

45th SESSION
CG(2023)45-PV-03

MINUTES

Third Sitting

Thursday 26 October 2023

Plenary Sitting

10.00 - 13.00, European Parliament Chamber

	<i>Marc COOLS, President of the Congress, took the Chair at 10.01.</i>
1.	Adoption of the minutes of the sessions of the Chambers and of the sitting of the Congress on 25 October 2023 The minutes of the sessions of the Chambers and the sitting of the Congress on 25 October 2023, contained in documents CPL(2023)45-PV, CPR(2023)45-PV and CG(2023)45-PV-02, were adopted.
2.	Violence against local and regional elected representatives The President welcomed the following speakers and invited them to make statements: Vincent JEANBRUN, Mayor of L'Haÿ-les-Roses, France; Kristoffer TAMSONS, Congress Co-rapporteur on "Hate speech and fake news: the impact on working conditions of local and regional elected representatives", Sweden (R, EPP/CCE); and Samantha TOWNSEND, Councillor, Shildon and Dene Valley, Durham County, United Kingdom. Vincent JEANBRUN, Kristoffer TAMSONS and Samantha TOWNSEND made statements. The debate was opened. <i>Speakers:</i> Bryony RUDKIN, United Kingdom (L, SOC/G/PD); Eirini DOUROU, Greece (R, SOC/G/PD); Wilma DELISSEN VAN TONGERLO, Netherlands (L, ILDG); Pauline STERRER, Austria (L, EPP/CCE); Véronique BERTHOLLE, France (L, SOC/G/PD); Sergii MAZUR, Ukraine (L, ECR); Joanne Louise LABAN, United Kingdom (L, ECR); Darleen PFISTER, Switzerland (Youth Delegate); Vuk MIRČETIĆ, Serbia (R, EPP/CCE); Giulio BERNASCONI, Italy (Youth Delegate); Ulla SANTTI, Finland (L, SOC/G/PD); and Kevin BENTLEY, United Kingdom (R, ECR). Vincent JEANBRUN, Kristoffer TAMSONS and Samantha TOWNSEND replied to the debate. The debate was closed.
3.	The humanitarian situation in Karabakh and neighbouring cities and regions The rapporteur Bernd VÖHRINGER, Germany (L, EPP/CCE), presented document CG(2023)45-21 on behalf of the Bureau of the Congress. The debate was opened.

Speakers: Emin YERITSYAN, Armenia (L, EPP/CCE); Sören SCHUMACHER, Germany (R, SOC/G/PD); Davit KHAZHAKYAN, Armenia (L, ILDG); Edvard GRIGORYAN, Armenia (Youth Delegate); Güneş PEHLIVAN, Türkiye (R, SOC/G/PD); Ferhat YILMAZ, Türkiye (L, ILDG); Véronique BERTHOLLE, France (L, SOC/G/PD); Anar IBRAHIMOV, Azerbaijan (R, EPP/CCE); Christian DEBÈVE, France (R, ILDG); Humbat HUSEYNOV, Azerbaijan (L, EPP/CCE); Samira HUSEYNOVA, Azerbaijan (L, SOC/G/PD); Aida JALILZADE, Azerbaijan (R, ECR); Rauf ALIYEV, Azerbaijan (R, EPP/CCE); Tamraz TAGHIYEV, Azerbaijan (L, EPP/CCE); Françoise GROLET, France (R, NR).

The rapporteur replied to the debate.

The debate was closed.

The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft declaration contained in document CG(2023)45-21, 12 amendments contained in document CG(2023)45-21-AMDT and three oral amendments.

Amendment 1 was presented by Emin YERITSYAN, Armenia (L, EPP/CCE).

Anar IBRAHIMOV, Azerbaijan (R, EPP/CCE), spoke against the amendment.

The amendment was disagreed.

Amendment 6 was presented by Anar IBRAHIMOV.

Emin YERITSYAN spoke against the amendment.

The amendment was disagreed.

Amendment 2 was presented by Davit KHAZHAKYAN, Armenia (L, ILDG).

Aida JALILZADE, Azerbaijan (R, ECR), spoke against the amendment.

The amendment was disagreed.

Amendment 7 was presented by Anar IBRAHIMOV.

Davit KHAZHAKYAN spoke against the amendment.

The amendment was agreed.

Amendment 8 was presented by Anar IBRAHIMOV.

Davit KHAZHAKYAN spoke against the amendment.

The amendment was disagreed.

Amendment 9 was presented by Anar IBRAHIMOV.

Davit KHAZHAKYAN spoke against the amendment.

The amendment was disagreed.

Oral amendment 1 was presented by the rapporteur.

The oral amendment was as follows:

In paragraph 4.a, after the words “and calls on the authorities of Azerbaijan”, insert the words: “to implement interim measures indicated by the European Court of Human rights under Rule 39 of its Rules in its decision of 22 September 2023 and”

[then the rest of the paragraph is unchanged].

The oral amendment was agreed.

Amendment 3 was presented by Emin YERITSYAN.

Aida JALILZADE spoke against the amendment.

The amendment was disagreed.

Amendment 10 was presented by Anar IBRAHIMOV.

	Davit KHAZHAKYAN spoke against the amendment. The amendment was disagreed. Oral amendment 2 was presented by the rapporteur. The oral amendment was as follows: In paragraph 4.b, replace the words “including local officials” by the words “including at local level”. The oral amendment was agreed. Amendment 4 was withdrawn by Davit KHAZHAKYAN. Amendment 11 was presented by Anar IBRAHIMOV. Davit KHAZHAKYAN spoke against the amendment. The amendment was disagreed. Oral amendment 3 was presented by the rapporteur. The oral amendment was as follows: In paragraph 4.g, replace the words “Karabakh Armenians” with the words “all persons, regardless of their ethnic origin, displaced as a result of Azerbaijan’s military operation on 19-20 September, and those staying in the region”. The oral amendment was agreed. Amendment 12 was presented by Anar IBRAHIMOV. Davit KHAZHAKYAN spoke against the amendment. The amendment was disagreed. Amendment 5 was presented by Emin YERITSYAN. Samira HUSEYNOVA, Azerbaijan (L, SOC/G/PD), spoke against the amendment. The amendment was disagreed. The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft declaration, as amended. The declaration, as amended, was adopted.
4.	Monitoring of the European Charter of Local Self-government in the Slovak Republic The co-rapporteurs, Levan ZHORZOLIANI, Georgia (R, SOC/G/PD), and Matthias GYSIN, Switzerland (L, ILDG), presented document CG(2023)45-18. The debate was opened. <i>Speakers:</i> Štěpánka SLÁMOVÁ, Czech Republic (Youth Delegate); Maroš SAGAN, Slovak Republic (L, EPP/CCE); František BREZO, Slovak Republic (Youth Delegate). The co-rapporteurs replied to the debate. The debate was closed. The Congress proceeded to vote on the draft recommendation contained in document CG(2023)45-18. The recommendation was adopted.
5.	Adoption of the abridged report of the 45th Session The abridged report of the 45th Session, contained in document CG(2023)45-DEC was adopted.

6.

Close of the 45th Session by the President of the Congress

The President addressed the Congress and thanked members for their participation in the work of the Congress and the two Chambers.

The President thanked all the staff who had contributed to the work of the Session.

The President noted that the 46th Session would take place from 26 to 28 March 2024.

The President declared the 45th Session of the Congress and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe closed.

The sitting was closed at 12.57.

The European Anthem was played.