



SECRETARIAT

AS/Pact (2026) CB 04

5 October 2026

To the Members of the Special Committee on the New Democratic Pact

Synopsis

of the meeting held in Strasbourg on 29 September and 1 October 2026

The Special Committee on the New Democratic Pact, meeting in Strasbourg on 29 September and 1 October 2026, with Sir Christopher Chope (United Kingdom, ECPA), Chairperson, in the Chair:

- **On Tuesday 29 September 2026 2026 at 14:00**, as regards:
 - **Statement by the Chairperson of the Special Committee:** heard a statement by the Chairperson;
 - **The New Democratic Pact:** made a call for rapporteur, to be appointed during the next meeting of the Special Committee, on “The New Democratic Pact”, and took note of the interest of Sir Christopher Chope (United Kingdom, ECPA);
- **On Thursday 1 October 2026 2026 at 14:00**, as regards:
 - **Freedom of the media:** held a joint hearing with the Committee on Culture, Science, Education and Media, moderated by Mr Benjamin Dalle (Belgium, EPP/CD), rapporteur on “A new European Convention on Freedom of the Media”, with the participation of Ms Aneta Gonța, Chair of the Audiovisual Council of the Republic of Moldova; Mr Mark D. Cole, Professor of Media and Telecommunication Law at the University of Luxembourg; and Mr Andrei Richter, Professor-Researcher at Comenius University in Bratislava, Visiting Professor of Russian Studies at Charles University, Prague, Czechia;
 - **Proceedings:** approved and declassified the proceedings of the meeting held in Kristiansand on 4 May 2026;
 - **Respect for the confidentiality of Assembly documents:** took note of a letter from the Chairperson of the Committee on Rules, Ethics and Immunities on the respect of the confidentiality of Assembly documents;
 - **Appointment of Special Committee representatives to external events:**
 - appointed Mr George Papandreou (Greece, SOC) and Ms Zeynep Yıldız (Türkiye, NR) as representatives to the *ad hoc* Committee of the Assembly Bureau to take part in the 2026 Anticipation Summit (Geneva, Switzerland, 14-15 October 2026) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);
 - appointed Sir Christopher Chope (United Kingdom, ECPA), to the *ad hoc* Committee of the Bureau of the Assembly to participate in the World Forum for Democracy (Strasbourg, 2-3 November 2026) (*at no cost to the Assembly*);



This initiative is a contribution towards the
New Democratic Pact for Europe

- **Other business:** no other business was raised;
- **Next meetings:** took note of the next meetings to be held as follows:
 - Budapest, 26-27 October 2026
 - Warsaw, 23-24 November 2026
 - Paris, 15 December 2026

Gaël Martin-Micallef, Cesare Colombo, Célestin Berthelot

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