



SECRETARIAT

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3 September 2015

To the members of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy

Synopsis

of the meeting held in the OECD Headquarters, Paris

1st September 2015

The **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**, meeting in Paris (OECD Conference Center) on 1st September 2015, with Ms Theodora Bakoyannis (Greece, EPP/CD) and Ms Maria Guzenina (Finland, SOC) in the Chair,

presented condolences to the German delegation following the sudden death of Mr Phillip Mißfelder;

and, as regards:

– **The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) in 2014-2015** (*Rapporteur: Mr Tuur Elzinga, Netherlands, UEL*): held an exchange of views with Ms Gabriela Ramos, OECD Chief of Staff and Sherpa to the G20, and other OECD representatives; considered a draft report, amended and adopted unanimously a draft resolution;

– **Corruption as governance regime: a barrier to institutional efficiency and progress** (*Rapporteur: Mr Michele Nicoletti, Italy, SOC*): held a hearing with the participation of Mr Giovanni Kessler, Director General of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) of the European Commission, Mr Bálint Magyar, Researcher and strategic consultant at Financial Research Plc., Hungary, and Ms Kathryn Gordon, Senior Economist, OECD Anti-Corruption Division;

– **The political consequences of the crisis in Ukraine** (*Rapporteur: Ms Kristýna Zeličková, Czech Republic, ALDE*): held an exchange of views on the geopolitical consequences of the conflict in Ukraine;

– **Situation in Belarus** (*Rapporteur: Mr Andrea Rigoni, Italy, ALDE*), heard a statement by the Rapporteur;

– **Work programme:**

Appointment of Rapporteurs:

- appointed Mr Alain Destexhe (Belgium, ALDE) as Rapporteur on *Evaluation of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic* and heard from him a declaration of absence of any conflict of interest;
- appointed Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC) as Rapporteur for opinion on *Renewed commitment in the fight against anti-Semitism in Europe* and heard from him a declaration of absence of any conflict of interest;

Call for candidates for report: called for candidates for reports on *Situation in Lebanon and challenges for regional stability and European security* and on *Libya's future between the threats of terrorism and a democratic prospect*;

Consideration of a reply of the Committee of Ministers: considered the reply on Assembly Recommendation 2061 (2015) on *Terrorist attacks in Paris: together for a democratic response*;

– **Authorisations by the Committee:**

- approved the request by Ms Josette Durrieu (France, SOC) to carry out a fact-finding visit to Iran in the framework of the preparation of her report on *Political developments in Iran*, subject to the authorisation by the Bureau of the Assembly;
- authorised Ms Kristýna Zelenková (Czech Republic, ALDE), Rapporteur on *The political consequences of the crisis in Ukraine*, to attend one of the next meetings of the European Parliament delegation to the EU-Russia Parliamentary Cooperation Committee, to be held in October 2015;

– **Changes in the composition of Sub-Committees:** approved the following changes:

- Mr Atilla Mesterházy (Hungary, SOC) becomes member of the Sub-Committee on the Middle East and the Arab World,
- Ms Anne Kalmari (Finland, ALDE) replaces Mr Antti Kaikkonen (Finland, ALDE) in the Sub-Committee on relations with the OECD and the EBRD,
- Ms Maria Guzenina (Finland, SOC) replaces Mr Antti Kaikkonen (Finland, ALDE) in the Sub-Committee on External Relations;

– **Other business:** heard a statement by Mr Robert Walter (United Kingdom, EC), Rapporteur on *Escalation of violence in Nagorno-Karabakh and the other occupied territories of Azerbaijan*, concerning the preparation of his report;

– **Next meetings:** confirmed forthcoming meetings as follows:

- during the 4th part-session in Strasbourg (28 September-2 October 2015)
- 4 November 2015, Paris (to be confirmed)
- 7 December 2015, Brussels.

D. Chatzivassiliou, J. Ary, P. Chevtchenko

cc. Secretary General of the Assembly
Director General, Director and all staff of the Secretariat of the Assembly
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations
Secretary General of the Congress
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Director of Communication
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe