



AS/Per (2024) PV 01 15 April 2024

Standing Committee

Minutes

of the meeting held in Paris

on Thursday 7 March 2024

1. Opening of the meeting by the President of the Parliamentary Assembly

Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, **opened** the meeting. Referring to the death of Alexei Navalny and the devastating consequences of the full-scale war of aggression waged by the Russian Federation against Ukraine, he regretted that humanity could not get to grips with tyranny, the rise of racism and the manipulative populism which repeatedly led it to tragedies. As the 75th anniversary of the Council of Europe was approaching, there was a continued need to defend individual rights and freedoms against authoritarian regimes, reflect on the reasons why such regimes had become stronger, strengthen human rights, democracy and the rule of law, and address existing and emerging challenges through innovative and effective approaches.

2. Welcome address by Mr Gérard Larcher, President of the Senate

Mr Larcher appreciated that the Senate was hosting a meeting of the Standing Committee. Referring to the issues on the agenda, he paid tribute to Mr Navalny and stressed that the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine was an affront to the values of the Council of Europe. While Ukraine was on the front line, the whole of Europe was targeted through, *inter alia*, cyberattacks, hybrid wars and disinformation campaigns to influence voters during elections.

Mr Lacher reiterated the Senate's and France's unwavering support for Ukraine. He recalled the commitments made by the Heads of State and government in the Reykjavik Declaration and underlined the parliamentarians' key role in facilitating dialogue between national and European spheres, explaining the role of the European Court of Human Rights and its jurisprudence, and providing feedback on national positions and expectations. As its 75th anniversary was approaching, the Council of Europe would have to be ready to address serious challenges, including the backsliding of democracy and the authoritarian regimes' efforts to portray it as a decadent model, threats to peace and democratic security as well as to human rights and the rule of law.

The President agreed that the Assembly had to be responsive to the signals of democratic decline.

3. Examination of new credentials

[Doc. 15935]

The Standing Committee **ratified** the credentials of new members of the Assembly submitted by the delegations of Czechia, Greece, the Republic of Moldova, the Slovak Republic and Türkiye.

4. Modifications in the composition of committees

[Commissions (2024) 03]

The Standing Committee **approved** the changes in the composition of Assembly committees as set out in document Commissions (2024) 03.

5. Requests for current affairs debates (under Rule 53 of the Rules of Procedure)

The President informed members that two requests for a current affairs debates entitled "Death of Alexei Navalny" and "Two years of war of aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine" had been submitted by the chairpersons of the five political groups.

The Bureau had agreed to recommend holding these current affairs debates and appointed Mr Emanuelis Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD) as the first speaker for the debate on "Death of Alexei Navalny" and Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE) as the first speaker for the debate on "Two years of war of aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine".

The Standing Committee **approved** the proposals of the Bureau.

6. Agenda

[AS/Per (2024) OJ 01 rev]

The draft agenda was adopted.

7. Second part-session of the Parliamentary Assembly (15-19 April 2024)

[AS/Bur (2024) 08 rev]

The Standing Committee took note of the preliminary draft agenda of the second part-session of the Assembly.

8. References to committees

[AS/Per (2024) 01]

The Standing Committee ratified the references proposed by the Bureau (see Appendix 1).

9. Current affairs debates on "Two years of war of aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine" and "Death of Alexei Navalny"

Mr Bulai introduced the current affairs debate on "Two years of war of aggression by the Russian Federation against Ukraine" recalling the historical background of the war which went back to 2014 when Russia illegally annexed Crimea and the Assembly's decision back then to maintain dialogue with this country. Eight years on, Russia had started a full-scale aggression against Ukraine, causing immense suffering and devastation. He referred in particular to the deportations of children and environmental crimes. Russia was fighting not only against Ukraine but against all the values the Council of Europe stood for. Thus, Europe had to stand with Ukraine for as long as it takes, supporting it military, financially, logistically, and politically. He called for the creation of an international compensation mechanism as well as an effective sanctions regime and ensuring accountability for war crimes, crimes against humanity and the crime of aggression. Warning against war fatigue, he called on parliamentarians to raise citizens' awareness of the necessity to support Ukraine. Solidarity was not a luxury but a necessity.

Ms Bayr stressed that it was imperative to provide Ukraine with humanitarian assistance and support it both logistically and politically. The Council of Europe and its member States had an important political role to play, including by enforcing the International Criminal Court's arrest warrant against Vladimir Putin and Maria Lvova-Belova, supporting the creation of a special tribunal for the crime of aggression and ultimately its proper functioning, joining the Register of Damage and encouraging other States to join it. In addition, the Council of Europe should reconsider its co-operation with countries who were actively undermining the sanctions against Russia. It should also support political prisoners in Russia and maintain contacts with those who continue to fight for democracy and the rule of law in Russia. The war must come to an end, preferably based on diplomatic solutions.

Ms Kalniņa-Lukaševica referred to the annexation of Crimea, the downing of Malaysia Airlines flight MH17, the massacres perpetrated by Russian soldiers in the occupied territories of Ukraine, and the deportations of Ukrainian children. The impunity enjoyed by the perpetrators of these crimes was not acceptable. To ensure accountability, Ukraine's victory was a must. Thus, Ukraine had to be supported with all the means available, including by creating an international compensation mechanism. As the 75th anniversary of the Council of Europe was approaching, member States had a duty to help Ukraine to ensure that justice, peace, freedom, democracy and human rights win over brutal aggression.

Ms Khomenko commended the support of the international community to Ukraine. She regretted that decisive steps had not been taken back in 2014 when Russia had annexed Crimea. Today, it was clear that there was no possibility of compromise with Russia. The Assembly and the Council of Europe in general had played a leading role in addressing the consequences of the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine. Yet, there was still much to be done, starting by the creation of a special tribunal for the crime of aggression and an international compensation mechanism covering all the damage inflicted since 2014, the proper enforcement of sanctions, and timely supply of weapons. Ukraine was devoting all its efforts to put an end to aggression but could not do it alone. Russia's war machine would not stop at Ukraine's borders.

Mr Hunko feared that a total Ukrainian victory could be unlikely and argued that the war risked escalating further in the absence of a reflection on a ceasefire strategy.

Commending the strength and resilience of the Ukrainian people, **Mr van den Berg** repeated that what was at stake in the ongoing war was the free and democratic world, and ultimately the Europe's future. Europe had to own this war and support Ukraine as long as it is necessary and with any means necessary, including military goods, cyber capabilities, effective sanctions, and commitment to bringing perpetrators to justice.

Lord Keen warned against sitting at the negotiating table with Russia and called for more financial assistance to Ukraine. Sanctions could not be effective if countries continued to exponentially increase their exports to and import from third countries who maintained commercial relations with Russia.

Mr Zingeris reiterated that Russia was waging war against the values which the Council of Europe stood for. Europe was not doing enough to support Ukraine. A substantial financial aid was necessary, together with an effective sanctions regime with no possibility of circumvention.

The President recalled that Kyiv had been shelled during the visit of the Prime Minister of Greece Mr Kyriakos Mitsotakis to the city.

Ms Helleland stressed that it was crucial to have the war high on the agenda. The war was not close to an end and support for Ukraine had become a politically charged issue in many countries. Referring to Norway's extensive support programme for Ukraine (the Nansen), she noted that while supporting Ukraine came with a short-term cost, not doing so would have far greater consequences in the long run.

Mr Bulai called on world leaders to keep going to Ukraine as a sign of solidarity but also to witness the devastation caused by the Russian aggression. Welcoming the bold statement by the French President, Mr Emanuel Macron, on the possibility of sending troops to Ukraine, he reiterated that Russia would not hesitate to invade other parts of Europe. He opposed the so-called appearement talks, any diplomatic solution which would ignore the legitimate expectations of Ukraine and the idea that neutrality could be constructive.

Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez, Vice-President of the Assembly took the Chair and opened the current affairs debate on "Death of Alexei Navalny". He welcomed Mr Jacques Maire, the Assembly's former rapporteur on "The arrest and detention of Alexei Navalny in January 2021" and "Poisoning of Alexei Navalny".

The Standing Committee **observed** a minute of silence in memory of Alexei Navalny.

Introducing the debate, **Mr Zingeris** paid tribute to Mr Navalny's courage and spiritual strength in fighting against the regime. He called on members to support the holding of an urgent debate on "Alexei Navalny's death and the need to counter Vladimir Putin's totalitarian regime and its war on democracy" during the April part-session. Welcoming Mr Maire's presence and praising his former work on Mr Navalny's poisoning, arrest and detention, he stressed that Mr Navalny could not be broken despite everything he went through, a fact which the regime could not stand. Quoting Mr Navalny, he noted that his killing was a sign that the opposition was stronger than thought and hoped that it would fuel people's courage not to give up. Warning against war fatigue, Mr Zingeris drew attention to the inefficiency of the sanctions imposed on Russia and called for action to prevent the regime's enablers from using western businesses to hide and grow their wealth. All Russian assets should be confiscated and used to arm and rebuild Ukraine. Financially drowning Russia was the only way to stop the war machinery. The best way to honour Mr Navalny's memory was to help Russian people to get rid of Vladimir Putin's dictatorship and end the war of aggression against Ukraine.

The Standing Committee watched a video containing extracts from a meeting between Mr Navalny and Mr Maire held in Berlin in December 2020.

Mr Maire appreciated the projection of the video although the experience was heartbreaking. At the time of the recording of the video, the Russian parliamentarians had just returned to the Assembly after seven years of absence. It was a period of reengagement between the Council of Europe and Russia. As soon as the news of the poisoning of Alexei Navalny had made the headlines, members of the Assembly had initiated a report aimed at, *inter alia*, establishing the facts, namely whether there had been a poisoning, and if so in what circumstances and with whose involvement. The report had to rely on scientific evidence rather than testimonies of direct witnesses (which Mr Navalny had opposed due to security risks for the witnesses). The report had concluded to a strong presumption that Mr Navanly had been poisoned with Novichok, with the involvement of State agents. All along the process, Russia had tried to discredit the work of the Assembly. Mr Maire shared his impressions of Mr Navalny whom he described as a solid, determined and open person with a strong sense of humour. He believed that millions of Russians had been present at his funeral with their thoughts. Mr Navalny's courage and commitment to his country and Russian citizens were exemplary. All political prisoners and all women who continue to fight, including on behalf of their husbands, for freedom and democracy, should be supported.

Mr Moutquin paid tribute to Mr Navalny who was a strong critic of the Russian regime, combating corruption, and fighting for democracy and freedom. His death was clearly attributable to the regime. Thousands of Russian political opponents continued to fight the same fight as Mr Navalny and should be supported.

Lord Keen expressed solidarity with the expressions of concern over the death of Mr Navalny, which should be taken as a warning of the ruthlessness of the regime in Russia and the danger its opponents were exposed to.

Ms O'Loughlin said that the Council of Europe should show solidarity with the Russian citizens who stood with Mr Navalny, whose death was a huge loss to the democratic world. He would be remembered for his courage to challenge the most powerful and oppressive dictatorship in the world. Supporting the holding of an urgent debate on the issue during the April part-session, she referred to thousands of political opponents imprisoned in Russia and Belarus and stressed that the results of the upcoming presidential election should not be accepted.

Mr van dan Berg paid tribute to Mr Navalny and to the brave Russian citizens who came out in impressive numbers over the past weeks to pay their respects to him despite the risks involved. Supporting them and others in their struggle for freedom and democracy would be the best way of honouring Mr Navalny.

Mr Zingeris said that in the past, strong signals that the Russian regime was becoming a threat to world peace had been ignored. The same error should not be repeated and Vladimir Putin's totalitarian regime and its war on democracy had to be countered.

10. Legal Affairs and Human Rights The right to freedom of information: ensuring access to historical documents [Doc. 15929]

Presenting her report, **Ms Bushka** stressed that the right to access information, including State-held information, was protected under Article 10 of the European Convention on Human Rights and that the limitations of this right should remain the exception. Member States should provide justifications for any restrictions on access to historical documents and prioritise the regular and proactive publication of historical information. Council of Europe member States that have not yet signed or ratified the Tromsø Convention, which explicitly secured the right to information, should do so. There should be effective oversight on the executive's decision making and clear guidelines on the process to make an access to information request. Civil society groups working on preserving historical memory should be supported, and States should negotiate the return of their archives held overseas in good faith. The Committee of Ministers should adopt a specific recommendation on access to historical documents that would be complementary to the Tromsø Convention. Ms Bushka stressed that access to information promoted public scrutiny of State action, democratic participation, and good governance, especially in States that had a history of authoritarianism characterised by censorship and State control of media and information. It was important to open access to historical documents for reconciliation, justice and healing from repression. The right to historical truth of the society at large should always prevail.

The President took the Chair.

Ms Mezentseva noted that the report was particularly relevant in the context of the ongoing war of aggression against Ukraine, which was the most documented war of contemporary times. Accessing historical documents would be instrumental in bringing about justice. Ukraine had recently joined the Tromsø Convention and was the only country who had submitted a report containing full information on the legislative and other measures taken to give effect to the provisions of the Convention, in accordance with its article 14.

Ms Bushka reiterated the importance of access to historical documents for establishing the truth. By understanding the truth, mistakes of the past could be avoided in the future. Member States should properly implement the Tromsø Convention as one of the most powerful tools at international level to improve access to historical documents.

Lord Keen, the Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, commended the report and thanked the rapporteur for an excellent work. The report identified a regression in some member States concerning access to State-held documents. This was deplorable as access to information was fundamental for maintaining human rights and supervising the rule of law.

The Standing Committee **unanimously adopted** the resolution and the recommendation "The right to freedom of information: ensuring access to historical documents" [Resolution 2535 (2024) and Recommendation 2770 (2024)].

11. Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons Precarious and irregular work situations of migrant seasonal and domestic workers [Doc. 15930, Doc. 15931]

In the absence of Ms Stoica, rapporteur, the 1st Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons **Ms Osamor** presented the report. The latter focused on the social aspects of precarious and seasonal work in Europe where there was an increasing dependence on foreign workforce, particularly in the agricultural and domestic work sectors. Migrant workers faced a high degree of precariousness due to, *inter alia*, low wages, lack of social security and rights, poor living conditions, and limited access to justice. The report aimed at highlighting these issues and proposing legal and practical solutions for improving working and living conditions for migrant workers and their families. Its recommendations included the signature and ratification of the European Convention on the Legal Status of Migrant Workers, the effective implementation of the European Social Charter and the extension of its scope to everyone *de facto* residing in member States irrespective of their status. Member States should define "forced labour" and "precarious and irregular working conditions" in law and criminalise them, launch regularisation programmes of undocumented workers and ensure that labour inspections were carried out effectively.

In the absence of Mr Cegonho, rapporteur for opinion, the Chairperson of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development **Mr Moutquin** presented the committee opinion. The two committees had a common approach aimed at strengthening the social rights of all migrant workers living in the Council of Europe member States, without discrimination, and protecting them against exploitative working conditions and human rights abuses. The protection of migrant workers was far from satisfactory mainly due to the poor implementation of existing legal instruments and limitations inherent to these instruments themselves. The High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter to be held in Vilnius in 2024 presented an excellent opportunity to address these issues.

Ms Kalniņa-Lukaševica welcomed the attention paid in the report to the situation of women and domestic workers. She stressed that it was the duty of member States to preserve the human rights standards for everyone living and working within their jurisdiction, including thousands of Ukrainians who had recently found refuge in Europe.

Ms Osamor stressed that Europe needed migrants. Whether they were fleeing war or simply aspired to a better future for their families and themselves, migrants had the same human rights as everyone else.

Mr Moutquin presented the amendment tabled by the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable development, which aimed at emphasising the importance of the upcoming High-Level Conference on the European Social Charter in Vilnius as an opportunity to step up member States' ambition on safeguarding and enhancing social rights.

The Standing Committee was in favour of the amendment.

The Standing Committee **unanimously adopted** the resolution "Precarious and irregular work situations of migrant seasonal and domestic workers" [Resolution 2536 (2024)].

12. Other business

None.

13. Next meetings

The Standing Committee **decided** to hold its next meetings in Vilnius (Lithuania) on 24 May 2024 and in Luxembourg on 29 November 2024.

The President expressed his gratitude to everyone who made the meeting possible and gave his sincere thanks to the French delegation for their warm welcome and hospitality at the Senate.

The President closed the meeting at 17:30.

APPENDIX 1

References and transmissions to committees

A. REFERENCES TO COMMITTEES

1. Putting an end to collective expulsions of aliens

Doc. 15903

Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) and other members of the Assembly

Reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons for report

2. Enhancing cooperation between parliaments and equality bodies

Doc. 15905

Motion for a resolution tabled by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination

Reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for report

3. Strengthening mechanisms for early warning and action in conflict prevention Doc. 15906

Motion for a resolution tabled by Ms Yelyzaveta Yasko (Ukraine, EPP/CD) and other members of the Assembly

Reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report* and to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) *for opinion*

4. Media pluralism under threat in Poland

Doc. 15907

Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Arkadiusz Mularczyk (Poland, EC/DA) and other members of the Assembly

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 preparation of the report on "The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Poland"

5. Breaches of the rule of law in Poland as regards the prosecution service

Doc. 15908

Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Marcin Romanowski (Poland, EC/DA) and other members of the Assembly

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 preparation of the report on "The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Poland"

6. The illegal detention of parliamentarians in Poland

Doc. 15911

Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Arkadiusz Mularczyk (Poland, EC/DA) and other members of the Assembly

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 preparation of the report on "The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Poland"

7. Externalising asylum increases the risk of undermining the system of international protection Doc. 15912

Motion for a resolution tabled by Mr Andrea Orlando (Italy, SOC) and other members of the Assembly

Reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons to be taken into account in the preparation of the report on "Ensuring human rights compliant asylum procedures"

8. Alexei Navalny's death and the need to counter Vladimir Putin's totalitarian regime and its war on democracy

Doc. 15936

Motion for a resolution tabled by the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights

Reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report

B. REPLY AFTER CONSULTATION

1. A parliamentary sponsorship programme between the Parliamentary Assembly members and human rights defenders or the politically oppressed

Doc. 15752

Motion for a resolution tabled by Ms Derya Türk-Nachbaur (Germany, SOC) and other members of the Assembly

No further action

APPENDIX 2

List of participants / Liste des participants

President of the Parliamentary Assembly / Président de l'Assemblée parlementaire

Mr Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS Greece / Grèce

Chairpersons of Political Groups / Présidents des groupes politiques

Mr Iulian BULAI Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe (ALDE) /

Alliance des démocrates et des libéraux pour l'Europe (ADLE)

Mr Andrej HUNKO Group of the Unified European Left (UEL) /

Groupe pour la gauche unitaire européenne (GUE)

Vice-Presidents of the Assembly / Vice-président·e·s de l'Assemblée

Mr Yıldırım Tuğrul TÜRKEŞ Türkiye
Ms Elisabetta GARDINI Italy / Italie

M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ

Mr Rik DAEMS

Ms Bernadeta COMA

Switzerland / Suisse
Belgium / Belgique
Andorra / Andorre

M. Bertrand BOUYX France

Mr Marco NICOLINI San Marino / Saint-Marin

Ms Olena KHOMENKO Ukraine

Ms Blerina GJYLAMETI Albania / Albania

Chairpersons of National Delegations / Président-e-s de délégations nationales

Ms Blerina GJYLAMETI Albania / Albanie
Ms Bernadeta COMA Andorra / Andorre
Mr Ruben RUBINYAN Arménie
Mr Rik DAEMS Belgium / Belgique

M. Bertrand BOUYX France

Mr Zsolt NÉMETH

Ms Fiona O'LOUGHLIN

Ms Elisabetta GARDINI

Ms Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

Mr Emanuelis ZINGERIS

Mr Gusty GRAAS

Hungary / Hongrie

Ireland / Irlande

Italy / Italie

Latvia / Lettonie

Lithuania / Lituanie

Luxembourg

Ms Maja VUKIĆEVIĆ Montenegro / Monténégro Mr Caspar van den BERG Netherlands / Pays-Bas

Mr Darko KAEVSKI North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord

Mr Marco NICOLINI San Marino / Saint-Marin

Mr Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES Spain / Espagne

Mr Yıldırım Tuğrul TÜRKEŞ Türkiye
Ms Mariia MEZENTSEVA Ukraine

Chairperson of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Président de la Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie

M. Bertrand BOUYX France

Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Président de la Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme

Mr Richard KEEN United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

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

M. Simon MOUTQUIN Belgium / Belgium /

Chairperson of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media /

Présidente de la Commission de la culture, de la science, de l'éducation et des médias

Ms Linda Hofstad HELLELAND Norway / Norvège

Chairperson of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Présidente de la Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination

Ms Mariia MEZENTSEVA Ukraine

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

Présidente de la Commission pour le respect des obligations et engagements des États membres du

Conseil de l'Europe (Commission de suivi)

Ms Zanda KALNINA-LUKAŠEVICA Latvia / Lettonie

Chairperson of the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights / Présidente de la Commission sur l'élection des juges à la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme

Ms Petra BAYR Austria / Autriche

Rapporteur of the Committee / Rapporteure de commission

Ms Klotilda BUSHKA Albania / Albanie

Ex-officio members of the Bureau / Membres ex-officio du Bureau

Ms Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA

Mr Emanuelis ZINGERIS

Mr Gusty GRAAS

Latvia / Lettonie

Lithuania / Lituanie

Luxembourg

Other members of the Parliamentary Assembly / Autres membres de l'Assemblée parlementaire

Ms Nicole HÖCHST Germany / Allemagne
Mr Evripidis STYLIANIDIS Greece / Grèce

Ms Kate OSAMOR United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Invited personalities / Personnalités invitées

M. Gérard LARCHER President of the Senate / Président du Sénat

M. Jacques MAIRE Former Assembly Rapporteur on "The arrest and detention of

Alexei Navalny in January 2021" and "Poisoning of Alexei Navalny" / Ancien rapporteur de l'Assemblée sur «L'arrestation et la détention d'Alexeï Navalny en janvier 2021» et «Empoisonnement

d'Alexeï Navalny»

Secretaries of Political Groups / Secrétaires des groupes politiques

Ms Francesca ARBOGAST SOC

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Private Office of the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General / Cabinet de la Secrétaire Générale et du Secrétaire Général adjoint

Mr Bjørn BERGE Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe / Secrétaire

Général adjoint du Conseil de l'Europe

Ms Natacha De ROECK Adviser, Private Office of the Secretary General and the Deputy

Secretary General of the Council of Europe / Conseillère, Cabinet de la Secrétaire Générale et du Secrétaire Général

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Mr Sergey KHRYCHIKOV Head of the Private Office of the President of the Assembly / Chef

du Cabinet du Président de l'Assemblée

Mr Francesc FERRER Head of the Communication Division / Chef de la Division de la

communication

Mme Isild HEURTIN Head of the Secretariat of the Bureau of the Assembly / Cheffe

du Secrétariat du Bureau de l'Assemblée

Ms Ayşegül ELVERİŞ Head of the Secretariat of the Standing Committee / Cheffe du

Secrétariat de la Commission permanente

Mme Rachel MOREL Principal administrative assistant of the Table Office / Assistante

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Mme Martine MEYER Administrative assistant of the Standing Committee / Assistante

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Mme Anne GAREL