

### Information documents

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1 April 2025

Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1524<sup>th</sup> meeting of the Ministers' Deputies<sup>1</sup> (2 April 2025)

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> This document covers activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau of 31 January 2025 up to the meeting of the Bureau of 7 April 2025.

## I. <u>Main developments between the Assembly's January 2025 part-session and the</u> April 2025 part-session

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

On 24 February 2025, the third anniversary of the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine, the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe said "Peace must not only be lasting; it must be just. Justice for Ukraine has been at the heart of the Council of Europe's mission over these past three years. And today, with the controversies that surround possible peace talks, more than ever, we must stand firm in upholding it". The Luxembourg Presidency of the Committee of Ministers had organised a "United for Ukraine" ceremony on the forecourt of the Palais de l'Europe. According to the President, the commitment to a just peace in Ukraine was rooted in the traditions of the European continent: the tradition of living in a rules-based order and the tradition of abiding to international law and justice. "A just peace is not a noble declaration but a concrete necessity, one built upon the lessons of our painful past, and one upon which our shared future must rest," he concluded.

The President and Secretary General of the Assembly paid a working visit to the United Kingdom on 27 February as part of the celebrations of the 75th anniversary of the Council of Europe and the 75th anniversary of the Convention on Human Rights. During the Lord Speaker's Lecture he delivered at the House of Lords in London, the President emphasised that any peace plan aimed at ending the brutal conflict in Ukraine must "be based on justice and respect for international law". Any other starting point would be doomed to failure. He called for conflicts to be resolved through dialogue and legal channels and for resistance to cynicism and everything that undermines democracy, the rule of law and human rights. The President also praised the UK's "commitment and leadership" in upholding and promoting the rules-based order and democratic principles worldwide, and the work of the House of Lords, for its efforts to defend international law principles at the national level.

#### B. Other activities

The Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe was invited to address the Meeting of Secretaries Generals of EU Parliaments, organised in Budapest on 9-10 February in the framework of the Parliamentary dimension of the Hungarian Presidency of the EU. She underlined that supporting the European perspective of Western Balkans had been a priority for the Assembly since she took up her mandate. The Assembly has held a meeting in Belgrade, held debates and heard addresses by heads of government and ministries in the plenary meetings in Strasbourg, and launched inter-parliamentary cooperation activities in Skopje and Tirana. "For us, supporting the European perspective of candidate States making use of the tools and standards of the Council of Europe is a priority", the PACE Secretary General stated. "We have also been supporting the accession of Ukraine and Moldova, we have developed cooperation projects with these two countries and also with Georgia in the field of elections. Last but not least, we would like to develop further cooperation with the European Parliament, including through INTER-PARES projects." The discussions continued in the margins of the European Conference of Speakers of Parliament at the meeting of Secretary Generals of Parliament on 21 March in Strasbourg.

The President visited New York on 10-11 March to participate in the series of activities organised in the context of the 68th meeting of the UN Commission on the Status of Women. During his stay in New York, he also had bilateral meetings with the UN Secretary General Mr António Guterres, the UN Under-Secretary General for Policy Mr Guy Ryder, Under-Secretary-General and Secretary-General's Special Envoy for Digital and Emerging Technologies Mr Amandeep Singh Gill, and the UN Under-Secretary-General for Political and Peacebuilding Affairs Ms Rosemary DiCarlo. Among the issues discussed there were the positions of the respective organisations on the Russian aggression against Ukraine, the need to address the democratic backslide globally and the importance of the urgent reflection on the impact of new technologies (including Artificial Intelligence) on democratic process and institutions.

On <u>20-21 March</u>, Speakers and Presidents of parliament from the 46 member states of the Council of Europe and many partner, observer and neighbouring countries, as well as the heads of several interparliamentary assemblies, gathered in Strasbourg for the **European Conference of Presidents of Parliament**, held every other year, in Strasbourg or in a host country. This year marked the 50th anniversary of the first conference. The Conference offers the participants the chance to meet and exchange on prominent political issues. Following opening addresses by PACE President Theodoros Rousopoulos and Council of Europe Secretary General Alain Berset, the themes of the conference were: <u>Safeguarding democracy</u>; <u>Guaranteeing freedom of expression in times of polarisation and uncertainty</u> and <u>Violence against politicians</u>. A number of side-events included a <u>working breakfast of women presidents of parliament</u>, hosted by PACE Secretary General and dedicated to the theme of

"Women, peace and security", as well a pre-conference event on <u>young people protecting the planet</u>. The Secretaries General of participating parliaments will also <u>met separately</u> to discuss the opportunities and challenges of AI for parliaments and the work of the <u>ECPRD</u>.

Link to the Conclusions of the Conference

#### II. Meeting of the Bureau (19 March 2025)

**The Bureau of the Assembly**, meeting on Wednesday, 19 March 2025, in Strasbourg, with Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

#### – Communications:

- o took note of the communication by the President of the Assembly;
- o held an exchange of views with the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- Call for the immediate release of Ekrem İmamoğlu, Mayor of Istanbul: adopted a statement;
- New Democratic Pact: took note of the letter of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe and decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau composed of the President of the Assembly, the chairpersons of all the committees, the General Rapporteur on Democracy and the chairpersons of the five political groups;

#### Second part-session of 2025 (Strasbourg, 7-11 April):

- drew up the preliminary draft agenda for the second part-session of 2025 (Appendix 1);
- o took note of the requests for debates under urgent procedure on:
  - "The situation in Georgia and follow up to Resolution 2585 (2025) 'Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of Georgia" tabled by the Monitoring Committee;
  - "War in Ukraine: the need for accountability, avoiding impunity" tabled by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Group (ALDE);
  - "The arrest of the Mayor of Istanbul and the state of democracy and human rights in Türkiye" tabled by the Group of the European People's Party (EPP/CD);
- took note of the request for a current affairs debate on:
  - "Protests in Serbia and the situation in the Western Balkans" tabled by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Group (ALDE);
- Previously ratified credentials of a national delegation whose members have all subsequently resigned: interpretation of Rules 6 and 9 of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure: following a request from the Monitoring Committee on 4 March 2025, and the decision by the Bureau, through written consultation on 12 March 2025, to request an opinion from the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs (Rules Committee), took note of the opinion of the Rules Committee and decided to declassify it;
- References to committees: approved the references as set out in Appendix 2, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;

#### Election observation:

- Assembly of Kosovo\*: elections (9 February 2025): took note of the statement of the election observation mission:
- Albania: parliamentary elections (11 May 2025): approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 3);
- Poland: presidential elections (18 May 2025): approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 4);

<sup>\*</sup> 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.

- Parliamentary Assembly Network of Election Observers: took note of the letter of the Chairperson of the Network and instructed the Secretary General of the Assembly to prepare a memorandum on the follow-up to be given to the proposals made;
- Follow-up to the Resolution 2553 (2024) Strengthening the youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly:
  - Modalities of implementation of PACE-Youth Participation Mechanism: took note of the memorandum prepared by the Secretary General of the Assembly and approved the proposals contained in the document;
  - PACE Youth Rapporteurs: took note of the updated list of the Assembly Youth Rapporteurs (Appendix 5);
  - o held an exchange of views with the participation of:
    - Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE), Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Youth and the Society of the Future;
    - Ms Nina Grmuša, Chairperson of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) and of the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ);
    - Ms Miriam Teuma, Chairperson of the European Steering Committee for Youth (CDEJ) and Vice-Chairperson of the Joint Council on Youth (CMJ);
    - Mr Maurizio Cuttin, Vice-Chairperson of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ);
- Participation of members in Parliamentary Assembly plenary sessions and committee meetings: took note of the information memorandum submitted to the Bureau by the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs, agreed to its publication and left it to the President to decide on the appropriate follow-up;
- 20<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Electoral Management Bodies, Vilnius, 15-16 April 2025: decided to set up an *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau to participate in this event, composed of the General Rapporteur for Democracy, the Rapporteur on Elections in times of crisis, the Assembly institutional representatives to the Council for Democratic Elections and the members of the Bureau of the Parliamentary Assembly Network of Election Observers (Appendix 6);
- Conference on Envisioning effective public policy to prevent and address cases of missing migrants, Strasbourg, 23-24 April 2025: approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in this event (Appendix 7);
- Meeting between parliamentarians from the Nordic Council and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE), Kristiansand, Norway, 4-5 May 2025: approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in this event (Appendix 8);
- Black Sea Security Forum, Odessa, Ukraine, 30-31 May 2025: decided that the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in this event should be composed of up to three members from each of the Assembly's committees (subject to security conditions);
- Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment 2025: took note of the deadline for submission of nominations to 28 March 2025;
- Institutional representation of the Parliamentary Assembly in 2025: approved the proposals as set out in Appendix 9;
- Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris: authorised:
  - o the Europe Prize to meet in San Sebastian, Spain on 6 June 2025;
  - o the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to meet in Chania, Greece, on 26 and 27 May 2025;

#### III. Prizes

#### Europe Prize

On 7 April 2025, the *Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development*, will consider applications for the Europe Prize (projection of 6 films of the preselected towns: Augsburg and Münster in Germany, Birštonas in Lithuania, Płońsk in Poland, Gaziantep in Türkiye and Vinnytsia in Ukraine) and vote for a shortlist of 3 towns to be submitted to the Plenary Committee.

The Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize will also consider applications for the Plaque of Honour, the Flag of Honour and the European Diploma and vote on the proposals to be submitted to the Plenary Committee.

#### IV. Activities of committees and networks, and election observation missions

- On 9 February 2025, a PACE delegation observed the elections to the Assembly of Kosovo\*.
- On 14 February 2025, in Luxembourg, the Parliamentary Network for a Healthy Environment held a collaborative workshop to gather ideas from Network members on priority themes, their role and their needs.
- On 3 March 2025, in Paris, the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights:

. held a hearing on *Proceeds of the crime denounced by Sergei Magnitsky found in Switzerland must not be returned to the presumed perpetrators*, in the context of a report prepared by Ms Lesia Vasylenko (Ukraine, ALDE), with the participation of Sir William Browder, CEO Hermitage Capital Management, Head of the Global Magnitsky Justice Campaign and Professor Mark Pieth, Founder of the Basel Institute on Governance, founding member of the Financial Action Task Force (online);

. held a hearing on "Pegasus and similar spyware and secret State surveillance", in the context of the follow-up to Resolution 2513 (2023), rapporteur for follow-up: Mr Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands, EPP/CD) with the participation of Mr Iain Cameron, Member of the Venice Commission (Sweden), rapporteur for "Report on a rule of law and human rights compliant regulation of spyware", adopted by the Venice Commission at its 141st plenary session (Venice, 6-7 December 2024); Mr Andreu Van den Eynde, lawyer, Spain; Mr Dušan Pokuševski, Program Director at the Belgrade Center for Human Rights, Serbia and Ms Milena Berić, Executive Director of the Association KROKODIL, Serbia.

On 4 March 2025 in Paris, the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee):

. held a hearing on *The human rights concerns in relation to the ongoing crisis in Georgia,* in the context of a report prepared by Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC), and Ms Sabina Ćudić (Bosnia and Herzegovina, ALDE), 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;

. held a hearing on *Recent developments in Hungary*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross (Estonia, ALDE) and Mr George Papandreou (Greece, SOC), with the participation of Mr Tamás Bodoky, journalist, editor and publisher at atlatszo.hu and Mr András Léderer, Head of advocacy, Hungarian Helsinki Committee.

<sup>\*</sup> Throughout this document, 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.

- On 5 March 2025, in Paris, the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy:
  - . held an exchange of views on *Protecting democracy from disruptions caused by artificial intelligence,* in the context of a report prepared by Ms Deborah Bergamini, (Italy, EPP/CD), with the online participation of Mr Daniel Innerarity, Chair in AI & Democracy, School of Transnational Governance (STG), European University Institute;
  - . held an exchange of views on *Russian democratic forces,* in the context of a report prepared by Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross (Estonia, ALDE), with the participation of Mr Dmitry Gudkov, Founder of the Center for Analysis and Strategies in Europe (CASE), member of the Russian Antiwar Committee and Mr Dmitry Nekrasov, Co-Founder and Director of CASE, Economist.
- On 6 March 2025, in Paris, the Parliamentary Network for the children of Ukraine
  - . held an exchange of views with Ms Nadiia Kuzmychova, Deputy Minister of Education and Science of Ukraine:
  - . heard a presentation of the "Mapping study on the access of the children of Ukraine to education in Council of Europe member States", prepared by the Council of Europe Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU) by Ms Jennifer Schuetze-Reymann, Special Advisor to the CGU, Children's Rights Division, Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity;
  - . heard a presentation by Ms Min Jeong Kim, Director of the Division for Education 2030, UNESCO, Paris, and held an exchange of views;
  - . held an exchange of views on *The best practices of the host countries* with Ms Edita Žiobienė, Ombudsperson for Child's Rights, Lithuania; Ms Kirsi Lindroos, Director, Ministry of Education and Culture, Secretariat for International Relations, Finland; Ms Patricia Janissin, Deputy Director, European and International Relations Department, Ministry of Education, France and Ms Antonina Michałowska, Vicedirector of the SzkoUA Warsaw Ukrainian School, Poland.
- > On 7 March 2025, in Paris, the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development:
  - . held an exchange of views on *Child participation*, with the participation of Ms Raluca Verweijen-Slamnescu, Independent Consultant, Solid Change Slamnescu KG;
  - . held hearings on *Social mobilisation, social unrest, and police reaction in Council of Europe member States: need for a new social contract?*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC), with the participation of Mr David Dufresne, a French writer and journalist, an activist of the French association *Action Justice Climat Paris*, young representatives of the French association *Ghett'up* and of the French association *Droit dans les yeux*.
- > On 10-12 March 2025, in New York, an Ad Hoc Sub-Committee of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:
  - . participated in the plenary session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) and in the side events taking place on 10-12 March 2025;
  - . participated in a side-event organised by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination in cooperation with Greece on "Women's equal representation: obstacles and solutions" and took part in other side events on 10-12 March 2025, including on "Social Norms change, Networking and Global Advocacy to Advance Women's Political Participation", "Threats and opportunities of digital technologies: women in the public eye";
  - . took part in an event organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union on "Parliaments and Beijing +30: Resisting backlash and shifting paradigms towards gender equality".
- > On 11 March 2025, in Paris, the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons:
  - . held an exchange of views on *Artificial Intelligence and migration*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Petri Honkonen (Finland, ALDE), with the participation of Ms Frida Alizadeh Westerling, PhD candidate in Asylum Law and Technology, University of Helsinki, Trust-M (research project) and Ms Emilie Wiinblad Mathez, Senior Protection Coordinator, Division of International Protection, UNHCR;

- . held an exchange of views on *Saving migrants' lives at sea and protecting their human rights*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Paulo Pisco (Portugal, SOC), with the participation of Ms Bérénice Gaudin, Advocacy Officer, Sea Watch and Ms Elisa De Pieri, researcher, Europe regional office, Amnesty International;
- . held an exchange of views on *The challenges and needs of public and private actors involved in migration management,* in the context of a report prepared by Ms Sandra Zampa (Italy, SOC), with the participation of Ms Susanna Zanfrini, Director, International Rescue Committee in Italy; Ms Mariza Koronioti, Policy and Advocacy Coordinator, Jesuit Refugee Service Europe and Mr Luca Perilli, judge at the specialised section for the international protection of the Court of Catania, Italy.
- On 12 March 2025, in Paris, the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media:
  - . held an exchange of views on *The role of youth in revitalising democracy*, in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Sona Ghazaryan (Armenia, ALDE), with the participation of Mr Tobias Flessenkemper, Head of the Youth Department, DGII: Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe; Mr Xesc Mainzer, member of the Council of Europe Advisory Council on Youth (CCJ) and Vice-President of the Young European Federalists (JEF Europe); Ms Miriam Allam, Head of Unit, Global Partnerships, Inclusion and Justice Division, Public Governance Directorate and Ms Veerle Miranda, Principal Economist, Youth and Diversity Policies, Social Policy Division, Directorate for Employment, Labour and Social Affairs, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), Paris;
  - . held an exchange of views on *Preserving European rural culture and heritage*, in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Yildiz Zeynep (Türkiye, NR), with the participation of Mr Francesc Pla, Head of the Culture and Cultural Heritage Unit, DGII: Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe; Mr Matías Rubio, member of the Advisory Council on Youth (rural youth portfolio) and the Programming Committee on Youth, Spain and Ms Sara Álvarez Gómez, Cultural Manager and President of the Network of Rural Youth Associations (EPA), Spain;
  - . held a hearing on the *Draft Convention on the Co-production of Audiovisual Works in the form of Series*, with the participation of Ms Susan Newman-Baudais, Partial Agreement Eurimages, DGII: Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, Council of Europe; Ms Mathilde Fiquet, Secretary General, European Audiovisual Production (CEPI), Brussels; Mr James Hickey, General Counsel, European Producer's Club (EPC), Paris; Mr Richard Burnley, Legal and Policy Director, European Broadcasting Union (EBU), Geneva; Mr Erard Gilles, Senior Director, Association of Commercial Television in Europe (ACT), Brussels and Mr Chris Marcich, President, European Federation of Film Agency Directors (EFAD), Brussels.
- On 18 March, in Strasbourg, the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:
  - . held a hearing on *Sexual violence against men and boys*, in the context of a report prepared by Mr Edmunds Cepurīti (Latvia, SOC), with the participation of Mr Matthew McVarish, Co-Founder, Brave Movement; Ms Taina Laajasalo, Research Professor, Finnish Institute of Health and Welfare; Mr Tom Pakkanen, clinical forensic psychologist (PhD), Forensic Psychology Centre for Children and Adolescents of Helsinki University Hospital, Finland (online) and Ms Marie Derain de Vaucresson, President of the Independent National Authority for Recognition and Reparation (INIRR), which supports persons who were victims of sexual violence in the Catholic Church in France during their childhood.
- > On 18 March, in Strasbourg, the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe and the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:
  - . held an exchange of views on *Global landscape of the rights of LGBTI persons and current challenges in 2025* with Mr Graeme Reid, UN Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity (*online*);
  - . held a hearing on *Addressing discrimination against LGBTI persons in healthcare services* in the context of the preparation of the report "Preventing and combating gender discrimination in health" by Ms Camilla Fabricius (Denmark, SOC), with the participation of Mr Graeme Reid, UN Independent Expert on sexual orientation and gender identity (*online*); Ms Evgenia Giakoumopoulou, Head of the SOGIESC Unit, Council of Europe; Dr Eszter Mihály, LGBTQI+ Rights Officer, Amnesty International Hungary and Dr Serge Covaci, Leader of the University Clinic, Faculty of Medicine of Strasbourg, general practitioner.
- > On 18-19 March 2025, Jone Blikra (Norway, SOC), Head of PACE delegation of the Election Observation Mission for the second round of the presidential election in the Republic of Moldova, participated in the Post-

Election Analysis Conference held in Chisinau by the Council of Europe Office in Chisinau in partnership with the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova.

- On 3-4 April 2025, a PACE delegation will carry out a pre-electoral mission in Tirana ahead of the observation of the parliamentary elections in Albania scheduled on 11 May 2025.
- > On 19 March 2025, in Strasbourg, the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs:
  - . held an exchange of views on *Strengthening ethics and integrity in Parliaments: the Monegasque example,* in the context of the project on "Strengthening ethics and integrity in Parliaments" with the participation of Mr Jean-Baptiste Perrier, Ethics officer of the National Council of Monaco.
- > On 24 March 2025, in Paris, the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights:
  - . held a hearing on *Procedure for the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights,* in the context of a report prepared by Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC), with the participation of Sir Nicolas Bratza, former President of the European Court of Human Rights and Judge of the Court elected in respect of the United Kingdom (1998-2012); Ms Laurence Burgorgue-Larsen, Professor at the Paris 1 Panthéon-Sorbonne University and Mr Yonko Grozev, former Section President at the European Court of Human Rights and Judge of the Court elected in respect of Bulgaria (2015-2024).

#### V. Fact-finding visits in the framework of the preparation of reports

#### > Elections in times of crisis

Mr Damien Cottier (Switzerland, ALDE), rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, carried out a fact-finding visit to Stockholm, on 24-25 February 2025.

> Interconnections between the Council of Europe and the European political community

**Mr Zsolt Nemeth** (Hungary, ECPA), rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Paris on **4 March 2025**.

Proceeds of the crime denounced by Sergei Magnitsky found in Switzerland must not be returned to the presumed perpetrators

**Ms Lesia Vasylenko** (Ukraine, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights,* carried out a fact-finding visit to Bern on **6 March 2025.** 

> A closer cooperation between the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe and the United States Congress

**Mr George Papandreou** (Greece, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Washington on **12-13 March 2025**.

The challenges and needs of public and private actors involved in migration management

Ms Sandra Zampa (Italy, SOC), rapporteur of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons carried out a fact-finding visit to the United Kingdom from 24 to 26 March 2025.

Ensuring better protection of whistle-blowers in Europe

**Ms Anna-Kristiina Mikkonen** (Finland, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights,* carried out a fact-finding visit to Brussels on **3-4 April 2025.** 

Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine

**Mr Eerik-Niiles Kross** (Estonia, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Kyiv on **2-3 April 2025**.

#### VI. Other activities of members of the Assembly

**Ms Valentina Grippo** (Italy, ALDE), member of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media* and General Rapporteur on Media Freedom and Safety of Journalists, participated in:

- . the OECD Global Parliamentary Network meeting in Paris from 5 to 7 February 2025;
- . the High-level round table on the challenges faced by Russian journalists in exile and within the Russian Federation, in Berlin, Germany, on **25 February 2025**;
- . the 3<sup>rd</sup> meeting of the Committee of Experts on *The Implications of Generative Artificial Intelligence for Freedom of Expression (MSI-AI)*, in Paris on **25 and 26 March 2025**;
- . the workshop on Online harassment against journalists, organised by the European Federation of Journalists (EFJ) in Belgrade, Serbia, on 31 March and 1 April 2025.

**Mr George Papandreou** (Greece, SOC), member of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy* and General rapporteur on Democracy, participated in the Summit for Action on AI, in Paris, on **10 and 11 February 2025**, and in the Munich Security Conference, in Munich, from **14 to 16 February 2025**.

**Ms Fiona O'Loughlin** (Ireland, ALDE), member of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media* participated in the opening ceremony of the 2025 Special Olympics World Winter Games in Turin, Italy, **on 8 March 2025.** 

**Ms Arusyak Julhakyan** (Armenia, EEP/CD), member of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, participated in the 99<sup>th</sup> plenary meeting of GRECO in Strasbourg, France from **17 to 19 March 2025**.

**Mr Mogens Jensen** (Denmark, SOC), member of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media* and General Rapporteur on Governance and Ethics in Sport, participated in the <u>webinar "Towards an entity countering corruption and crime in sport"</u> in the framework of the ClearingSport project organised by Play the Game on **3 April 2025.** 

#### VII. PACE parliamentary and electoral cooperation activities

The **PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division**, through the Project *Improving Electoral Practice in the Republic of Moldova, 2025-2028*:

- **18-19 March 2025, Chisinau:** organised, in cooperation with the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova, the *Post-Election Analysis Conference on Presidential Election and Republican Constitutional Referendum, 20 October 2024.* The Conference, which gathered around 190 policy and lawmakers, national and international electoral stakeholders, aimed at generating recommendations to the electoral legislation and procedures ahead of the Autumn 2025 Parliamentary elections.
- January-March 2025, Chisinau: revised the Training Centre's existing curriculum for the certification procedure of electoral officials for the 2025 certification and examining session.
- **February-April 2025, Chisinau:** is developing amendments to the legal framework governing the implementation of the postal vote outside the Republic of Moldova (including Law 109/2024 on partial implementation of the postal vote) based on the results of the implementation of the postal vote in six countries at the Presidential election and the Republican Constitutional Referendum of 20 October 2024.
- March-April 2025, Chisinau: developed terms of reference for the "Postal voting" module of the State Automated Information System "Elections", ensuring its alignment with the adjusted legal and procedural requirements for the postal vote based on the lessons learned and shortcomings identified during the partial implementation of this alternative voting method at the Presidential election and the Republican Constitutional referendum held on 20 October 2024.
- **7-8 April 2025, Chisinau**: will organise a workshop on enhancement of communication abilities and skills ahead of the 2025 Parliamentary elections for the Electoral Management Bodies in interacting and communicating with electoral stakeholders.

The PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division, in the framework of the project Supporting democratic post-war elections in Ukraine:

February – March 2025, Kyiv: is producing the online training course for political parties and candidates "Balanced representation of women and men in political parties and electoral processes" which will be placed on

the "CEC: prosvita" educational and awareness-raising platform. The training course is aimed at raising the awareness of political parties and candidates on international and national standards and frameworks related to balanced participation of women and men in political and electoral processes, combatting gender-based discrimination, sexism and hate speech.

- February March 2025, Kyiv: ensures technical and maintenance support for the operation of the information and educational online platform "CEC: prosvita", a joint project of the Central Election Commission and the Council of Europe aimed at providing Ukrainian voters with constantly updated election related information and as well as encouraging them to learn more about electoral processes and procedures regarding existing international standards and current Ukrainian electoral legislation.
- ▶ 1 April 2025, Kyiv: the PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division will launch a follow-up electoral cooperation project in Ukraine, Supporting democratic post-war elections in Ukraine − Phase II The project, to be implemented within the framework of the Council of Europe Action Plan for Ukraine "Resilience, Recovery and Reconstruction" 2023 − 2026, aims at providing targeted assistance to the Ukrainian national authorities to prepare and organise democratic, free, fair, and secure post-war elections. This support will be instrumental in safeguarding the electoral rights of millions of Ukrainian voters, both within the country and abroad.

In the framework of electoral cooperation with the Venice Commission, the following activities have taken place:

- > 18-19 March 2025, Chisinau: the Substitute member of the Venice Commission, Oliver KASK, shared his electoral dispute resolution expertise at the *Post-Election Analysis Conference* on *Presidential Election and Republican Constitutional Referendum in the Republic of Moldova, 20 October 2024*, co-organised by the *PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division*, through the Project *Improving Electoral Practice in the Republic of Moldova, 2025-2028*.
- **25-26 March 2025, Tirana:** the *PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division*, through the Project *Strengthening Elections Integrity in Albania*, together with the Venice Commission and in cooperation with the High Judiciary Council, organised *a* workshop on Judicial Capacity Development on Election Dispute Resolution (EDR) for members of the Electoral College in Albania and with the participation of international and local experts. Through peer-to-peer learning, interactive sessions, and practical case studies, participants explored key issues such as admissibility and motivation of decisions, deadlines, the introduction of out-of-country voting, and the potential cancellation of results. The event also examined European Court of Human Rights case-law and past challenges in the Albanian context, aiming to ensure consistency, fairness, and transparency in election dispute resolution.

#### VIII. Seminars and conferences organised by the Assembly

- ▶ 14 February 2025, Luxembourg: the Parliamentary Network for a healthy environment held a conference on "The Role of National Parliaments in Protecting the Right to a Healthy Environment" in collaboration with the Chamber of Deputies of Luxembourg.
- **5 March 2025, The Hague:** the *Parliamentary Network for a Healthy Environment* organised a seminar on "The Role of the Dutch Parliament in Protecting the Right to a Healthy Environment" in collaboration with the Tweede Kamer.

#### IX. Cooperation with the Venice Commission

- **9 February 2025:** Legal advice was provided by representatives of the Venice Commission to the PACE delegation observing the elections to the Assembly of Kosovo.
- ▶ 4 March 2025, Paris: the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) requested 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.
- ▶ 13 March 2025, Venice (Italy): Mr Pablo Hispán (Spain, EPP/CD), representative of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, Ms Laura Castel (Spain, UEL), representative of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe, Mr Titus Corlăţean (Romania, SOC) and Mr Michael Georg Link (Germany, ALDE), both representatives of the Committee on

Political Affairs and Democracy, participated in the 82<sup>nd</sup> meeting of the Venice Commission's Council for Democratic Elections.

▶ 14-15 March 2025, Venice (Italy): Ms Ingjerd Schie Schou (Norway, EPP/CD) was nominated to represent the Assembly to the European Commission for Democracy through Law. Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones (Spain, SOC), representative of the *Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights*, also participated in this session.

#### X. External relations

#### Relations with the European Parliament and other European Union institutions

- ▶ 9 10 February 2025, Budapest: the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly participated in the meeting of the Secretaries General of the European Union Parliaments.
- **20 March 2025, Strasbourg (France)**: PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division organised a pre-conference on "Youth for Planet Protection: A Call to Action", with the participation of Mr Martin Hojsík, Vice-President of the European Parliament. Speakers and participants at the event emphasised the urgent need for political will to advance meaningful climate action, highlighting the critical role of parliaments in ensuring accountability and enforcement of environmental commitments.

#### - Relations with other international partners

- **5-7 February 2025, Paris:** an Ad Hoc Committee of the Bureau participated in the OECD Global Parliamentary Network Plenary Meeting.
- > 10-12 March 2025, New York: an Ad Hoc Sub-Committee of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination participated in the plenary session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW69) and in the side events taking place. PACE President Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, participated in the plenary session of this event and in the CSW69 Side-event "Women's equal Representation obstacles and solutions". He also held several bilateral meetings, among which a meeting with Mr António Guterres, UN Secretary-General.

#### XI. List of meetings of the committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee

- . **14 February 2025 Luxembourg:** Parliamentary Network for a Healthy Environment (Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development)
- 3 March 2025 Paris: Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
- . **4 March 2025 Paris**: Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)
- . **5 March 2025 Paris**: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy
- . **6 March 2025 Paris:** Parliamentary Network for the children of Ukraine (Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development)
- . 7 March 2025 Paris: Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development
- . **11 March 2025 Paris**: Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons (with the Sub-Committee on Diasporas and Integration and the Sub-Committee on Refugee and Migrant Children and Young People)
- . 12 March 2025 Paris: Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media
- . 18 March 2025 Strasbourg: Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination
- 18 March 2025 Strasbourg: Joint meeting with the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and the Parliamentary Platform for the rights of LGBTI persons in Europe
- . 19 March 2025 Strasbourg: Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs
- . 19 March 2025 Strasbourg: Presidential Committee
- . 19 March 2025 Strasbourg: Bureau meeting
- . 24 March 2025 Paris: Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

#### Appendix 1 – Draft Agenda of the 2025 Second part session (7-11 April 2025)





Doc. 16136 prov1 01 April 2025

# Second part of the 2025 Ordinary Session (7-11 April 2025)

Draft agenda1

Drawn up by the Bureau of the Assembly on 19 March 2025. Updated, on 31 March 2025, under the authority of the Secretary General of the Assembly, to reflect modifications to be proposed to the Bureau of the Assembly.



#### **Abbreviations**

Bur: Bureau of the Assembly Per: Standing Committee

Pol: Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy Jur: Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Soc: Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Mig: Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons Cult: Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media

Ega: Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

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

Pro: Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs

Cdh: Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

SOC: Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group EPP/CD: Group of the European People's Party ECPA: European Conservatives, Patriots and Affiliates ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe

UEL: Group of the Unified European Left NR: Members not belonging to a political group

#### Symbols

- Presentation, statement
- Deadline for tabling documents
- Lists (speakers, questions)
- A Votes

#### Meetings outside the Chamber

#### Bureau of the Assembly

Monday: 08:00-09:30 Friday: 08:30-10:00

#### Committees

Monday: 14:00-15:30 Tuesday: 08:30-10:00 Tuesday: 14:00-15:30 Wednesday: 14:00-15:30 Thursday: 08:30-10:00 Thursday: 14:00-15:30

#### Political groups

Monday: 09:30-11:30 Monday: 17:30-19:30 Wednesday: 08:30-10:00

### Monday 7 April 2025

#### Sitting No. 10 (11:30-13:00)

#### Opening of the part-session

- 1.1. Statement by the President
- 1.2. Examination of credentials
- 1.3. Changes in the membership of committees
- 1.4. Request(s) for current affairs debate or debate under urgent procedure
  - 1.4.1. Urgent procedure debate: "Draft Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law"
  - 1.4.2. Urgent procedure debate: "The situation in Georgia and follow up to Resolution 2585 (2025) 'Challenge, on substantive grounds, of the still unratified credentials of the parliamentary delegation of Georgia"
  - 1.4.3. Urgent procedure debate: "The arrest of the Mayor of Istanbul and the state of democracy and human rights in Türkiye"
  - 1.4.4. Urgent procedure debate: "War in Ukraine: the need for accountability, avoiding impunity"
  - 1.4.5. Current Affairs Debate: "Protests in Serbia and the situation in the Western Balkans"
  - 1.4.6. Current Affairs Debate: "Erosion of the freedom of assembly in Hungary: LGBTIQ+ rights are the first affected as Pride marches are banned"
  - 1.4.7. Urgent procedure debate: "An urgent call for an immediate end to the humanitarian blockage of Gaza and the reinstallation of the ceasefire"
- 1.5. Adoption of the agenda

#### 2. Progress report

2.1.	Progress report	of the	Bureau	and th	ne Standing	Committee
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Presentation by:

o Mr Andrej HUNKO (Germany, UEL), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. ...)

#### 2.2. Observation of the elections to the Assembly of Kosovo\*2 (9 February 2025)

Presentation by:

o Ms Petra BAYR (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. ...)

List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 7 April, 10:00)

#### 3. Prize Award Ceremony (12:30-13:00)

3.1. 2025 Council of Europe Museum Prize<sup>3</sup>

 <sup>\*</sup>All reference to Kosovo in this document, 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.

See separate programme, AS/Inf(2025)...

#### 4. Address (15:30-16:30)

- 4.1. Annual activity report 2024 by the Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights (CommHR(2025)18)
  - resentation by:
    - o Mr Michael O'FLAHERTY, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe
- Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 7 April, 12:00)

#### 5. Progress report (continued)

- 5.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
- 5.2. Observation of the elections to the Assembly of Kosovo (9 February 2025)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 7 April, 10:00)

### Tuesday 8 April 2025

#### Sitting No. 12 (10:00-13:00)

- [Possibly] Elections (10:00-13:00)
  - 6.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights
- 7. Debate
  - 7.1. Foreign interference: a threat to democratic security in Europe
    - Presentation by:
      - Ms Zanda KALNINA-LUKAŠEVICA (Latvia, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16131)
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 7 April, 16:30)
  - Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 7 April, 16:00)
  - A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16131)
- Address (12:15-13:00)
  - 8.1. Mr Xavier ESPOT ZAMORA, Head of the Government of the Principality of Andorra
  - Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 7 April, 16:30)

#### Sitting No. 13 (15:30-20:00)

- [Possibly] Elections (2nd round) (16:00-19:00)
  - 9.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights
- 10. Question time (15:30-16:00)
  - 10.1. Mr Alain BERSET, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
  - Questions (deadline for registration: Tuesday 8 April, 12:00)
- 11. [Possibly] Current affairs debate
- 12. Debate
  - 12.1. Interconnections between the Council of Europe and the European Political Community
    - Presentation by:
      - Mr Zsolt NÉMETH (Hungary, ECPA), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16128)
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 8 April, 12:00)
  - Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 7 April, 16:00)
  - A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16128)
- 13. Debate
  - 13.1. Putting an end to collective expulsions of aliens
    - Presentation by:
      - o Mr Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ (Switzerland, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 16135)
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 8 April, 12:00)
  - Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 7 April, 16:00)
  - A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16135)

### Wednesday 9 April 2025

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

#### 14. Debate

- 14.1. Respect for the rule of law and the fight against corruption within the Council of Europe
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Frank SCHWABE (Germany, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Pro (Doc. 16138)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 8 April, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 8 April, 10:30)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16138)

#### Address (12:00-13:00)

- 15.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers
  - Presentation by:
    - Mr Xavier BETTEL, Minister for Foreign Affairs and Foreign Trade of Luxembourg, Chair of the Committee of Ministers
- Questions (deadline for registration: Tuesday 8 April, 19:00)

#### Sitting No. 15 (15:30-20:00)

#### 16. Address (15:30-16:00)

16.1. His Royal Highness the Grand Duke of Luxembourg

#### 17. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure or current affairs debate

#### 18. Debate

- 18.1. Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights
  - Presentation by:
    - o Mr Constantinos EFSTATHIOU (Cyprus, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 16134)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 9 April, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 8 April, 16:00)
- Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16134)

#### 19. Debate

- 19.1. Legal aspects of the accession of the European Union to the European Convention on Human Rights
  - Presentation by:
    - Mr Titus CORLĂŢEAN (Romania, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 16126)
- 🇊 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 9 April, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 8 April, 16:00)
- A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16126)

### Thursday 10 April 2025

### Sitting No. 16 (10:00-13:00)

- 20. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure
- 21. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure

Sitting No. 17 (15:30-20:00)

- 22. [Possibly] Current affairs debate
- 23. [Possibly] Debate under urgent procedure4
  - 23.1. Draft Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of the Environment through Criminal Law
    - Presentation by:
      - o Ms Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 16120)
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 10 April, 12:00)
  - Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 9 April, 16:00)
  - Vote on a draft opinion ()

#### Debate

- 24.1. Modification of various provisions of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure
  - Presentation by:
    - Ms Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Pro (Doc. 16137)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 10 April, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 9 April, 16:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16137)

#### 25. Debate

- 25.1. Strengthening relations between the Council of Europe and Latin America
  - Presentation by:
    - Mr Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES (Spain, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16129)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 10 April, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 9 April, 16:00)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16129)

Subject to a decision by the Assembly.

## Friday 11 April 2025

### Sitting No. 18 (10:00-13:00)

- 26. Free debate
  - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 10 April, 19:00)
- 27. Progress report (continued)
- 28. Closure of the part-session

#### Appendix 2 - References to committees

#### A. References to committees

- Regulating foreign influence: best practices and European standards, <u>Doc. 16103</u>, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report;
- Role of the Parliamentary Assembly and National Parliaments in implementing the outcome of the 2024
   Summit of the Future, <u>Doc. 16108</u>, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report;
- Protecting ethnic and religious diversity in Syria, <u>Doc. 16110</u>, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for report

#### B. Reply after consultation

 Safeguarding the rule of law in Tunisia, <u>Doc. 16060</u>, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report;

## Appendix 3 – List of members of the *ad hoc* Committee for the observation of the parliamentary elections in Albania (11 May 2025)

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Simone BILLI (Italy, ECPA / Italie, CEPA)

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

Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège

Mr / M. Cerni ESCALE CABRE, Andorra / Andorre

Ms / Mme Sascha FAXE, Denmark / Danemark

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

Ms / Mme Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO, Spain / Espagne \*

Mr / M. Axel SCHÄFER, Germany / Allemagne

#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye

Mr / M. Gerardo GIOVAGNOLI, San Marino / Saint-Marin

Mr / M. Antonio GUTIERREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne

Ms / Mme Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJEVSKA, North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord

Mr / M. Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine

Mr / M. Didier MARIE, France

Mr / M. Perran MOON, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Mr / M. Christian PETRY, Germany / Allemagne

Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche

Mr / M. Roberto SPERANZA, Italy / Italie

Ms / Mme Céline THIEBAULT-MARTINEZ, France

Ms / Mme Birute VĖSAITĖ, Lithuania / Lituanie

Ms / Mme Sandra ZAMPA, Italy / Italie

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

Ms / Mme Borianna ÅBERG, Sweden / Suède

Mr / M. Branislav BORENOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine

Ms / Mme Linda Hofstad HELLELAND, Norway / Norvège

Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne

Ms / Mme Denitsa SACHEVA, Bulgaria / Bulgarie

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#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Ms / Mme Belén HOYO, Spain / Espagne

Mr / M. Jan Filip LIBICKI, Poland / Pologne

Mr / M. Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande

Mr / M. Chris SAID, Malta / Malte

Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

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

Dame Karen BRADLEY, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Mr / M. Simone BILLI, Italy / Italie \*

Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Malte KAUFMANN, Germany / Allemagne

#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine

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

Mr / M. François BONNEAU, France

Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie \*

Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS, Netherlands / Pays Bas

#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye

Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine

Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie

#### Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine

## Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) / Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE) Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO, Germany / Allemagne \*

#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Mr / M. Arnaldo LOMUTI, Italy / Italie

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

Mr / M. Ionuţ-Marian STROE, Romania / Roumanie – EPP/CD \* ZZ

\* Pre-electoral mission / mission préélectorale

## Appendix 4 – List of members of the *ad hoc* Committee for the observation of the presidential election in Poland (18 May 2025)

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Iulian BULAI (Romania, ALDE / Roumanie, ADLE)

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

Ms / Mme Zita GURMAI, Hungary / Hongrie

Mr / M. Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne \*

Ms / Mme Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJEVSKA, North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord

Mr / M. Christophe LACROIX, Belgium / Belgique

Mr / M. Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine

Mr / M. Perran MOON, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Ms / Mme Sandra REGOL, France

Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche

Mr / M Roberto SPERANZA, Italy / Italie

#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye

Mr / M. Gerardo GIOVAGNOLI, San Marino / Saint-Marin

Ms / Mme Annick LAMBRECHT, Belgium / Belgique

Mr / M. Axel SCHÄFER, Germany / Allemagne

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

Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy / Italie

Mr / M. Ricardo CARVALHO, Portugal

Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne

Ms / Mme Belén HOYO, Spain / Espagne

Ms / Mme Arusyak JULHAKYAN, Armenia / Arménie

Mr / M. Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande \*

Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

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

Mr / M. Simone BILLI, Italy / Italie

Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI, Italy / Italie \*

Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN, Armenia / Arménie

Ms / Mme Jessica STEGRUD, Sweden / Suède

Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM, Sweden / Suède

Mr / M. Michael RUBBESTAD, Sweden / Suède

#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Mr / M. Malte KAUFMANN, Germany / Allemagne

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

Mr / M. Iulian BULAI. Romania / Roumanie \*

Mr / M. Alfred HEER, Switzerland / Suisse

Ms / Mme Fiona O'LOUGHLIN, Ireland / Irlande

Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, France

Ms / Mme Lesia ZABURANNA, Ukraine

#### Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVAKOVA, Slovak Republic / République slovaque

Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine

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

Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL, Spain / Espagne \*

#### Co-rapporteur-es AS/MON (ex officio)

Ms / Mme Azadeh ROJHAN, Sweden / Suède – SOC \*

\* Pre-electoral mission / mission préélectorale

### Appendix 5 – PACE Youth Rapporteurs

Committees / Commissions	Rapporteurs / Rapporteur∙es	Country / Pays	Political Group / Groupe politique	appointed on: désigné∙e le :
Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie	Max LUCKS	Germany / Allemagne	SOC	11.12.2024
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme	Saara-Sofia SIRÉN	Finland / Finlande	EPP/CD / PPE/DC	30.01.2025
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Commission des questions sociales, de la santé et du développement durable	Aurora FLORIDIA	Italy / Italie	SOC	06.12.2024
Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées	Arusyak JULHAKYAN	Armenia / Arménie	EPP/CD / PPE/DC	11.03.2025
Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias	Yevheniia KRAVCHUK	Ukraine	ALDE / ADLE	28.01.2025
Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination	Aysu BANKOĞLU	Türkiye	soc	05.12.2024
Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) / Commission pour le respect des obligations et engagements des Etats membres du Conseil de l'Europe (commission de suivi)	Naomi CACHIA	Malta / Malte	SOC	29.01.2025
Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs / Commission du Règlement, des immunités et des affaires institutionnelles	Sona GHAZARYAN	Armenia / Arménie	ALDE / ADLE	12.12.2024

Appendix 6 – List of members of the *ad hoc* committee to participate in the 20<sup>th</sup> European Conference of Electoral Management Bodies, Vilnius, 15-16 April 2025

#### General Rapporteur on Democracy / Rapporteur général sur la démocratie :

Mr / M. George PAPANDREOU (Greece, SOC / Grèce, SOC)

#### Rapporteur on « Elections in times of crisis » / Rapporteur sur « Elections en temps de crise » :

Mr / M. Damien COTTIER (Switzerland, ALDE / Suisse, ADLE)

#### Members of the Council for Democratic Elections / Membres du Conseil des élections démocratiques :

Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC) Lord BLENCATHRA (United Kingdom, ECPA / Royaume-Uni, CEPA) Mr / M. Titus CORLĂŢEAN (Romania, SOC / Roumanie, SOC)

## Substitute members of the Council for Democratic Elections / Membres suppléants du Conseil des élections démocratiques :

Mr / M. Michael Georg LINK (Germany, ALDE / Allemagne, ADLE)
Ms / Mme Octavie MODERT (Luxembourg, EPP/CD / Luxembourg, PPE/DC)
Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY (France, ALDE / France, ADLE)

### Members of the Bureau of PACE Network of Elections Observers / Membres du Bureau du Réseau des Observateurs d'Elections :

Lord BLENCATHRA (United Kingdom, ECPA / Royaume-Uni, CEPA), Chairperson / *Président* Mr / M. Claude KERN (France, ALDE / France, ADLE) Mr / M. George LOUCAIDES (Cyprus, UEL / Chypre, GUE) Mr / M. Didier MARIE (France, SOC) Ms / Mme Catia POLIDORI (Italy, EPP/CD / Italie, PPE/DC)

Appendix 7 – List of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the conference on *Envisioning* effective public policy to prevent and address cases of missing migrants, Strasbourg, 23-24 April 2025

Chairperson / Président·e: ...

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

Mr / M. Piero FASSINO (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Commission des questions sociales, de la santé, et du développement durable

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ (Switzerland, SOC / Suisse, SOC)
Ms / Mme Carmen LEYTE (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées

Ms / Mme Nerea AHEDO (Spain, ALDE / Espagne, ADLE)

Ms / Mme Larysa BILOZIR (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine / ADLE)

Ms / Mme Sena Nur ÇELİK KANAT (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

Ms / Mme Christiana EROTOKRITOU (Cyprus, SOC/ Chypre, SOC)

Lord Michael GERMAN (United Kingdom, ALDE / Royaume-Uni, ADLE)

Ms / Mme Meryem GÖKA (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, ECPA / Ukraine, CEPA)

Mr / M. Dimitrios MARKOPOULOS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Julian PAHLKE (Germany, SOC / Allemagne, SOC)

Mr / M. Paulo PISCO (Portugal, SOC)

Mr / M. Gonzalo ROBLES (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Pelin YILIK (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

Ms / Mme Sandra ZAMPA (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias

Ms / Mme Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO (Spain, SOC / Espagne, SOC)

Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA (Spain, ECPA / Espagne, CEPA)

Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)

Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination

Mr / M. Giorgios STAMATIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) / Commission pour le respect des obligations et engagements des Etats membres du Conseil de l'Europe (commission de suivi)

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE (Türkiye, SOC)

Appendix 8 – List of members of the *ad hoc* committee to participate in the meeting between parliamentarians from the Nordic Council and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Kristiansand, Norway, 4-5 May 2025

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M. Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS

#### Presidential Committee / Comité présidentiel :

Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE (Germany, SOC / Allemagne, SOC)

Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Zsolt NÉMETH (Hungary, ECPA / Hongrie, CEPA)

Mr / M. Iulian BULAI (Romania, ALDE / Roumanie, ADLE)

Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO (Germany, UEL / Allemagne, GUE)

### Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

Ms / Mme Ingjerd Schie SCHOU (Norway, EPP/CD / Norvège, PPE/DC) – member / membre Mr / M. Stephen GETHINS (United Kingdom, NR / Royaume-Uni, NI) – substitute / suppléant

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Commission des questions sociales, de la santé, et du développement durable

Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN (Armenia, ECPA / Arménie, CEPA) – member / membre Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ (Switzerland, SOC / Suisse, SOC) – substitute / suppléant

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, ECPA / Ukraine, CEPA)

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media / Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias

Ms / Mme Mia KARAMEHIĆ-ABAZOVIĆ (Bosnia and Herzegovina, NR / Bosnie-Herzégovine, NI)

Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination

Ms / Mme Catia POLIDORI (Italy, EPP/CD / Italie, PPE/DC)

Appendix 9 – Institutional representation of the Assembly in 2025

Body / Organe	Reference / référence	Members / membres	Substitutes / remplaçant·e·s
I. Council of Europe bodies / Organes du Conseil de l'Europe			
European Commission for Democracy through Law Venice Commission Commission européenne pour la démocratie par le droit Commission de Venise	Article 2.4 of the Venice Commission Statute Res(2002)3 Article 2.4 du statut de la Commission de Venise Res(2002)3	Ingjerd Schie SCHOU Norway / Norvège EPP/CD / PPE/DC (Appointment by the President) (Désignation par le/la Président·e)  Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES Spain / Espagne SOC (AS/Jur)	Sergiy VLASENKO Ukraine EPP/CD / PPE/DC (AS/Jur)
Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission  Conseil des élections démocratiques de la Commission de Venise	Bureau decision of 10 March 2003 Décision du Bureau du 10 mars 2003	Titus CORLĂŢEAN Romania / Roumanie SOC (AS/Pol)  Pablo HISPÁN Spain / Espagne EPP/CD / PPE/DC (AS/Jur)  Lord David BLENCATHRA United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni ECPA / CEPA (AS/Mon)	Michael Georg LINK Germany / Allemagne ALDE / ADLE (AS/Pol)  Octavie MODERT Luxembourg EPP/CD / PPE/DC (AS/Jur) Liliana TANGUY France ALDE / ADLE (AS/Mon)
European Centre for Global Interdependence and Solidarity – North-South Centre Centre européen pour l'interdépendance et la	Article 4.2 (b) of the North-South Centre revised Statute  CM/Res(2011)6  Article 4.2 (b) du statut révisé du Centre Nord-Sud	Edite ESTRELA Portugal SOC (AS/Cult)  Stefan SCHENNACH Austria / Autriche SOC	ZZ (AS/Cult)  Carmen LEYTE Spain / Espagne EPP/CD / PPE/DC (AS/Soc)
solidarité mondiales – Centre Nord-Sud  European Commission Against Racism and Intolerance ECRI  Commission européenne contre le racisme et l'intolérance ECRI	Article 5 of the ECRI Statute Res(2002)8 Article 5 du statut de l'ECRI Res(2002)8	(AS/Soc)  Sibel ARSLAN Switzerland / Suisse SOC (AS/Pol)  Zeynep YILDIZ Türkiye SOC (AS/Cult)  Petra BAYR Austria / Autriche SOC (AS/Ega)	George LOUCAIDES Cyprus / Chypre GUE /UEL (AS/Pol)  Baroness Ruth HUNT United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni SOC (AS/Cult)  Francesco VERDUCCI Italy / Italie SOC (AS/Ega)
Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) Groupe d'états contre la corruption (GRECO)	CM decision of 717th meeting in 2000 in accordance with Article 7.2 of the Statute of the GRECO  Décision du CM lors de la 717ème réunion en 2000 selon l'Article 7.2. du Statut du GRECO	Agnes Sirkka PRAMMER Austria / Autriche SOC (AS/Jur)	Arusyak JULHAKYAN Armenia / Arménie EPP/CD / PPE/DC (AS/Jur)

Body / Organe	Reference / référence	Members / membres	Substitutes / remplaçant·e·s
Committee of Experts on Artificial Intelligence, Equality and Discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI)  Comité d'expert·e·s sur l'intelligence artificielle, l'égalité et la discrimination (GEC/ADI-AI)	CM/Res(2021)3	Edite ESTRELA Portugal SOC (AS/Ega)	
Committee for Works of Art (C-ART)	CM decision of 482nd meeting in 1992	Constantinos EFSTATHIOU Cyprus / Chypre SOC (AS/Cult)	
Comité des œuvres d'art (C-ART)	Décision du CM lors de la 482ème réunion en 1992	Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO Spain / Espagne SOC (AS/Cult)	
MONEYVAL	Article 4.1 of Resolution CM/Res (2010) 12 Article 4.1 de la Résolution CM/Res (2010) 12	Klotilda BUSHKA Albania / Albanie SOC (AS/Jur)	ZZ (AS/Jur)
Committee on offences relating to cultural property (PC-IBC) / Steering Committee for Culture, Heritage and Landscape (CDCPP)  Comité sur les infractions visant les biens culturels (PC-IBC) / Comité directeur de la culture, du patrimoine et du paysage (CDCPP)	STCE n°221  CM(2017)32, Chapter V, Article 23.1  SG/Inf(2012)12	Stefan SCHENNACH Austria / Autriche SOC (AS/Cult)	
II. Others / Autres			
EUROPA NOSTRA Pan-European Federation for Heritage  EUROPA NOSTRA - Fédération paneuropéenne du patrimoine	Article 21.4 of the Statute of Europa Nostra	Luz MARTINEZ SEIJO Spain / Espagne SOC (AS/Cult)	Andries GRYFFROY Belgium / Belgique NR / NI (AS/Cult)