

45th SESSION  
CG(2023)45-PV-01pm

## MINUTES

### First Sitting

Tuesday 24 October 2023

### Plenary Sitting

14.30 – 19.00, European Parliament Chamber

*Marc COOLS, President of the Congress, took the Chair at 14.32.*

11.

#### **The Russian Federation's war against Ukraine**

- **The role of local and regional authorities in ensuring accountability – the Register of Damage caused by the Aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine**

The President welcomed Tanja GONGGRIJP, Vice-Chair of the Conference of Participants of the Register of damage caused by the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine.

At the request of the President of the Congress, a video message from Oleksiy KULEBA, Deputy Head of Office of the President of Ukraine, was played.

The President invited Tanja GONGGRIJP to make a statement.

After her statement, Tanja GONGGRIJP replied to questions and comments from:

Bryony RUDKIN, United Kingdom (L, SOC/G/PD); Levan ZHORZHOLIANI, Georgia (R, SOC/G/PD); Sevdia UGREKHELIDZE, Georgia (L, EPP/CCE); Brigitte VAN DEN BERG, Netherlands (L, ILDG); Svitlana BOHATYRCHUK KRYVKO, Ukraine (R, ECR); Željko VUKŠA FEJZIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina (Youth Delegate); Cemal BAŞ, Türkiye (L, EPP/CCE); Remigiusz SEPIAL, Poland (Youth Delegate); Henning BOLLMARK, Sweden (Youth Delegate); Yaroslav MOROZOV, Ukraine (Youth Delegate); Lia MONTALTI, Italy (R, SOC/G/PD); Thibaut GUIGNARD, France (L, EPP/CCE); and Seyma DOGUCU, Türkiye (R, EPP/CCE).

The President thanked Tanja GONGGRIJP.

- **The plight of anti-war political activists and prisoners of conscience in Russia**

The rapporteur Leendert VERBEEK, Netherlands (R, SOC/G/PD), presented document CG(2023)45-19 on behalf of the Bureau of the Congress.

The debate was opened.

*Speakers:* Günther BERGMANN, Germany (R, EPP/CCE); Kevin BENTLEY (R, ECR); Volodymyr KOVALENKO, Ukraine (L, EPP/CCE); Mykola LUKASHUK, Ukraine (R, ILDG); Liliia PASHYNNA, Ukraine (L, ILDG); and Jean-Paul BASTIN, Belgium (L, EPP-CCE).

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|     | <p>The Ukrainian delegation moved a procedural motion, in line with Rule 35.1.e of the Rules of Procedure, requesting that the draft resolution contained in document CG(2023)45-19 be referred back to the Bureau.</p> <p>The debate was closed.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the procedural motion to refer the draft resolution back to the Bureau.</p> <p>The motion was disagreed.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft resolution, contained in document CG(2023)45-19, and the 11 amendments and 1 sub-amendment tabled to it, contained in document CG(2023)45-19-AMDT.</p> <p>Amendment 1 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA, Ukraine, (L, ILDG).</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 2 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 3 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 4 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA.</p> <p>The amendment was disagreed.</p> <p>Amendment 10 was presented by the rapporteur.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 5 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA.</p> <p>Sub-amendment 1 was presented by the rapporteur.</p> <p>The sub-amendment was agreed.</p> <p>The amendment, as sub-amended, was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 6 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 7 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 8 was presented by Liliia PASHYNNA.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 9 was presented by Günther BERGMANN, Germany, (R, EPP/CCE)</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 11 was presented by the rapporteur.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft resolution, as amended.</p> <p>The draft resolution, as amended, was adopted.</p> |
|     | <p><i>Harald SONDEREGGER, Vice-President, took the Chair at 16.32.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| 12. | <p><b>European Urban Charter III (2023): Urban living in the era of transformations</b></p> <p>Jelena DRENJANIN, Sweden (L, EPP/CCE), Chair of the Governance Committee presented document CG(2023)45-20 on behalf of the rapporteur, Anne COLGAN, Ireland</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                               |

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|     | <p>(L, ILDG).</p> <p>The President welcomed the following speakers and invited them to make statements:</p> <p>Danela ARSOVSKA, Mayor of Skopje, North Macedonia, and Chair of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe's Forum of Mayors; and Zeynep GÜNER, Youth Delegate, Türkiye.</p> <p>The debate was opened.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Hasan AKGUN, Türkiye (L, SOC/G/PD); Eirini DOUROU, Greece (R, SOC/G/PD); Wilma DELISSEN VAN TONGERLO, Netherlands (L, ILDG); Gobnait NI MHUIMNEACAIN, Ireland (L, ILDG); Simon Ingebrigt GOLOMBEK, Norway (Youth Delegate); Maria Francesca CRISTEA, Romania (Youth Delegate); Despoina PANTELI, Greece (Youth Delegate); Catalin TOMA, Romania (R, EPP/CCE); and Lia MONTALTI, Italy (R, SOC/G/PD).</p> <p>Danela ARSOVSKA replied to the debate.</p> <p>The Chair of the Governance Committee replied to the debate.</p> <p>The debate was closed.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft resolution, contained in document CG(2023)45-20.</p> <p>The resolution was adopted.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                           |
|     | <p><i>Marc COOLS, President of the Congress, took the Chair at 17.29.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                  |
| 13. | <p><b>Follow-up to the 4th Summit of the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe on 16–17 May 2023 in Reykjavik, Iceland</b></p> <p>The President welcomed Bjørn BERGE, Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and invited him to make a statement.</p> <p>Bjørn BERGE made a statement and replied to questions from:</p> <p>Anders KNAPE, Sweden (L, EPP/CCE); Vladimir PREBILIČ, Slovenia (L, SOC/G/PD); Stewart DICKSON, United Kingdom (R, ILDG); and Andrew BOFF, United Kingdom (R, ECR).</p> <p>The President thanked Bjørn BERGE.</p> <p><b>Delivering on the Reykjavik summit: revised Congress priorities, working procedures and structures</b></p> <p>The co-rapporteurs Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE), and Harald SONDEREGGER, Austria (R, EPP/CCE), presented document CG(2023)45-12.</p> <p>The debate was opened.</p> <p><i>Speakers:</i> Eirini DOUROU, Greece (R, SOC/G/PD); Heiner KLEMP, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD); Liliia PASHYNNA, Ukraine (L, ILDG); and Xavier CADORET, France (L, SOC/G/PD).</p> <p>The co-rapporteurs replied to the debate.</p> <p>The debate was closed.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft resolution, contained in document CG(2023)45-12, and the two amendments tabled to it, contained in document CG(2023)45-12-AMDT.</p> <p>Amendment 1 was presented by the co-rapporteur, Harald SONDEREGGER.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>Amendment 2 was presented by the co-rapporteur, Harald SONDEREGGER.</p> <p>The amendment was agreed.</p> <p>The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft resolution, as amended.</p> <p>The resolution, as amended, was adopted.</p> |

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|            | <i>Bernd VÖHRINGER, Vice-President, took the Chair at 18.32.</i>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |
| <b>14.</b> | <p><b>Outcome of the United Nations Summit on Sustainable Development Goals, 19–20 September, New York, USA</b></p> <p>The President welcomed Tatiana MOLCEAN, Executive Secretary of the United Nations Economic Commission for Europe, participating via video link, and invited her to make a statement.</p> <p>Tatiana MOLCEAN made a statement and responded to questions and comments from:</p> <p>Levan ZHORZHOLIANI, Georgia (R, SOC/G/PD); Brigitte VAN DEN BERG, Netherlands (L, ILDG); Anthony BUCHANAN, United Kingdom (L, NPA); Dunja TRIFUNOVIĆ, Serbia (Youth Delegate); Maria Francesca CRISTEA, Romania (Youth Delegate); Lia MONTALTI, Italy (R, SOC/G/PD); Anna MAGYAR, Hungary (R, EPP/CCE); and Cemal BAŞ, Türkiye (L, EPP/CCE).</p> <p>The President thanked Tatiana MOLCEAN.</p> |
| <b>15.</b> | <p><b>End of the sitting</b></p> <p><i>The sitting was closed at 19.11.</i></p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                         |