

SECRETARIAT

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7 March 2025

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

Revised synopsis

of the meeting held in Paris on 4 March 2025

The Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee), meeting in Paris on 4 March 2025, in camera, with Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica (Latvia, EPP/CD) in the Chair, as regards:

- **Draft agenda:** following a vote, agreed to postpone the exchange of views on the decision of the Romanian Constitutional Court to cancel the November 2024 presidential elections to one of its forthcoming meetings, after the next presidential elections;
- **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Edite Estrela, Portugal, SOC, and Ms Sabina Ćudić, Bosnia and Herzegovina, ALDE*): held a hearing on “The human rights concerns in relation to the ongoing crisis in Georgia”, with the participation of Mr Marc Cools, President of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, Ms Nino Lomjaria, Executive Director of Georgia’s European Orbit and former Public Defender (Ombudsperson) of Georgia, Mr Ucha Nanuashvili, Founder of the Human Rights Center of Georgia, Vice-President of the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) and former Public Defender (Ombudsman) of Georgia, Ms Tina Bokuchava, representative of the three political forces (Coalition for Change, Unity – National Movement, and Strong Georgia), and Ms Natia Mezvrishvili, Deputy Chair of political party For Georgia; agreed to propose to the Bureau of the Assembly to hold a debate under urgent procedure on the situation in Georgia and follow up to [Resolution 2585 \(2025\)](#) on the “Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of Georgia” (working title), at the next part-session of the Assembly in April 2025; and agreed to ask the Bureau of the Assembly to request an opinion from the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs on whether the ratified credentials of a delegation, whose members have all resigned, could be challenged;
- **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*): held a hearing on recent developments in the country, with the participation of Mr Tamás Bodoky, journalist, editor and publisher at atlatszo.hu, and Mr András Léderer, Head of advocacy, Hungarian Helsinki Committee;
- **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Axel Schäfer, Germany, SOC, and Ms Victoria Tiblom, Sweden, ECPA*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteur, Mr Axel Schäfer; held an exchange of views on recent developments in the country; and agreed to hold a hearing on “Revelations concerning surveillance of journalists and activists and the situation of civil society” at the next meeting;

- **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Spain (periodic monitoring report)** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Elvira Kovács, Serbia, EPP/CD, and Ms Valentina Grippo, Italy, ALDE*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteurs and held an exchange of views with Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones, Chairperson, and members of the delegation of Spain;
- **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Sweden (periodic monitoring report)** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Yelizaveta Yasko, Ukraine, EPP/CD, and Ms Anne Stambach-Terrenoir, France, UEL*): heard a statement by the co-rapporteur, Ms Yelizaveta Yasko, and held an exchange of views;
- **The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Poland** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Azadeh Rojhan, Sweden, SOC, and Mr Pieter Omtzigt, Netherlands, EPP/CD*): following a proposal by the co-rapporteurs, agreed to request the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission) for an opinion on the draft laws on the status of judges as prepared by the Codification Commission of the Ministry of Justice of Poland;
- **Post-monitoring dialogue with Albania** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Ionuț-Marian Stroe, Romania, EPP/CD, and...*): postponed the appointment of a co-rapporteur to its next meeting;
- **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Azerbaijan** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Lise Christoffersen, Norway, SOC, and Sir Christopher Chope, United Kingdom, ECPA*): having heard from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest on 3 December 2024, appointed Sir Christopher Chope (United Kingdom, ECPA) as co-rapporteur;
- **Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria** (*co-rapporteurs: Ms Deborah Bergamini, Italy, EPP/CD, and Mr Yves Cruchten, Luxembourg, SOC*): after hearing from him a declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Mr Yves Cruchten (Luxembourg, SOC) as co-rapporteur;
- **Post-monitoring dialogue with Montenegro** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Nicos Tornaritis, Cyprus, EPP/CD, and Ms Liliana Tanguy, France, ALDE*): after hearing from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Ms Liliana Tanguy (France, ALDE) as co-rapporteur;
- **The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine** (*co-rapporteurs: Mr Damien Cottier, Switzerland, ALDE, and Ms Saara-Sofia Sirén, Finland, EPP/CD*): after hearing from her a declaration of absence of conflict of interest, appointed Ms Saara-Sofia Sirén (Finland, EPP/CD) as co-rapporteur;
- **Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission**: decided to propose to the Bureau the following nominations to the Council for Democratic Elections (Venice Commission) for 2025: Lord David Blencathra (United Kingdom, ECPA) as member and Ms Liliana Tanguy (France, ALDE) as substitute;
- **Parliamentary conference on “Envisioning effective public policy to prevent and address cases of missing migrants” (Strasbourg, 24-25 April 2025): call for candidates**: took note of the draft programme, and nominated Mr Yunus Emre (Türkiye, SOC) to sit on the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to participate in the Conference;
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2025: call for nominations**: took note of the information concerning submission of candidates for the 2025 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize;
- **Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment 2025: call for nominations**: took note of the information concerning the submission of candidates for the 2025 Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment;
- **Authorisation of fact-finding visits**: authorised the co-rapporteurs for Georgia to conduct a fact-finding visit to European institutions in Brussels, subject to the availability of financial resources;

- **Next meetings:** confirmed its next meetings as follows:
 - 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
Directors 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