



SECRETARIAT

AS/Bur (2025) CB 06

23 May 2025

## To the Members of the Bureau of the Assembly

### Synopsis

#### of the meeting held in Valletta on 22 May 2025

The Bureau of the Assembly, meeting on Thursday, 22 May 2025, in Valletta, with Mr Theodoros Rousopoulos, President of the Parliamentary Assembly, in the Chair, as regards:

- **Meeting of the Standing Committee in Valletta (23 May 2025):**
  - *Requests for current affairs debates:*
    - took note of the request by the leaders of the SOC, EPP/CD, ECPA and ALDE groups to hold a current affairs debate on *The need to ensure the survival of Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty*, decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold this debate and appointed Mr Emanuelis Zingeris (Lithuania, EPP/CD) as the first speaker;
    - took note of the request by the UEL group to hold a current affairs debate on *The role of parliamentarians in safeguarding investment in human rights and democracy amid rising military expenditure*, decided to recommend to the Standing Committee to hold this debate and appointed Mr Andrej Hunko (Germany, UEL) as the first speaker;
  - took note of the draft agenda;
- **Third part-session of 2025 (Strasbourg, 23-27 June):**
  - *Requests for debates under urgent procedure:*
    - took note of the request by the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Women's rights in Europe – Progress and challenges*;
    - took note of the request by the Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development to hold a debate under urgent procedure on *Halting the genocide in Gaza – The Council of Europe must act now*;
  - drew up the draft agenda for the third part-session of 2025;
- **References to committees:** approved the references and transmissions as set out in Appendix 1, subject to ratification by the Standing Committee;
- **Election of the Deputy Secretary General of the Council of Europe:** considered and approved the proposals contained in the memorandum prepared by the Secretariat of the Assembly, and decided to ask the Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly to transmit the timetable to the Committee of Ministers;
- **Issues raised by committees:**
  - *Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development:* considered and approved the draft Parliamentary Assembly child safeguarding policy;
  - *Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination:* considered and approved the Terms of Reference of the General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers (Appendix 2);

- **Election observation:**
  - *Albania: parliamentary elections (11 May 2025):* took note of the [statement](#) of the delegation;
  - *Poland: presidential election (18 May 2025):* took note of the [statement](#) of the delegation and approved the revised list of members of the *ad hoc* committee (Appendix 3);
  - *Republic of Moldova – parliamentary elections (28 September 2025):* decided to observe these elections and to set up an *ad hoc* committee composed of 20 members (SOC:6; EPP/CD:6; ECPA:4; ALDE:3; UEL:1), as well as the two co-rapporteurs of the Monitoring Committee, and decided to hold a pre-electoral mission;
  - *Schedule of the elections in 2025:* took note of the revised calendar;
  - *Guidelines for the observation of elections by the Parliamentary Assembly:* approved the revised guidelines, subject to ratification via the Progress report;
- **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 proposals by SOC Group, the Bureau nominated Ms Bisera Kostadinovska-Stojchevska (North Macedonia) as member;
- **2025 Vigdís Prize for Women's Empowerment:** took note of the list of the three candidates shortlisted;
- **2025 World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 4-7 November):** took note of the concept paper and to decide to set up an *ad hoc* committee of the Bureau to participate in the Forum;
- **Ad hoc Committee of the Bureau to participate in the European Holocaust Memorial Day for Roma and Sinti (Auschwitz-Birkenau, Poland, 2 August 2025):** 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 2025;
- **Meetings elsewhere than Strasbourg and Paris:** authorised:
  - the Network on the situation of the children of Ukraine (Committee on Social Affairs, Health and Sustainable Development) to meet in Kyiv on 9-10 June 2025 (subject to security conditions);
- **Václav Havel Human Rights Prize:** took note of the prolongation, until 30 June 2025 of the deadline to submit candidatures to the 2025 edition of the Václav Havel Human Rights Prize;
- **Date and place of next meetings:** decided to hold its next meetings as follows:
  - Monday 23 June 2025, 8 h 00, Strasbourg (part session);
  - Friday 27 June 2025, 8 h 30, Strasbourg (part-session);
  - Friday 5 September 2025, 9 h 30, Paris.

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Copy to:

Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Directors and all staff of the Secretariat of the Parliamentary Assembly  
Secretaries of National Delegations and of Political Groups of the Assembly  
Secretaries of observer and partner for democracy delegations  
Secretary General of the Congress  
Secretary to the Committee of Ministers  
Directors General  
Director of the Private Office of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe  
Director of the Office of the Commissioner for Human Rights  
Director of Communication  
Permanent Representations to the Council of Europe

## Appendix 1 – References and transmissions to committees

### A. References and transmissions to committees

- *How to ensure that the Russian Federation implements the judgments of the European Court of Human Rights, including paying the compensation awarded*, [Doc. 16149](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for report*;
- *Follow-up to the 4th round of GRECO recommendations relating to parliamentarians*, [Doc. 16157](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities *for report* and to the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights *for opinion*;
- *Equal share of unpaid care work between women and men: a pre-condition to achieving gender equality*, [Doc. 16158](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination *for report*;
- *The urgent need to ensure the survival of Radio Free Europe / Radio Liberty*, [Doc. 16159](#), motion for a resolution: transmission to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for consultation*;
- *Draft Council of Europe Convention on the Co-Production of Audiovisual Works in the Form of Series*, [Doc. 16164](#), request for an opinion from the Committee of Ministers: reference to the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media *for report*;
- *The promotion of democratic security in Europe through soft power*, [Doc. 16178](#), motion for a resolution: reference to the Committee on Political Affairs and Democracy *for report*.

## **Appendix 2 – Terms of Reference of the General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers**

**Denomination:** General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers

**Term of office:** One year renewable, subject to a maximum of two years.

**Subject:** The General Rapporteur on Roma and Travellers ensures the visibility and coherence of the Assembly's action to promote the rights, inclusion and equal treatment of Roma and Travellers across the Council of Europe member States, while combating antigypsyism and discrimination. He or she shall report periodically to the Committee on Equality and Non-Discrimination on the information collected and the action taken.

**Responsibilities:** The role of the General Rapporteur is to:

- follow activities and maintain working relations with the Office of the Council of Europe Commissioner on Human Rights, the Committee of Ministers and the European Court of Human Rights, as well as with relevant Council of Europe intergovernmental and monitoring bodies dealing with the rights of Roma and Travellers;
- represent the Committee on behalf of the Assembly at the meetings of these bodies where appropriate;
- follow activities and maintain working relations with external bodies and institutions active in the same area, be they governmental or non-governmental organisations;
- follow up on the relevant resolutions and recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly, in particular Resolution 2523 (2023) "Institutional racism of law-enforcement authorities against Roma and Travellers", Resolution 2153 (2017) "Promoting the inclusion of Roma and Travellers" and Resolution 1740 (2010) "The situation of Roma in Europe and relevant activities of the Council of Europe".

**Appendix 3 – List of members of the *ad hoc* Committee for the observation of the presidential election in Poland**

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

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

Ms / Mme Zita GURMAI, Hungary / Hongrie  
Mr / M. Antonio GUTIÉRREZ LIMONES, Spain / Espagne  
Ms / Mme Bisera KOSTADINOVSKA-STOJCHEVSKA, North Macedonia / Macédoine du Nord \*  
Ms / Mme Annick LAMBRECHT, Belgium / Belgique  
Mr / M. Saša MAGAZINOVIĆ, Bosnia and Herzegovina / Bosnie-Herzégovine  
Mr / M. Perran MOON, United Kingdom / Royaume-Uni  
Ms / Mme Sandra REGOL, France  
Mr / M. Stefan SCHENNACH, Austria / Autriche  
Mr / M. Roberto SPERANZA, Italy / Italie

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Mr / M. Jone BLIKRA, Norway / Norvège  
Mr / M. Yunus EMRE, Türkiye  
Mr / M. Gerardo GIOVAGNOLI, San Marino / Saint-Marin  
Mr / M. Axel SCHÄFER, Germany / Allemagne

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

Ms / Mme Deborah BERGAMINI, Italy / Italie  
Mr / M. Ricardo CARVALHO, Portugal  
Mr / M. Pablo HISPÁN, Spain / Espagne  
Ms / Mme Belén HOYO, Spain / Espagne  
Ms / Mme Arusyak JULHAKYAN, Armenia / Arménie  
Mr / M. Joseph O'REILLY, Ireland / Irlande \*  
Mr / M. Georgios STAMATIS, Greece / Grèce

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

Mr / M. Simone BILLI, Italy / Italie  
Ms / Mme Elisabetta GARDINI, Italy / Italie \*  
Mr / M. Armen GEVORGYAN, Armenia / Arménie  
Mr / M. Malte KAUFMANN, Germany / Allemagne  
Ms / Mme Jessica STEGRUD, Sweden / Suède  
Ms / Mme Victoria TIBLOM, Sweden / Suède

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

Mr / M. Iulian BULAI, Romania / Roumanie \*  
Mr / M. Alfred HEER, Switzerland / Suisse  
Ms / Mme Liliana TANGUY, France  
Ms / Mme Lesia ZABURANNA, Ukraine  
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**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Ms / Mme Lucia PLAVAKOVA, Slovak Republic / République slovaque  
Ms / Mme Yuliia OVCHYNNYKOVA, Ukraine

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

Ms / Mme Sevim DAĞDELEN, Germany, Allemagne

**Substitutes / Suppléant-e-s**

Ms / Mme Laura CASTEL, Spain / Espagne \*

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

Ms / Mme Azadeh ROJHAN, Sweden / Suède – SOC (excused)

Mr / M. Pieter OMTZIGT, Netherlands / Pays-Bas – EPP/CD

\* Pre-electoral mission / mission préélectorale