

Information documents

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2 May 2023

Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1465th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies¹ (3 May 2023)

¹ This document covers the activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 24 April 2023 and future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 25 May 2023 (Riga).

I. Second part of the Ordinary Session of 2023 (24 - 28 April 2023)

A. Assembly's response to the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine

The major highlight of the Assembly's April part-session was the debate under urgent procedure on *Deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and other civilians to Russian Federation or to Ukrainian territories temporarily occupied: create conditions for their safe return, stop these crimes and punish the perpetrators*. The debate was preceded by the most appreciated online intervention of Ms Olena Volodymyrivna Zelenska, First Lady of Ukraine. In a resolution based on a report prepared by Mr Paulo Pisco (Portugal, SOC), PACE demanded the safe return of Ukrainian children forcibly transferred to the Russian Federation or territory it temporarily occupies, as well as punishment of those who carried it out at all levels – pointing out that the documented evidence of this practice matches with the international definition of genocide. The Assembly added there was evidence that deported children had faced a process of “russification” through re-education in Russian language, culture and history, citing examples of children being banned from speaking Ukrainian, exposure to propaganda, and visits to “patriotic” sites or military training. These transfers of Ukrainian children were “clearly being planned and organised in a systematic way” as state policy, the Assembly said, and had the abhorrent aim of “annihilating every link to and feature of their Ukrainian identity”. The Assembly also called for access to Russia for the UN and International Red Cross and Red Crescent to gather information on deported children and urged states to gather evidence of crimes – including genocide – that may have been committed. In a separate recommendation based on the same report, the Assembly welcomed the preparation by the Committee of Ministers of a declaration on the situation of children of Ukraine affected by the Russian Federation's continued aggression against Ukraine initiated by the Steering Committee for the Rights of the Child (CDENF) with a view to its adoption by the Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe at the forthcoming 4th Summit (16-17 May 2023, Reykjavik, Iceland). Underscoring the need to guarantee the effective protection of the rights of children of Ukraine, the Assembly expressed its readiness to cooperate with the Committee of Ministers on this issue.

This debate was followed by a current affairs debate on *Russia's role in escalating tensions in the Republic of Moldova*. This discussion was opened by Mr Aleksander Pocij (Poland, EPP/CD), who underlined that one lesson to be drawn from the current sanguinary page of European history written by the Russian Federation, is that appeasement is not an option. “The aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine is not only a brutal, illegal, unjustified and unjustifiable war of aggression against a member state of the Council of Europe, but a threat against all of us”, he added. The Bureau of the Assembly decided to refer the matter to the Political Affairs and Democracy to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on *The political consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine*.

B. Assembly's contribution to the Reykjavík Summit

On Tuesday 25 April, the Assembly held a current affairs debate on the *#RoadtoReykjavik*. In opening the debate, Ms Fiona O'Loughlin (Ireland, ALDE) highlighted that the Russian Federation is writing a bloody page in European history, waging a barbaric war of aggression to achieve its imperialistic objectives. “It is exactly because our deepest values are being trampled upon that we must reaffirm our identity”, she said. The Reykjavik Summit is the response of the member States to the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine. She added that the Reykjavik Summit “should be the starting point for a renewed Council of Europe, with a greater capacity to contribute to our shared democratic security, to respond to our citizens' real concerns and to tackle the momentous challenges that confront us. We should make the most of this chance”. The President of the European Court of Human Rights, Judge Siofra O'Leary, also participated in the debate. In her intervention, she underlined that at the Summit, the Court is seeking a renewed commitment from the contracting States to the Convention system and to the binding nature of Court judgements and decisions. She then called on parliamentarians and on the Heads of State and Government, to translate the discourse of values into material and political support.

On Wednesday 26 April, the Joint Committee held an exchange of views on the Reykjavik Summit.

The Assembly will continue to follow preparations of the Summit, thanks to the work of the rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Ms Fiona O'Loughlin. It will also pursue discussions on the parliamentary dimension to the Summit during the Standing Committee meeting to be held in Reykjavik on 15 May 2023.

C. Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights

On 26 April 2023, the Assembly elected Mr Sebastian Rădulețu as judge to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Romania.

D. Personalities

The following personalities addressed the Assembly (in chronological order):

Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe (Question time)

Ms Dunja MIJATOVIĆ, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (Annual activity report 2022)

Ms Þórdís Kolbrún Reykfjörð GYLFADÓTTIR, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland and Chair of the Committee of Ministers

Ms Síofra O'LEARY, President of the European Court of Human Rights, in the framework of the current affairs debate on #TheRoadToReykjavik

His Excellency Mr Guðni Th. Jóhannesson, President of Iceland

Ms Olena Volodymyrivna ZELENSKA, First Lady of Ukraine (on line), in the framework of the debate under urgent procedure on *Deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and other civilians to Russian Federation or to Ukrainian territories temporarily occupied: create conditions for their safe return, stop these crimes and punish the perpetrators*

Their speeches can be found on the website of the Assembly: <http://assembly.coe.int>.

E. Current affairs debates and debates under urgent procedure

The Assembly held a debate under urgent procedure on *Deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and other civilians to Russian Federation or to Ukrainian territories temporarily occupied: create conditions for their safe return, stop these crimes and punish the perpetrators*.

The Assembly held a current affairs debate on the #RoadtoReykjavik, and a second one on *Russia's role in escalating tensions in the Republic of Moldova*.

F. Media coverage

The 2023 Summer session generated considerable media coverage, with 56 accredited journalists present in Strasbourg to report on it. Most of the coverage was generated in Ukraine, followed by Armenia, Italy, France and international news outlets.

The debate on deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and the online intervention of Olena Volodymyrivna Zelenska, First Lady of Ukraine, triggered an important media echo on Ukrainian TV, as well as in print and on social media internationally, with more than 70 articles published.

Largely reflected by the press was also the hearing on "Excluding the athletes and officials of the Russian Federation and Belarus from participating in the international Olympic movement", specially in the United Kingdom (Reuters, BBC, The Guardian, The Independent, The Times, Sky Sports...) as well as major international news outlets.

In the margins of the part-session, the special event in support of imprisoned Russian opposition leader Vladimir Kara-Murza, laureate of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2022, benefited from strong coverage on social media platforms, especially on Twitter.

On social media, the debate on the deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children accounted for more than half of the total 255,000 impressions across the week, and produced the top tweet, re-tweeted more than 430 times so far.

President Zelensky tagged the PACE account in a tweet seen by approaching half a million people. The hearing on excluding Russian and Belarusian athletes from the Paris Olympics also had significant impact, being streamed live in tweets by Reuters and Sky. These two issues also dominated coverage of YouTube – with a total of over 5,000 views and some 266 hours of “watch time”. Facebook generated a total reach of around 3,000.

The MediaBox, a web-TV studio available to all those making news at the Assembly in Strasbourg or virtually, once again proved its usefulness for both Assembly members and journalists, with 43 statements and interviews with parliamentarians published on the PACE website and social media supports.

G. Adopted texts

Further to debates, the Assembly adopted the following texts:

Recommendations

Recommendation 2251 (2023)	Political strategies to prevent, prepare for, and face the consequences of natural disasters (Doc. 15738)
Recommendation 2252 (2023)	Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (Doc. 15742)
Recommendation 2253 (2023)	Deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and other civilians to Russian Federation or to Ukrainian territories temporarily occupied: create conditions for their safe return, stop these crimes and punish the perpetrators (Doc. 15748)
Recommendation 2254 (2023)	Safeguarding democracy, rights and the environment in international trade (Doc. 15739)

Resolutions

Resolution 2491 (2023)	European Convention on Human Rights and national constitutions (Doc. 15741)
Resolution 2492 (2023)	Assessing the functioning of the partnership for democracy (Doc. 15740)
Resolution 2493 (2023)	Political strategies to prevent, prepare for, and face the consequences of natural disasters (Doc. 15738 and addendum)
Resolution 2494 (2023)	Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights (Doc. 15742)
Resolution 2495 (2023)	Deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and other civilians to Russian Federation or to Ukrainian territories temporarily occupied: create conditions for their safe return, stop these crimes and punish the perpetrators (Doc. 15748)
Resolution 2496 (2023)	Safeguarding democracy, rights and the environment in international trade (Doc. 15739)

Resolution 2497 (2023)	The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by San Marino (Doc. 15737)
Resolution 2498 (2023)	Youth and the media (Doc. 15726)

All these texts can be found on the web site of the Assembly: <http://assembly.coe.int>.

II. Hearings and exchanges of views organised during the part-session

Tuesday 25 April 2023	
<p>08:30-12 :30 Room 7, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>Publication and exhibition on Free to Create: Artistic Freedom in Europe</i>, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Sara Whyatt, Member of the Expert Facility - UNESCO 2005 Convention on the Protection and Promotion of the Diversity of Cultural Expressions and expert for the Directorate of Democratic Participation, DG II - Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe Ms Katalin Krasznahorkai, lead curator of the “Free to create, create to be Free” digital exhibition, Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe <p>► Hearing on <i>the Museum Prize of the Council of Europe</i>, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Søren Bak-Jensen, Director of The Workers museum, Denmark, Winner of the Museum Prize 2023 of the Council of Europe Ms Jette Sandahl, President of the European Museum Forum (EMF) <p>► Hearing on <i>Excluding the athletes and officials of the Russian Federation and Belarus from participating in the international Olympic movement</i>, in the context of a report prepared by Ms Denisa Elena Neagu (Romania, ALDE), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Amélie Oudéa-Castéra, Minister of Sports and the Olympic and Paralympic Games, France (video message) The Rt Hon Lucy Frazer KC MP, Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport United Kingdom (video message), represented by Mr Adam Conant, Head of Sport - Department for Culture, Media & Sport, United Kingdom Mr Andriy Chesnokov, Deputy Minister for Youth and Sports of Ukraine for European Integration Ms Alexandra Xanthaki, Special Rapporteur in the field of cultural rights, United Nations (video message) Mr Francesco Ricci Bitti, President of the Association of Summer Olympic International Federations (ASOIF) Mr Gerd Kanter, Chairperson of the Athletes' Commission, European Olympic Committees (EOC) Estonia Ms Natallia Pinchuk, wife of jailed Belarusian human rights activist and 2013 Vaclav Havel Prize winner Ales Bialiatski

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Representatives of the International Olympic Committee (IOC): Mr Arsen Julfalakyan (Armenia), Olympic silver medalist, World and European Champion, Wrestling Greco-Roman, Chair of the United World Wrestling (UWW) Athletes' Commission; and Ms Gaby Ahrens (Namibia), Olympian, Shooting, Chair of the Athletes' Commission of the Association of National Olympic Committees of Africa (ANOCA)
08:30 – 09:30 Room 9, Palais Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights	<p>► Hearing on <i>Ensuring accountability for the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine: the role of the Council of Europe</i>, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Tiny Kox, President of the Parliamentary Assembly • Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law (DGI), Council of Europe • Mr Jörg Polakiewicz, Director of Legal Advice and Public International Law, Council of Europe
10:30 – 11:30 Room 6, Palais Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination	<p>► Hearing on <i>Preventing and combating violence against women with disabilities</i>, in the context of the preparation of a report by Ms Béatrice Fresko Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Ana Peláez Narváez, Chairperson of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), Secretary General of the European Disability Forum and Executive Vice-President of CERMI Women's Foundation • Ms Iris Luarasi, President of the Group of Experts on Action against Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (GREVIO).
11:30 – 12:30 Room 10, Palais Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy	<p>► Hearing on <i>Political consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine</i>, in the context of the preparation of a report by Mr Emanuelis Zingeris, (Lithuania, EPP/CD), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Evgenia Kara-Murza, wife of Vladimir Kara-Murza, laureate of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2022 • Mr Vadim Prokhorov, Mr Kara-Murza's lawyer
Wednesday 26 April 2023	
10:30 – 11:30 Room 11, Palais Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>the legal situation and the functioning of institutions in Serbia</i>, in the context of a report on "The honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia" (co-rapporteurs: Ms Eva Decroix, Czech Republic, EC/DA, and Mr Axel Schäfer, Germany, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Oliver Kask, Substitute Member of the Venice Commission in respect of Estonia
10:30 – 11:30 Room 9, Palais Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy	<p>► Hearing on <i>Recent political developments in Belarus</i>, in the context of on a report on "Call for a national political reform process in Belarus", prepared by Mr Kimmo Kiljunen, (Finland, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Yury Hubarevich, Chairperson, The Movement "For Freedom" • Mr Yauheni Vilski, first Deputy Chairman, Belarusian Social Democratic Party "Narodnaya Hramada" • Ms Natallia Pinchuk, wife of Ales Bialiatski, laureate of the 2013 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize and of the 2022 Nobel Peace Prize

11:30 – 12:30 Room 10, Palais Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights	<p>► Hearing on <i>Examining the legitimacy and legality of the ad hominem term-limit waiver for the incumbent President of the Russian Federation</i>, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Pieter Omtzigt, (The Netherlands, EPP/CD), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Claire Bazy Malaurie, President of the Venice Commission Ms Simona Granata-Menghini, Director, Secretary of the Venice Commission
12:00 – 12:30 Room 6, Palais Network of Contact Parliamentarians for a healthy environment	<p>► Exchange of views with Ms Marija Pejčinović Burić, Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in view of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government (Reykjavík, Iceland, 16-17 May 2023), concerning expected deliverables on the right to a healthy environment</p>
Thursday 27 April 2023	
8:30 – 9:15 Room 6, Palais Sub-Committee on the Rights of Minorities Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination	<p>► Hearing on the 25th anniversary of the entry into force of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Tiny Kox, President of the Parliamentary Assembly Ms Maria Ruotanen, Director General, Council of Europe Directorate General of Democracy and Human Rights Dignity (DG II) Mr Jarmo Lainio, 1st Vice-Chair of the Committee of Experts of the European Charter for Regional or Minority Languages Mr Davyth Hicks, Secretary General, European Language Equality Network (ELEN)
8:30 – 10:30 Room 8, Palais Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>the situation of Ukrainian refugees in Europe</i>, in the context of the follow-up to the Resolution 2448 (2022) “Humanitarian consequences and internal and external displacement in connection with the aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine”, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Leyla Kayacik, Special Representative of the Secretary General on Migration and Refugees, Council of Europe
8:30 – 10:30 Room 7, Palais Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media	<p>► Hearing on <i>Countering SLAPPs: an imperative for a democratic society</i> in the context of a report prepared by Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) and on <i>Guaranteeing media freedom and the safety of journalists: an obligation of member States</i> in the context of a report prepared by Mr Mogens Jensen (Denmark, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Mr Christos Giakoumopoulos, Director General, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe (DGI) Mr Jean-Paul Marthoz, Journalist and media expert, Coordinator of the 2023 Report of the Platform for the to promote the protection of journalism and safety of journalists Council of Europe Ms Maja Sever, President, European Federation of Journalists (EFJ)
9:45 – 10:30 Room 6, Palais Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>Women’s economic</i> empowerment, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Ms Anita Bhatia, UN-Women Deputy Executive Director for Resource Management, Sustainability and Partnerships, Assistant-Secretary General of the United Nations

<p>10:30 – 11:30 Room 9, Palais</p> <p>Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)</p> <p>and</p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p> <p>and</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p>	<p>► Joint Hearing on <i>Threats to life and safety of journalists and human rights defenders in Azerbaijan</i>, in the context of a report prepared by Ms Hannah Bardell, (United Kingdom, NR), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Jeanne Cavelier, Journalist, Reporters Without Borders • Ms Arzu Geybullayeva, Journalist • Mr Ulvi Hansanli, Founder and Executive Director of AbzasMedia
<p>10:45 – 11:30 Room 11, Palais</p> <p>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>Public health emergency: the need for a holistic approach to multilateralism and health care</i>, in the context of the preparation of the report prepared by Ms Selin Sayek Böke (Türkiye, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mr Timothy Fish Hodgson, Legal Advisor on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, International Commission of Jurists (ICJ)
<p>11:30 – 12:30 Room 11, Palais</p> <p>Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence, Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p> <p>and</p> <p>Sub-committee on Education, Youth and Sport, Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p> <p>and</p> <p>Sub-committee on Children, Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p>	<p>► Joint hearing on <i>Exploring AI in school</i>, Presentation of the humanoid Niki, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms Peggy Pelonis, President of the American Community Schools (ACS) of Athens (Greece) and school children of the ACS: Adrianos, Olympia Ioanna, Eleni and Hassib • Mr Kristian Bartholin, Head of Digital Development Unit, Council of Europe <p>Exchange of views with pupils of the Hans-Furter-Gymnasium of Oberkirch (Germany)</p>

III. Decisions taken by the Bureau (24 April and 28 April 2023)

On 24 April 2023, in Strasbourg, the Bureau of the Assembly:

- **Communications:** took note of the communications by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe and held an exchange of views with the Deputy Secretary General

- **Second part-session of 2023 (Strasbourg, 24-28 April):**

- o Request for a debate under urgent procedure: took note of the request to hold a debate on
 - The situation of Ukrainian civilians, including children, forcibly displaced or transferred to the Russian Federation or Ukrainian territories under the de facto control of the Russian Federation, tabled by the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons on the basis of a report with the same title currently being prepared by the Committee, decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons for report and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development for opinion;
- o Requests for current affairs debates: took note of the requests to hold debates on
 - #RoadToReykjavik, tabled by the leaders of the political groups, decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Ms Fiona O'Loughlin (Ireland, ALDE) as the first speaker;
 - Russia's role in escalating tensions in the Republic of Moldova, tabled by Mr Emanuelis Zingeris and other members of the Assembly, decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Mr Aleksander Pociąg (Poland, EPP/CD) as the first speaker;
- o Draft agenda: updated the draft agenda of the part-session (Appendix I);
- o Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights: took note of the report drawn up by the Committee on the election of judges following interviews with candidates for the post of a judge in respect of Romania, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report ([Doc. 15745 Add. 2](#)).
- o Joint Committee (Strasbourg, 26 April 2023): prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee;
 - **4th Council of Europe Heads of State and Government Summit (Reykjavik, 16-17 May 2023):** agreed that the Assembly would be represented by the Presidential Committee and the rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs Committee on "The Reykjavik Summit of the Council of Europe: United around values in the face of extraordinary challenges";
 - **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix II, subject to ratification by the Assembly;
 - **Election observation:**
- o Montenegro: Presidential election (19 March 2023): approved the [report](#) by the observation mission;
- o Bulgaria: early parliamentary elections (2 April 2023): took note of the [statement](#) by the observation mission;
- o Türkiye: Presidential and parliamentary elections (14 May 2023): took note of the [statement](#) by the pre-electoral delegation and of the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix III);
- o Montenegro: parliamentary elections (11 June 2023): subject to receiving an invitation, decided to observe these elections and to set up an ad hoc committee composed of 20 members (SOC-6; EPP/CD-6; ALDE-4; EC/DA-3; UEL-1), as well as the two co-rapporteurs of the monitoring committee, subject to ratification by the Assembly;

– **Issues raised by committees:**

o Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media and decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Council of Europe Campaign for the Safety of Journalists, in Riga on 5-6 October 2023, subject to ratification by the Assembly;

o Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights: considered and approved the terms of reference of the General Rapporteur for political prisoners (appendix IV), subject to ratification by the Assembly.

– **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:** authorised the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons to meet in Reykjavik on 21-22 September 2023.

On 28 April 2023, in Strasbourg, the Bureau of the Assembly:

– **Communication:** took note of the statement by the President of the Assembly;

– **Follow-up to the second part-session of 2023 (Strasbourg, 24-28 April):** approved the follow-up proposals made by the Secretary General of the Assembly to texts adopted by the Assembly, as set out in Appendix V;

– **Standing Committee in Reykjavik (15 May 2023):** took note of the draft agenda (Appendix VI);

– **Standing Committee in Riga (26 May 2023):** took note of the draft agenda (Appendix VII) and of the proposals by the Presidential Committee for the Standing Committee to hold current affairs debates on The follow-up to the Reykjavik Summit and on Excluding athletes from Russia and Belarus from taking part in the Olympics;

– **Transmission for consultation by the Committee of Ministers on the application for membership set out in the letter of 12 May 2022 addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in line with Statutory Resolution (51) 30:**

o took note of the letter of 24 April 2023 from the President of the Ministers' Deputies, enclosing the decision, taken by the Ministers' Deputies on the same day at their 1464bis meeting under item 2.4 "Application for membership", to transmit to the Parliamentary Assembly for consultation the letter of 12 May 2022 addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe (document [DD\(2022\)200](#)), without prejudice to the Committee of Ministers' future consideration of this application to accede to the Council of Europe;

o decided to refer the issue to the Committee of Political Affairs and Democracy for report, for the preparation of the statutory Opinion to the Committee of Ministers on the application for membership, and to the Committee of Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee of Equality and Non-Discrimination for opinion;

o instructed the President of the Assembly to present at its next meeting, on 25 May in Riga, proposals for the appointment by the Bureau, on the same day, of two eminent lawyers who, according to established practice, will draw up a report for the attention of the Bureau assessing the conformity of the applicant's legal system with Council of Europe standards.

– **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix VIII, subject to ratification by the Assembly;

– **Elections observation**

o Conference “[Elections in times of crisis](#): challenges and opportunities” (Bern, 9-10 May 2023): approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to attend the conference (Appendix IX);

o Montenegro: Parliamentary elections (11 June 2023): approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix X) and appointed Mr Aleksander Pociąg (EPP/CD, Poland) as its Chairperson;

– **Issues raised by committees:**

o Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: took note of the letter by the committee and decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau to organise a Side Event at the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, at the United Nations in New-York, on 18 July 2023;

o Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination: took note of the letter by the committee, considered and approved the Rules for the Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment, which will replace the Parliamentary Assembly’s Gender Equality Prize, established pursuant to its Resolution 1593 (2007) (Appendix XI), and took note that the Prize would be launched at a special event in the margins of the Standing Committee in Reykjavik, on 15 May 2023;

– **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (28 April – 18 June 2023):** appointed Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE) as rapporteur;

– **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT)** - Lists of candidates in respect of Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Finland, Lithuania, San Marino: approved the lists of candidates in respect of these countries to be forwarded to the Committee of Ministers;

– **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** took note of the extension, until 30 June 2023, of the deadline to submit candidatures to the 2023 edition of the Prize;

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

o authorised the ad hoc sub-committee on Western Balkans of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, to hold a meeting in Skopje, on 20 October 2023;

o took note that the Presidential Committee would visit Kyiv before the 2023 June part-session, subject to receiving an invitation, and encouraged the rapporteurs with relevant mandates in the committees to assess the opportunity to pay fact-finding visits to Ukraine, in the framework of the preparation of their reports; in this context, decided to give no follow-up to the request by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for its ad hoc sub-committee to carry out a second fact-finding visit to Ukraine.

IV. Prizes

The 2023 [Europe Prize](#) has been awarded to [Bolesławiec](#) in Poland.

The Ceremony of the 2023 [Council of Europe Museum Prize](#), which was awarded to The Workers museum, Denmark, took place in the Palais de l’Europe on Tuesday 25 April.

V. Hearings in the framework of the preparation of reports

➤ On 11 May 2023, in Paris, the **Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons;**

. will hold an exchange of views on *Immigration, one of the answers to Europe’s demographic aging*, in the context of a report prepared by Ms Kate Osamor (United Kingdom, SOC), with the participation of invited experts;

- . will hold an exchange of views on *Missing migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers: a call to clarify their fate*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Julian Pahlke (Germany, SOC), with the participation of invited experts.
- On 11 May 2023, in Seville (Spain), the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**:
- . will hold a hearing on *Interconnections between the Council of Europe and the European Political Community*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Zsolt Németh (Hungary, EC/DA), with the participation of Mr Szabolcs Horvath, Political and Legal Advisor, European Commission, Cabinet Member of European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighbourhood;
- . will hold a hearing on *Strengthening relations between the Council of Europe and Latin America*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones (Spain, SOC) with the participation of Mr Enrique Ojeda Vila, Director General of Casa América, Spain, and Mr Javier Velasco Villegas, Ambassador of Chile in Madrid.
- On 12 May 2023, in Seville (Spain), the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy**:
- . will hold a hearing on *Foreign interference: a threat to democratic security*, in the context of a report prepared by Ms María Valentina Martínez Ferro (Spain, EPP/CD), with the participation of Mr Nicolás De Pedro, Senior Fellow at the Institute for Statecraft, London and former member of the Experts Pool on Russia at the European Center of Excellence for Countering Hybrid Threats (Hybrid CoE), Helsinki.
- On 12 May 2023, in Paris, the **Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination**:
- . will hold a joint hearing with the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI people in Europe on *Freedom of expression and assembly of LGBTI people in Europe*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC), with the participation of invited experts.
- On 22 May 2023, in Paris, the **Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development**:
- . will hold a hearing on *Detention of the “socially maladjusted”*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC), with the participation of Prof. Marius Turda, Director of the Centre for Medical Humanities, Oxford Brookes University (to be confirmed).
- On 22 May 2023, in Larnaca (Cyprus), the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights**:
- . will hold a hearing on *The European Convention on Human Rights in Cyprus* with the participation of Ms Anna Koukkides-Procopiou, Minister of Justice and Public Order of the of Cyprus and Dr Costas Paraskeva, Associate Professor of Public and Human Rights Law, University of Cyprus, Advocate, former Member of the CPT;
- . will hold a hearing on *The arbitrary detention of Vladimir Kara-Murza and the systematic persecution of anti-war protesters in the Russian Federation*, in the context of a report prepared by Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC), with the participation of Ms Evgenia Kara-Murza, wife of Vladimir Kara-Murza, laureate of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize 2022; Ms Tatiana Felgengauer, journalist; and Mr Denis Shedov, human rights activist and lawyer for the imprisoned municipal councilor Aleksei Gorinov Analyst at OVD-Info;
- . will hold a hearing on *The implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights – inter-State cases*, with the participation of Polyvios G. Polyviou, Lawyer; Mr Achilleas Demetriades, Lawyer and Mr Levan Meskhoradze, Georgia and Azerbaijan Unit, Directorate General Human Rights and Rule of Law, Council of Europe.

- On 23 May 2023, in Larnaca (Cyprus), the **Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:**
 - . will hold a hearing on *The right to freedom of information: ensuring access to historical documents*, in the context of a report prepared by Ms Klotilda Bushka, (Albania, SOC), with the participation of invited experts.

VI. Fact-finding visits in the framework of the preparation of reports

- **Preventing addictive behaviours in children**

Ms Diana Stoica (Romania, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Ireland on **4-5 May 2023**.

VII. Seminars and conferences organised by the Assembly

- **8 May 2023, Vienna:** the No Hate Parliamentary Alliance will organise a parliamentary seminar on *Countering hate speech and hate crime*.
- **9-10 May 2023, Bern:** the ad hoc Committee for the [parliamentary conference on elections in times of crisis: challenges and opportunities](#) will take part in the parliamentary conference of the same title.
- **15–17 May 2023, Kehl, Germany:** the PACE Interparliamentary Cooperation and Project Support Division is organising an *Information seminar and study visit for a delegation of the Chamber of Representatives of the Moroccan Parliament* in the framework of the joint programme with the European Union "Support to the development of the role of the Parliament in consolidating democracy in Morocco".
- **22 May 2023, Brussels:** the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI people in Europe and the Belgian Delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly will organise a conference on *Finding Safety: Guaranteeing the rights of LGBTI refugees and asylum-seekers in Europe*.
- **26 May 2023, Riga:** the Interparliamentary Cooperation and Project Support Division, in cooperation with the Latvian Delegation to the PACE, is organising a round table on *Artificial intelligence, freedom of expression and disinformation: challenges and risks for democracy*.

VIII. Co-operation with the Venice Commission

- On 26 April 2023, the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) requested a Venice Commission opinion on the draft Ukrainian law on "Amending some legislative Acts of Ukraine that limit the participation in State power for individuals associated with political parties, whose activities are prohibited in accordance with the Law" in the context of a report on "The honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Ukraine" (co-rapporteurs: Mr Alfred Heer, Switzerland, ALDE and Mr Birgir Thórarinnsson, Iceland, EPP/CD).
- On 27 April 2023, the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) agreed to request Venice Commission opinions on: 1/ Article 65 of the French Constitution on the composition of the Superior Council of Magistrates and Ordinance No. 58-1270 of 22 December 1958 establishing an organic law on the status of the judiciary, in so far as it concerns nominations, mutations, promotions and disciplinary procedures of magistrates, and 2/ Article 49 of the French Constitution, and established practice, allowing the government to force the adoption of a bill without a vote of the National Assembly unless the latter votes a motion of no-confidence, in the context of a report on "The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by France" (co-rapporteurs: Ms Yelysaveta Yasko, Ukraine, EPP/CD and Ms Fiona O'Loughlin, Ireland, ALDE).

- Legal advice was provided to the PACE delegation by representatives of the Venice Commission for the observation of the parliamentary and presidential elections in Türkiye on 14 May 2023.

IX. External relations

- Relations with the European Parliament and other European Union institutions

- On 11 May 2023, in Seville (Spain), the **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy** will hold a hearing on *Interconnections between the Council of Europe and the European Political Community*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Zsolt Németh (Hungary, EC/DA), with the participation of Mr Szabolcs Horvath, Political and Legal Advisor, European Commission, Cabinet Member of European Commissioner for Enlargement and Neighborhood.

- Relations with other international partners

- On 27 April 2023, The '**Women@PACE**' group held an [exchange of views with Ms Anita Bhatia](#), UN Women Deputy Executive Director and Assistant Secretary-General of the United Nations, on innovation and technological change: progress towards gender equality, and on the role of parliamentarians in implementing the conclusions of the 67th Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67).
- An election observation delegation of the PACE will observe the presidential and parliamentary elections in Türkiye (14 May 2023) in the framework of an International Election Observation Missions (IEOM) including also the OSCE PA and ODIHR.

X. List of meetings of the committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee

- . **8 May 2023, Vienna:** *No Hate Parliamentary Alliance meeting*
- . **11 May 2023, Paris:** *Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons*
- . **11-12, May 2023, Seville:** *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*
- . **12 May 2023, Paris:** *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*
- . **15 May 2023, Reykjavik:** *Standing Committee*
- . **16 May 2023, Reykjavik:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **17 May 2023, Reykjavik:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **22 May 2023, Paris:** *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*
- . **22 May 2023, Brussels:** *Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI people in Europe*
- . **22-23 May 2023, Larnaca:** *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*
- . **25 May 2023, Riga:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **25 May 2023, Riga:** *Bureau*

Appendix I – Agenda of the Second part of the 2023 Ordinary Session (24-28 April 2023)



Doc. 15722 rev.
27 April 2023

Second part of the 2023 Ordinary Session (24-28 April 2023)

Agenda¹

The plenary sittings will be held in the European Parliament Hemicycle.

1. Adopted by the Assembly on 24 April 2023. Revised on 25 April 2023.



Monday 24 April 2023

Sitting No. 10 (14:30-17:30)

1. Opening of the part-session

1.1. Statement by the President

1.2. Examination of credentials

- ☐ List of delegations:
 - o (Doc. 15746)

1.3. Election of a Vice-President of the Assembly in respect of Italy (AS/Inf (2023) 02 rev)

1.4. Changes in the membership of committees (Commissions (2023) 04 + Add.)

1.5. Requests for debate:

1.5.1. Current affairs debate: "#RoadToReykjavik"

1.5.2. Urgent procedure debate: "The situation of Ukrainian civilians, including children, forcibly displaced or transferred to the Russian Federation or Ukrainian territories under the de facto control of the Russian Federation"

1.5.3. Current affairs debate: "Russia's role in escalating tensions in the Republic of Moldova"

1.6. Adoption of the agenda

1.7. Approval of the minutes of the Standing Committee (2-3 March 2023) (AS/Per (2023) PV 01)


2. Debate

2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER (United Kingdom, EC/DA), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 15745, Doc. 15745 Add. 1, Doc. 15745 Add. 2)


2.2. Observation of the presidential election in Montenegro (19 March and 2 April 2023)

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Joseph O'REILLY (Ireland, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 15744)

 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 13:00)

3. Question time (16:00-16:30)


3.1. Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe

 Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 12:00)

4. Address (16:30-17:30)

4.1. Annual activity report 2022 by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (CommDH(2023)11)

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Ms Dunja MIJATOVIĆ, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights

 Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 12:00)

Tuesday 25 April 2023

Sitting No. 11 (14:30-20:00)


5. Elections (14:30-15:30)

5.1. Judge to the European Court of Human Rights

- ☐ List of candidates in respect of:
 - o Romania ([Doc. 15745 Add. 2](#), [Doc. 15733](#))


6. Address (14:30-15:30)

6.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Ms Þórdís Kolbrún Reykfjörð GYLFADÓTTIR, Minister for Foreign Affairs of Iceland and Chair of the Committee of Ministers
-  Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 16:30)




7. Current affairs debate

7.1. #RoadToReykjavik

- ☐ Statement by:
 - o Ms Síoífra O'LEARY, President of the European Court of Human Rights
-  List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 16:30)

8. Debate

8.1. European Convention on Human Rights and national constitutions

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr George KATROUGALOS (Greece, UEL), Rapporteur AS/Jur ([Doc. 15741](#))
-  List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 16:30)
-  Amendments (deadline for tabling: Friday 21 April, 14:30)
-  Vote on a draft resolution ([Doc. 15741](#))

9. Debate

9.1. Assessing the functioning of the partnership for democracy

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Ms Ria OOMEN-RUIJTEN (Netherlands, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pol ([Doc. 15740](#))
-  List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 April, 16:30)
-  Amendments (deadline for tabling: Friday 21 April, 14:30)
-  Vote on a draft resolution ([Doc. 15740](#))

Wednesday 26 April 2023

Sitting No. 12 (16:00-20:00)




10. Elections (1st round: 16:00-16:30) - (possible 2nd round during the same sitting)

10.1. Judge to the European Court of Human Rights

- ☐ List of candidates in respect of:
 - o Romania ([Doc. 15745 Add. 2](#), [Doc. 15733](#))




11. Debate

11.1. Political strategies to prevent, prepare for, and face the consequences of natural disasters

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Simon MOUTQUIN (Belgium, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Soc ([Doc. 15738](#), [Doc. 15738 Add.](#))
-  List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 April, 19:00)
-  Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 April, 14:30)
-  Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation ([Doc. 15738](#))

12. Debate

12.1. Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights

- ☐ Presentation by:
 - o Mr Constantinos EFSTATHIOU (Cyprus, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur ([Doc. 15742](#))
-  List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 April, 19:00)
-  Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 April, 14:30)
-  Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation ([Doc. 15742](#))

Thursday 27 April 2023


Sitting No. 13 (14:30-20:00)

13. Address (14:30-15:30)

13.1. His Excellency Mr Guðni Th. Jóhannesson, President of Iceland


Speech (14:30-14:50)

Questions and replies (14:50-15:30)


 Questions (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 April, 19:00)

14. Debate under urgent procedure


14.1. Deportations and forcible transfers of Ukrainian children and other civilians to Russian Federation or to Ukrainian territories temporarily occupied: create conditions for their safe return, stop these crimes and punish the perpetrators

 Presentation by:

- o Mr Paulo PISCO (Portugal, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Mig ([Doc. 15748](#))
- o Ms Carmen LEYTE (Spain, EPP/CD), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Soc

 Statement by:

- o Ms Olena Volodymyrivna ZELENSKA, First Lady of Ukraine (online)


 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 April, 19:00)

⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 April, 18:00)

🗳 Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation ([Doc. 15748](#))


15. Current affairs debate

15.1. Russia's role in escalating tensions in the Republic of Moldova


 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 April, 19:00)

16. Debate

16.1. Safeguarding democracy, rights and the environment in international trade

 Presentation by:

- o Mr Geraint DAVIES (United Kingdom, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Soc ([Doc. 15739](#))

 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 April, 19:00)

⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 25 April, 16:00)

🗳 Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation ([Doc. 15739](#))

Friday 28 April 2023


Sitting No. 14 (10:00-13:00)


17. Debate


17.1. The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by San Marino

☐ Presentation by:

- o Mr Andrej HUNKO (Germany, UEL), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 15737)
- o Mr Joseph O'REILLY (Ireland, EPP/CD), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 15737)

 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 April, 19:00)

 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 April, 10:00)


 Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15737)


18. Debate


18.1. Youth and the media

☐ Presentation by:

- o Ms Fiona O'LOUGHLIN (Ireland, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 15726)
- o Ms Ruth JONES (United Kingdom, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Soc

 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 April, 19:00)

 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 April, 10:00)

 Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15726)

19. Progress report (continued)

19.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee (continued)

☐ Addendum:

- o (Doc. 15745 Add 3)

20. Closure of the part-session

Appendix II – References and transmissions to Committees

- [Doc. 15690](#), Motion for a resolution, The question of the right to just and equal redress and the access to court and a fair trial for all victims of the German aggression during the Second World War: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *to take into account in the motion for a resolution on “Reparation and reconciliation processes to overcome past conflicts and build a common peaceful future – the question of just and equal redress”*
- [Doc. 15697](#), Motion for a resolution, Misuse of the anti-money laundering measures and countering the financing of terrorism regulations as a tool of transnational repression: transmission to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for consultation*
- [Doc. 15698](#), Motion for a resolution, The use of explosive weapons as a major driver of justified displacement: transmission to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*
- [Doc. 15699](#), Motion for a resolution, Urgent call on transferring Mikheil Saakashvili, the third President of Georgia for treatment abroad: reference to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *to be taken into account in the framework of the report on the “Honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia”*
- [Doc. 15701](#), Motion for a resolution, The foreseeable wealth gap in the automated future: transmission to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for consultation*
- [Doc. 15702](#), Motion for a recommendation, Socialising at schools, a means for students' well-being: transmission to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for consultation*
- [Doc. 15704](#), Motion for a resolution, Combating forced “harvesting” and “trafficking” in human organs: transmission to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for information*
- [Doc. 15705](#), Motion for a resolution, The Iranian regime’s murderous suppression, and the need to declare the Islamic Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC) a terrorist organisation: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account in the framework of the report on “The situation in Iran”*
- [Doc. 15707](#), Motion for a resolution, Clean Air (indoor and outdoor) public health and greenhouse gases: transmission to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development *for information*
- [Doc. 15712](#), Motion for a resolution, Ensuring the right to fair trial in the context of State immunities: how to strike the right balance?: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *to be taken into account in the framework of the report on “Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation’s aggression against Ukraine”*

Appendix III – Türkiye: Presidential and parliamentary elections (14 May 2023): list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections

Chairperson / Président.e : Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE (Germany / Allemagne, SOC)

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

Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE, Germany / Allemagne*

Ms / Mme Kate OSAMOR, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Ms / Mme Margreet DE BOER, Netherlands / Pays-Bas

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse

Mr / M. Andrea ORLANDO, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Paulo PISCO, Portugal

Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande

Mr / M. Max LUCKS, Germany / Allemagne

Ms / Mme Derya TÜRK-NACHBAUR, Germany / Allemagne

Mr / M. Andrzej SZEJNA, Poland / Pologne

Mr / M. André VALLINI, France

Ms / Mme Heike ENGELHARDT, Germany / Allemagne

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Sabir HAJIYEV, Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan

Mr / M. Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro / Monténégro

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

Ms / Mme Marie-Christine DALLOZ, France

Ms / Mme Iva DIMIC Slovenia / Slovénie

Mr / M. Kęstutis MASIULIS, Lithuania / Lituanie *

Ms / Mme Isabel MEIRELLES, Portugal

Mr / M. Jacek PROTASIEWICZ, Poland / Pologne

Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚĂGÂRLAȘ

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

Ms / Mme Mireille CLAPOT, France*

Ms / Mme Nicole DURANTON, France

Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Rafael HUSEYNOV, Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan

Ms / Mme Gyde JENSEN, Germany / Allemagne

Ms / Mme Denisa Elena NEAGU, Romania / Roumanie

Mr / M. Dean PREMIK, Slovenia / Slovénie

Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Georges-Louis BOUCHEZ, Belgium / Belgique

Mr / M. Jacques LE NAY, France

Ms / Mme Oleksandra USTINOVA, Ukraine

Ms / Mme Diana STOICA, Romania / Roumanie

European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC-DA) / Groupe des Conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE-AD)

Mr / M. Norbert KLEINWÄCHTER, Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine
Mr / M. Simone BILLI, Italy / Italie
Lord Simon RUSSELL, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni*
Mr / M. Kamal JAFAROV, Azerbaijan / Azerbaïdjan
Mr / M. Dmytro NATALUKHA, Ukraine

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

Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO, Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES, Cyprus / Chypre *

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Anton GOMEZ-REINO, Spain / Espagne

Co-rapporteurs AS/MON (ex officio)

Mr / M. John HOWELL, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni*
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche

* members of the pre-election delegation / membres de la délégation préélectorale

Appendix IV – Mandate: General Rapporteur on Political Prisoners in Europe

1. Term of office: one year, renewable once

2. Mandate

The general rapporteur on Political Prisoners in Europe is mandated to intervene in matters relating to alleged cases of politically motivated arrests and criminal prosecutions in Europe and in other countries having an observer or cooperative status with the Council of Europe or the Parliamentary Assembly.

3. Definition

A “political prisoner” is a person who is deprived of his or her liberty in circumstances fulfilling one or more of the criteria reaffirmed in Assembly Resolution 1900 (2012), namely:

- a. if the detention has been imposed in violation of one of the fundamental guarantees set out in the European Convention on Human Rights and its Protocols (ECHR), in particular freedom of thought, conscience and religion, freedom of expression and information, freedom of assembly and association;
- b. if the detention has been imposed for purely political reasons without connection to any offence;
- c. if, for political motives, the length of the detention or its conditions are clearly out of proportion to the offence the person has been found guilty of or is suspected of;
- d. if, for political motives, he or she is detained in a discriminatory manner as compared to other persons; or,
- e. if the detention is the result of proceedings which were clearly unfair and this appears to be connected with political motives of the authorities.” (SG/Inf(2001)34, paragraph 10).

The finding by the European Court of Human Rights, in favour of a person deprived of his or her liberty, of a violation of Articles 5 in conjunction with Article 18 of the European Convention of Human Rights is a strong indication that such a person is a “political prisoner”.

4. Responsibilities

The role of the general rapporteur is to:

- follow activities and maintain working relations, when need arises, with different Council of Europe institutions and bodies which deal with issues relating to political prisoners, including the Committee of Ministers, the Commissioner for Human Rights, the Secretary General and the Conference of INGOs;
- follow activities and maintain, when appropriate, working relations with bodies and agencies of the United Nations (including its Working Group on Arbitrary Detentions), the European Union, with the Organisation for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE), in particular the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly’s Special Representative on Political Prisoners, and with other international governmental and non-governmental organisations;
- represent the committee on behalf of the Assembly *vis-à-vis* any of the above mentioned bodies and groups, when relevant and appropriate;
- in appropriate cases, make statements and launch appeals on his/her own behalf or propose to do so to the Committee;
- in appropriate cases, engage in communication with alleged political prisoners or their families and their lawyers;
- follow up previous resolutions and recommendations of the Assembly on issues related to alleged cases of political prisoners.

The general rapporteur shall report periodically, at least annually, to the committee on information collected and any action taken.

Appendix V – Follow-up to the second part-session of 2023 (Strasbourg, 24-28 April)

Debate on #RoadToReykjavik

- ❖ Follow up: decided to ask the Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Ms Fiona O'Loughlin (Ireland, ALDE), to continue to follow the matter

Debate on *Russia's role in escalating tensions in the Republic of Moldova*

- ❖ Follow up: decided to refer the matter to the Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account* in the preparation of the report on *The political consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine*

Resolution 2492 (2023) on *Assessing the functioning of the partnership for democracy*

- ❖ Follow up: decided to refer the matter to the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs *to be taken into account* in the preparation of the report on *Modification of various provisions of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure*

Resolution 2494 (2023) on *Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights*

- ❖ Follow up: decided to seize the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*

Appendix VI – Draft agenda of the Standing Committee (Reykjavik, Monday, 15 May 2023)



AS/Per (2023) OJ 02rev
21 April 2023
Restricted

Standing Committee

Revised draft agenda

of the meeting to be held

in Reykjavík on Monday 15 May 2023 from 14:15 to 18:30

(Venue: Iceland Parliament Hotel, Thorvaldsenstraeti 2-6, 101, Reykjavík, Iceland)

1. Opening of the meeting by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly
2. Welcome address by Mr Birgir Ármannsson, Speaker of Alþingi – Parliament of Iceland
3. Video message by Mr Ruslan Stefanchuk, Speaker of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine
4. Agenda

AS/Per (2023) OJ 02rev

Adoption of the revised draft agenda

5. Special event on the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government of the Council of Europe - United around values in the face of extraordinary challenges

"The Council of Europe as a key player of the multilateral architecture"

Keynote address by Mr António Costa, Prime Minister of Portugal (tbc)

Interactive panel discussion moderated by Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir, Office of the Prime Minister of Iceland and former Chairperson of the Icelandic delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly, with the participation of:

- o Mr Tiny Kox, President of the Assembly
- o Ms Þórdís Kolbrún Reykfjörð Gylfadóttir, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Iceland
- o Mr Per Olsson Fridh, former Minister for International Development Cooperation of Sweden, Director-General of the Swedish agency Folke Bernadotte Academy (tbc)
- o Ms Alice Bergholtz, Vice-Chair of the Advisory Council on Youth, Council of Europe

Exchange of views with members of the Assembly

**This document is the convocation to the meeting
for the members of the Standing Committee**

Copy for information to the Secretaries of delegations and political groups

"The Council of Europe as a pioneer of human rights protection: the new generation of rights"

Keynote address by Ms Katrín Jakobsdóttir, Prime Minister of Iceland

Interactive panel discussion moderated by Ms Rósa Björk Brynjólfssdóttir, Office of the Prime Minister of Iceland and former Chairperson of the Icelandic delegation to the Parliamentary Assembly, with the participation of:

- Mr Tiny Kox, President of the Assembly
- Mr Volker Türk, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Ms Nathalie Smuha, Researcher and Assistant Lecturer, Institute for European Law, KU Leuven, expert on Artificial Intelligence
- Ms Tinna Hallgrímsdóttir, Chair of the Icelandic Youth Environmentalist Association

Exchange of views with members of the Assembly

Statement by Ms Sviatlana Tsikhanouskaya, Leader of the Belarus democratic opposition

Concluding remarks by Ms Katrín Jakobsdóttir, Prime Minister of Iceland, and Mr Tiny Kox, President of the Parliamentary Assembly

6. Other business

7. Next meeting

Riga, 26 May 2023

Appendix VII – Draft agenda of the Standing Committee (Riga, Friday, 26 May 2023)

AS/Per (2023) OJ 03
25 April 2023

Standing Committee

Draft agenda

of the meeting to be held

in Riga on Friday 26 May 2023 from 10:00 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 15:30

(Venue: The Small Guild / Mazā Gilde, Amatu Street 5, Riga, Latvia)

1. Opening of the meeting by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly
2. Welcome address by S.E. Mr Edwards Smiltēns, Speaker of the Saeima
3. Exchange of views with S.E. Mr Edgars Rinkēvičs, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Latvia
CM/Inf (2023) ...
CM/Inf (2023) ...
4. Examination of new credentials Doc. ...
5. Modifications in the composition of committees Commissions (2023) ...
Commissions (2023) ... Add.
6. (Possibly) Request for a current affairs debate (under Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure)
7. Agenda AS/Per (2023) OJ 03
Adoption of the draft agenda
8. Third part-session of the Parliamentary Assembly (19-23 June 2023) AS/Bur (2023) ...
Consideration of the draft agenda

**This document is the convocation to the meeting
for the members of the Standing Committee**

Copy for information to the Secretaries of delegations and political groups

**Members who wish to present amendments
are invited to table them in writing with the Table Office as follows:
Deadline for tabling amendments: Wednesday 24 May 2023 at 10:00 at the latest**

9. References to committees

AS/Per (2023) ...

Consideration of the proposals submitted by the Bureau of the Assembly

10. Exchange of views with Ms Aoife Nolan, Chairperson of the European Committee of Social Rights (ECSR)

11. (Possibly) Current affairs debate (under Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure)

12. Observation of elections

Observation of the early parliamentary elections in Bulgaria (2 April 2023)

Doc.

*Chairperson of the Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau:
Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL)*

At 14:30

13. Exchange of views with Mr Carlo Monticelli, Governor of the Council of Europe Development Bank

14. Other business

15. Next meeting

Vaduz (Liechtenstein), 28 November 2023

Appendix VIII – References and transmissions to Committees

A. REFERENCES TO COMMITTEES

- Global rules to eliminate all forms of religious oppression, [Doc. 15700](#), Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*
- Bureau decision, Russia's role in escalating tensions in the Republic of Moldova: reference to the Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account* in the preparation of the report on *The political consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine*
- Bureau decision, Resolution 2492 (2023) Assessing the functioning of the partnership for democracy: reference to the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs *to take into account* the proposals on amending the current Rules of Procedure in the report under preparation on *Modification of various provisions of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure*
- Bureau decision, Resolution 2494 (2023) Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- Bureau decision, Transmission for consultation by the Committee of Ministers on the application for membership set out in the letter of 12 May 2022 addressed to the Secretary General of the Council of Europe, in line with Statutory Resolution (51) 30: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*, for the preparation of the statutory Opinion to the Committee of Ministers on the application for membership, and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for opinion*

B. EXTENSION OF REFERENCES

- Respect for the rule of law and fight against corruption within the Council of Europe, [Doc. 15195](#), Reference 4556 of 25 January 2021 (extended on 1 February 2021) – validity: 25 July 2023: extension until 31 December 2023
- Establishment of a “youth partner” status with the Parliamentary Assembly, [Doc. 15262](#), Reference 4582 of 28 May 2021 – validity: 28 May 2023: extension until 28 November 2023.

Appendix IX - List of members of the ad hoc committee to attend the Conference “Elections in times of crisis: challenges and opportunities” (Bern, 9-10 May 2023)

Chairperson / Président : Damien COTTIER (Switzerland, ALDE)

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

Mr / M. Adnan DIBRANI, Sweden / Suède
Ms / Mme Róisín GARVEY, Ireland / Irlande
Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande
Mr / M. Ion PRIOTEASA, Romania / Roumanie
Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal
Ms / Mme Jelena MILOŠEVIĆ, Serbia / Serbie
Mr / M. Predrag SEKULIĆ, Montenegro / Monténégro
Mr / M. Constantinos EFSTATHIOU, Cyprus / Chypre
Ms / Mme Cécile HEMMEN, Luxembourg
Mr / M. Haluk KOÇ, Türkiye

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

Mr / M. Lulzim BASHA, Albania / Albanie
Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Georg GEORGIEV, Bulgaria / Bulgarie
Ms / Mme Sylvie GOY-CHAVENT, France
Ms / Mme Arusyak JULHAKYAN, Armenia / Arménie
Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche
Ms / Mme Isabel MEIRELLES, Portugal
Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-ȚĂGÂRLAȘ, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Sergiy VLASENKO, Ukraine

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Yuri KAMELCHUK, Ukraine
Mr / M. Kęstutis MASIULIS, Lithuania / Lituanie
Mr / M. Jacek PROTASIEWICZ, Poland / Pologne
Ms / Mme Denitsa SACHEVA, Bulgaria, Bulgarie
Ms / Mme Ekaterina ZAHARIEVA, Bulgaria, Bulgarie

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

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse
Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, France
Ms / Mme Lesia ZABURANNA, Ukraine
Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Andrii LOPUSHANSKYI, Ukraine

European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC/DA) / Groupe des conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE/AD)

Mr / M. Ian PAISLEY, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine
Mr / M. Erkin GADIRLI, Azerbaijan
Mr / M. Ahmet YILDIZ, Türkiye (NR/NI)
Ms / Mme Emine Nur GÜNAY, Türkiye (NR/NI)

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

Mr / M. Anton GOMEZ-REINO, Spain / Espagne

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Ms / Mme Nina KASIMATI, Greece / Grèce

Membres not belonging to a political group (NR) / Membres n'appartenant à aucun groupe politique (NI)

Ms / Mme Serap YAŞAR, Türkiye

**Members of the Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission (ex officio) /
Membres du Conseil des Elections Démocratiques de la Commission de Venise (ex officio)**

Mr / M. Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland / Pologne

Ms / Mme María Valentina MARTÍNEZ FERRO, Spain / Espagne

Mr / M. Davor Ivo STIER, Croatia / Croatie

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Ms / Ms Laura CASTEL, Spain / Espagne

Ms / Mme Khatia DEKANOIDZE, Georgia / Géorgie

Appendix X - List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the parliamentary elections in Montenegro (11 June 2023)

Chairperson / Président.e : Mr/M. Aleksander POCIEJ (EPP/CD, Poland)

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

Ms / Mme Cécile HEMMEN, Luxembourg
Ms / Mme Kate OSBORNE, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr / M. Domagoj HAJDUKOVIĆ, Croatia / Croatie
Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal *
Mr / M. Adnan DIBRANI, Sweden / Suède
Mr / M. Gerardo GIOVAGNOLI, San Marino / Saint-Marin

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Didier MARIE, France
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. André VALLINI, France
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye
Mr / M. Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine*
Ms / Mme Daniela OTEŞANU, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Constantinos EFSTATHIOU, Cyprus / Chypre

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

Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Joe O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande*
Mr / M. Aleksander POCIEJ, Poland / Pologne*
Ms / Mme Jorida TABAKU, Albania / Albanie
Zz.
Zz.

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

Mr / M. Jacques LE NAY, France
Ms / Mme Fiona O'LOUGHLIN, Ireland / Irlande
Mr / M. Eerik-Niiles KROSS, Estonia / Estonie
Mr / M. Andrii LOPUSHANSKYI, Ukraine

Substitutes / suppléant.e.s

Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, France
Mr / M. Jean-Pierre GRIN, Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie
Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie
Ms / Mme Ms Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine
Ms / Mme Diana STOICA, Romania / Roumanie

European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance (EC-DA) / Groupe des Conservateurs européens et Alliance démocratique (CE-AD)

Mr / M. Mr Harald WEYEL, Germany / Allemagne*
Zz.
Zz.

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

Ms / Mme Nina KASIMATI, Greece / Grèce

Co-rapporteur.e.s AS/MON (*ex officio*)

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Nicos TORNARITIS, Cyprus / Chypre

Accompanying person

ZZ. for Kate OSBORNE

*awaiting non-conflict of interest declaration / en attente de la déclaration de non-conflit d'intérêt

Appendix XI – The Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment

The Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment

To be launched in Reykjavík on the eve of the 4th Summit of Heads of State and Government of Council of Europe Member States (16-17 May 2023)

The Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment takes its name from the first woman in the world to be elected President, Vigdís Finnbogadóttir, elected President of Iceland in June 1980. Also a UNESCO Goodwill Ambassador, she is a shining example for women’s empowerment, and an inspiration for women today who are still striving for equality in all walks of life. Its aim is to reward outstanding initiatives promoting the empowerment of women in all their diversity, with a broad remit ranging from achievements in gender equality, in equal access to participation and decision making, to championing women’s opportunities and helping them to take their place in society, as well as action to encourage inclusive policies and practice.

Eligible candidates for the Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment are individuals or civil society groups, including national or international non-governmental organisations, associations and private companies. Current members of the Parliamentary Assembly and deceased individuals are not eligible. Prize-winners will be awarded a sum of 60.000 euros to finance action in the field that is conducted or supported by the Prize-winner, and a diploma, to be presented during each June part-session of the Parliamentary Assembly.

A call for candidates for the Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment will be launched each year in November, by submission of a letter to the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly and a form signed by at least 5 sponsors. Once eligibility of the applications has been verified, a meeting of the Selection Panel will be held in spring in Reykjavík or in Strasbourg, on a rotation basis, to examine the candidacies and decide on a shortlist of three nominees to be submitted, for information, to the Bureau of the Assembly. The names of these nominees will be made public by the President of the Assembly. On the Sunday preceding the Assembly’s June part-session, the Selection Panel will meet in Strasbourg to decide on the winner of the Prize. The name of the Prize-winner will be announced by the President of the Assembly during a special ceremony to be held at the opening of the Assembly’s June part-session.

The Selection Panel of the Prize, chaired by the President of the Assembly or by a person designated by her or him, will be composed of six independent members with recognised standing in the field of women’s empowerment, three nominated by the Bureau of the Assembly upon the proposal of the Assembly’s Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and three nominated by the Government of Iceland. Current members of the Assembly cannot be members of the Selection Panel. They are appointed for a two-year period, renewable twice.

The Vigdís Prize for Women’s Empowerment will replace the Parliamentary Assembly’s Gender Equality Prize, established pursuant to its Resolution 1593 (2007).

Regulations for the Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment

Article 1 – The Prize

The Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment will be awarded by the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe every year in order to reward outstanding initiatives promoting the empowerment of women in all their diversity, with a broad remit ranging from achievements in gender equality, in equal access to participation and decision making, to championing women's opportunities and helping them to take their place in society, as well as action to encourage inclusive policies and practice.

Article 2 – Award

The Prize will consist of a sum of 60 000 euros to finance action in the field that is conducted or supported by the Prize-winner and a diploma.

Article 3 – Eligibility

Individuals or civil society groups, including national or international non-governmental organisations, associations and private companies may be nominated for the Prize. Current members of the Parliamentary Assembly and deceased individuals will not be eligible.

Article 4 – Nominations

4.1. Nominations for the Prize must reach the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly before 15 February each year. They will be signed by at least five sponsors, other than the nominee, on the special form appended to these Regulations.

4.2. Nominations will provide details of the nominee's action to promote women's empowerment and specify the reasons why the nominee's action(s) can be considered to be outstanding. All relevant supporting documents will be provided.

4.3. Nominations may be submitted in one of the two official languages of the Council of Europe.

Article 5 – Selection Panel

5.1. The Selection Panel, chaired by the President of the Assembly or a person designated by her or him, will be composed of six independent members with recognised standing in the field of women empowerment.

5.2. Three members of the Selection Panel will be nominated by the Bureau of the Assembly upon the proposal of the Assembly's Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and three nominated by the Government of Iceland.

5.3. Current members of the Assembly cannot be members of the Selection Panel. They are appointed for a two-year period, renewable twice.

Article 6 – Decision on the Prize-winner

6.1. The Selection Panel will decide on any conflict of interest concerning its members.

6.2. Once eligibility of the applications has been verified, a meeting of the Selection Panel will be held in spring in Reykjavik or in Strasbourg, on a rotation basis, to examine the candidacies and decide on a shortlist of three nominees to be submitted, for information, to the Bureau of the Assembly. The names of these nominees will subsequently be made public by the President of the Assembly.

6.3. In a second sitting on the Sunday preceding the Assembly's June part-session, the Selection Panel will meet in Strasbourg to decide on the winner of the prize. This decision will be taken by an absolute majority of the votes cast.

Article 7 – Award ceremony

7.1. The name of the Prize-winner will be announced by the President of the Assembly during a special ceremony to be held at the opening of the Assembly's June part-session.

VIGDÍS PRIZE FOR WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT 2024

NOMINATION FORM

Deadline: 15 February 2024

Please read the regulations and instructions
before completing this form

Instructions

Nominations must be submitted on this form.

Please fill in 1A if the nominee is an individual and 1B if the nominee is an institution, company or an organisation. All the other rubrics of the form should also be duly completed.

The nomination form (Word format) and the list of signatures of sponsors (PDF format), together with the supporting documents that you may wish to add, must be submitted in **English or French** and reach the Secretariat at the latest by 15 February 2024.

They should be sent by e-mail, to the following address: vigdis.prize@coe.int

We will confirm receipt of your submission.

1 A. Individual nominee:

Please indicate the name and contact details of the person nominated

Title: [Mr, Mrs, Ms, other...]

Family name:

First name:

Date of birth:

Nationality:

Country of current residence:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Website/social media (if appropriate):

1 B – Institutions/companies/organisations

Please provide contact and other details of the institution/company/organisation nominated

Name:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Website/social media (if appropriate):

Main field of activity:

Country/ies in which it operates:

Year of establishment:

Status *(including potential link with governmental or other authorities, academia, political parties, etc.)*:

2. Sponsors:

Please indicate the name and contact details of at least 5 persons / institutions / organisations putting forward the nomination. In order to validate their nomination, the sponsors are asked to sign on the separate list of signatures of sponsors.

Main sponsor:

Title: [Mr, Mrs, Ms, other...]

Family name:

First name:

Profession/occupation:

Capacity in which you know the nominee:

Nationality:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Website/social media (if appropriate):

Other sponsor:

Title: [Mr, Mrs, Ms, other...]

Family name:

First name:

Profession/occupation:

Capacity in which you know the nominee:

Nationality:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Website/social media (if appropriate):

Other sponsor:

Title: [Mr, Mrs, Ms, other...]

Family name:

First name:

Profession/occupation:

Capacity in which you know the nominee:

Nationality:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Website/social media (if appropriate):

Other sponsor:

Title: [Mr, Mrs, Ms, other...]

Family name:

First name:

Profession/occupation:

Capacity in which you know the nominee:

Nationality:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Website/social media (if appropriate):

Other sponsor:

Title: [Mr, Mrs, Ms, other...]

Family name:

First name:

Profession/occupation:

Capacity in which you know the nominee:

Nationality:

Address:

Telephone:

E-mail:

Website/social media (if appropriate):

3. Description of the nominee's actions and specific merits for the empowerment of women:

Please explain how the nominee has made an outstanding contribution to the empowerment of women. Indicate whether the nominee's actions have made a tangible difference in terms of gender equality, equal access to participation and decision making, championing women's opportunities and helping them to take their place in society. Please add any other information you deem relevant.

(maximum one page in Arial 10pt)

4. Supporting documents:

Please insert links to supporting documents (maximum 5).

If the supporting documents are not available on the internet please attach them to the form (electronic version if possible).

5. Date: