Parliamentary Assembly
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COUNCIL OF EUROPE
CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

SECRETARIAT

AS/Bur (2026) CB 09
7 September 2026

To the Members of the Bureau of the Assembly

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Paris on 3 September 2026

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Thursday, 3 September 2026, in Paris, with Ms Petra Bayr, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Communications**:
  - took note of the communication by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly;
  - held an exchange of views with the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **Fourth part-session of 2026 (Strasbourg, 28 September – 2 October)**: drew up the draft agenda;
- **References and transmissions to committees**: approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- ***Election observation**:*
  - Assembly of Kosovo*: early elections (7 June 2026): approved the report of the observation mission;
  - Kazakhstan: early parliamentary elections (23 August 2026): took note of the statement of the observation mission;
  - Maroc: took note of the statement of the pre-electoral observation mission, approved the revised list of members of the *ad hoc* committee to observe these elections and appointed Ms Sevilay Çelenk (Türkiye, UEL) as Vice-chairperson of the delegation for the main mission (Appendix 2);
  - Bosnia and Herzegovina: general elections (4 October 2026): approved the revised list of members of the *ad hoc* committee to observe these elections, concluded that the conditions for meaningful observation of out-of-country voting were not met, and decided to postpone the out-of-country voting pilot project to another election (Appendix 3);
  - Bulgaria: presidential election (25 October 2026): took note of the invitation to observe this election and decided not to follow up on it;
  - Serbia: parliamentary elections (October 2026, date tbc): subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe these elections and to set up an *ad hoc* committee composed of 20 members (SOC-7; EPP/CD-5; ECPA-4; ALDE-3; UEL-1), as well as the two co-rapporteurs of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), and to organise a pre-electoral mission;
  - Palestine: parliamentary elections (28 November 2026): took note of the new date and the updated information regarding the security situation;

* All reference to Kosovo, whether to the territory, institutions or population shall be understood in full compliance with United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244 and without prejudice to the status of Kosovo.

- Kirghizstan: presidential election (27 January 2027): subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe this election and to set up an *ad hoc* committee composed of 11 members (SOC-3; EPP/CD-3; ECPA-2; ALDE-2; UEL-1);
- Annual Meeting of Endorsers of the Declaration of Principles for International Election Observation (La Antiga, Guatemala, 2-4 December 2026): appointed Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones (Spain, SOC) as the Assembly's representative to participate in this meeting;
- Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections: approved the revised list of members of this Alliance (Appendix 4).

– **Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2027**: approved the proposals contained in the memorandum prepared by the Secretariat (Appendix 5);

– **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**: took note of the shortlist made by the Selection Panel at its meeting in Prague on 1 September 2026, consisting of (in alphabetical order): Ms Masih Alinejad (Iran-America), Ms Márta Pardavi (Hungary) and Ms Nasrin Sotoudeh (Iran);

– **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris**:

- authorised the Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine (Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development) to meet in Vienna on 3 November 2026 (financed by voluntary contributions);

– **Date and place of next meetings**: decided to hold its next meetings as follows:

- Monday 28 September 2026, 8.00 am, Strasbourg (part session);
- Friday 2 October 2026, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session);
- Thursday 26 November 2026, 3.00 pm, Budva (Montenegro);
- Monday 7 December 2026, 9.30 am, Vienna.

Isild Heurtin, Greta Faggiani

Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary 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 of Local and Regional Authorities
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers
Directors General
Director of the Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

Appendix 1 – References and transmissions to committees

A. References and transmissions to committees

- *Territorial cohesion: a strategic imperative for a sustainable Europe,* Doc. 16438, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report;*
- *Access to support services, protection and assistance for all women victims of violence: from principles to reality on the ground,* Doc. 16439, motion for a recommendation: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*;
- *Preventing and combating femicides in Europe,* Doc. 16440, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*;
- *Securing refugee and migrant women's economic future in Europe – from fair work to funded entrepreneurship,* Doc. 16442, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Migration, International Protection and Economic Co-operation *for report* and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for opinion*;
- *Europe's demographic winter: political implications for democracy,* Doc. 16443, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*;
- *Hate crimes, intolerance and discrimination against Christians in Europe,* Doc. 16447, motion for a resolution: reference to Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*;
- *Restitution of the Romanian Treasure withheld by the Russian Federation,* Doc. 16450, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;
- *Europe, the fastest-warming continent: accelerating climate action with young people,* Bureau decision: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for report.*

Appendix 2 – Revised list of members of the *ad hoc* Committee for the observation of the parliamentary elections in Morocco (23 September 2026)

Chairperson / Présidente : Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI, Italy / Italie

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-président·e : Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK, Türkiye (main mission) / Mr / M. George Loucaides (pre-electoral mission)

Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)
Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal*
Mr / M. Antonio GUTIERREZ-LIMONES, Spain / Espagne
Ms / Mme Saskia KLUIT, Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Ms / Mme Annick LAMBRECHT, Belgium / Belgique
Ms / Mme Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO, Spain / Espagne
Mr / M. Francesco VERDUCCI, Italy / Italie

Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Mr / M. Titus CORLATEAN, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye
Mr / M. Julian JOSWIG, Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. Ivan RACAN, Croatia / Croatie
Mr / M. Roverto SPERANZA, Italy / Italie
Ms / Mme Sandra ZAMPA, Italy / Italie

Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)
Ms / Mme Regina BASTOS, Portugal
Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce
Ms / Mme Albana VOKSHI, Albania / Albanie*
Mr / M. Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande

Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Mr / M. Christophe BRICO, Monaco
Mr / M. Yuriy KAMELCHUK, Ukraine**
Mr / M. Konrad FRYSZTAK, Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚÂGÂRLAȘ, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Krzysztof TRUSKOLASKI, Poland / Pologne

European Conservatives, Patriots & Affiliates (ECPA) / Conservateurs européens, Patriotes et Affiliés (CEPA)
Lord David BLENCATHRA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI, Italy / Italie *
Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM, Sweden / Suède
Baroness Thérèse COFFEY, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine
Mr / M. Malte KAUFMANN, Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. Fabio PIETRELLA, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Markus WIECHEL, Sweden / Suède

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)
Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy /Italie *
Mr / M. Claude KERN, France
Ms / Mme Marijana PULJAK, Croatia / Croatie
Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, France

Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye
Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania, Lituanie
Mr / M. Oleksandr MEREZHKO, Ukraine
Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine

Ms / Mme Tamila TASHEVA, Ukraine

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)
Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES, Cyprus / Chypre* (pre-electoral mission) and / et Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK, Türkiye (main mission)

Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Ms / Mme Gabrielle CATHALA, France**

Accompanying person / Personne accompagnatrice
Lady Tara BLENCATHRA, accompanying Lord David BLENCATHRA

* Pre-electoral mission / mission préélectorale
** subject to receiving the declaration of interest / *sous réserve de recevoir la declaration d'intérêts*
One seat was allocated by the SOC to ALDE / Un siège a été attribué par le SOC à l'ALDE.

Appendix 3 – Revised list of members of the *ad hoc* Committee for the observation of the general elections Bosnia and Herzegovina (4 October 2026)

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège

Vice-Chairperson / Vice-Présidente : Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine

Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)
Ms / Mme Aysu BANKOGLU, Türkiye
Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège *
Mr / M. Piero FASSINO, Italy / Italie
Ms / Mme Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA, North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord
Mr / M. António MENDONÇA MENDES, Portugal
Mr / M. Mike READER, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Ms / Mme Aleksandra VUKOVIĆ KUČ, Montenegro / Monténégro

Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Mr / M. Julian JOSWIG, Germany / Allemagne
Ms / Mme Annick LAMBRECHT, Belgium / Belgique
Ms / Mme Wanda NOWICKA, Poland / Pologne

Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)
Mr / M. Garret AHEARN, Ireland / Irlande
Mr / M. Ricardo CARVALHO, Portugal *
Ms / Mme Andrea EDER-GITSCHTHALER, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Marko PAVIĆ, Croatia / Croatie
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Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Ms / Mme Marie-Christine DALLOZ, France **
Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚÂGÂRLAȘ, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande
Mr / M. Tekke PANMAN, The Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

European Conservatives, Patriots & Affiliates (ECPA) / Conservateurs européens, Patriotes et Affiliés (CEPA)
Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI, Italy / Italie *
Mr / M. Fabio PIETRELLA, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA, Spain / Espagne
Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM, Sweden / Suède

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)
Mr / M. Nikolla CAMAJ, Montenegro
Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine
Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republic / République slovaque *

Substitutes / Suppléant·es
Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye
Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie
Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine
Ms / Mme Tamila TASHEVA, Ukraine

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)
Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES, Cyprus / Chypre * **

Co-rapporteur.es AS/MON (*ex officio*)
Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC *
Ms / Mme Oana MURARIU, Romania, ALDE / Roumanie, ADLE *

** Pre-electoral mission / Mission préélectorale*

*** Subject to receiving the declaration of interest / sous reserve de recevoir la declaration d'intérêts*

Appendix 4 – Revised list of members of the Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections

Chairperson / Président : Lord David BLENCATHRA, United Kingdom, ECPA / Royaume-Uni, CEPA

Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group / Groupe des socialistes, démocrates et verts (SOC)

Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA	Norway / Norvège
Mr / M. Christophe CHAILLOU	France
Mr / M. Titus CORLATEAN	Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE	Türkiye
Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA	Portugal
Ms / Mme Aurora FLORIDIA	Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Gerardo GIOVAGNOLI	San Marino / Saint-Marin
Mr / M. Antonio GUTIERREZ LIMONES	Spain / Espagne
Ms / Mme Marietta KARAMANLI	France
Ms / Mme Saskia KLUIT	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Ms / Mme Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA	North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord
Ms / Mme Annick LAMBRECHT	Belgium / Belgique
Mr / M. Sasa MAGAZINOVIC	Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine
Mr / M. Didier MARIE *	**France**
Mr / M. Fabian MOLINA	Switzerland / Suisse
Ms / Mme Wanda NOWICKA	Poland / Pologne
Ms / Mme Kate OSAMOR	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr / M. George PAPANDREOU	Greece / Grèce
Mr / M. Ivan RACAN	Croatia / Croatie
Mr / M. Namik TAN	Türkiye
Mr / M. Francesco VERDUCCI	Italy / Italy

Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD) / Groupe du Parti populaire européen (PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Christophe BRICO	Monaco
Ms / Mme Andrea EDER-GITSCHTHALER	Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Márton HAJDU	Hungary / Hongrie
Ms / Mme Arusyak JULHAKYAN	Armenia / Arménie
Mr / M. Yuriy KAMELCHUK	Ukraine
Mr / M. Jan Filip LIBICKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. Andreas MINNICH	Austria / Autriche
Ms / Mme Octavie MODERT	Luxembourg
Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚÂGÂRLAȘ	Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Tekke PANMAN	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Ms / Mme Catia POLIDORI*	Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS	Greece / Grèce
Ms / M. Maria SYRENGELA	Greece / Grèce
Mr / M. Nicos TORNARITIS	Cyprus / Chypre
Ms / Mme Albana VOKSHI	Albania / Albanie

European Conservatives, Patriots & Affiliates (ECPA) / Conservateurs européens, Patriotes et Affiliés (CEPA)

Lord David BLENCATHRA*	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Ms / Mme Cristina Gabriella DUMITRESCU	Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN	Armenia / Arménie
Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO	Ukraine
Mr / M. Martin GRAF	Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Jan KANTHAK	Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. Axel KASSEGGER	Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Malte KAUFMANN	Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. Daniel MILEWSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. Kacper Maciej PŁAŻYŃSKI	Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA	Spain / Espagne

Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM	Sweden / Suède
Mr / M. Markus WIECHEL	Sweden / Suède

Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) / Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)

Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN	Türkiye
Ms / Mme Larysa BILOZIR	Ukraine
Mr / M. François BONNEAU	France
Mr / M. Roland BÜCHEL	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Damien COTTIER	Switzerland / Suisse
Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO	Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Erich HESS	Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Claude KERN*	France
Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK	Ukraine
Mr / M. Eerik-Niiles KROSS	Estonia / Estonie
Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA	Lithuania / Lituanie
Mr / M. Dominik OBERHOFER	Austria / Autriche
Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVAKOVA	Slovak Republic / République slovaque
Ms / Mme Elena Simona SPATARU	Romania / Roumanie
Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY	France
Ms / Mme Lesia VASYLENKO	Ukraine
Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS	Netherlands / Pays-Bas
Ms / Mme Lesia ZABURANNA	Ukraine

Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)

Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL	Spain / Espagne
Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK*	Türkiye
Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES	Cyprus / Chypre

Non registered members (NR) / membres non-inscrits (NI)

Mr / M. Petr SOKOL	Czechia / Tchéquie

Ex officio members / Membres ex officio

PACE President/ Présidente de l'APCE	Ms / Mme Petra BAYR	Austria / Autriche
POL	Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI	Italy / Italie
JUR	Mr / M. Eerik-Niiles KROSS	Estonia / Estonie
MON	Ms / Mme Elvira KOVACS	Serbia / Serbie
SOC	Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE	Germany / Allemagne
EPP/CD / PPE/DC	Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN	Spain / Espagne
ECPA / CEPA	Mr / M. Zsolt NÉMETH	Hungary / Hongrie
ALDE / ADLE	Mr / M. Iulian BULAI	Romania / Roumanie
UEL / GUE	Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL	Spain / Espagne
	Mr / Mr George LOUCAIDES	Cyprus / Chypre
General Rapporteur on Democracy / Rapporteur Général sur la Démocratie	Mr / M. George PAPANDREOU	Greece / Grèce

Council of Democratic Elections of the Council of Europe / Conseil des Elections Démocratiques du Conseil de l'Europe

Members / membres

AS/Mon	Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL, UEL/GUE	Spain / Espagne
AS/Jur	Mr / M. Pablo HISPAN, EPP/CD/ PPE/DC	Spain / Espagne
AS/Pol	Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS, ALDE/ADLE	Netherlands / Pays-Bas

Substitutes / suppléant.es

AS/Pol	Lord David BLENCATHRA, ECPA/CEPA	United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
AS/Jur	Ms / Mme Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA, SOC	North Macedonia / Macédoine du nord
AS/Mon	Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, ALDE/ADLE	France

Partners for Democracy and Observers / Partenaires pour la Démocratie et Observateurs

…… ……

Congress of Local and Regional Authorities / Congrès des pouvoirs locaux et régionaux

Mr / M. Stewart DICKSON — United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Venice Commission / Commission de Venise

ZZ…

* Bureau member appointed by the political group / Membre du Bureau désigné.e par le groupe politique

Appendix 5 – Meetings of the Standing Committee and the Bureau in 2027

Preliminary proposals for dates[*]

Memorandum prepared by the Secretariat of the Assembly

Monday 25 January, 8 am Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 29 January, 8.30 am Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 5 March, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau
Monday 26 April, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 30 April, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Thursday 20 May, 3 pm, The Hague	Bureau
Friday 21 May, 9.30 am, The Hague	Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Monday 21 June, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 25 June, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 3 September, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau
Monday 27 September, 8 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Friday 1 October, 8.30 am, Strasbourg (part-session)	Bureau
Thursday 25 November, 3 pm, Skopje	Bureau
Friday 26 November, 9.30 am, Skopje	Standing Committee (CM Presidency)
Friday 10 December, 9.30 am, Paris	Bureau

[*] Dates of meetings due to be held elsewhere than in Strasbourg and Paris are subject to the agreement of the Parliament of the country concerned.