

Statutory Forum

CG-FORUM(2023)01-02
15 June 2023

Voting rights – Statutory forum (remote, 6 July 2023)

PARTICIPATION AND VOTING RIGHTS IN THE STATUTORY FORUM (public meeting)

Participants of the Statutory Forum:

- Elected members of the Bureau participation with voting rights
- Heads of the national delegations participation with voting rights
- Chairs of the committees participation in an advisory capacity
- Presidents of the political groups participation in an advisory capacity
- Outgoing President participation in an advisory capacity

Other persons to be invited:

- Rapporteurs participation in an advisory capacity on the item where the report is considered

Possible replacements and voting rights according to the rules, the hierarchy of positions held (see table below) and the principle 1 person = 1 vote:

Group	Category	Voting right of the participants invited	Replacement authorised by the Rules and Procedures	Voting right of the replacement
1	Elected members of the Bureau	YES	NO, cannot be replaced	---
2	Heads of the national delegations	YES	YES, can be replaced by the deputy head of the delegation	YES
3	Chairs of the committees	NO	YES, can be replaced by the 1 st vice-chair of the committee	NO
4	Presidents of the political groups	NO	YES, can be replaced by the 1 st vice-president of the group	NO
5	Outgoing President of the Congress	NO	NO, cannot be replaced	---

Specific situations for voting in case more than one position is held:

Group	Categories	Which is the case for	What are the consequences
1	When an elected Bureau member is not a head or deputy head of delegation	Finland/ Teuvo HATVA France/Xavier CADORET Georgia/ Sevdia UGREKHELIDZE Germany/Bernd VÖHRINGER Italy / Lia MONTALTI Netherlands/Leendert VERBEEK Serbia/Aleksandra MALETIC Türkiye/Tunç SOYER Ukraine/Oksana DERKACH	He/she participates as an elected Bureau member and votes.
	When an elected Bureau member is also a head of delegation	Austria/Harald SONDEREGGER Armenia/ Emin YERITSYAN Croatia Antonija JOZIC Greece/ Konstantinos KOUKAS Norway/Gunn Marit HELGESEN	He/she participates as an elected Bureau member and votes. He/she must be replaced as a head of delegation by the deputy head of delegation in order for the delegation to have a vote.
	When an elected Bureau member is also a deputy head of delegation	Luxembourg/ Martine DIESCHBURG-NICKELS Sweden/ Cecilia DALMAN EKK	He/she participates as an elected Bureau member and votes. As already present as an elected Bureau member, he/she cannot replace an absent head of delegation as a deputy head of delegation.
2 3	When a head of delegation is also committee chair	n/a	Will be invited in his/her capacity as head of delegation. May be represented as committee chair, if so wished, by the 1 st vice-president of the committee. He/she may be given the floor to speak as chair of a committee if his/her committee has a report being examined by the Statutory Forum.
2 4	When a head of delegation is also a president of a political group	Sweden / Anders KNAPE Slovenia / Vladimir PREBILIC	Will be invited in his/her capacity as head of delegation. May be represented as political group president, if so wished, by the 1 st vice-president of the political group.

<p>5 2</p>	<p>When an Outgoing President of the Congress is also head or deputy head</p>	<p>Sweden / Anders KNAPE</p>	<p>Will be invited in his/her capacity as Outgoing President to attend as a non-voting participant.</p> <p>May be mandated by the head of delegation to represent him/her.</p>
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MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION

1. Heads and deputy heads of delegation (information as at 05.06.2023)

- 46 member States have a head or deputy head of delegation
- 1 member State does not have a head of delegation (Poland)
- 42 member States have a deputy head of delegation.
- The 4 members States which have not yet appointed a deputy head of delegation are: Armenia, Lithuania, Malta and the Slovak Republic

2. Speaking

- Speaking times will be as under Rule 30 – Speaking arrangements.

3. Amendments

- Amendments and sub-amendments shall follow the provisions on amendments at the session set out in Rule 34 of the Rules and Procedures with the **following rider**: of the five delegates from at least two delegations required for an amendment to be tabled, the main signatory and presenter must be a member of the Statutory Forum (ie a member of the Bureau or a head of delegation); the other signatories may be representatives who are not members of the Forum. **The reason is that only the mover can take the floor in the meeting to present / defend the amendment in the meeting.**
- Deadline for submitting amendments: amendments must be tabled by 10.00, 7 days before the day on which the debate on the text to which they refer is scheduled.

EXTRACTS of the relevant Congress *Rules and Procedures*

Rule 41 – Constitution of the Statutory Forum

The Statutory Forum shall be composed of the members of the Bureau and the heads of all national delegations. Chairs of committees and presidents of political groups shall participate, ex officio, in the Statutory Forum without voting rights. [...] (Charter Article 8.6)

1. Heads of national delegations may be replaced in case of absence from the Statutory Forum by their deputy heads who will have the right to vote. Bureau members may not be replaced.
2. The outgoing President of the Congress, the presidents of the political groups and the chairs of the committees may participate in the meetings of the Statutory Forum, but do not have the right to vote.
3. The chairs of working groups may be invited to participate in the Statutory Forum's meetings in a consultative capacity. The rapporteur of a committee or of a working group may also be invited to attend all or part of a Statutory Forum meeting.

Rule 34¹ – Amendments and sub-amendments

1. An amendment to a draft text under consideration may be tabled and signed by:
 - a. five delegates from at least two national delegations; or
 - b. a rapporteur in respect of his or her text, provided that in the case of reports presented by two co-rapporteurs, both co-rapporteurs are in agreement and sign the amendment.
2. Each amendment must specify which of the five signatories will submit it. He or she must be a representative or a duly mandated substitute.
3. Amendments may be tabled, in one of the Congress' two official languages (English and French) or its working languages only to draft texts and not to explanatory memoranda. The Secretariat must make them available, in English and French, as soon as possible if they are in order in accordance with Rule 35.10.
4. An amendment must relate directly to the draft text which it seeks to amend.
5. Amendments must be tabled by 10.00, 7 days before the day on which the debate on the text to which they refer is scheduled.
6. Rapporteur amendments must be tabled by 10.00, 2 days before the day on which the debate on the text to which they refer is scheduled.
7. Rule 34.5 does not apply to amendments tabled under Rule 34.6 (rapporteurs' amendments) nor to amendments tabled to declarations under Rule 26 or those tabled to texts dealing with a matter of urgency in accordance with Rule 24.5.
8. Sub-amendments to previously tabled amendments must be tabled by 10.00, 4 days before the day on which the debate on the text to which they refer is scheduled.

¹ Rules 26, 30, 33-35 and 39-40 on procedure during Congress sessions apply to each chamber *mutatis mutandis*.