

SECRETARIAT

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4 February 2025

To the members of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 27, 28 and 29 January 2025

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Strasbourg on 27, 28 and 29 January 2025, in camera, with Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC), oldest member present, Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica (Latvia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, and then with Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), 1st Vice-Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **on Monday, 27 January 2025 at 14:00**, as regards:
 - **Election of the Chairperson of the Committee**: elected Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica (Latvia, EPP/CD), Chairperson, by acclamation;
 - **Election of the Vice-Chairpersons of the Committee**: elected the following Vice-Chairpersons by acclamation:
 - Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), First Vice-Chairperson,
 - Mr Claude Kern (France, ALDE), Second Vice-Chairperson,
 - Postponed the election of a third Vice-Chairperson to a next meeting;
 - **Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the Parliamentary delegation of Georgia** (*rapporteur: Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica, Latvia, EPP/CD*): after hearing her declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica (Latvia, EPP/CD), as rapporteur and held a preliminary exchange of views;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC, and Ms Sabina Čudić, Bosnia and Herzegovina, ALDE*): considered an information note by Ms Edite Estrela and Mr Claude Kern (France, ALDE) on their fact-finding visit to Tbilisi (14-16 January 2025) and agreed to declassify it; after hearing her declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Ms Sabina Čudić (Bosnia and Herzegovina, ALDE) as co-rapporteur to replace Mr Claude Kern (France, ALDE);
 - **The progress of the Assembly's monitoring procedure (January-December 2024)** (*rapporteur: Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica, Latvia, EPP/CD*): took position on 7 amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
- **on Tuesday, 28 January 2025 at 08:30**, as regards:
 - **Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of Georgia** (*rapporteur: Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica, Latvia, EPP/CD*): considered a draft report and adopted a draft resolution as amended;

- **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Hungary** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross, Estonia, ALDE, and Mr George Papandreu, Greece, SOC*): agreed to request two opinions to the Venice Commission on: 1) the fourteenth amendment to the Fundamental Law of Hungary and Act LXVII of 2024 on the amendment of Act CLI of 2011 on the Constitutional Court and on the legal status of the Prosecutor General, prosecutors and other prosecutorial employees and on the career of a prosecutor and 2) the December 2024 electoral reform;
- **on Wednesday, 29 January 2025 at 14:00**, as regards:
 - **Joint hearing on the implementation of judgments of the ECtHR by Türkiye** (*rapporteur of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: Mr Constantin Efstathiou, Cyprus, SOC*): held a joint hearing with the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights on the preparation of the report on “Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights – 12th report”, with the participation of Mr Yıldırım Tuğrul Türkeş (Türkiye, NR), Chairperson of the Turkish delegation, and Mr Alper Hakkı Yazıcı, Vice-Chairman of Human Rights Department of Ministry of Justice;
 - **Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of Georgia** (*rapporteur: Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica, Latvia, EPP/CD*): took position on 7 amendments tabled to the draft resolution;
 - **Post-monitoring dialogue with Albania** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Ionuț-Marian Stroe, Romania, EPP/CD, and...*): postponed the item to its next meeting;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Armenia** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Borianna Åberg, Sweden, EPP/CD, and Mr Piero Fassino, Italy, SOC*): after hearing his declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC) as co-rapporteur;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Azerbaijan** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC, and...*): postponed the item to its next meeting;
 - **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Greece (periodic monitoring report)** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Laura Castel, Spain, UEL, and Ms Miapetra Kumpula-Natri, Finland, SOC*): after hearing her declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Ms Miapetra Kumpula-Natri (Finland, SOC) as co-rapporteur;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Türkiye** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Stefan Schennach, Austria, SOC, and Lord David Blencathra, United Kingdom ECPA*): after hearing his declaration of absence of conflict of interest on 28 January 2025, appointed Lord David Blencathra (United Kingdom, ECPA) as co-rapporteur;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Damien Cottier, Switzerland, ALDE, and...*): after hearing his declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Mr Damien Cottier (Switzerland, ALDE) as co-rapporteur;
 - **Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly** (*rapporteur: Ms Naomi Cachia, Malta, SOC*): after hearing her declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Ms Naomi Cachia (Malta, SOC) as rapporteur for the Monitoring Committee;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC, and Ms Sabina Čudić, Bosnia and Herzegovina, ALDE*): agreed to hold an exchange of views on recent developments in Georgia at its next meeting;
 - **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Axel Schäfer, Germany, SOC, and Ms Victoria Tiblom, Sweden, ECPA*): postponed the exchange of views to its next meeting; after hearing her declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Ms Victoria Tiblom (Sweden, ECPA) as co-rapporteur;

- **Call for candidates:** made a call for candidates for:
 - The post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro to replace Mr Damien Cottier (Switzerland, ALDE);
 - The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine to replace Mr Birgir Thórarinnsson (Iceland, EPP/CD);
 - The post monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria to replace Ms Thórhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC);
- **Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission:** postponed the item to its next meeting;
- **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Hungary** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross, Estonia, ALDE, and Mr George Papandreou, Greece, SOC*): heard an oral report by the co-rapporteurs on their fact-finding visit to Budapest (18-20 November 2024) and held an exchange of views;
- **Increasing members' active participation in and contribution to the work of the Parliamentary Assembly and its committees** (*rapporteur of the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs: Ms Petra Bayr, Austria, SOC*): took note of the introductory memorandum by the rapporteur;
- **Parliamentary conference on “Envisioning effective public policy to prevent and address cases of missing migrants” (Strasbourg, 24-25 April 2025): call for candidates:** postponed the item to its next meeting;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2025: call for nominations:** postponed the item to its next meeting;
- **Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment 2025: call for nominations:** postponed the item to its next meeting;
- **Gender equality in the functioning of the Assembly:** took note of the Information memorandum prepared by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination;
- **Authorisation of fact-finding visits:** authorised the co-rapporteurs for Georgia to conduct a fact-finding visit to the country, subject to the availability of financial resources;
- **Other business: Romania:** agreed to hold an exchange of views on the decision of the Romanian Constitutional Court to cancel the November 2024 Presidential elections at its next meeting;
- **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - Paris, 4 March 2025
 - Strasbourg, 7-11 April 2025 [during the Assembly part-session]
 - Riga, 15-16 May 2025
 - Strasbourg, 23-27 June 2025 [during the Assembly part-session]
 - Paris, 9 September 2025
 - Strasbourg, 29 September-3 October 2025 [during the Assembly part-session]
 - Paris, 9 December 2025

Agnieszka Nachilo, Bas Klein, Agnieszka Szklanna, Matthieu Monin

Copy:

Secretary General of the Assembly

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Secretary General of the Congress

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