- **Increasing women's representation in politics through the electoral system** (*Rapporteur for opinion: Mrs Maury Pasquier, Switzerland, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, held an exchange of views and approved an oral opinion;

- **Fight against extremism: achievements, deficiencies and failures** (*Rapporteur: Mr Agramunt, Spain, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and took note of his preliminary draft report;
- **Situation in Kosovo¹** (*Rapporteur: Mr von Sydow, Sweden, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, held an exchange of views and took note of a memorandum prepared by the Rapporteur; authorised the Rapporteur to conduct a second fact-finding visit to Kosovo¹ and decided to inform the Bureau accordingly;
- **The Council of Europe and the Eastern partnership of the European Union** (*Rapporteur: Mr Lipíński, Poland, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and took note of his introductory memorandum;
- **Piracy – a crime and a challenge for democracies** (*Rapporteur: Ms Keleş, Turkey, SOC*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur and took note of her preliminary draft report;
- **Re-engaging in the parliamentary dialogue with the United States** (*Rapporteur: Mr Lindblad, Sweden, EPP/CD*): heard a statement by the Rapporteur, authorised him to visit Vienna (Austria) in order to establish contacts with the US Congressmen attending the OSCE PA Winter meeting (18-19 February 2010), and endorsed his request to conduct a fact-finding visit to Washington (United States) in the framework of the preparation of his report, at no cost for the Assembly (subject to authorisation by the Bureau);
- **2010 debate on the state of democracy in Europe**: held an exchange of views and appointed:
 - Mr Daems (Belgium, ALDE) as Rapporteur on *Extra-institutional sources of power in the democratic system*;
 - Mr Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur on *The economic crisis and the legitimacy of democracy in Europe*, and asked him to reconsider the title of the report;heard a statement by Mr Gross and agreed on his proposal to suggest that a report on *Democracy in crisis: follow-up to Resolutions 1547 (2007) and 1617 (2008)* be included as a third report to be prepared for the joint debate to be held during the 3rd part-session 2010;
- **Reconstitution/constitution of sub-committees**
 - reconstituted its sub-committees on the Middle East and on external relations as presented in the Appendix;
 - constituted a sub-committee on conflict prevention through dialogue and reconciliation as presented in the Appendix;
 - renewed 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;
 - constituted an ad hoc sub-committee on the follow-up to Assembly Resolution 1671 (2009) on situation in Belarus as presented in the Appendix;

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.

- **Future work**

- appointed:

a) Rapporteurs for report:

- Mr Gardetto (Monaco, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur on *Measures to improve the democratic character of elections in the Council of Europe member states*;

- Mr Agramunt (Spain, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur on *Code of good conduct in the field of political parties*;

b) Rapporteurs for opinion

- Mrs Bakoyannis (Greece, EPP/CD) as Rapporteur for opinion on *Human rights and fight against terrorism*;

after having heard from them a declaration on the absence of conflict of interest;

c) Representatives

- Mrs Durrieu (France, SOC) as representative to the *Council for democratic elections, Venice Commission*

- Mr Szabó (Hungary, SOC) as representative to the *European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI)*

d) References to Committee:

took note that the motion on "*The political situation in Northern Caucasus: immediate need for measures to increase democratic stability in accordance with Council of Europe standards*" was referred to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "*Legal remedies for human rights violations in the North-Caucasus Region*" and, upon the proposal by the Chair, decided to ask the Bureau to be seized for opinion on that report;

- **Follow-up by the Committee of Ministers to Assembly texts presented by the Political Affairs Committee:** took note of the reply adopted by the Committee of Ministers to Recommendation 1860 (2009) on *Electronic democracy*

Other business:

endorsed the request by Mr Lindblad to participate in the Sixth Assembly of the "World Movement for Democracy" on "Solidarity across Cultures: Working Together for Democracy" (Jakarta, Indonesia, 11-14 April 2010) in his capacity as member of the Committee, at no cost for the Assembly (subject to the authorisation by the Bureau);

- **Next meetings**

- 18 March 2010, Paris

- 2nd part-session 2010 (26-30 April 2010), Strasbourg

The sub-committee on the Middle East of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 26 January 2010, first with Mrs Durrieu (France, SOC), the oldest member present, and then Mr de Puig (Spain, SOC) in the Chair:

- *elected* by acclamation Mr de Puig (Spain, SOC) as Chair;
- postponed the election of the Vice-Chair;
- held an exchange of views with the participation of Mr Plesner, Member of the Knesset, Mr Abdullah and Dr Sabella, members of the Palestinian Legislative Council;
- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** Izmir, 4-5 March 2010

The sub-committee on external relations of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 26 January 2010, first with Ms Keleş (Turkey, SOC), the oldest member present, and then Mr Lindblad (Sweden EPP/CD) in the Chair:

- *elected* by acclamation Mr Lindblad (Sweden EPP/CD) as Chair;
- *elected* by acclamation Mr Slutsky (Russian Federation, SOC) as Vice-Chair;
- held an exchange of views with parliamentarians from Tunisia;
- heard a statement by its Chair on the activities of the sub-committee for 2010;
- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** left it to the Chair to convene its next meeting (possibly on the occasion of the meeting of the Political Affairs Committee to be held on 18 March in Paris).

The sub-committee on conflict prevention through dialogue and reconciliation of the Political Affairs Committee, meeting in Strasbourg on 28 January 2009, with Mr von Sydow (Sweden, SOC), the oldest member present, and then Mr Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG) in the Chair:

- *elected* by acclamation Wilshire (United Kingdom, EDG) as Chair;
- *elected* by acclamation Mrs Hurskainen (Finland, SOC) as Vice-Chair;
- heard a statement by Mrs Kiuru (Finland, SOC), Rapporteur of the Committee on Equal Opportunities for Women and Men on Associating women in the prevention and solution of unsolved conflicts in the Council of Europe area;
- heard a statement by its Chair on the activities of the sub-committee for 2010;
- ***Date and place of the next meeting:*** left it to the Chair to convene its next meeting (possibly on the occasion of the meeting of the Political Affairs Committee to be held on 18 March in Paris).

Despina Chatzivassiliou, João Ary, Pavel Chevtchenko, Sonia Sirtori-Milner

28 JANVIER 2010

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 de PUIG Spain / Espagne Mrs ABURTO BASELGA Maria

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

Members / Membres

Alternates / Remplaçants

1.	Mr	AGIUS Francis	Malta / Malte	Mr DEBONO Grech Joseph
2.	Mrs	BAKOYANNIS Th.	Greece / Grèce	Mrs PAPANDREOU V.
3.	Mrs	BRASSEUR Anne	Luxembourg	Mr HAUPERT Norbert
4.	Mr	CORLATEAN Titus	Romania / Roumanie	
5.	Mr	DAEMS Hendrik	Belgium / Belgique	Mr Van den DRIESSCHE Pol
6.	Mrs	DURRIEU Josette	France	Mr ROCHEBLOINE François
7.	Mr	ELZINGA Tuur	Netherlands / Pays-Bas	Mr TEN BROEKE Hans
8.	Mr	FAHEY Frank	Ireland / Irlande	Mr BREEN Patrick
9.	Mr	GARDETTO Jean-Charles	Monaco	Mr STEINER Christophe
10.	Mr	HARUTYUNYAN Davit	Armenia/Arménie	
11.	Mr	JENSEN Mogens	Denmark / Danemark	
12.	Mr	KAIKKONEN Antti	Finland / Finlande	
13.	Mrs	LUNDGREN Kerstin	Sweden / Suède	Mr LINDBLAD Göran
14.	Mr	MEIKAR Silver	Estonia / Estonie	
15.	Mr	MOTA AMARAL João B.	Portugal	Mr VERA JARDIM José
16.	Mrs	NĚMCOVÁ Miroslava	Czech Republic / République tchèque	Mr BARTOŠ Walter
17.	Mrs	NIRENSTEIN Fiamma	Italy / Italie	Mr FASSINO Piero
18.	Mr	ORZECZOWSKI Maciej	Poland / Pologne	Mr IWŃSKI Tadeusz
19.	Mr	POURGOURIDES Christos	Cyprus/Chypre	Mr GEORGIU Aristophanes
20.	Mr	REIMANN Maximilian	Switzerland / Suisse	
21.	Mr	RUSMALI Ilirjan	Albania / Albanie	
22.	Mr	SLUTSKY Leonid	Russia / Russie	Mr KOSACHEV Konstantin
23.	Mr	SZABO Zoltan	Hungary / Hongrie	
24.	Mr	TEKELIOĞLU Mehmet	Turkey/Turquie	
25.	Lord	TOMLINSON	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr AUSTIN John
26.	Mr	TOSHEV Latchezar	Bulgaria/Bulgarie	
27.	Mr	ZINGERIS Emanuelis	Lithuania / Lituanie	

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

28 January 2010

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

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mr LINDBLAD Göran Sweden

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

1. Mr SLUTSKIY Leonid Russian / Federation Mr KOSACHEV Konstantin

Members / Membres

Alternates / Remplaçants

2. Mr AGIUS Francis	Malta / Malte	Mr DEBONO Grech Joseph
3. Mr ALIGRUDIĆ Miloš	Serbia / Serbie	
4. Mr BLOM Luuk	Netherlands / Pays-Bas	Mr FRANKEN
5. Mr BREEN Patrick	Ireland / Irlande	Mr FAHEY Frank
6. Ms ČURDOVÁ Anna	Czech Republic / République tchèque	Mrs KONEČNÁ Kat.
7. Mr van den DRIESSCHE Pol	Belgium / Belgique	Mr DAEMS Hendrik
8. Mr FRUNDA György	Romania	
9. Mr GARDETTO J-Charles	Monaco	Mr STEINER Christophe
10. Mr GROSS Andreas	Switzerland / Suisse	Mrs MAURY PASQUIER Liliane
11. Mr HAUPERT Norbert	Luxembourg	Mme BRASSEUR Anne
12. Mr IWŃSKI Tadeusz	Poland / Pologne	Mr LIPINSKI Dariusz
13. Mr JENSEN Michael Aastrup	Denmark / Danemark	
14. Mrs KELES Birgen	Turkey / Turquie	
15. Mr KUEHNEL Franz Eduard	Austria / Autriche	
16. Mr MEIKAR Silver	Estonia	
17. M. MIGNON Jean-Claude	France	M. BADRÉ Denis
18. Mr MOSCOSO DEL PRADO J.	Spain / Espagne	Mr PUCHE Gabino
19. Mr SOBOLEV Sehriy	Ukraine	Mrs HERASYM'YUK Olha
20. Mr SEYIDOV Samad	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	
21. Mr SZABÓ Zoltan	Hungary / Hongrie	
22. Mr TODOROV Zhivko	Bulgaria / Bulgarie	
23. Mr VERA JARDIM José	Portugal	Mr MOTA AMARAL João Bosco
24. Mr VITALI Luigi	Italy / Italie	Mr RIGONI Andrea
25. Mr VRETTOS Konstantinos	Greece / Grèce	Mrs BAKOYANNIS V.
26. Mr WILSHIRE David	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr MacSHANE Denis
27. Mrs ZOHRABYAN Naira	Armenia	

Waiting list

Mrs HURSKAINEN Sinikka	Finland / Finlande	
Mr POURGOURIDES Christos	Cyprus / Chypre	Mr GEORGIU Aristophanes
Mr RUSMALI Ilirjan	Albania / Albanie	

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

28 January 2010

**Sub-committee on conflict prevention through dialogue and reconciliation
Sous-commission sur la prévention des conflits par le dialogue et la réconciliation**

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairperson / Présidente

Mr WILSHIRE David United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni Mr HANCOCK Michael

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président(e)

1. Mrs HURSKAINEN Sinikka Finland / Finlande

Members / Membres

Alternates / Remplaçants

2. Mr BADEA	Romania/Roumanie	
3. Mr BETEILLE Laurent	France	Mme DURRIEU Josette
4. Mr GABASHVILI Guiorgui	Georgia / Géorgie	Mr TSISKARISHVILI Petré
5. Mr GROSS Andreas	Switzerland / Suisse	
6. Mr HARUTYUNYAN Davit	Armenia/Arménie	Mrs ZOHRABYAN Naira
7. Mrs HERASYM'YUK	Ukraine	
8. Mr KUEHNEL Franz Eduard	Austria / Autriche	
9. Mr LIPINSKI Dariusz	Poland / Pologne	Mr BENDER Ryszard
10. Mr MARKOV Sergey	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie	
11. Mr MORIAU	Belgium / Belgique	Mr VAN OVERMEIRE Karim
12. Mrs NĚMCOVÁ Miroslava	Czech Republic / Rép. tchèque	Mrs KONEČNÁ Katerina
13. Mr PUCHE Gabino	Spain / Espagne	Mr AGRAMUNT Pedro
14. Mr RIGONI Andrea	Italy / Italie	
15. Mr SEYIDOV Samad	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan	Mr HAJIYEV Sabir
16. Mr TEN BROEKE Hans	Netherlands / Pays-Bas	Mr FRANKEN
17. Mrs TRASHANI Arenca	Albania / Albanie	
18. Mrs TÜRKÖNE Özlem	Turkey / Turquie	
19. Mr VARVITSIOTIS	Greece / Grèce	
20. Mr WELLMANN Karl-Georg	Germany / Allemagne	
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Ex-officio : Mr von SYDOW – Chair of the Political Affairs Committee

26 janvier 2010

**Ad hoc sub-Committee on the follow-up of
Assembly Resolution 1671 (2009) on the situation in Belarus**

**Sous-commission ad hoc sur le suivi
de la Résolution 1671 (2009) sur la situation au Bélarus**

LIST OF MEMBERS / LISTE DES MEMBRES

Chairman / Président

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Président/e

Members / Membres

Alternates / Remplaçants

1. Mr ARIAS CAÑETE Miguel	Spain / Espagne	Mrs BATET LAMAÑA Meritxell
2. Mr BADEA		
3. M. BÉTEILLE Laurent	France	
4. Mr ÇAVUŞOĞLU Mevlüt	Turkey / Turquie	
5. Mr ÉVANS Nigel	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni	Mr WILSHIRE David
6. Mr GROSS Andreas	Switzerland / Suisse	
7. Mrs HURSKAINEN Sinikka	Finland / Finlande	
8. Mr MEIKAR Silver	Estonia / Estonie	
9. Mr RIGONI Andrea	Italy / Italie	
10. Mr VARVITSIOTIS	Greece / Grèce	
11. Mr WELLMANN Karl-Georg	Germany / Allemagne	Mr PFLUG Johannes
12. Mr ZINGERIS Emanuelis	Lithuania / Lituanie	

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

26.01.10

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)

Members / Membres

Mr	ALIGRUDIC	Serbia / Serbie
Mr	ÇAVUŞOĞLU	Turkey / Turquie
Mr	CESA	Italy / Italie
Mr	DAEMS	Belgique / Belgium
Mrs	DURRIEU	France / France
Mr	EVANS	United Kingdom / Royaume Uni
Mr	FAHEY	Ireland / Irlande
Mr	GROSS	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr	HARUTYUNYAN	Armenia / Arménie
Mrs	HERASMYUK	Ukraine
Mr	HUNKO	Germany / Allemagne
Mr	IWINSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr	MALGIERI	Italy / Italie
Mr	MARCENARO	Italy / Italie
Mr	MARKOV	Russian Federation / Fédération de Russie
Mr	MARTY	Switzerland / Suisse
Mrs	OHLSSON	Sweden / Suède
Mr	PFLUG	Germany / Allemagne
Mr	POPESCU	Ukraine
Mr	RIGONI	Italy / Italie
Mr	SEYIDOV	Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan
Mr	TEKELIOGLU	Turkey / Turquie
Mr	VERA JARDIM	Portugal
Mr	WILSHIRE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

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

25.01.10

**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 EVANS	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr FASSINO	Italy / Italie
Mr IWIŃSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr SLUTSKY	Russian Federation / Fédération Russie
Mr WILSHIRE	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

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