

Information documents

SG-AS (2024) 06

28 June 2024

Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1503rd meeting of the Ministers' Deputies¹ (1st July 2024)

¹ This document covers the activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 24 June 2024 and future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 6 September 2024 (Paris).

I. Third part of the Ordinary Session of 2024 (24 – 28 June 2024)

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

The Parliamentary Assembly, adopting a trio of resolutions on the occasion of a joint debate devoted to the consequences of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine, put forward its proposals regarding the judicial process for the trials of Vladimir Putin and his generals for aggression against Ukraine, for strengthening sanctions against the Russian Federation and for countering the attempts of the aggressor State to erase Ukrainian cultural identity. Approving a resolution and recommendation on [Legal and Human Rights aspects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine](#), the Assembly concluded that a special tribunal, created by agreement between the Council of Europe and Ukraine and supported by an enlarged partial agreement open to non-member States and other international organisations, was now the best feasible option, in terms of the legal basis and political legitimacy. Stressing that there cannot be peace without accountability, the parliamentarians invited the Core Group to maintain the momentum towards a tribunal, thanked the Netherlands for its offer to host it in The Hague, and urged states and other international organisations to participate. The Assembly called again for the seizure and repurposing of Russian State assets, with a view to transferring them to an international compensation fund for Ukraine. In a separate resolution on [The role of sanctions in countering the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine](#), the Assembly proposed ways to plug gaps and loopholes in existing sanctions against the Russian Federation, such as listing and banning shadow fleet vessels, enhancing export controls, and holding parent companies accountable for subsidiaries' actions. Finally, In a third Resolution [on Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace](#), the Assembly condemned Russia's systematic efforts to erase Ukrainian cultural identity – such as the "Russification" of children, rewriting history textbooks, removing archives, and destroying cultural heritage, recognising that these were war crimes and crimes against humanity and underlining the need for full reparations in due course. Council of Europe Human Rights Commissioner Michael O'Flaherty, making his first address to PACE in the framework of this debate, set out five priorities for standing up for the human rights of Ukrainians.

On 27 June 2024, the Parliamentary Assembly adopted [Resolution 2562 \(2024\)](#) on "An urgent call to Europe and its partners: envisioning immediate and long-term policy solutions in support of the displaced people of Ukraine". Emphasising the need for a people-centred approach in policy making in times of crisis, the Assembly called on EU member States to prolong the duration of the initially-agreed temporary protection or to open new avenues for allowing a regular and legally secure presence of peoples of Ukraine on their territory with access to rights available for asylum seekers. According to the Resolution, EU member States should also consider granting the Ukrainians under temporary protection the right to permanent residency in the host country after a three-year period of residence. In addition, PACE proposed a series of measures to support internally-displaced people in Ukraine, such as the rapid provision of sufficient humanitarian assistance, with a specific emphasis on the needs of internally displaced children and their families. Finally, the Assembly reiterated its call to take urgent measures to liberate Ukrainians who are now on the territory of the Russian Federation and Belarus, as a result of forcible displacement or deportation. In particular, it underlined the need to enhance co-operation between various parties and mechanisms to help return forcibly-displaced children, stating that "third-party interventions could offer guarantees of impartiality and effectiveness."

Finally, on 27 June 2024, the Assembly also launched its new [Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine](#). The Network is part of the follow-up to PACE's [Resolution 2529 \(2024\)](#) on this issue adopted in January 2024. Its task will be to enable the Assembly to continue its role as a facilitator to support the Ukrainian authorities and various international organisations in determining the most rapid means to identify and facilitate an effective search for deported children. The Network will also serve as a platform of exchange to promote the protection of the rights of all Ukrainian children including those internally displaced and having sought protection in other countries.

B. Follow-up to the Reykjavik Summit

Adopting a Resolution on [Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly](#), PACE members stressed that taking on board the views, expectations and concerns of young people is an essential pre-condition to ensure the good functioning of democracy. It regretted that young people are under-represented in parliaments and do not engage sufficiently with traditional politics. PACE therefore called for the establishment of a mechanism aimed at ensuring that a youth perspective is systematically taken into account in its deliberations. Such a PACE-Youth Participation Mechanism, detailed in the resolution adopted,

would include members of the Assembly and young Europeans, represented by the Advisory Council of Youth and other structures of the Council of Europe youth sector. Each of the Assembly's general committees (except for the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights) should moreover appoint from amongst its members or alternates a Youth Rapporteur, responsible for ensuring that the youth perspective is systematically taken into account in each committee's work. The Resolution also calls on the Assembly's national delegations to increase the presence of young parliamentarians amongst their members, such as considering reserving a certain number of seats for young parliamentarians. Marharyta Vorykhava, Vice-chair of the Advisory Council on Youth, addressed the Assembly during the debate and emphasised the need to mainstream young people's viewpoints in all aspects of the Parliamentary Assembly's work.

The Assembly adopted a Resolution on [Protecting women human rights defenders in Europe](#), strongly condemning the frequent attacks perpetrated against women human rights defenders and calling for an end to impunity for perpetrators of violence. The Resolution emphasises that women human rights defenders – which include activists, NGO members, health workers, private sector actors, researchers, lawyers, students, teachers, artists, trade unionists, bloggers and journalists – are working in a peaceful and legal way to promote and protect human rights. The Assembly deplores the attacks and threats that they face, both on and offline, and the intersecting forms of discrimination affecting them. PACE called on member States to repeal laws, policies and practices that adversely affect women human rights defenders, in all their diversity, and which unduly restrict their activities. Their protection should be guaranteed by a secure and enabling environment and the perpetrators of attacks and threats, including members of police forces must be prosecuted. Finally, PACE called on national parliaments to support women human rights defenders.

C. Election of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe

On 25 June 2024, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) [elected](#) Alain Berset (Switzerland) as Secretary General of the Council of Europe for a five-year term beginning on 18 September 2024.

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

On 26 June 2024, the Assembly elected Mr [András Jakab](#), Mr [Juha Lavapuro](#) and Mr [Mateja Durović](#), as judges to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of respectively Austria, Finland and Serbia.

E. Personalities

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

- His Excellency Mr Guðni Thorlacius JÓHANNESSON, President of Iceland
- Mr Guðmundur Ingi GUÐBRANDSSON, Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Market of Iceland
- Ms Marija PEJČINOVIĆ BURIĆ, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
- Ms Marharyta VORYKHAVA, vice-chair of the Advisory Council on Youth
- Mr Gabrielius LANDSBERGIS, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania and President of the Committee of Ministers
- Mr Volker TÜRK, United Nations High Commissioner for human rights
- Mr Michael O'FLAHERTY, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe

Their speeches can be found on the web site of the Assembly: <https://pace.coe.int>.

F. Current affairs debates and debates under urgent procedure

The Assembly held one debate under urgent procedure on "Challenges to democracy in Georgia".

The Assembly held two current affairs debates on "War in Gaza: ensuring the release of the hostages, the implementation of an immediate ceasefire and the provision of humanitarian aid" and on "Can the Council of Europe step up its efforts to counter threats to the freedom of expression?".

G. Media coverage

The media coverage of the 2024 third part-session was outstanding. With more than 75 journalists accredited, there were more than 330 articles (provisional figures) in the international and key national print and electronic media, the second highest figure for a summer session in recent years. Their geographic distribution reflected the PACE agenda, with strong coverage notably found in Switzerland and Ukraine, as well as in many relevant international media.

The election of Alain Berset as the new Secretary General of the Council of Europe was widely reflected in Swiss and international media (fifteen Swiss journalists were physically present in Strasbourg to cover the event). The highly emotional event of the [Olympic Torch](#), which was welcomed at the Council of Europe on its way to Paris, was an exceptional occasion in terms of the Assembly's visibility, as was the conducting of '[Ode to Joy](#)' by the Speaker of the Austrian National Council, Mr Wolfgang Sobotka. Indeed, the event was broadcast live on France TV and was prominent on TV and social media. For the two items mentioned, a specific Eurovision feed was proposed for international TV stations. Other items widely covered were the first Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment, awarded to the Irida Women's Center in Greece; the debate on the plans set up by PACE to try Russian leaders, strengthen sanctions and stop the 'erasure' of Ukrainian identity; as well as the urgent debate on the challenges to democracy in Georgia.

Social media engagement across the session week was sustained across all platforms. The top posts all concerned the Vigdís Prize, the Olympic Torch in the chamber and the election of Alain Berset as Secretary General. Total Facebook reach over the week was 4200. There were 56,300 views on YouTube over the week.

The MediaBox, a web-TV studio available to all those making news at the Assembly, once again proved its usefulness for Assembly members, as a way of raising the institution's profile: 28 interviews with parliamentarians and other participants were recorded.

H. Adopted texts

Further to debates, the Assembly adopted the following texts:

Recommendations

Recommendation 2279 (2024)	Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine (Doc. 15998)
Recommendation 2280 (2024)	Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace (Doc. 16003)
Recommendation 2281 (2024)	Reparation and reconciliation processes to overcome past conflicts and build a common peaceful future – the question of just and equal redress (Doc. 15933)

Resolutions

Resolution 2551 (2024)	Modification of various provisions of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure (Doc. 15996)
Resolution 2552 (2024)	Strengthening democracy through participatory and deliberative processes (Doc. 16001)
Resolution 2553 (2024)	Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly (Doc. 15871)
Resolution 2554 (2024)	Protecting women human rights defenders in Europe (Doc. 15993)
Resolution 2555 (2024)	Ensuring human rights-compliant asylum procedures (Doc. 15997)
Resolution 2556 (2024)	Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine (Doc. 15998)
Resolution 2557 (2024)	The role of sanctions in countering the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine (Doc. 16000)
Resolution 2558 (2024)	Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace (Doc. 16003)
Resolution 2559 (2024)	Reparation and reconciliation processes to overcome past conflicts and build a common peaceful future – the question of just and equal redress (Doc. 15933)
Resolution 2560 (2024)	The honouring of obligations and commitments by Armenia (Doc. 15994)
Resolution 2561 (2024)	Challenges to democracy in Georgia (Doc. 16018)
Resolution 2562 (2024)	An urgent call to Europe and its partners: envisioning immediate and long-term policy solutions in support of the displaced people of Ukraine (Doc. 16002)
Resolution 2563 (2024)	Call for Varosha's return to its lawful inhabitants (Doc. 16004)
Resolution 2564 (2024)	Post-conflict time: defusing ticking time bombs for a safe return of displaced populations (Doc. 15995)
Resolution 2565 (2024)	Safeguarding human rights for future generations (Doc. 15999)

These texts can be found on the web site of the Assembly: <https://pace.coe.int>.

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

Monday 24 June 2024	
<p>Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)</p> <p>14:00 – 15:30</p> <p>Room 11, Palais</p>	<p>► Exchange of views, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Michael O’Flaherty, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe.
Tuesday 25 June 2024	
<p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p> <p>08:30 – 09:15</p> <p>Room 10, Palais</p>	<p>► Exchange of views with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Hans Leijtens, Executive director of Frontex.
<p>Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination</p> <p>[not open to the public]</p> <p>8:30 – 10:00</p> <p>Room 8, Palais</p>	<p>► Hearing on <i>Protecting the human rights and improving the lives of sex workers and victims of sexual exploitation</i>, in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Fourat Ben Chikha (Belgium, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Héma Sibi, Advocacy coordinator, Coalition for the Abolition of Prostitution (CAP International), France; - Ms PG Macioti, Programme coordinator, Jasmine project, Médecins du Monde, France; - Ms Frankie Hermsen, Project lead, information on sexual health and safety for sex workers; case manager, Ugly Mugs and Complaints Desk, Soa Aids Nederland, Netherlands.
<p>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p> <p>9:15 – 10:00</p> <p>Room 10, Palais</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>Ensuring safe, healthy and sustainable food for all</i> with the participation of the Young Ambassadors for Food Resilience in the context of the preparation of a report prepared by Mr Simon Moutquin (Belgium, SOC).</p>
<p>Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)</p> <p>and</p>	<p>► Joint hearing on <i>Strengthening mechanisms for early warning on challenges to democratic security</i>, in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Yelyzaveta Yasko (Ukraine, EPP/CD), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ambassador Svetlana Geleva, Permanent Representative of North Macedonia, Chairperson of GR-DEM – Democracy;

<p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p> <p>14:00 – 15:00</p> <p>Room 9, Palais</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Dr Seema Shah, Head of Programme, Democracy Assessment, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA) (online).
<p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p> <p>14:00 – 15.30</p> <p>Room 1, Palais</p>	<p>► Hearing on <i>The detention of Julian Assange and its chilling effects on human rights</i>, in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Thorhildur Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Professor Fionnuala Ní Aoláin KC (Hons), Queen’s University, Belfast, Northern Ireland, former UN Special Rapporteur on counter-terrorism and human rights (online); - Ms Rebecca Vincent, Director of Campaigns, Reporters without Borders (online); - Mr Simon Crowther, Legal Adviser, Amnesty International, London.
<p>Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development</p> <p>and</p> <p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p> <p>14:00 – 15:30</p> <p>Room 10, Palais</p>	<p>► Joint hearing on <i>Countering addiction to sports</i>, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Sylvie Andreau, journalist, France; - Mr Jan Schuhmacher, Chair of the Expert Group on Online Addictions of the Pompidou Group, Switzerland; - Mr Jean-Yves Lourgouilloux, Chair of MARS, Network of Magistrates / Prosecutors responsible for Sports, Enlarged Partial Agreement on Sport (EPAS), Council of Europe; - Mr Dimitrios Davakis, Greek Legal Counsel / Integrity Manager, Hellenic Football Federation, Greece; - Mr Ioannis Simosis, athlete, Greece.
<p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p> <p>14:00 – 15:30</p> <p>Room 6</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>Saving migrants’ lives at sea and protecting their human rights</i>, in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Paulo Pisco (Portugal, SOC), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Christian Mommers, Advisor to the Commissioner for Human Rights at Council of Europe
<p>Wednesday 26 June 2024</p>	
<p>No Hate Parliamentary Alliance</p> <p><i>[open to the public]</i></p> <p>13:00 – 14:00</p> <p>Room 2, Palais</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>Decoding bias: discriminatory effects of AI algorithms</i>, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Kristian Bartholin, Secretary to the Committee on Artificial Intelligence (CAI), Head of Digital Development Unit, Council of Europe;

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Mariagrazia Squicciarini, Chief of Executive Office and Director a.i. at the Social and Human Sciences Sector of the UNESCO; - Ms Adinde Schoorl, office manager, International Network against Cyber Hate (INACH).
<p>Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media</p> <p>14:00 – 15:30</p> <p>Room 10, Palais</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>Doping on Sport</i>, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Steven Teitler, Legal Director, Doping Authority Netherlands (online).
Thursday 27 June 2024	
<p>Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons</p> <p>08:30 – 10 :00</p> <p>Room 6, Palais</p>	<p>► Exchange of views on <i>The theme of migration and asylum in election campaigns and its consequences on the reception of migrants and their rights</i>, in the framework of the follow-up to Resolution 2525(2024), with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Wolfram Bechtel, Head of Division, Steering Committee on Anti-Discrimination, Diversity and Inclusion.
<p>Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)</p> <p>and</p> <p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p> <p>08:45 – 10:00</p> <p>Room 1, Palais</p>	<p>► Joint hearing on <i>Regulating foreign influence: best practices and European standards</i>, with the participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ms Veronika Bilková, Vice-President of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission); - Ms Tanya Lokshina, Associate Director, Europe and Central Asia Division, Human Rights Watch.
<p>Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine</p> <p>13:00 – 14:00</p> <p>Room 8, Palais</p>	<p>► Launching of the Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine</p>

<p>Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights</p> <p>and</p> <p>Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy</p> <p>14:00 – 15:30 –</p> <p>Room 1, Palais</p>	<p>Joint hearing on <i>Examining the legitimacy and legality of the ad hominem term-limit waiver for the incumbent President of the Russian Federation</i>” (Resolution 2519 (2023)) (live streamed on Assembly’s YouTube channel) in the framework of the follow-up of the report prepared by Mr Pieter Omtzigt (Netherlands, EPP/CD), with participation of:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Mr Mikhail Kasyanov, former Prime Minister of the Russian Federation; - Dr. Gleb Bogush, Expert in public international law / Research Fellow, Cologne University, German; - Ms Veronika Bilková, Vice-President of the European Commission for Democracy through Law (Venice Commission), Co-Rapporteur of the interim opinion on constitutional amendments and the procedure for their adoption in the Russian Federation, adopted by the Venice Commission.
<p>Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize</p> <p>14:00 – 15:00</p> <p>Room 9, Palais</p>	<p>► Ceremony of the European Diplomas</p>

III. Decisions taken by the Bureau (24 June and 28 June 2024)

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday 24 June 2024, in Strasbourg:

- **Communications:** took note of the communications by the President of the Assembly, the Secretary General and the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe, and held an exchange of views with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- **Third part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 24-28 June):**
 - o Requests for debates under urgent procedure: took note of the requests to hold debates on:
 - *Challenges to democracy in Georgia*, tabled by the leaders of political groups, decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Monitoring Committee;
 - *The urgent need to end the humanitarian disaster and the violations of international law in Rafah*, tabled by Ms Zeynep Yıldız (Türkiye, NR) and 22 members of the Assembly, decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;

Requests for current affairs debates: - took note of the requests to hold debates on:

- *Can the Council of Europe step up its efforts to counter threats to the freedom of expression?*, tabled by the Unified European Left Group, decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and appointed Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL) as the first speaker;
- *War in Gaza: ensuring the release of the hostages, the implementation of an immediate ceasefire and the provision of humanitarian aid*, tabled by the leaders of political groups, decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and appointed Mr Piero Fassino (Italy, SOC) as the first speaker;
- o Draft agenda: updated the draft agenda (Appendix 1) of the part-session and approved the modalities for the elections by the Assembly during this part session as set up in Appendix 2;
- o Election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights: took note of the report drawn up by the Committee on the election of judges following interviews with candidates for the post of judges

in respect of Andorra, Austria, Finland and Serbia, including its recommendation to reject the list as regard Andorra, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report ([Doc. 16007 Add. 2](#));

- Joint Committee (Strasbourg, 26 June 2024): prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee;
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (19 April – 23 June 2024)**: approved the Progress report ([Doc. 16007](#));
- **References and transmissions to committees**: approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 3, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- **Election observation**:
 - North Macedonia - Presidential and parliamentary elections (24 April and 8 May 2024): approved the report by the observation mission ([Doc. 16013](#));
 - Bulgaria - early parliamentary elections (9 June 2024): took note of the [statement](#) by the observation mission;
 - Republic of Moldova - Presidential election and Constitutional Referendum (20 October 2024): approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections and appointed Ms Sunna Ævarsdóttir (Iceland, SOC) as its chairperson (Appendix 8);
 - Georgia - Parliamentary elections (26 October 2024): approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections and appointed Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE) as its chairperson (Appendix 9);
- **Issues raised by committees** :
 - Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy: considered and approved the terms of reference of the General Rapporteur on Russian democratic forces (Appendix 4);
 - Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: considered and approved the terms of reference of the Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine (Appendix 5);
- **Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the European Holocaust Memorial Day for Roma and Sinti (Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, 2 August 2024)**: decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the European Holocaust Memorial Day for Roma and Sinti, in Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, on 2 August 2024;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris**: authorised
 - the Sub-committee on Media and Information Society of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media to meet in Edinburgh (United Kingdom) on 9 September 2024;
 - the Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, to meet in Terrassa (Spain) on 17 October 2024;
 - the Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights, to meet in Geneva on 18-19 November 2024;
 - the Monitoring Committee to meet in Tirana, in November or December 2024 (dates to be confirmed).

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday 28 June 2024:

- **Communication**: took note of the statement by the President of the Assembly;
- **Follow-up to the third part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 24-28 June)**: approved the follow-up proposals made by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to texts adopted by the Assembly, as set out in Appendix 6;

- **References and transmissions to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 7, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;
- **Elections observation:**
 - Republic of Moldova - Presidential election and Constitutional Referendum (20 October 2024): approved the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 8);
 - Georgia - Parliamentary elections (26 October 2024): approved the updated list of members of the ad hoc committee to observe these elections (Appendix 9);
 - Parliamentary Assembly Network of Election Observers: considered and approved the terms of reference of the Parliamentary Assembly Network of Election Observers (Appendix 10);
- **Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy:** took note of the letter by the Vice-President of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy and decided to set up an ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the conference of the European Parliamentary Technology Assessment network (EPTA), on the theme “Artificial Intelligence and Democracy”, in Oslo, on 21 October 2024;
- **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the European Holocaust Memorial Day for Roma and Sinti (Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, 2 August 2024):** approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the event and designated the President of the Assembly as its chairperson (Appendix 11);
- **Ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in the Council of Europe Parliamentary Conference on "Promoting safety, integrity, equality and inclusion in sport" (Athens, 4-5 November 2024):** approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the Conference and designated the President of the Assembly as its Chairperson (Appendix 12);
- **2024 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 6-8 November):** approved the list of members of the ad hoc committee (Appendix 13);
- **Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (28 June – 29 September 2024):** appointed Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE) as rapporteur;
- **Composition of the Monitoring Committee:** on the basis of a proposal by the EPP/DC Group, nominated Ms Zdravka Bušić (Croatia) as a member;
- **European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) - List of candidates in respect of the Slovak Republic:** took note of the letter by the Chairperson of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:** authorised the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights to meet in Yerevan, on 9-10 December 2024;

IV. Prizes

➤ Europe Prize

The presentation ceremony of the European Diplomas took place on Thursday, 27 June 2024.

2024 European Diplomas (by alphabetical order of countries):

Germany	Oberstenfeld (Baden-Württemberg)
Germany	Postdam (Brandenburg Land)

Germany	Versmold (North Rhine-Westphalia)
Romania	Alba Iulia (Transylvania)

➤ **Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment**

On 23 June 2024, meeting in Strasbourg, the Selection Panel selected the prize-winner for the 2024 edition of the Prize among the three shortlisted candidates.

On 24 June 2024, the first Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment was awarded to the [Irida Women's Center](#) in Greece, a grassroots NGO which works for positive change in the lives of women experiencing poverty, social exclusion and gender-based violence.

➤ **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize**

On 27 August 2024, Prague: first meeting of the Selection Panel and official announcement of the short-listed nominees.

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

➤ ***The honouring of obligations and commitments by the Republic of Moldova***

Mr Pierre-Alain Fridez (Switzerland, SOC) and **Ms Zanda Kalniņa-Lukaševica** (Latvia, EPP/CD), rapporteurs of the *Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Chisinau **from 1 to 3 July 2024**.

➤ ***Public regulation of the freedom of expression on digital platforms***

Ms Valentina Grippo (Italy, ALDE), rapporteur of the *Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Dublin in **July 2024** (dates tbc).

VI. Other activities of members of the Assembly

Ms Mia Karamehić-Abazović (Bosnia and Herzegovina, NR), as Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media's representative to ECRI, will participate in ECRI's 95th plenary meeting from **2 to 5 July 2024** in Strasbourg, France.

Ms Luz Martínez-Seijo (Spain, SOC) and **Mr Andries Gryffroy** (Belgium, NR), as Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Culture, Education and Democratic Values, respectively, will participate in the 7th Heritage Forum of Central Europe **on 4 and 5 September 2024** in Krakow, Poland.

VII. Seminars and conferences to be organised by the Assembly

➤ The PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division through the project “Supporting Transparency, Inclusiveness and Integrity of Electoral Practice and Process in Georgia - Phase 2” will organise a series of cooperation activities between the end of June and September 2024 in Georgia. They will focus on “Strengthening political finance oversight: challenges and steps forward” with the Anti-corruption Bureau (ACB) and its Political Finance Monitoring Department to support effective monitoring of legality and transparency of political party and campaign finance (29 June); a two-day seminar for the common court judges of trial and appellate courts to improve the quality of court decisions on electoral complaints in line with international standards and case law of the ECtHR (20-21 July); a one-day workshop for representatives of regional media outlets to enhance the role of the regional media in covering electoral processes in accordance with international standards and good practices (27 July); a cascade trainings for district election commissions (DECs) (6-9 August); training of trainers for the pool of trainers of the Election Administration to support improving the management of the elections and to increase knowledge of the trainers on the new voting technology to be used for the 2024 elections (29 August);

➤ **2 – 3 July, Strasbourg:** *the PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division*, in the framework of the project on “Supporting democratic post-war elections in Ukraine” will co-organise, together with the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe, an High-Level Dialogue III “Good Democratic Governance in Ukraine: Achievements, Challenges and the Way Forward in Post-War Period”) upon the request of Mr Oleksandr Korniyenko, First Deputy Chairperson of the Ukrainian Parliament. The High-Level Dialogue, launched in November 2022 as a format of respective thematic exchanges between key Ukrainian stakeholders (leadership, members and representatives of the Ukrainian Parliament, Central Election Commission, profile ministries and agencies, local authorities, civil society), continues to serve a multilateral platform supported by the Council of Europe to discuss perspectives for good democratic governance reforms in Ukraine and reach broad agreement among the key national stakeholders as regards further actions to improve legal framework on multilevel governance and elections in light of European standards, good practice and Ukraine’s status of the EU candidate country. The Dialogue is conducted in the format of *in-camera* moderated discussions under Chatham House rules with moderation and facilitation by the Secretariats of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, Venice Commission and the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe. Previous two rounds of the High-Level Dialogue took place in Strasbourg, France, on 8 – 9 November 2022 and in Kyiv, Ukraine, on 4 December 2023. The Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly will speak in the opening session of this event.

➤ **2-3 July Chisinau:** *the PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division* through the project “Improving electoral practice in the Republic of Moldova, Phase 3” will participate and contribute to the Regional Conference 2024 *Money in Politics in the Era of Globalization and Digitalization* which will bring together over 120 representatives of political finance oversight agencies, civil society monitors, political parties, international organisations, representatives of online platform, and electoral, media, and political finance practitioners from across the Eastern European region (Albania, Armenia, Croatia, Georgia, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Republic of Moldova, Poland, Romania and Ukraine) to discuss the impact of money on politics, including online financing, globalization, and digitalization. The project is one of the co-organisers of the Conference together with Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), the OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (OSCE/ODIHR), the International Foundation for Electoral Systems (IFES), the National Democratic Institute (NDI), the International Republican Institute (IRI) and Westminster Foundation for Democracy.

➤ **02 July, 16 July, 30 July, 13 August 2024, Kyiv:** *the PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division* in the framework of the project on “Supporting democratic post-war elections in Ukraine” will organise another four episodes of series of radio programmes on war-related challenges for organisation and conduct of first post-war elections in Ukraine are planned to be aired on “Ukrainian Radio” – a publicly-funded radio broadcaster in Ukraine and one of the biggest and most popular nationwide news and talk FM radio networks in Ukraine. The activity is conducted in the framework of cooperation with the Central Election Commission of Ukraine with the aim to prevent and mitigate the risks of public opinion manipulations channelled through disinformation and misinformation campaign about elections in Ukraine, and for that purpose to raise public awareness on necessary democratic pre-conditions for the conduct of free, fair, and transparent elections.

- **2-4 August, Chisinau:** *the PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division* through the project "Improving electoral practice in the Republic of Moldova, Phase 3", in cooperation with the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training and the National Youth Council from the Republic of Moldova, will organise a school for young people particularly first-time voters, ahead of the 2024 Presidential election and EU-related constitutional referendum. Participants will familiarise with electoral practices and procedure and increase their level of knowledge and practical skills to improve use social media platforms, gather information about electoral candidates, ensure promote youth priorities in the campaign, debunk misinformation in elections and combat misuse of administrative resources.
- **14-16 August, Chisinau:** *the PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division* through the project "Improving electoral practice in the Republic of Moldova, Phase 3" will organise a training of trainers for personnel of the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MAI) on ensuring public order throughout the electoral process based on the Operational Handbook developed in 2024.

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

- . **27 June 2024, Strasbourg:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **28 June 2024, Strasbourg:** *Bureau meeting*
- . **5 September 2024, Paris:** *Presidential Committee*
- . **6 September 2024, Paris:** *Bureau meeting*

Appendix 1 – Agenda of the third part of the 2024 Ordinary Session



Parliamentary Assembly
Assemblée parlementaire

<https://pace.coe.int>



Doc. 15990
26 June 2024

Third part of the 2024 Ordinary Session (24-28 June 2024)

Agenda¹

1. Adopted by the Assembly on 24 June 2024.

<https://pace.coe.int>



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





EC/DA: European Conservatives Group and Democratic Alliance

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)
-  Votes

Meetings outside the Chamber

Joint Committee

Wednesday: 15:30-16:30

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

Tuesday: 13:00-14:00

Wednesday: 08:30-10:00

Monday 24 June 2024

Sitting No. 15 (11:30-13:00)

1. Opening of the part-session

1.1. Statement by the President

1.2. Examination of credentials

- List of delegations:
 - o (Doc. 16012)

1.3. Changes in the membership of committees (Commissions (2024) 06)

1.4. Requests for debate:

1.4.1. Urgent procedure debate: "Challenges to democracy in Georgia"

1.4.2. Current affairs debate: "Can the Council of Europe step up its efforts to counter threats to the freedom of expression?"

1.4.3. Urgent procedure debate: "The urgent need to end the humanitarian disaster and the violations of international law in Rafah"

1.4.4. Current affairs debate: "War in Gaza: ensuring the release of the hostages, the implementation of an immediate ceasefire and the provision of humanitarian aid"

1.5. Adoption of the agenda

1.6. Approval of the minutes of the Standing Committee (Vilnius, 24 May 2024) (AS/Per(2024)PV02)

2. Ceremony

2.1. Ceremony marking the 75th anniversary of the Council of Europe

- Statement by:
 - o Mr Wolfgang SOBOTKA, President of the National Council of Austria

3. Debate

3.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER (United Kingdom, EC/DA), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16007, Doc. 16007 Add. 1, Doc. 16007 Add. 2)

3.2. Observation of the presidential and parliamentary elections in North Macedonia (24 April and 8 May 2024)

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Alfred HEER (Switzerland, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16013)

List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 June, 10:00)

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

4.1. Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment²

- Statements by:
 - o His excellency Mr Guðni Thorlacius JÓHANNESSON, President of Iceland
 - o Mr Guðmundur Ingi GUÐBRANDSSON, Minister of Social Affairs and Labour Market of Iceland

2. See separate programme, AS/Inf(2024)07.

Sitting No. 16 (15:30-17:30)

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

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

6. Debate (continued)

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


Presentation by:

- o Mr Ian LIDDELL-GRAINGER (United Kingdom, EC/DA), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16007, Doc. 16007 Add. 1, Doc. 16007 Add. 2)

6.2. Observation of the presidential and parliamentary elections in North Macedonia (24 April and 8 May 2024) (continued)

Presentation by:

- o Mr Alfred HEER (Switzerland, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16013)


 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 June, 10:00)


7. Debate


7.1. Modification of various provisions of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure

Presentation by:

- o Ms Ingerd Schie SCHOU (Norway, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pro (Doc. 15996)

 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 June, 12:00)

 Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 June, 11:00)

 Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15996)

Tuesday 25 June 2024

Sitting No. 17 (10:00-13:00)

8. Election (10:05-12:05)

8.1. Secretary General of the Council of Europe

- List:
 - o (Doc. 15968)

9. Joint debate

9.1. Strengthening democracy through participatory and deliberative processes

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr George PAPANDEOU (Greece, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16001)

9.2. Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Anastasios CHATZIVASILEIOU (Greece, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 15871)
 - o Ms Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Cult (Doc. 15872)
- Statement by:
 - o Ms Marharyta VORYKHAVA, vice-chair of the Advisory Council on Youth
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 24 June, 16:30)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 June, 16:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16001)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15871)

10. Address (12:00-13:00)

10.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Gabrielius LANDSBERGIS, Minister of Foreign Affairs of Lithuania and President of the Committee of Ministers
- Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 24 June, 16:30)

Sitting No. 18 (15:30-19:30)

11. [Possibly] Election (2nd round) (16:00-18:00)

11.1. Secretary General of the Council of Europe

12. Address (15:30-16:30)

12.1. Mr Volker TÜRK, United Nations High Commissioner for human rights

- Questions (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 June, 12:00)

13. Debate

13.1. Protecting women human rights defenders in Europe

- Presentation by:
 - o Ms Petra BAYR (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 15993)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 June, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 June, 16:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15993)

14. Debate

14.1. Ensuring human rights-compliant asylum procedures

- Presentation by:
 - Ms Stephanie KRISPER (Austria, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 15997)
- 📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 June, 12:00)
- ⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 24 June, 16:00)
- 🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15997)

Wednesday 26 June 2024

Sitting No. 19 (10:00-13:00)

15. Elections (10:05-12:05)

15.1. Judges to the European Court of Human Rights

- Lists of candidates:
 - o Austria (Doc. 16007 Add. 2, Doc. 15988)
 - o Finland (Doc. 16007 Add. 2, Doc. 15991)
 - o Serbia (Doc. 16007 Add. 2, Doc. 15985)

16. Joint debate

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

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Davor Ivo STIER (Croatia, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 15998)

16.2. The role of sanctions in countering the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine

- Presentation by:
 - o Ms Yelyzaveta YASKO (Ukraine, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16000)

16.3. Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace

- Presentation by:
 - o Ms Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 16003)
- Statement by:
 - o Mr Michael O'FLAHERTY, Commissioner for Human Rights of the Council of Europe
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 June, 19:00)

Sitting No. 20 (16:30-20:00)

17. Joint debate (continued)

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

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Davor Ivo STIER (Croatia, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 15998)

17.2. The role of sanctions in countering the Russian Federation's war of aggression against Ukraine

- Presentation by:
 - o Ms Yelyzaveta YASKO (Ukraine, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16000)

17.3. Countering the erasure of cultural identity in war and peace

- Presentation by:
 - o Ms Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 16003)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 25 June, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 25 June, 16:00)
- Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 15998)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16000)
- Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16003)

18. Debate

18.1. Reparation and reconciliation processes to overcome past conflicts and build a common peaceful future – the question of just and equal redress

- Presentation by:
 - Lord Richard KEEN (United Kingdom, EC/DA), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 15933)
 - Mr George LOUCAIDES (Cyprus, UEL), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Pol (Doc. 16019)
- 📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 June, 12:00)
- ⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 25 June, 16:00)
- 🗳️ Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 15933)

19. Debate

19.1. The honouring of obligations and commitments by Armenia

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Kimmo KILJUNEN (Finland, SOC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 15994)
 - Ms Boriana ÅBERG (Sweden, EPP/CD), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 15994)
- 📅 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 June, 12:00)
- ⌚ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 25 June, 16:00)
- 🗳️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15994)

Thursday 27 June 2024

Sitting No. 21 (10:00-13:00)

20. Debate under urgent procedure

20.1. Challenges to democracy in Georgia

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Claude KERN (France, ALDE), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16018)
 - o Ms Edite ESTRELA (Portugal, SOC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16018)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 June, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 June, 10:30)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16018)

21. Debate

21.1. An urgent call to Europe and its partners: envisioning immediate and long-term policy solutions in support of the displaced people of Ukraine

- Presentation by:
 - o Ms Lise SELNES (Norway, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 16002)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 26 June, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 June, 10:30)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16002)

Sitting No. 22 (15:30-20:00)

22. Debate

22.1. Call for Varosha's return to its lawful inhabitants

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Piero FASSINO (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16004)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 June, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 June, 16:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16004)

23. Debate

23.1. Post-conflict time: defusing ticking time bombs for a safe return of displaced populations

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Domagoj HAJDUKOVIĆ (Croatia), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 15995)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 June, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 26 June, 16:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15995)

24. Current affairs debate

24.1. War in Gaza: ensuring the release of the hostages, the implementation of an immediate ceasefire and the provision of humanitarian aid

- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 June, 12:00)

25. Current affairs debate

25.1. Can the Council of Europe step up its efforts to counter threats to the freedom of expression?

- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 June, 12:00)

Friday 28 June 2024

Sitting No. 23 (10:00-13:00)

26. Debate

26.1. Safeguarding human rights for future generations

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Pedro CEGONHO (Portugal, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 15999)
 - Ms Gala VELDHOEN (Netherlands, SOC), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. 16016)
- 📄 List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 27 June, 19:00)
- ⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 27 June, 10:30)
- ⚖️ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 15999)

27. Progress report (continued)

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

- Addendum:
 - (Doc. 16007 Add. 3)

28. Closure of the part-session

Appendix 2 – Organisation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly during the June 2024 part-session

Introduction

1. On 14 September 2023, and again on 27 November 2023, the Bureau decided that the Assembly would proceed to the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights and other high-level personalities of the Council of Europe in accordance with the procedure laid down in Rule 40.11 of the Rules of Procedure, using ballot papers and ballot boxes, and to maintain the practice established since 2020 of having tellers appointed by political groups.

Since the January 2024 part-session, these elections have been held in accordance with the standard voting procedure laid down in the Rules of Procedure, by secret ballot with paper ballots, polling booths and ballot boxes; however, the paper attendance sheets have been replaced by a system of verification and electronic signature through the badge of the voting member of the Assembly.

On 19 April 2024, the Bureau instructed the Secretariat to organise the elections to be held during the June 2024 part-session in such a way that a possible second round can be held on the same day. On 23 May 2024, the Bureau held an exchange of views on the organisation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly during the June 2024 part-session. The arrangements described below were agreed.

Terms and conditions

At the June 2024 part-session, the Parliamentary Assembly will elect the next Secretary General of the Council of Europe and three judges to the European Court of Human Rights.

In order to meet the Bureau's request, the following arrangements have been identified to ensure the possibility of organising a possible second round on the same day:

the election of the Secretary General will be held on Tuesday 25 June;

the elections of judges to the European Court of Human Rights will be held on Wednesday 26 June;

in both cases, votes for the 1st round will be open from 10.05 a.m. to 12.05 noon, and the results will be announced before the sitting adjourns at 1 p.m.

votes for a possible second round will be open in the afternoon from 4 p.m. to 6 p.m. on Tuesday 25 June for the election of the Secretary General, and from 4.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. on Wednesday 26 June for the election of judges to the Court; the results will be announced before the sitting is adjourned.

In order to ensure that all members, entitled to take part in the vote, vote in these elections during a limited timeframe, polling stations will be set up in the Lobby of the Committee of Ministers which provides the necessary space for the installation of sufficient number of polling booths to ensure that the elections can be held within the allotted time.

Concerning the election of the Secretary General, the vote will be carried out according to the same terms as for previous elections, namely: the members entitled to vote will be given a single ballot paper presenting the list of the three candidates for the position of General Secretary, in alphabetical order. They will be asked to tick the name of the candidate for whom they are voting. The vote counting will be carried out manually by five tellers duly appointed by the political groups.

With regards to the elections of judges to the European Court of Human Rights, the Assembly will have to elect three judges on the same day. Due to the number of elections, another procedure must be put in place. The vote count will be carried out automatically, under the supervision of tellers duly appointed by the political groups. This step will substantially speed up the counting of the three elections which will be held at the same time and will allow a possible second round of one or more of these elections to be held on the same day. As the ballot papers must be compatible with the device that will carry out the automatic counting, these will be individual ballot papers accompanied with a unique barcode. The ballot papers will be arranged in alphabetical order on dedicated tables. Members entitled to vote will be asked to bring three ballot papers

for each election. They will then be able to slip their ballot paper into the dedicated envelope. Opaque bins will be available in the polling station to allow members entitled to vote to throw away unused ballot papers.

Conclusion

Following discussions at its meetings on 19 April and 23 May, within the framework of its competence for the organisation of the Assembly's part-sessions and plenary sittings, the Bureau of the Assembly is invited to approve the arrangements for the organisation of the elections by the Assembly during the June 2024 part-session.

Appendix 3 – References and transmissions to committees

A. References to Committees

- Protecting democracy from disruptions caused by artificial intelligence, Motion for a resolution [Doc. 15978](#): reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*
- Proceeds of the crime denounced by Sergei Magnitsky found in Switzerland must not be returned to the presumed perpetrators, Motion for a resolution [Doc. 15981](#): reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- Artificial intelligence and gender equality: risks and challenges, Motion for a resolution [Doc. 15986](#): reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report* and to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for opinion*

B. Requests for extensions of references

- Interconnections between the Council of Europe and the European Political Community, Motion for a resolution [Doc. 15635](#) (Reference 4687 of 14 October 2022 – validity: 14 October 2024) : extension until 14 October 2025.
- Addressing the social and economic effects of sanctions, Motion for a resolution [Doc. 15558](#) (Reference 4664 of 10 October 2022 – validity: 10 October 2024) : extension until 10 October 2025.

Appendix 4 – Terms of Reference General Rapporteur on Russian democratic forces

Denomination: General Rapporteur on Russian democratic forces

Term of office: One year, renewable once

Mandate: The General Rapporteur on Russian democratic forces promotes the coherence of the Assembly's action aimed at building dialogue with Russian democratic forces who share the Council of Europe's values and recognise the territorial integrity of Ukraine in its internationally recognised border, supporting their efforts to bring about a democratic change in Russia.

Responsibilities: Taking into account Assembly Resolutions [2433 \(2022\)](#), [2473 \(2022\)](#) and [2540 \(2024\)](#), the role of the General Rapporteur is to:

act as a focal point in pursuing a two-way dialogue between the Assembly and Russian democratic forces;

contributes to the activities of the Contact Platform for dialogue with representatives of Russian democratic forces, under the leadership of the President of the Assembly, and deputises for the President when requested;

maintain relations with the Council of Europe organs and bodies conducting work related to Russia; follow their relevant activities, representing the Assembly as appropriate;

work and co-ordinate actions with the other Assembly's General Rapporteurs and rapporteurs;

promote relevant parliamentary initiatives at national level;

follow activities and maintains relations with officials/bodies in Council of Europe member and observer States pursuing dialogue with Russian democratic forces;

follow activities and maintain relations with relevant bodies and agencies of the United Nations, the European Union, the Organisation for Security and Co-operation in Europe, and with other international governmental and inter-parliamentary organisations;

enhance the external visibility and outreach of the work and role of the Assembly relating to Russia and/or Russian democratic forces, including the follow-up and promotion of adopted resolutions and recommendations of the Assembly; in appropriate cases, make public statements, launch appeals, or propose to do so to the Committee.

The General Rapporteur on Russian democratic forces periodically reports to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy.

Appendix 5 – Terms of reference of The Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine

Duration: June 2024 – 31 December 2025

In accordance with the Bureau decision of 7 March 2024 to invite the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development to consider the setting-up of a Network on the Situation of the Children of Ukraine in the framework of the follow-up and implementation of paragraph 26 of [Resolution 2529 \(2024\) on “the situation of the children of Ukraine”](#), the Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe shall be constituted in the June 2024 part-session of the Assembly under the auspices of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development.

The terms of reference of the Network were adopted by the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe at its meeting on 3 June 2024 for transmission to the Bureau of the Assembly.

Aim of the Network

1. In accordance with Resolution 2529 (2024), it is the task of the Network to provide support to the Assembly “to continue its role as a facilitator (...) to support the Ukrainian authorities and various international organisations, such as UNICEF, the UNHCR, the High Commissioner for Human Rights and other competent United Nations agencies, and the ICRC, in determining the most rapid means to identify and facilitate an effective search for children, with access to as much information as possible about their identity and the conditions of their deportation or forcible transfer by the Russian Federation.”

In particular, as a platform of exchange, the Network should:

facilitate the coordination between Ukrainian authorities, international organisations, civil society and other relevant stakeholders

facilitate the rapid and effective implementation of existing mechanisms and contribute to finding new mechanisms, as appropriate, for the identification, tracing and repatriation of deported Ukrainian children

ensure that returned Ukrainian children are smoothly reintegrated

promote the protection of the rights of displaced and refugee Ukrainian children

ensure promotion and dissemination of Council of Europe standards and of Consultation Group on the Children of Ukraine (CGU) tools and deliverables

support the access of Ukrainian children to education and healthcare, including treatment and psychological support for those affected by war.

Composition of the Network

The Network shall be composed of:

1.1. In respect of the 46 member States of the Council of Europe: one member of each national delegation, appointed by the national delegation.

1.2. In respect of the parliaments with Observer or Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: one member of each national delegation, appointed by the national delegation.

1.3. One member each appointed by the following Committees of the Parliamentary Assembly:

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights
Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development

Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media
Committee on Equality and Non-discrimination.

1.4. One associate member appointed by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe.

The members of the Bureau of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, the chairpersons of political groups and the President of the Assembly, shall be *ex officio* members of the Network.

Working methods of the Network

In terms of the application of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, the Network shall be assimilated to a Sub-Committee of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development. All members of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development shall be entitled to attend the Network's meetings.

The working languages of the Network shall be English and French.

The Network shall hold its first meeting during the 2024 fourth part-session of the Assembly (30 September – 4 October), with the President of the Assembly in the Chair and shall elect its Bureau amongst its members on this occasion.

In fulfilling its task set out in paragraph 1 of these terms of reference, the Network shall be inspired by international and European treaties, United Nations declarations and reports, and texts adopted by the Parliamentary Assembly, in particular those related to the war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine.

The Network may co-operate with parliamentarians and national parliaments outside of Europe, as well as parliamentary networks and regional and international parliamentary assemblies.

The Network may rely on the "Bring Kids Back UA" initiative and on information sharing with Ukrainian civil society.

The Network shall endeavour to limit its environmental impact.

Appendix 6 – Follow-up to the third part-session of 2024 (Strasbourg, 24-28 June)

Resolution 2553 (2024) Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly.

❖ Follow up:

- Instructed the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to prepare a memorandum on modalities to implement the “PACE-Youth Participation Mechanisms”.
- Decided to seize the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs for report on “Modification of various provisions of the Assembly’s Rules of Procedure” to ensure that the Assembly’s Rules of Procedure and complementary texts are amended in line with the decisions contained in paragraph 8 of the Resolution and its sub-paragraphs.

Resolution 2556 (2024) Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation’s aggression against Ukraine.

- ❖ Follow-up: decided to refer the matter to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for a new report on “Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation’s war of aggression against Ukraine”.

Resolution 2561 (2024) Challenges to democracy in Georgia.

- ❖ Follow-up: decided to refer the matter 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 its report on “The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia”.

Current affairs debate on “War in Gaza: ensuring the release of the hostages, the implementation of an immediate ceasefire and the provision of humanitarian aid”.

- ❖ Follow-up: decided to refer the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to be taken into account in the preparation of its report on “Situation in the Middle East”.

Appendix 7 – References and transmissions to committees

References to committees

- Political parties and democracy [Doc. 16005](#), Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*
- Call for increased support for refugees in Lebanon [Doc. 16006](#), Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons *for report*
- Procedure for the election of judges to the European Court of Human Rights [Doc. 16011](#), Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights *for report*
- Bürgenstock summit on peace in Ukraine: paving the way [Doc. 16015](#), Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*
- Journalists matter: the need to step up efforts to liberate Ukrainian journalists held in captivity by the Russian Federation [Doc. 16020](#), Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*
- Support for political negotiations to enforce exchange and release of prisoners of war [Doc. 16021](#), Motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*
- Bureau decision: Modification of various provisions of the Assembly's Rules of Procedure: reference to the Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs *for report* (follow-up to Resolution 2553 (2024) Strengthening a youth perspective in the work of the Parliamentary Assembly)
- Bureau decision: Legal and human rights aspects of the Russian Federation's aggression against Ukraine: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*
- Bureau decision: Resolution 2561 (2024) Challenges to democracy in Georgia: reference to the Monitoring Committee *to be taken into account* in the preparation of its report on "The honouring of obligations and commitments by Georgia".
- Bureau decision: Current affairs debate on "War in Gaza: ensuring the release of the hostages, the implementation of an immediate ceasefire and the provision of humanitarian aid": reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *to be taken into account* in the preparation of its report on "Situation in the Middle East"

Requests for extensions of references

- Civil society and the Parliamentary Assembly: towards greater transparency and engagement [Doc. 15330](#): extension until 31 December 2024.
- The need for renewed, effective and inclusive multilateralism [Doc. 15332](#) : extension until 27 September 2025.
- The Parliamentary Assembly should support Kazakhstan to continue its democratic reforms [Doc. 15569](#): extension until 10 October 2025.
- Foreign interference: a threat to democratic security in Europe [Doc. 15605](#): extension until 25 November 2025.

Appendix 8 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the Presidential election and Constitutional Referendum in the Republic of Moldova (20 October 2024)

Chairperson / Présidente : Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande

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

Mr / M. Constantinos EFSTATHIOU, Cyprus / Chypre
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche
Ms / Mme Thórhildur Sunna ÆVARSDÓTTIR, Iceland / Islande *
Ms / Mme Petra BAYR, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège
Ms / Mme Sascha FAXE, Denmark / Danemark

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Ms / Mme Aurora FLORIDIA, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye
Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal
Mr / M. Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne

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

Ms / Mme Zdravka BUŠIĆ, Croatia / Croatie
Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Niklaus-Samuel GUGGER, Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne
Mr / M. Jan Filip LIBICKI, Poland / Pologne
Mr / M. Chris SAID, Malta / Malte *

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Christian BUCHMANN, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

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

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine*
Mr / M. Harald WEYEL, Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. Andrew PERCY, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA, Spain / Espagne

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Ms / Mme Pauline LATHAM, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN, Armenia / Arménie

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

Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO, Italy / Italie*
Mr / M. Petri HONKONEN, Finland / Finlande
Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republic / République Slovaque
Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS, Netherlands / Pays Bas
Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie
Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN, Türkiye

Mr / M. Alfred HEER, Switzerland / Suisse

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

Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL, Spain / Espagne *

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Ms / Mme Nina KASIMATI, Greece / Grèce

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

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

Ms / Mme Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA, Latvia / Lettonie - EPP/CD

* pre-electoral mission

Appendix 9 – List of members of the ad hoc committee for the observation of the Parliamentary elections in Georgia (26 October 2024)

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M. Iulian BULAI, Romania / Roumanie

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

Mr / M. Frank SCHWABE, Germany / Allemagne *
Ms / Mme Anna-Kristiina MIKKONEN, Finland / Finlande
Ms / Mme Agnes Sirkka PRAMMER, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Andrea ORLANDO, Italy / Italie
Ms / Mme Aurora FLORIDIA, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ, Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Didier MARIE, France
Mr / M. Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne
Ms / Mme Aysu BANKOĞLU, Türkiye

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Ms / Mme Blerina GJYLAMETI, Albania / Albanie
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye
Mr / M. Christophe CHAILLOU, France
Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Normay / Norvège
Mr / M. Namik TAN, Türkiye
Ms / Mme Sibel ARSLAN, Switzerland / Suisse
Mr / M. Yves CRUCHTEN, Luxembourg

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

Ms / Mme Boriana ÅBERG, Sweden / Suède
Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Christophe BRICO, Monaco
Ms / Mme Linda Hofstad HELLELAND, Norway / Norvège
Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne
Mr / M. Reinhold LOPATKA, Austria / Autriche
Mr / M. Nicos TORNARITIS, Cyprus / Chypre
Mr / M. Emanuelis ZINGERIS, Lithuania / Lituanie*

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Corneliu-Mugurel COZMANCIUC, Romania / Roumanie
Mr / M. Chris SAID, Malta / Malte
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

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

Mr / M. Simone BILLI, Italy / Italie *
Lord David BLENCATHRA, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni
Ms / Mme Olena KHOMENKO, Ukraine
Mr / M. Fabio PIETRELLA, Italy / Italie
Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN, Armenia / Arménie
Ms / Mme Pauline LATHAM, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO, Ukraine
Mr / M. Harald WEYEL, Germany / Allemagne
Mr / M. José María SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA, Spain / Espagne

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. Olivier BITZ, France
Ms / Mme Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO, Monaco
Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK, Ukraine
Mr / M. Ryszard PETRU, Poland / Pologne

Substitutes / Suppléant.e.s

Mr / M. Arminas LYDEKA, Lithuania / Lituanie
Ms / Mme Rian VOGELS, Netherlands / Pays Bas
Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVÁKOVÁ, Slovak Republic / République Slovaque
Mr / M. Damien COTTIER, Switzerland / Suisse

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

Ms / Mme Nina KASIMATI, Greece / Grèce
Mr / M. Andrej HUNKO, Germany / Allemagne *

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

Mr / M. Claude KERN, France – ALDE
Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA, Portugal – SOC

Accompanying person

Lady Tara BLENCATHRA, accompanying Lord David BLENCATHRA

* pre-electoral mission

Appendix 10 – Terms of reference of the Parliamentary Assembly Network of Election Observers

The Parliamentary Assembly has been committed to election observation since 1991, providing essential recommendations that have helped shape the electoral legislation of member States and informed the endeavours of both the Monitoring and the Political Affairs Committees.

Confronting emerging challenges that threaten electoral integrity and undermine public trust in democratic processes, the Assembly has decided to take a more proactive stance in advocating for activities aimed at enhancing the legal frameworks and improved electoral practices in member States. In 2022, its Elections Division co-initiated the Council of Europe's Electoral Cycle, in 2023 it organised the Bern Conference on "Elections in times of crisis", which drew on the synergies of various stakeholders, including members of International Election Observation Missions (IEOM), electoral management bodies, civil society organisations, and academic institutions.

In response to the "Reykjavik Principles for Democracy" adopted at the Council of Europe Summit of Heads of State and Government (16-17 May 2023) and the subsequent Riga Declaration which committed the Assembly to "strengthening its initiatives to uphold the integrity of elections", the Assembly has realigned its activities, including by incorporating intergovernmental election cooperation in its structures as of January 2024 to enhance support for member States throughout the electoral process. It is now also managing the [Council of Europe Electoral Cycle](#) and focusing more on the preparation and follow-up to the Assembly's thematic reports on topics such as foreign interference, crisis situations, migrant portrayal in campaigns, reconstruction of Ukraine, etc.

In this context, the creation of a Parliamentary Network of election observers will facilitate cross-cutting dialogue on electoral issues and will formally represent the Assembly in external forums, without altering the operational mechanisms of existing election observation missions (EOMs) or new cooperation activities. The terms of reference for this newly established network are delineated below.

Aim of the Network

In accordance with [Resolution 2538 \(2024\)](#) "Promoting the revised Code of Good Practice on Referendums", the Parliamentary Assembly decides to create the Parliamentary Assembly Network of Election Observers to enable a more effective exchange among PACE observers, reinforce electoral activities and enhance the visibility of the Assembly's electoral endeavours in light of post-Reykjavik Summit and the addition of a co-operation component.

In particular, as platform of exchange, the Network should:

- 1.1. foster exchange of information on electoral activities and election observation missions (EOMs) between PACE observers;
- 1.2. promote the Council of Europe [reference standards](#) in electoral matters, in particular:
 - Venice Commission's Code of good conduct in electoral matters, Revised Code of Good Practice on Referendums and its legal opinions on (draft) legislation on elections, referendums and political parties,
 - The Committee of Ministers' Recommendations in electoral matters,
 - The European Court of Human rights' case-law on the right to free and fair elections as set out in [Protocol 1, Article 3](#),
 - PACE Resolutions related to electoral matters,

as well as

- PACE [Guidelines for the observation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly](#), the [Declaration of principles for international election observation](#) and the Code of Conduct for International Election Observers,

- PACE reports on election observation.
- 1.3. organise dedicated seminars;
 - 1.4. ensure the representation of the Assembly in external electoral activities;
 - 1.5. promote visibility of the Assembly's electoral activities its contribution to the Council of Europe Electoral Cycle.

The Bureau of the Assembly remains responsible for the appointment of PACE ad hoc committees to observe elections and referenda in line with the Assembly's Rules of Procedure (Appendix XIII).

Composition of the Network

The Network shall be composed of members approved by the Bureau of the Assembly, as follows:

- 1.6. in respect of the member States of the Council of Europe: members of the Parliamentary Assembly on the basis of candidatures presented by the political groups and taking into account active participation in PACE election observation missions, gender balance and regional balance. The Bureau of the Assembly shall approve additional members to the Network from among the representatives and substitutes of the Assembly who do not belong to any political group upon proposal of the Bureau of the Network;
- 1.7. in respect of the parliaments with Observer or Partner for Democracy status with the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe: one member of parliament for each unicameral parliament, and one member of each Chamber for bicameral parliaments, appointed by the national delegation;
- 1.8. a representative appointed by the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities of the Council of Europe;
- 1.9. a representative appointed by the Venice Commission.

The President of the Assembly, the Chairpersons of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, of the Monitoring Committee and of the Committee of Legal Affairs and Human Rights, the chairpersons of political groups, the General Rapporteur on Democracy, as well as the representatives of the Assembly in the Council for Democratic Elections of the Venice Commission (members and substitutes), shall be ex officio members of the Network.

Working methods of the Network

In terms of application of the Rules of Procedure of the Assembly, the Network shall follow the rules applicable to sub-committees of the Assembly (article 49 of the Rules), except as otherwise provided.

The working languages of the Network shall be English and French.

The Bureau of the Network shall be composed of one member designated by each political group and approved by the Bureau of the Assembly. The Chairperson of the Network shall be designated among the members of the Bureau of the Network on the basis of an agreement reached among the political groups ensuring the rotation amongst political groups. The chairperson and the vice-chairpersons of the Network shall remain in office until the opening of the next ordinary session of the Assembly. They may serve for one further term, consecutive or not. A chairperson or vice-chairperson of the Network designated in the course of a session for an incomplete term may be designated for maximum two further terms.

The costs of participation of members of the Network in its meetings and events shall be borne by the respective national parliaments.

The Network shall develop co-operation with all Council of Europe parties active in electoral matters within the framework of the Council of Europe Electoral Cycle, in particular the Steering Committee on Democracy (CDDDEM) and the Rapporteur Group on Democracy (GR-DEM).

The Network shall actively co-operate with national parliaments and parliamentarians in and beyond Europe, as well as parliamentary networks and regional and international parliamentary assemblies, including but not limited to the Assembly's partners in the framework of the International Election Observation Missions, in particular the Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE/ ODIHR), OSCE PA, EP and NATO PA.

The Network shall also co-operate with other international organisations, election management bodies, NGOs as well as representatives of the media and the academia dealing with electoral matters.

The Network shall periodically, and at least once a year, report to the Bureau of the Assembly of its activities, which shall approve its decisions.

Appendix 11 – List of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the European Holocaust Memorial Day for Roma and Sinti (Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, 2 August 2024)

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M.Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

Bureau of the Assembly / Bureau de l'Assemblée

Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI (Italy, EC/DA / Italie, CE/AD)

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

Mr / M. Yuriy KAMELCHUK (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)

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

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ (Switzerland, SOC / Suisse, SOC)

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, EC/DA / Ukraine CE/AD)

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

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

Ms / Mme Petra BAYR (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)

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

Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs / Commission du Règlement, des immunités et des affaires institutionnelles

Mr / M. Paul GAVAN (Ireland, UEL / Irlande, GUE)

Appendix 12 – List of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the Council of Europe Parliamentary Conference on "Promoting safety, integrity, equality and inclusion in sport" (Athens, 4-5 November 2024)

Chairperson / Président : Mr / M.Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

Bureau of the Assembly / Bureau de l'Assemblée

Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI (Italy, EC/DA / Italie, CE/AD)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme

Ms / Mme Domenica SPINELLI (Italy, EC/DA / Italie, CE/AD)

Mr / M. Sergiy VLASENKO (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)

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

Mr Vladimir ĐORĐEVIĆ (Serbia, NR / Serbie, NI)

Mr / M. Joseph O'REILLY (Ireland, EPP/CD / Irlande, PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Minna REIJONEN (Finland, EC/DA / Finlande, CE/AD)

Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY (France, ALDE / France, ADLE)

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

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

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

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

Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN (Türkiye, ALDE / Türkiye, ADLE)

Mr / M. Constantinos EFSTATHIOU (Cyprus, SOC / Chypre, SOC)

Ms / Mme Seda GÖREN BÖLÜK (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO (Italy, ALDE / Italie, ADLE)

Mr / M. Andries GRYFFROY (Belgium, NR / Belgique, NI)

Ms / Mme Linda Hofstad HELLELAND (Norway, EPP/CD / Norvège, PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Mogens JENSEN (Denmark, SOC / Danemark, SOC)

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

Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)

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

Ms / Mme Denisa Elena NEAGU (Romania, ALDE / Roumanie, ADLE)

Mr / M. Fabio PIETRELLA (Italy, EC/DA / Italie, CE/AD)

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

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

Ms / Mme Eka SEPASHVILI (Georgia, EC/DA / Géorgie, CE/AD)

Mr / M. Pavlo SUSHKO (Ukraine, EC/DA / Ukraine, CE/AD)

Mr / M. Kim VALENTIN (Denmark, ALDE / Danemark, ADLE)

Ms / Mme Zeynep YILDIZ (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

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

Ms / Mme Aysu BANKOĞLU (Türkiye, SOC)

Mr / M. Roland Rino BÜCHEL (Switzerland, ALDE / Suisse, ADLE)

Mr / M. Yuriy KAMELCHUK (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Ester MIELI (Italy, EC/DA / Italie, CE/AD)

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

**Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs / Commission du Règlement,
des immunités et des affaires institutionnelles**

Ms / Mme Ingrid Schie SCHOU (Norway, EPP/CD, Norvège, PPE/DC)

Appendix 13 – List of members of the ad hoc committee to participate in the 2024 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 6-8 November)

Chairperson / Président·e : ...

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

Ms / Mme Zanda KALNIŅA-LUKAŠEVICA (Latvia, EPP/CD / Lettonie, PPE/DC)
Mr / M. George PAPANDREOU (Greece, SOC / Grèce, SOC)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE (Türkiye, SOC)
Mr / M. Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ (Bosnia and Herzegovina, SOC / Bosnie-Herzégovine, SOC)

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

Ms / Mme Larysa BILOZIR (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)

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

Mr / M. Pierre-Alain FRIDEZ (Switzerland, SOC / Suisse, SOC)
Ms / Mme Pelin YILIK (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

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

Ms / Mme Seda GÖREN BÖLÜK (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)
Ms / Mme Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)

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

Ms / Mme Petra BAYR (Austria, SOC / Autriche, SOC)
Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK ÖZEN (Türkiye, UEL) / Türkiye, GUE)
Mr / M. Yuriy KAMELCHUK (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)
Ms / Mme Mariia MEZENTSEVA (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)
Mr / M. Francesco VERDUCCI (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)

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)

Ms / Mme Valentina GRIPPO (Italy, ALDE / Italie, ADLE)
Mr / M. Serhii SOBOLIEV (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)

Committee on Rules of Procedure, Immunities and Institutional Affairs / Commission du Règlement, des immunités et des affaires institutionnelles

Mr / M. Paul GAVAN (Ireland, UEL / Irlande, GUE)