

Information documents

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7 October 2025

Communication by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly at the 1539th meeting of the Ministers' Deputies¹ (7 October 2025)

¹ This document covers the activities of the Assembly since the meeting of the Bureau on 29 September 2025 and future activities up to the meeting of the Bureau on 20 November 2025.

I. Fourth part of the Ordinary Session of 2025 (29 September – 3 October 2025)

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

On Wednesday 1st October, the Assembly welcomed the draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine.

Adopting its Opinion 308 (2025), the Assembly underlined that "justice and accountability cannot be complete without reparations for the victims of the aggression". It stressed that the new mechanism would complement the work of international courts and tribunals, including the European Court of Human Rights and the future Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine.

The Assembly commended the Council of Europe's capacity to "innovate and fill gaps in the international legal response to the aggression", while welcoming the victim-centred approach of the draft convention and provisions safeguarding independence, impartiality, fairness and transparency.

At the same time, the Assembly noted that the draft text does not clearly regulate funding, urging states to work "without delay towards the establishment of an international compensation fund", including through the repurposing of frozen Russian state assets. It also called on future parties to extend the temporal scope of the commission to cover victims since February 2014.

The parliamentarians concluded that the draft convention "can be adopted and opened for signature as soon as possible". In order to acknowledge the Council of Europe's leadership role in ensuring accountability and reparations for Ukraine, they proposed certain amendments to its preamble.

B. New Democratic Pact for Europe

On Thursday 2 October, the **Bureau's ad hoc committee on the New Democratic Pact** held a meeting, with the participation of Marja Ruotanen, Director General, Directorate General of Democracy and Human Dignity, and Matjaz Gruden, Director. An important number of Assembly members participated in the discussions, highlighting the numerous areas in which the Assembly was actively contributing to the overall endeavor of "making our democracies more resilient and adapted to the changing world", by "reinforcing the foundations of democracy, amplify its benefits, restore confidence and innovate its form to make it tangible and meaningful for all, especially for younger generations."

Alone this past session's week, the Assembly has adopted relevant texts in this context.

On Wednesday 1 October, the Assembly adopted Resolution 2619 (2025) on Youth movements for democracy supporting young builders as Young people across Europe are "among the most active defenders and imaginative builders" of democracy, human rights the rule of law, according to the Assembly, and they should be treated "not with repression or indifference, but with recognition, protection and support".

The Assembly urged Council of Europe member states to end politically-motivated arrests of young people, repeal laws that are used to silence youth dissent and remove obstacles affecting youth-led organisations.

Addressing the parliamentarians during the debate, Malta's Minister for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation Hon. Clifton Grima stated that when young people are trusted, democracy grows stronger. "Let us continue to invest in their leadership, recognising them not as threats to establish orders, but as indispensable partners in Europe's democratic resilience. If democracy is to endure, it must be reimagined by its younger generations, our young citizens. Malta is committed to working with you all to ensure that their voices are not only heard, but are instrumental in shaping the Europe we want to see," he said.

According to the adopted text, young people should be meaningfully represented in national parliaments and local councils, while political parties and public institutions should introduce "youth quotas" and European countries should consider lowering the voting age to 16. There should be public funding for youth civic infrastructure – such as community centres, online platforms or legal clinics – while democratic education should be embedded in schools.

For its part, the Assembly should commit itself to strengthening the participation of young people in its work and mainstreaming youth perspectives across its committees and reports.

On Thursday 2 October, the Assembly adopted <u>Resolution 2622 (2025)</u> on **Russia: New threats to European democracies** warned that for a peaceful future, Europe must do everything in its power to strengthen its deterrence, preparedness and resilience capabilities against the threat posed by Russia, if Europe is to have a peaceful future.

In its resolution, the Assembly set out a wide-ranging series of steps to defeat Russia's strategy of destabilising European democracies using "force, fear and foreign influence". At this critical juncture, the Assembly stressed that enduring peace in Europe will only be achieved through democratic security and resilience.

The parliamentarians called for unwavering European commitment and unity in support of Ukraine and a just and lasting peace, which is "indispensable for Ukraine's European future and the security of the entire European continent". There was also a need for a strategy to enhance the resilience of democratic societies which combines deterrence, preparedness, protection and reactivity. This could include, for example, "robust counter-measures" against foreign interference, projects to fight disinformation and "solid counter-narratives" to Russian propaganda, including support for free media.

Meanwhile, the Council of Europe should strengthen its work on democratic security to take account of the rapidly evolving nature of the threats and challenges the continent is facing.

On the very same day, by adopting Resolution 2621 (2025) on Russian democratic forces, the Assembly created 'platform for dialogue' with exiled Russian democratic forces.

On Thursday 2 October, the Assembly considered, against a context of democratic backsliding and erosion of public trust in institutions, that political parties "are an essential motor for democratic renewal" and has called them to reconnect with citizens. According to Resolution 2625 (2025) on Political parties and democracy, political parties bear a particular responsibility for safeguarding democratic cohesion and stability. "Without political parties, pluralism cannot be meaningfully represented and parliaments cannot function effectively. Parties are the cornerstone of representative democracy," the parliamentarians emphasised.

In order to strengthen the representational link to citizens and responsiveness to citizens' expectations, PACE encouraged political parties to "widen opportunities for political participation" by enhancing intermediary structures such as local branches, affiliated organisations, unions and civil society platforms. The Assembly also proposed measures to combat issues of under-representation, calling on political parties to adopt strategies for inclusion and invited them to promote diversity across their internal functioning by endorsing the revised Charter of European Political Parties for a Non-Racist and Inclusive Society. Finally, with regard to safeguarding integrity, the Parliamentary Assembly called on member states to "enhance national frameworks governing financial contributions to political parties", advertising and electoral campaigns to mitigate the risk of inappropriate or illicit foreign financial interference.

C. Journalists matter

The Assembly's autumn session focused on challenges faced by journalists. Debates, in particular, on an "Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the killing of journalists in Gaza" as well as on the need to step up efforts to liberate Ukrainian journalists held in captivity by Russia were on the agenda.

The <u>2025 Václav Havel Human Rights Prize</u> was awarded to Ukrainian journalist and human rights defender Maksym Butkevych. The Assembly also adopted opinions on the <u>draft Convention establishing an International Claims Commission for Ukraine</u> and on the <u>draft Council of Europe convention on the co-production of audiovisual works in the form of series.</u>

On 1st of October, the Assembly declared that "The Russian war of aggression against Ukraine is also a war against truth" urging the liberation of Ukrainian journalists unlawfully detained by the Russian Federation. In its Resolution 2618 (2025) on **Journalists matter: the need to step up efforts to liberate Ukrainian**

journalists held in captivity by the Russian Federation, the Assembly recalled that at least 26 journalists remain in Russian captivity, facing "fabricated criminal charges, violation of basic rights, torture, and even death".

The Assembly demanded the "immediate release of all journalists detained in contravention of international law" and stressed that "journalists working in areas of armed conflict are civilians and are protected as such under international humanitarian law". It also called for updated information on detainees' whereabouts, and unhindered access for the ICRC and UN to places of detention.

Parliamentarians urged accountability through prosecutions under universal jurisdiction or before the International Criminal Court, alongside reinforced sanctions against Russian officials and detention facility heads responsible for violations. They also encouraged financial support for Ukrainian journalists and media outlets, and stronger international campaigning to highlight their plight.

Finally, the Assembly decided to establish an **annual commemoration** during its autumn session, named "**Victory for Victoria**" in memory of Ukrainian journalist Victoria Roshchyna, who died in Russian custody - a tribute to all journalists risking their lives to defend the right to truth and information.

D. Elections

On 30 September 2025, the Parliamentary Assembly re-elected <u>Despina Chatzivassiliou</u> to the post of Secretary General of the Assembly. She will serve a second five-year term starting on 1 March 2026.

E. Personalities

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

- Mr Alain Berset, Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- Mr Nikol Pashinyan, Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia;
- Mr Ian Borg, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of Malta, President of the Committee of Ministers;
- Mr Maulen Ashimbayev, Chairman of the Senate of Kazakhstan;
- Her Excellency Ms Myriam Spiteri Debono, President of Malta;
- Hon. Clifton Grima, Minister for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation of Malta.

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 four debates under urgent procedure on "Draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine", presented by Lord Richard Keen (United Kingdom, ECPA), on "Russia: new threats to European democracies", presented by Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE), on "Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the killing of journalists in Gaza", presented by Lord Michael German (United Kingdom, ALDE) and on "Uphold democracy and the rule of law in Georgia", presented by Ms Edite Estrela (Portugal, SOC) and Ms Sabina Ćudić (Bosnia and Herzegovina, ALDE).

The Assembly held two current affairs debates on "Democracy, rule of law and inclusive dialogue in Türkiye" and on "Political crisis in Serbia".

G. Media coverage

Media coverage of the fourth part-session was remarkable. With 64 accredited journalists, 376 articles (provisional figures) were published in the national and international print and electronic press. Their geographical distribution reflected the PACE agenda very well, with extensive coverage in Ukraine, Serbia, Armenia, and the most prestigious international media.

The presentation of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize was covered by television channels and major international media (ARTE TV, TV5 Monde, EuropaPress, RTBF, AFP, Le Parisien, Deutsche Welle, Le Monde, La Libre Belgique, Ansa, etc.). The debate on initiatives to free Ukrainian journalists held captive by the Russian Federation was also widely covered, with more than 40 articles (provisional figures) in the international media. In addition to this topic, the debate on the political crisis in Serbia filled many columns, as did the urgent call to end the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the assassinations of journalists in Gaza.

It was a similar picture on the Assembly's social media channels, with the top posts concerning the award of the Havel Prize and the re-election of Despina Chatzivassiliou as Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe. Other Assembly news concerning Ukraine – the draft convention to create a claims commission, calls for the release of Ukrainian journalists held by Russia and the launch of "Victory for Viktoria" day – also attracted a high number of impressions. Meanwhile content on the Assembly's YouTube channel generated some 612 hours of watch-time.

The MediaBox, a web TV studio available to anyone covering Assembly news, once again proved its usefulness to Assembly members as a means of enhancing the institution's visibility: 72 interviews with parliamentarians and participants in side-events were recorded.

H. Adopted texts

Further to debates, the Assembly adopted the following texts:

Opinions

Opinion 308 (2025)	Draft Council of Europe convention on the co-production of audiovisual works in the form of series (Doc. 16238)
Opinion 309 (2025)	Draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine (Doc. 16270)

Recommendations

Recommendation 2299 (2025)	Youth movements for Democracy (<u>Doc. 16239</u>)
Recommendation 2300 (2025)	Artificial intelligence and migration (Doc. 16240)

Resolutions

Resolution 2616 (2025)	The Parliamentary Assembly should support Kazakhstan to continue its democratic reforms (Doc. 16245)
Resolution 2617 (2025)	The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Hungary (<u>Doc. 16249</u>)
Resolution 2618 (2025)	Journalists matter: the need to step up efforts to liberate Ukrainian journalists held in captivity by the Russian Federation (Doc. 16237)
Resolution 2619 (2025)	Youth movements for Democracy (<u>Doc. 16239</u>)
Resolution 2620 (2025)	Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria (Doc. 16246)
Resolution 2621 (2025)	Russian democratic forces (<u>Doc. 16247</u>)
Resolution 2622 (2025)	Russia: new threats to European democracies (Doc. 16272)

Resolution 2623 (2025)	Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the killing of journalists in Gaza (<u>Doc. 16273</u>)
Resolution 2624 (2025)	Uphold democracy and the rule of law in Georgia (Doc. 16271)
Resolution 2625 (2025)	Political parties and democracy (Doc. 16248)
Resolution 2626 (2025)	Analysis and guidelines to guarantee the right to housing (Doc. 16244)
Resolution 2627 (2025)	Promoting universal health coverage (Doc. 16243)
Resolution 2628 (2025)	Artificial intelligence and migration (Doc. 16240)
Resolution 2629 (2025)	Sexual violence against men and boys (<u>Doc. 16250</u>)
Resolution 2630 (2025)	Ensuring Parliamentary Assembly members can travel freely to carry out their work (Doc. 16252)

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 29 September 2025		
1 pm - 2 pm Room 7, Palais Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine	 Exchange of views on the Militarisation and indoctrination of Ukrainian children deported to Russia and trapped in the occupied territories, with the participation of: Ms Kateryna Rashevska, Legal Expert at the Regional Centre for Human Rights (RCHR); Ms Angelina Kasyanova, Manager or Returning, Ukrainian Child Rights Network (UCRN). 	
2 pm – 3 pm Room 11, Palais Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) and Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination	 ▶ Joint hearing on The situation of national minorities in Ukraine, in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Christophe Lacroix (Belgium, SOC), rapporteur of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination, with the participation of: Mr Christophe Kamp, OSCE High Commissioner on National Minorities; Mr Hallvard Gorseth, Director of the Directorate of Equal Rights and Dignity, Council of Europe; Mr Ashot Avanesyan, Chair of the Council of National Communities of Ukraine (online). 	
2 pm – 3 pm Room 10, Palais Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights	▶ Hearing on the Statutory opinion on the draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine, in the framework of a report prepared by Lord Richard Keen (United Kingdom, ECPA), with the participation of:	

-	Mr René Lefeber, Chair of the Ad hoc Committee on the Establishment of a Claims Commission for Ukraine (CAHEC)
-	(online); Mr Markiyan Kliuchkovskyi, Executive Director, Register of Damage for Ukraine, Council of Europe.

2.30 pm – 3.00 pm Room 9, Palais Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy – Sub-committee on External Relations	► Exchange of views with the Observer delegation of Canada.
Tuesday 30 September 202	5
08:30 am – 09:15 am	
Room 8, Palais	Exchange of views on The state of Azerbaijan's cooperation with Council of Europe bodies, in the framework of a report on the Honouring of obligations and commitments by Azerbaijan, prepared by Ms Lise
Committee on the Honouring of Obligations	Christoffersen (Norway, SOC), and Sir Christopher Chope, United Kingdom, ECPA, with the participation of:
and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)	- Mr Alain Berset, Secretary General of the Council of Europe.
8.30am – 10am Room 11, Palais Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination	► Exchange of views on Human rights situation of Roma and Travellers in Europe with Dr Michael O'Flaherty, Council of Europe Commissioner for Human Rights.
	► Hearing on Addressing the mental health impact of racism and hate speech with the participation of:
1 pm-2 pm Room 7	 Ms Douce Dibondo, French journalist and feminist, writer; Mr Kristijan Grđan, Senior Policy Advisor, Human Rights, Mental Health Europe;
No Hate Parliamentary Alliance	 - Mr Eben Louw, Psychologist, specialist in psychotraumatology, therapist and counselor, Germany; - Ms Pelin Yılık (Türkiye, NR), Rapporteur on Migrants' and refugees' access to healthcare.
2 pm-3:30 pm	
Room 9, Palais	► Exchange of views with Mr Arthur Erken, Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, International Organization for Migration (IOM).
Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons	
2.45 pm – 3.30 pm Room 10, Palais	► Exchange of views on <i>Political prisoners in Belarus</i> , in the framework of the mandate of the General Rapporteur for political prisoners, Ms Azadeh Rojhan (Sweden, SOC), with the participation of:
Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights	Ms Natallia Dulina, former associate professor of Italian Language and Culture at the Minsk State Linguistic University, former political prisoner

Wednesday 1 October 2025	
1 pm – 2 pm Room 6 Palais	 Panel on Conducting and Observing Elections in the Digital Era: Implications and challenges for the Parliamentary Assembly, with the participation of: Adrià Rodríguez-Pérez, Legal Advisor, Venice Commission;
Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections	- Meaghan Fitzgerald, Head of the Election Department, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR).
Elections Division	► Launch of the <u>new website</u> of the Elections Division
2 pm – 3 pm Room 10, Palais Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights	 Hearing on The need to modernise International Humanitarian Law, in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Vladimir Vardanyan (Armenia, EPP/CD), with the participation of: Mr Marco Sassòli, Professor of International Law at the University of Geneva, Commissioner and member of the Executive Committee of the International Commission of Jurists; Mr Stuart Casey-Maslen, Special Advisor to the IHL in Focus Project, Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights; Ms Nataliia Hendel, Senior researcher, Institute of Information, Security and Law of the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine (online).
2 pm – 3.15 pm Room 10, Palais	 ▶ Audition on the Follow-up to the report "The absolute and urgent need to end the humanitarian crisis for women, children and the hostages in Gaza", a report of Ms Saskia Kluit (Netherlands, SOC) with the participation of: Mr Marc Lassouaoui, Senior Manager Outreach Europe, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA).
Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development	 Exchange of views on the Day for the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse, with the participation of: Ms Ekaterina Malareva, Legal Advisor, Children's Rights Division - Secretariat of the Lanzarote Committee.
3 pm- 3:30 pm Room 11, Palais Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)	 Exchange of views on The update following the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova (28 September 2025), with the participation of: Mr Chris Said (Malta, EPP/CD), Chairperson of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau for the observation of the parliamentary elections in the Republic of Moldova (28 September 2025).

Thursday 2 October 2025	
08:45 am – 09:15 am Room 11, Palais	► Exchange of views on The update following the presidential elections in Poland (18 May and 1st June 2025), with the participation of:
Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee)	 Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE), Chairperson of the ad hoc Committee of the Bureau for the observation of the presidential elections in Poland (18 May and 1st June 2025).
2 pm – 3 pm Room 10, Palais Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights	 ▶ Hearing on The need to modernise International Humanitarian Law, in the framework of a report prepared by Mr Vladimir Vardanyan (Armenia, EPP/CD), with the participation of: Mr Marco Sassòli, Professor of International Law at the University of Geneva, Commissioner and member of the Executive Committee of the International Commission of Jurists; Mr Stuart Casey-Maslen, Special Advisor to the IHL in Focus Project, Geneva Academy of International Humanitarian Law and Human Rights; Ms Nataliia Hendel, Senior researcher, Institute of Information, Security and Law of the National Academy of Legal Sciences of Ukraine (online).
2:15 pm – 3 pm Room 9, Palais Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media and Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination	 ▶ Joint Hearing on Eliminating gender stereotypes in the media in the framework of a report prepared by Ms Yevheniia Kravchuk (Ukraine, ALDE): Rapporteur (Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination) and Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium, EPP/CD): Rapporteur for opinion (Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, with the participation of: Mr Gilles Fontaine, Head of the Department for Market Information, and Dr Agnes Schneeberger, TV and VOD Markets Analyst, Department for Market Information, European Audiovisual Observatory; Ms Anne Richardson, Senior Project Manager for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion, European Broadcasting Union (EBU) (online).

III. Decisions taken by the Bureau (29 September 2025 and 3 October 2025)

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Monday, 29 September 2025, in Strasbourg, with Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair:

- Communications:
 - o took note of the communication by the President of the Assembly;
 - o held an exchange of views with the Secretary General of the Council of Europe;
- Fourth part-session of 2025 (Strasbourg, 29 September 3 October)
 - o took note of the requests to hold debates under urgent procedure on:

- "Reporting from Gaza: an urgent call to protect the lives of journalists and support their work" tabled by the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media: decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;
- "Draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine": decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report;
- "Democracy, rule of law and inclusive dialogue in Türkiye" tabled by Mr Max Lucks and 24 members of the Assembly: decided to transform this request into a current affairs debate, recommended to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) as the first speaker;
- "Israel's deliberate attacks on the Global Sumud humanitarian flotilla en route to Gaza" tabled by Mr Christophe Lacroix and 23 members of the Assembly: decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;
- "Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza" tabled by the leaders of political groups): decided to recommend to the Assembly not to hold this debate;
- "Uphold Democracy and the Rule of Law in Georgia" tabled by the Group of the European People's Party: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) for report;
- "Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the killing of journalists in Gaza" tabled by the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons for report;
- o took note of the requests to hold current affairs debates on:
 - "Political crisis in Serbia" tabled by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Group: decided to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate and appointed Ms Victoria Tiblom (Sweden, ECPA) as the first speaker;
 - "Russia: new threats to European Democracies" tabled by the leaders of political groups: decided to transform this request into a debate under urgent procedure, to recommend to the Assembly to hold this debate, and to refer the matter to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report;
- updated the draft agenda (Appendix 1);
- o took note:
 - of the report drawn up by the Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights in respect of Cyprus and Hungary (Doc. 16257 Add.2);
 - that, subsequent to the Committee's meeting and to the publication of its report, the election procedure in respect of Cyprus has been suspended, in accordance with paragraph 2 of the Appendix to Resolution 1432 (2005) as Ms Elena Efrem, one of the three candidates, has withdrawn her candidature. The government of Cyprus has been invited to complete the list by replacing Ms Efrem;
- prepared the meeting of the Joint Committee;
- Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (27 June 28 September 2025) (Rapporteur: Mr Zsolt Németh, Hungary, ECPA): approved the Progress report (Doc. 16257):
- References and transmissions to committees: approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 2, subject to ratification by the Assembly through the Progress report;

Election observation:

 Poland: presidential election (18 May 2025): approved the observation report of the presidential election;

Issues raised by committees:

- Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: decided to postpone to a later date the consideration of the Terms of Reference for the General Rapporteur on the situation of women and children in the Palestinian territories:
- World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 5-7 November 2025: approved the revised list of members
 of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in this event;
- Conference on Artificial Intelligence, London, 15-16 December 2025: approved the revised list of members of the ad hoc committee of the Bureau to participate in this event;

Composition of committees:

- o Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee):
 - on the basis of a proposal by the European Conservatives, Patriots & Affiliates Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Pavela Mitova (Bulgaria) as a member;
- Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities:
 - on the basis of a proposal by the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe Group, the Bureau nominated Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium) and Ms Rian Vogels (Netherlands) as members:
- o Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights:
 - on the basis of a proposal by the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Naomi Cachia (Malta) as an alternate;

Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:

 authorised the committee on Political Affairs and Democracy to meet in Monaco on 9-10 March 2026;

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Friday, 3 October 2025, in Strasbourg, with Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair:

Follow-up to the fourth part-session of 2025 (Strasbourg, 29 September – 3 October):

- heard a statement by the Secretary General of the Assembly and discussed the follow-up to the part-session;
- o Russian democratic forces (Resolution 2621 (2025)): instructed the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to prepare, together with the General Rapporteur on the Russian democratic forces, a memorandum on modalities to implement the decisions contained in this Resolution;
- Meeting of the Standing Committee in Chisinau (21 November 2025): took note of the draft agenda
 of the Standing Committee meeting;
- 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:

- Republic of Moldova: parliamentary elections (28 September 2025): took note of the statement of the delegation;
- o Kyrgyzstan: early parliamentary elections (30 November 2025): decided to set up an ad hoc committee to observe these elections composed of 11 members (SOC: 3; EPP/CD: 3; ECPA: 2; ALDE: 2; UEL:1) and of the Rapporteur of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy on "Review of the partnership for democracy in respect of the Parliament of the Kyrgyz Republic" (subject to receiving an invitation and to the availability of funds);

 Modalities of participation of a representative delegation of Belarusian democratic forces in the work of the Assembly: stock-taking: took note of the memorandum by the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly;

Issues raised by committees:

- Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development: considered and approved the participation of Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) to the COP 30 (Brazil) which will be held from 10 to 21 November 2025 (at no cost for the Assembly);
- Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment: took note of the letter by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination and approved the designation of the following 3 independent members of the Selection Panel:
 - o Mr Robert Biedroń (Poland), for a second two-year mandate as of 13 October 2025;
 - o Ms Sandra Konstatzky (Austria), for a second two-year mandate as of 13 October 2025;
 - o Ms Petra Stienen (Netherlands), for a first two-year mandate as of 13 October 2025;
- World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 4-7 November 2025: approved the revised list of members
 of the *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau to participate in this event and appointed the President of the
 Parliamentary Assembly, Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, as its Chairperson (Appendix 4);
- Conference on Artificial Intelligence, London, 15-16 December 2025: approved the revised list of members of the *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau to participate in this event and appointed the President of the Parliamentary Assembly, Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, as its Chairperson (Appendix 5);
- Ad hoc committee on the New Democratic Pact: decided to modify the composition of the ad hoc committee and to invite the committees of the Assembly to appoint up to 5 members including their Youth Rapporteurs;

Other business:

 Progress report of the Bureau of the Assembly and of the Standing Committee (3 October 2025 – 25 January 2026): appointed Mr Iulian Bulai (Romania, ALDE) as Rapporteur;

Composition of committees:

- Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee): on the basis of a proposal by the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Olta Xhaçka (Albania) as a member;
- Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities: on the basis of a proposal by the Socialists, Democrats and Greens Group, the Bureau nominated Baroness Shami Chakrabarti (United Kingdom) as a member;
- European Committee for the Prevention of Torture and Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment (CPT) - List of candidates in respect of Slovenia, Denmark, Estonia, Sweden, Serbia, and Liechtenstein: approved the lists of candidates in respect of these countries to be forwarded to the Committee of Ministers;

IV. Prizes

Museum Prize

Ms Luz Martínez Seijo (Spain, SOC), was appointed as representative of the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media for the Council of Europe Museum Prize 2026. The EMF Jury meeting will be held on 21 November 2025.

> Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment

On **30 September 2025**, in Strasbourg, the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination renewed the mandate of Mr Robert Biedroń (Poland) and Ms Sandra Konstatzky (Austria) and appointed Ms Petra Stienen (Netherlands) as the independent members representing the Parliamentary Assembly in the Selection Panel of the Prize, for approval by the Bureau at its meeting on 3 October 2025.

Václav Havel Human Rights Prize

The thirteenth Václav Havel Human Rights Prize, which honours outstanding civil society action in defence of human rights – has been awarded to the Ukrainian journalist and human rights defender Maksym Butkevych. The prize was presented at a special ceremony on the opening day of the autumn plenary session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.

V. <u>Future activities of Committees and Networks, and election observation missions</u>

On 13-14 November 2025, in Limassol (Cyprus), the Committee on Rules, Ethics, and Immunities:

. will hold a hearing on "Following up the 4th round of GRECO recommendations relating to parliamentarians", in the context of a report prepared by Mr Yunus Emre (Türkiye, SOC).

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

Situation in the Middle East

Ms Dora Bakoyannis (Greece, EPP/CD) rapporteur of the *Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy*, carried out a fact-finding visit to Paris on **3 October 2025**.

> The honouring of obligations and commitments by Ukraine

Mr Damien Cottier (Switzerland, ALDE) and Ms Saara-Sofia Sirén (Finland, EPP/CD), co-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 Kyiv from 8 to 10 October 2025.

> Enhancing co-operation between parliaments and equality bodies

Ms Tuula Haatainen (Finland, SOC), rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, will carry out a fact-finding visit to Budapest on **20 and 21 October 2025**.

> The honouring of obligations and commitments by Armenia

Ms Boriana Åberg (Sweden, EPP/CD) and **Mr Piero Fassino** (Italy, SOC), co-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 Yerevan from **28 to 30 October 2025.**

The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Spain

Ms Elivra Kovács (Serbia, EPP/CD) and **Ms Valentina Grippo** (Italy, ALDE), co-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 Madrid and Barcelona from **12 to 14 November 2025.**

Sustainable European guidelines to counter social dumping and strengthen collective bargaining mechanisms

Ms Valérie Piller Carrard (Switzerland, SOC), rapporteur of the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development, will carry out a fact-finding visit to the Netherlands on 13 and 14 November 2025.

VII. Other activities of members of the Assembly

Mr Joseph O'Reilly (Ireland, EPP/CD) participated to the 15th meeting of the COE-FRA-ENNHRI-EQUINET Collaborative Platform on Social and Economic Rights on 3 October 2025 in Edinburgh, United Kingdom.

Ms Gala Veldhoen (Netherlands, SOC), General Rapporteur on the abolition of the death penalty, will participate in an event co-organised by DGI and the National Human Rights Council of Morocco on the occasion of the world day against the death penalty, on 10 October 2025 in Rabat.

Mr Andries Gryffroy (Belgium, ALDE), in his quality of substitute of the representative of *the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media* to the EUROPA NOSTRA - Pan-European Federation for Heritage, will participate in the European Cultural Heritage Summit 2025, from 12 to 15 October 2025, in Brussels.

Ms Valentina Grippo (Italy, ALDE), in her quality of General Rapporteur on Media Freedom and Safety of Journalists, will participate as panellist in the MFRR Summit 2025 (European Centre for Press and Media Freedom), on 13 October 2025, in Brussels.

Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD), General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers, will participate in the 12th meeting of the Committee of Experts on Roma and Traveller Issues (ADI-ROM) on 14-15 October 2025, Strasbourg.

Mr Georgios Stamatis (Greece, EPP/CD), Mr Michael Farrugia (Malta, SOC) and Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) will sit in the *ad hoc* Sub-Committee to participate in the Conference on Health Protection, on 15 October 2025 in Strasbourg.

Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) will participate in the Ministerial Conference marking the 25th anniversary of the Council of Europe Landscape Convention on 21 October 2025 in Florence, Italy.

Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), as General Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI persons, will participate in ILGA-Europe's Annual Conference from 22 to 25 October 2025 in Vilnius.

Ms Petra Bayr (Austria, SOC), as PACE representative of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination* to the European Commission against Racism and Intolerance (ECRI), will participate in the ECRI 2025 Annual Seminar with Equality Bodies on "Advancing equality in an era of democratic backsliding" on 23 and 24 October 2025 in Strasbourg.

Mr Stefan Schennach (Austria, SOC) will participate in the North-South Prize Award Ceremony and the meeting of the Executive Committee and the North-South Dialogues on 28 and 29 October 2025 in Lisbon.

Ms Yuliia Ovchynnykova (Ukraine, ALDE) will participate in the 49th session of the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities from 28 to 30 October 2025 in Strasbourg.

Ms Luz Martínez Seijo (Spain, SOC), in her quality of rapporteur for follow-up on "Multiperspectivity in remembrance and history education for democratic citizenship", will participate as panellist in the plenary session of the World Forum for Democracy, organised by the Observatory on History Teaching in Europe (OHTE), on 7 November 2025, in Strasbourg.

Ms Catia Polidori (Italy, EPP/CD), as Chairperson of the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination will participate in the Reykjavík Global Forum 2025 on 10 and 11 November 2025 in Reykjavík.

Ms Aurora Floridia (Italy, SOC) will participate to the United Nations Climate Change Conference – COP30, including the Parliamentary Meeting organised by the IPU, from 10 to 21 November 2025 in Belém, Brazil.

Mr Rónán Mullen (Ireland, EPP/CD) will participate to the 46th plenary meeting of the Committee of the Parties to the Council of Europe Convention on the protection of children against sexual exploitation and sexual abuse (Lanzarote Committee), from 18 to 21 November 2025 in Chisinau.

VIII. PACE parliamentary and electoral cooperation activities

Venice (Italy), 7 October 2025: at the meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections, the presentation on the PACE Electoral Co-operation Programmes will provide an overview of the Assembly's ongoing work in supporting democratic processes, highlight the state of play of current projects, and explore opportunities for enhanced synergies with the Venice Commission, PACE Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections, the Congress of Local and Regional Authorities and other stakeholders. The discussion aims to strengthen cooperation frameworks and ensure that electoral support activities are both complementary and impactful across member States.

The PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division, through the Project "Strengthening Elections Integrity in Albania":

> October (date tbc), Tirana: will hold a roundtable discussion with electoral stakeholders and CEC staff aiming to review the functionalities of the Denunciations and Complaints Tracking Module (CTM), equip participants with the knowledge to use the tool, and collect their final feedback to address potential recommendations for improvement.

The PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division, through the new action "Support to electoral cycle in Albania":

> 13 November 2025 (tbc), Albania: will hold the kick-off event of the new action co-funded by the European Union and Council of Europe back-to-back with the Steering Committee meeting.

The PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division, through the Project "Supporting transparency, inclusiveness and integrity of electoral practice and processes in Bosnia and Herzegovina - Phase II":

4-5 October 2025, Igman, Bosnia and Herzegovina: organised the first module of Academy for Women Candidates, on the topic *Understanding the electoral process and gender quotas*. The Academy is a unique training programme for first-time women candidates and those who have run but not yet held office. It gathered 24 participants over two training days. The next module is foreseen for the end of November.

The PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division, through the project "Supporting Transparency, Inclusiveness and Integrity of Electoral Practice and Process in Georgia - Phase 2":

▶ 19 November 2025: will hold a seminar "Countering the misuse of administrative resources – lessons learnt and emerging challenges" will be organised to equip electoral stakeholders with tools to prevent and respond to such practices. Introduction of comprehensive regulations aimed at preventing the misuse of administrative resources remains among longstanding recommendations of the Venice Commission and ODIHR that are yet to be addressed by the Georgian authorities. During the 24 October Parliamentary Elections, over 200 complaints were filed with election commissions regarding the appointment and operation of Precinct Election Commissions, alleged misuse of administrative resources, and campaign violations.

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

- ▶ 10 and 24 October 2025: will organise two webinars on the mid-term assessment of the implementation of the Strategic programme 2024-2026 of the Central Electoral Commission of the Republic of Moldova and the Strategic programme 2024-2027 of the Centre for Continuous Electoral Training, based on the CoE's URSO (Useful, Relevant, Sustainable, Owned) methodology for the project beneficiary institutions the CEC and Training Centre as well as for the CoE local consultants.
- **20 October 2025**: will produce a post-electoral report on youth participation on the 28 September 2025 Parliamentary election, including youth turnout, total youth candidates and those elected, the youth-focused priorities in the programs of parties that entered Parliament, as well as recommendations.
- **October 2025**: will produce a report on monitoring of the sexist speech and behaviour by the electoral candidates during the September 2025 Parliamentary election period in the Republic of Moldova, focusing on online media outlets.

October-November 2025: will produce a methodological Guide on carrying out the audit for political parties with expenditure or revenue over 1 million lei reporting to the CEC.

The PACE Parliamentary and Electoral Cooperation Division, through the Project "Supporting democratic postwar elections in Ukraine – Phase II":

➤ October - December 2025: will launch work of the Expert Group and series of experts' meetings are held to elaborate the list of criteria to assess pre-conditions necessary for the conduct of democratic post-war elections in Ukraine with quantity/quality indicators and methodology of collection and assessment of respective data/information, and to define impossibility of calling, organisation and conduct of post-war elections on certain territories.

IX. Seminars and conferences to be organised by the Assembly

> 13-14 November, Limassol (Cyprus): the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities, will organise a Round Table on "Strengthening Ethics and Integrity in Parliaments", meeting together with the Standing Committee of the House of Representatives on Institutions, Merit and the Ombudsman of Cyprus.

X. Cooperation with the Committee of Ministers

- **8-9 October 2025, Valletta:** Ms Aysu Bankoğlu (Türkiye, SOC), Youth Rapporteur of the *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination*, will participate in the 10th Council of Europe Conference of Ministers responsible for Youth "Young People for Democracy: Youth Perspectives in Action".
- **27 October 2025, Strasbourg**: Ms Béatrice Fresko-Rolfo (Monaco, ALDE), General Rapporteur on the rights of LGBTI persons, will participate in the High-Level Launch of the Council of Europe Recommendation on equal rights for intersex persons.

XI. Cooperation with the Venice Commission

- **Strasbourg, 1**st **October 2025**: Adrià Rodríguez-Pérez, Legal Advisor of the Venice Commission, contributed to the meeting of the Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections on Conducting and Observing Elections in the Digital Era: Implications and challenges for the Parliamentary Assembly.
- Venice (Italy), 8 October 2025: Ms Rian Vogels, member of the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy, Mr Pablo Hispán, member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights and Lord Blencathra, member of the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe will represent the Assembly at the 84th meeting of the Council for Democratic Elections
- **Venice (Italy), 9 and 10 October 2025:** Mr Antonio Gutiérrez Limones, Member of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights will represent the Parliamentary Assembly at the 144th Plenary Session of the European Commission for Democracy through Law.
- Venice (Italy), 10 and 11 October 2025: the President of the Parliamentary Assembly and the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly will participate in the 35th Anniversary of the Venice Commission.

XII. External relations

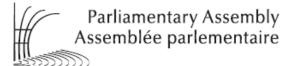
- Relations with other international partners

Strasbourg, 1st October 2025: Meaghan Fitzgerald, Head of the Election Department, OSCE Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), contributed to the meeting of the Parliamentary Alliance for Free and Fair Elections on Conducting and Observing Elections in the Digital Era: Implications and challenges for the Parliamentary Assembly.

XIII. <u>List of meetings of the committees, the Bureau and the Presidential Committee</u>

- . **3 October 2025, Strasbourg:** Bureau meeting
- 9 October 2025, Gaziantep (Türkiye): Parliamentary Network for a healthy environment
- . 10 October 2025, Gaziantep (Türkiye): Sub-Committee on the Europe Prize
- . 13-14 October 2025, Warsaw: Sub-Committee on Artificial Intelligence and Human Rights
- . 17 October 2025, Tallinn: Parliamentary Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine
- . 20-21 October 2025, London: Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons
- . 13-14 November 2025, Limassol (Cyprus): Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities.
- . **20 November 2025, Chisinau:** Presidential Committee
- 20 November 2025, Chisinau: Bureau meeting
- . 21 November 2025, Chisinau: Standing Committee

Appendix 1 – Agenda of the fourth part-session 2025





Doc. 16236 30 September 2025

Fourth part of the 2025 Ordinary Session (29 September - 3 October 2025)

Agenda1



https://pace.coe.in

Adopted by the Assembly on 29 September 2025.

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)

Rul: Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities

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

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

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

Symbols

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

Meetings outside the Chamber

Joint Committee

Monday: 15:00-16:30

Bureau of the Assembly

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

Committees

Monday: 14:00-15:00 Tuesday: 08:30-10:00 Tuesday: 14:00-15:30 Wednesday: 14:00-15:30 Thursday: 08:30-10:00 Thursday: 14:00-16:00

Political groups

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

Monday 29 September 2025

Sitting No. 28 (11:30-13:00)

Opening of the part-session

- 1.1. Statement by the President
- 1.2. Examination of credentials
 - List of delegations:
 - o (Doc. 16265)
- 1.3. Election of a Vice-President of the Assembly in respect of Albania (AS/Inf (2025) 02 rev2)
- 1.4. Changes in the membership of committees (Commissions (2025) 06 + Add1)
- 1.5. Requests for debate:
 - 1.5.1. Current affairs debate: "Political crisis in Serbia"
 - 1.5.2. Debate under urgent procedure: "Reporting from Gaza: an urgent call to protect the lives of journalists and support their work"
 - 1.5.3. Debate under urgent procedure: "Draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine"
 - 1.5.4. Debate under urgent procedure: "Democracy, rule of law and inclusive dialogue in Türkiye"
 - 1.5.5. Current affairs debate: "Russia: new threats to European democracies"
 - 1.5.6. Debate under urgent procedure: "Israel's deliberate attacks on the Global Sumud humanitarian flotilla en route to Gaza"
 - 1.5.7. Debate under urgent procedure: "Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza"
 - 1.5.8. Debate under urgent procedure: "Uphold democracy and the rule of law in Georgia"
 - 1.5.9. Debate under urgent procedure: "Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the killing of journalists in Gaza"
- 1.6. Adoption of the agenda

Debate

- 2.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
 - Presentation by:
 - o Mr Zsolt NÉMETH (Hungary, ECPA), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16257, Doc. 16257 Add.
 - 1, Doc. 16257 Add. 2)
- 2.2. Observation of the presidential election in Poland (18 May and 1 June 2025)
 - Presentation by:
 - o Mr Iulian BULAI (Romania, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16258)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 29 September, 10:00)
- 3. Prize Award Ceremony (12:30-13:00)
 - 3.1. Václav Havel Human Rights Prize²

See separate programme, AS/Inf(2025)11.

4. Debate (continued)

- 4.1. Progress report of the Bureau and the Standing Committee
 - Presentation by:
 - o Mr Zsolt NÉMETH (Hungary, ECPA), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16257, Doc. 16257 Add.
 - 1, Doc. 16257 Add. 2)
- 4.2. Observation of the presidential election in Poland (18 May and 1 June 2025)
 - Presentation by:
 - o Mr Iulian BULAI (Romania, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Bur (Doc. 16258)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 29 September, 10:00)

Tuesday 30 September 2025

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

- Election (10:00-13:00)
 - 5.1. Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly
 - □ List:

o (Doc. 16226)

- Question time (10:00-10:45)
 - 6.1. Mr Alain BERSET, Secretary General of the Council of Europe
 - Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 29 September, 16:30)
- Current affairs debate
 - 7.1. Democracy, rule of law and inclusive dialogue in Türkiye
 - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Monday 29 September, 16:30)
- Address (12:00-13:00)
 - 8.1. Mr Nikol PASHINYAN, Prime Minister of the Republic of Armenia
 - Questions (deadline for registration: Monday 29 September, 16:30)

Sitting No. 31 (15:30-20:00)

- Address (15:30-16:30)
 - 9.1. Communication from the Committee of Ministers
 - Presentation by:
 - Mr Ian BORG, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Foreign Affairs and Tourism of Malta, President of the Committee of Ministers
 - Questions (deadline for registration: Tuesday 30 September, 12:00)
- 10. Debate
 - The Parliamentary Assembly should support Kazakhstan to continue its democratic reforms
 - Presentation by:
 - Mr Zsolt NÉMETH (Hungary, ECPA), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16245)
 - ☐ Statement by:
 - o Mr Maulen ASHIMBAYEV, Chairman of the Senate of Kazakhstan
 - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 30 September, 12:00)
 - Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 29 September, 16:00)
 - Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16245)
- Debate
 - 11.1. The honouring of membership obligations to the Council of Europe by Hungary
 - Presentation by:
 - Mr Eerik-Niiles KROSS (Estonia, ALDE), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16249)
 - Mr George PAPANDREOU (Greece, SOC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16249)
 - List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 30 September, 12:00)
 - Amendments (deadline for tabling: Monday 29 September, 16:00)
 - Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16249)

Wednesday 1 October 2025

Sitting No. 32 (10:00-13:00)

12. Current affairs debate

- 12.1. Political crisis in Serbia
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 30 September, 19:00)

Debate

- 13.1. Journalists matter: the need to step up efforts to liberate Ukrainian journalists held in captivity by the Russian Federation
 - Presentation by:
 - o Ms Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 16237)
 - Ms Nadejda IORDANOVA (Bulgaria, NR), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Jur (Doc. 16251)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Tuesday 30 September, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 30 September, 10:30)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16237)

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

- 14.1. Her Excellency Ms Myriam SPITERI DEBONO, President of Malta
- Questions (deadline for registration: Tuesday 30 September, 19:00)

Sitting No. 33 (15:30-20:00)

Debate

- 15.1. Youth movements for democracy
 - Presentation by:
 - o Ms Yevheniia KRAVCHUK (Ukraine, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 16239)
- Statement by
 - o Hon. Clifton GRIMA, Minister for Education, Sport, Youth, Research and Innovation of Malta
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 1 October, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 30 September, 16:00)
- A Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16239)

Debate under urgent procedure

- 16.1. Draft convention establishing an international claims commission for Ukraine
 - Presentation by:
 - o Lord Richard KEEN (United Kingdom, ECPA), Rapporteur AS/Jur (Doc. 16270)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 1 October, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 30 September, 18:00)
- △ Vote on a draft opinion (Doc. 16270)

17. Debate

- 17.1. Post-monitoring dialogue with Bulgaria
 - Presentation by:
 - Ms Deborah BERGAMINI (Italy, EPP/CD), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16246)
 - o Mr Yves CRUCHTEN (Luxembourg, SOC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16246)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 1 October, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 30 September, 16:00)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16246)

18. Debate

18.1. Russian democratic forces

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Eerik-Niiles KROSS (Estonia, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16247)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 1 October, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Tuesday 30 September, 16:00)
- △ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16247)

Thursday 2 October 2025

Sitting No. 34 (10:00-13:00)

19. Debate under urgent procedure

- 19.1. Russia: new threats to European democracies
 - Presentation by:
 - Mr Iulian BULAI (Romania, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16272)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 1 October, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 1 October, 10:30)
- A Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16272)

20. Debate under urgent procedure

- Urgent call to put an end to the devastating humanitarian catastrophe and the killing of journalists in Gaza
 - Presentation by:
 - o Lord Michael GERMAN (United Kingdom, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 16273)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Wednesday 1 October, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 1 October, 10:30)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16273)

Sitting No. 35 (16:00-20:00)

21. Debate under urgent procedure

- 21.1. Uphold democracy and the rule of law in Georgia
 - Presentation by:
 - Ms Edite ESTRELA (Portugal, SOC), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16271)
 - Ms Sabina ČUDIĆ (Bosnia and Herzegovina, ALDE), Co-Rapporteur AS/Mon (Doc. 16271)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 1 October, 16:30)

Debate

- 22.1. Political parties and democracy
 - Presentation by:
 - Ms Ingjerd Schie SCHOU (Norway, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Pol (Doc. 16248)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 1 October, 16:30)

Debate

- 23.1. Draft Council of Europe convention on the co-production of audiovisual works in the form of series
 - Presentation by:
 - o Ms Valentina GRIPPO (Italy, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Cult (Doc. 16238)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 12:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 1 October, 16:30)
- Vote on a draft opinion (Doc. 16238)

24. Joint debate

24.1. Analysis and guidelines to guarantee the right to housing □ Presentation by: o Ms Aurora FLORIDIA (Italy, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 16244) o Mr Paul GALLES (Luxembourg, EPP/CD), Rapporteur for opinion AS/Mig (Doc. 16268) 24.2. Promoting universal health coverage □ Presentation by: o Mr Stefan SCHENNACH (Austria, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Soc (Doc. 16243) □ List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 12:00) ⊕ Amendments (deadline for tabling: Wednesday 1 October, 16:30) ♠ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16244) ♠ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16243)

Friday 3 October 2025

Sitting No. 36 (10:00-13:00)

25. Debate

25.1. Artificial intelligence and migration

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Petri HONKONEN (Finland, ALDE), Rapporteur AS/Mig (Doc. 16240)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 2 October, 10:30)
- Votes on a draft resolution and a draft recommendation (Doc. 16240)

Debate

26.1. Sexual violence against men and boys

- Presentation by:
 - Mr Edmunds CEPURĪTIS (Latvia, SOC), Rapporteur AS/Ega (Doc. 16250)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 2 October, 10:30)
- Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16250)

27. Debate

27.1. Ensuring Parliamentary Assembly members can travel freely to carry out their work

- Presentation by:
 - o Mr Sergiy VLASENKO (Ukraine, EPP/CD), Rapporteur AS/Rul (Doc. 16252)
- List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 19:00)
- Amendments (deadline for tabling: Thursday 2 October, 10:30)
- △ Vote on a draft resolution (Doc. 16252)

28. Free debate

List of speakers (deadline for registration: Thursday 2 October, 19:00)

29. Progress report (continued)

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

- Addendum:
 - o (Doc. 16257 Add. 3)

30. Closure of the part-session

Appendix 2 - References and transmissions to committees

A. References to committees

- The functioning of democratic institutions in the Slovak Republic, Doc. 16215, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on the Honouring of Obligations and Commitments by Member States of the Council of Europe (Monitoring Committee) for report;
- Justice delayed: the unfinished implementation of the Daphne Caruana Galizia case, <u>Doc. 16223</u>, <u>motion for a resolution:</u> reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;
- Climate and gender equality Strengthening the protection of women's rights in the face of climate disruption, <u>Doc. 16224</u>, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development for report and to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination for opinion;
- Ensuring accountability for the downing of Azerbaijan Airlines flight 8243 and preventing risks of military targeting of civil aircrafts, <u>Doc. 16234</u>, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights for report.

Appendix 3 – References and transmissions to committees

A. References to committees

- Bureau decision: Democracy, rule of law and inclusive dialogue in Türkiye: 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 its report on "The honouring of obligations and commitments by Türkiye";
- Bureau decision: *Political crisis in Serbia*: 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 its report on "The honouring of obligations and commitments by Serbia".

B. Modification of a reference

- Digital transformation: the role of the OECD in evaluating the impact of artificial intelligence (AI) on the future of work (former title: The activities of the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)), Doc. 16055, motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy for report and to the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development for opinion.

C. Extension of references

- Threats to life and safety of journalists and human rights defenders in Azerbaijan, <u>Doc. 15521</u>, motion for a resolution, reference 4659 of 24 June 2022 (extended on 24 May 2024 and 27 January 2025) validity: 31 December 2025: extension until 30 June 2026;
- Implementation of judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, Bureau decision, reference 4878 of 11 April 2025 validity: 11 April 2027; extension until 30 June 2027;
- Violence and hate speech against politicians: a threat to democracy, <u>Doc. 15846</u>, motion for a resolution, reference 4776 of 22 January 2024 validity: 22 January 2026; extension until 22 January 2027;
- Situation in the Middle East, Bureau decision, reference 4788 of 26 January 2024 validity: 26 January 2026: extension until 26 January 2027;
- Situation in Belarus, Bureau decision, reference 4789 of 26 January 2024 validity: 26 January 2026: extension until 26 January 2027.

Appendix 4 – List of members of the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to participate in the World Forum for Democracy, Strasbourg, 4-7 November 2025

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS

Presidential Committee / Comité présidentiel

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Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN (Armenia, ECPA / Arménie, CEPA)

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Ms / Mme Albana VOKSHI (Albania, EPP/CD / Albanie, PPE/DC)

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

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Mr / M. Yunus EMRE (Türkiye, SOC)

Ms / Mme Belén HOYO (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)

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

Mr / M. Pavlo SUSHKO (Ukraine, ECPA / Ukraine, CEPA)

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

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

Mr / M. Mustafa CANBEY (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK (Türkiye, UEL / Türkiye, GUE)

Mr / M. Murat Cahid CINGI (Türkiye, NR / Türkiye, NI)

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

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Ms / Mme Kate OSBORNE (United Kingdom, SOC / Royaume-Uni, SOC)

Mr / M. Robert-Ionatan SIGHIARTAU (Romania, EPP/CD / Roumanie, PPE/DC)

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

Mr / M. Francesco VERDUCCI (Italy, SOC / Italie, SOC)

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

Mr / M. Malte KAUFMANN (Germany, ECPA / Allemagne, CEPA)

Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities / Commission du Règlement, de l'éthique et des immunités

Mr / M. Oleksii GONCHARENKO (Ukraine, ECPA / Ukraine, CEPA) Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM (Sweden, ECPA / Suède, CEPA)

Appendix 5 – List of members of the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau to participate in the Conference on Artificial Intelligence, London, 15-16 December 2025

Chairperson / Président: Mr / M. Theodoros ROUSOPOULOS

Presidential Committee / Comité présidentiel

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

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

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

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

Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL (Spain, UEL / Espagne, GUE)

Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy / Commission des questions politiques et de la démocratie (6)

Mr / M. Bertrand BOUYX (France, ALDE / ADLE) - Président ASPOL

Ms / Mme Dora BAKOYANNIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI (Italy, EPP/CD / Italie, PPE/DC)

Lord David BLENCATHRA (United Kingdom, ECPA / Royaume-Uni, CEPA)

Ms / Mme Marietta KARAMANLI (France, SOC)

Mr / M. Chris SAID (Malta, EPP/CD / Malte, PPE/DC)

Substitutes / Suppléant · es

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

Mr / M. Serhii SOBOLIEV (Ukraine, EPP/CD / Ukraine, PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Ionut-Marian STROE (Romania, EPP/CD / Roumanie, PPE/DC)

Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights / Commission des questions juridiques et des droits de l'homme (5)

Mr / M. Titus CORLATEAN (Romania, SOC / Roumanie, SOC)

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

Mr / M. Daniel MILEWSKI (Poland, ECPA / Pologne, CEPA)

Mr / M. Cristian-Augustin NICULESCU-TÂGÂRLAS (Romania, EPP/CD / Roumanie, PPE/DC)

Mr / M. Ivan RAČAN (Croatia, SOC / Croatie, SOC)

Substitutes / Suppléant es

Mr / M. Evripidis STYLIANIDIS (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development / Commission des questions sociales, de la santé, et du développement durable (5)

Mr / M. Dan ALDRIDGE (United Kingdom, SOC / Royaume-Uni, SOC)

Ms / Mme Maria-Nefeli CHATZIIOANNIDOU (Greece, EPP/CD / Grèce, PPE/DC)

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

Ms / Mme Lesia ZABURANNA (Ukraine, ALDE / Ukraine, ADLE)

Committee on Migration, Refugees and Displaced Persons / Commission des migrations, des réfugiés et des personnes déplacées (5)

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

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

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

Mr / M. Petri HONKONEN (Finland, ALDE / Finlande, ADLE)

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 (6)

Mr / M. Mehmet AKALIN (Türkiye, ALDE / Türkiye, ADLE)
Ms / M^{me} Belén HOYO (Spain, EPP/CD / Espagne, PPE/DC)

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

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

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

Ms / Mme Gabriela HEINRICH (Germany, SOC / Allemagne, SOC)

Substitutes / Suppléant-es

Mr / M. Fabio PIETRELLA (Italy, ECPA / Italie, CEPA)

Mr / M. Pavlo SUSHKO (Ukraine, ECPA / Ukraine, CÉPA)

Mr / M. Nicos TORNARITIS (Cyprus, EPP/CD / Chypre, PPE/DC)

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

Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination / Commission sur l'égalité et la non-discrimination (5)

Ms / Mme Sevilay ÇELENK (Türkiye, UEL / Türkiye, GUE)

Ms / Mme Edina DEŠIĆ (Montenegro, EPP/CD / Monténégro, PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Edite ESTRELA (Portugal, SOC)

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) (4)

Ms / Mme Boriana ÅBERG (Sweden, EPP/CD / Suède, PPE/DC)

Ms / Mme Miapetra KUMPULA-NATRI (Finland, SOC / Finlande, SOC)

Mr / M. Graziano PIZZIMENTI (Italy, ECPA / Italie, CEPA)

Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM (Sweden, ECPA / Suède, CEPA)

Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities / Commission du Règlement, de l'éthique et des immunités (2)

Mr / M. Yunus EMRE (Türkive, SOC)

Mr / M. Vladimir VARDANYAN (Armenia, EPP/CD / Arménie, PPE/DC)

Committee on the Election of Judges to the European Court of Human Rights / Commission sur l'élection des juges à la Cour européenne des droits de l'homme (2)

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